

**Minutes**  
**Advisory Board Meeting**  
**The Ohio State University at Newark**

---

March 15, 2018; 8:30 – 9:10 a.m.

The John Gilbert Reese Center, Executive Conference Room (Room 255)

**1. Call to Order**

Board Chair, Dr. Sharad Thakkar, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of The John Gilbert Reese Center.

**2. Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2018 Board Meeting**

The minutes of the January 18, 2018 Board meeting were approved as distributed

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

The meeting agenda was approved as distributed.

**4. Public Comments**

Dr. Thakkar stated that with spring being here, it is time to think about Pelotonia. Ohio State Newark will be participating with a team this year as in previous years.

**5. Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) Board Report**

John Hinderer, Chair of the COTC Board, stated that the National League for Nursing Accreditation conducted their site visit January 24-26, 2018. It was an outstanding visit and COTC is expecting positive results, which should be back by July. Mr. Hinderer gave an update on the COTC president search. He noted that Rob Montagnese, chair of the presidential search committee, has met with Dr. MacDonald, Staff Forum, Faculty Council, and has reached out to the extended campus advisory boards to obtain feedback about what is important for the next president for COTC. A presidential profile has been developed and the committee plans to ask for board approval at the March 20 meeting so the job can be posted by April 1. This will be a national search. Mr. Hinderer also reported that a peer review team from the Higher Learning Commission will conduct a site visit as part of COTC's reaffirmation of accreditation November 26 and 27, 2018. Under the leadership of Dr. Jackie Parrill and Dr. Lauri White, the college has been working on a comprehensive evaluation to maintain regional accreditation. This process involves students, faculty, staff, alumni, community leaders and trustees. He extended thanks to all those involved in this very important job.

**6. Faculty Assembly Report**

Asuman Turkmen, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, reported that the big item being worked on now is the Faculty Forum planned for April 20<sup>th</sup>. The title of the forum is "Building an Inclusive Campus Through Teaching and Effective Communications." There will be three subsections: 1) Teaching; 2) Teaching under the new GEC; and 3) Communications and inclusiveness. The program will be finalized in early April.

## 7. Board Committee Reports

- ***Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee.*** Holly Mason, Director of Student Life, reported that a group of students is currently in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, doing a Habitat for Humanity trip. She also reported that the annual career fair is planned for April 3 and it is trending toward a record year again. Derek Thatcher is the exhibitor contact for the career fair. There are over 115 employers currently registered. Also coming up is the annual Diversity Through Artistry 8-week program which partners with the third grade class at Legend Elementary to create artwork on topics of diversity. Art supplies are supplied by the elementary school. Other upcoming events are Kids & Sibs, a new program taking place April 13-15, and the annual Family & Friends Day Saturday, April 14. Ms. Mason reported that programs are trending higher in enrollment and counseling is going up due to higher needs. The gym has reported 1,700 unique users. Also, the Newark campus food pantry was recently featured in an article in the *Columbus Dispatch*.
- ***Enrollment Committee.*** Diane Kanney, Director of Enrollment, reported that the first of three off-campus receptions was held Thursday, March 8 at the Manor House in Cincinnati with 21 students in attendance. There will be an event in Westerville March 20 which has 63 students registered. On March 22 Kathy Lloyd will host a reception at her office, with 31 registered attendees. During these events, students are encouraged to visit Newark campus and are given the opportunity to learn next steps in financial aid and to mingle with current students and alumni. These events will be followed up with two admitted-students open houses on March 30 and April 7. The last Buckeye Visit Day of the year will be April 20 for students who have not heard from or are waitlisted at Columbus campus. New this year, sophomores will be invited to the last Buckeye Visit Day which will wrap up enrollment events for spring. The first summer Buckeye Visit Day will be July 27 and will target underclassmen. Ms. Kanney passed around samples of the marketing materials being sent to students, which were developed based on feedback gathered during focus groups conducted with current students. This year, congratulations will be sent to students graduating high school. Summer Enrichment Camp for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will launch this summer. Dean MacDonald and 12-14 faculty members have all signed up to lead one-hour sessions.
- ***Finance Committee Report – Budget Update.*** Mike Cantlin, Finance Committee Chair, referenced The Ohio State University at Newark Financial Reports document (FY July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018) which was distributed prior to the meeting. He stated that the investment income is remarkably good this period and sets the theme for the rest of the budget, as the revenue is up against budget and expenses are down. He called upon David Brillhart to give the detailed update. David gave credit to the positive enrollment report for its impact on the finance report. He directed board members' attention to the *Financial Report through December 31, 2017 based on OSU NCS plus Percentage of Cost Share* (Page 5). He noted that state subsidy is above allocation for this year. Student fees are trending upward as well based on results from this year. This adds to the revenue line, which will add to the surplus at the end of the year. Reserves are flowing in at a higher rate, resulting in the positive investment income mentioned by Mike Cantlin. Expenses align with expectations. Funding for the science and technology building is dependent on a surplus for the year, which is coming in on target.

## 8. Dean's/Director's Report

Dean Bill MacDonald recognized board member Diane DeLawder for being featured in the Ohio State Alumni Magazine as the recipient of the 2017 Dan L. Heinlen Award for university advocacy. Dean MacDonald and members of the board applauded Diane's work, especially in A Call To College, for her influence and impact on the community.

- ***Brad Okdie Receives Prestigious Ohio State Teaching Award.*** Dean MacDonald stated that Brad Okdie was recently awarded the prestigious Ohio State Teaching Award for distinguished teaching. Out of 5,000 faculty across the university and 200 nominations, only 10 are selected for these awards each year. Brad was described as one of the most engaged faculty members at The Ohio State University. Vice Provost Kay Wolf was on hand for the presentation, as were Dr. Okdie's parents. Three other Ohio State Newark faculty have received this award over the years. This is a great testament to the strength of Ohio State Newark faculty and a tremendous honor for Dr. Okdie.
- ***Ohio State Newark Recognized by Higher Ed Marketing Awards.*** Dean MacDonald noted that Ohio State Newark has been recognized by the Higher Ed Marketing awards, the oldest and largest educational advertising awards competition in the country. Out of 2,250 entries, only 307 golds were awarded. The 2017 Progress Report earned a gold award in the Annual Report category and the Ohio State Viewbook poster earned a silver award. Especially noteworthy is that in the Annual Report category, Ohio State has never taken a gold before and beat the University of Alabama.
- ***Buckeye Generation Learning Community Update.*** As a follow up to the discussion at the last advisory board meeting, Jamie White, Retention Coordinator and associate faculty member, provided an update on Buckeye Generation Learning Community (BGLC) graduation and retention rates and GPAs for first generation (FGEN) students. She reported that approximately 35% of all enrolled Ohio State Newark students are first generation, and this has varied only a few percentage points up or down over the last several years. For new, first year students, (every new student enrolling this fall semester), 37% are first generation college students. BGLC is one of the programs offered for FGEN students. BGLC is a cohort model, and students self-select for participation. The program is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year and in the past has been able to enroll 80 students. Thanks to increased support and funding, BGLC enrollment will be able to increase to 120 students starting in the fall of the 2018-2019 academic year. Peer mentoring is one of the highest impact practices, helping students both socially and academically. During orientation, BGLC students are assigned to academic peer coaches who mentor them throughout their first year, taking GE and other classes together. The coaches go through tutor training, sit in on the classes, and meet with the students every week for tutoring. Students and coaches attend social and cultural events and perform community service together. If they perform well, the students are incentivized with a book stipend in their spring semester. Learning Community students also receive priority consideration for dorm housing, which meets the needs of this population by allowing them to be on campus and participate more. They also take trips to Columbus campus, which helps with the transition to main campus.

Data indicates that BGLC students perform better and have higher GPAs than other first generation college students who are not in a learning community, and sometimes even better than students who are not first generation. Students in Learning Communities also have higher retention rates and

graduation rates. An additional outcome is the Learning & Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI). LASSI aims to assess learning strategies related to skill, will and self-regulation and is tested at the beginning and end of the students' first year. The autumn 2016 BGLC cohort had an increase in the average scores in 9 out of 10 scales between the beginning and end of the first year. Discussion followed regarding metrics for measuring retention and whether data is gathered through graduation. Students are tracked through their transition to Columbus campus and graduation. The graduation rate for Ohio State Newark students has increased and is continuing to rise. Associate degrees drive the motivation for many students, hence Learning Community students are encouraged to apply for their two-year degrees. Josh Flickinger, student representative to the Ohio State Newark Advisory Board, stated that being a member of the BGLC last year directly influenced his high level of involvement on the Newark campus. He felt like he was a part of something on campus that enabled him to branch out and find other experiences. Josh emphasized that BGLC is very important and has been especially so for him.

- **Regional Campus Growth.** Also following up from the last board meeting, Dean MacDonald reported that the first-to-second-year retention rate from 2016-17 was the highest it has been in 10 years. Historic enrollment shows that the Newark campus trend is very positive. There was a small decline from 2008-2012, which has since recovered. The Marion campus has had a bit of a recovery, but Lima and Mansfield have not. An enrollment increase is projected for next year and will probably be at an all-time high. Dean MacDonald attributes this to Ohio State Newark's location in such a great community and county, as well as neighboring counties. Population projections going out to 2030 indicate there will be a decline in the population of college-aged Ohioans, which Newark campus is positioned to withstand.
- **Development Director Position Description.** Dean MacDonald reported that the revision of the Development Director position description is almost complete and the search is moving forward on schedule.
- **Digital Flagship Initiative.** Dean MacDonald reported that the Digital Flagship Initiative will be rolling out this fall. Each new student will be given an iPad during orientation, which they can keep, at no cost to Ohio State Newark. There is also a repair plan for ongoing maintenance and repairs of the iPads. Five faculty members are participating in the initial Digital Flagship cohort including three in English, one in geography and also one advisor. There may be another round of instructor selection for next year. Diane DeLawder asked about funding for the iPads. Dean MacDonald explained the funds came from the energy conservation plan and the initiative is university wide. If a student does not complete a degree, they will be required to return the iPad. Dean MacDonald will update board members as to whether there is a requirement for full- or part-time status. Michael Cantlin asked how the iPads would be integrated into the classroom and how they would be used. Dean MacDonald noted that all of the MS Office products will be available on the iPads and they will be compatible with BuckeyeBox, which is a university-branded, cloud-based storage and collaboration tool. A question was asked whether textbooks will be online or if students will still need to purchase them. The faculty is working on developing materials that will be available for free.
- **Connections Fair.** The Connections Fair was held at the Warner Center on March 7. Advisors came from Columbus to talk to students about transitioning to main campus so they can connect in

advance of their campus change. Ohio State Newark academic advisor Cherie Snyder planned the event. There were more than 30 different colleges and departments represented, and over 100 students stopped by. Dean MacDonald also noted that Beth Hume from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies is working on ways for regional campus students to be connected once they get to Columbus.

- **Provost Visit.** Dean MacDonald reported that Provost Bruce McPheron and Ryan Schmiesing had a very positive visit to the Newark campus on Friday, March 9. The meeting with students was especially profound, as the students were very open with him about what concerns they have and what is going well. All spoke of how great their experience has been at Newark campus. One thing students said they struggle with is not feeling perceived as Ohio State students. The provost expressed interest in coming back out to Newark for an evening session with those students.
- **Licking County Chamber Local Leaders Breakfast.** Dean MacDonald attended the Licking County Chamber Local Leaders Breakfast on February 28, the theme of which was *Workforce Solutions*. The speaker spoke highly of CTEC, COTC and Ohio State Newark, which gave Dean MacDonald the opportunity to mention internships at Ohio State.
- **STEM Building Funding Update.** Dean MacDonald reported that the \$8.5M loan that was requested for the STEM building has been approved. He thanked board members for their support and advocacy, and especially thanked David Brillhart for putting together the request and working with Columbus. The fundraising campaign will be launched this summer, and the plan is for the building to open in early 2022. With next year's expected increase in enrollment, there will be pressure for space. Updates will be provided at future meetings. Chris Meyer asked for an update regarding tuition assistance for regional campuses. Dean MacDonald stated that the provost will be implementing something, but the timing and details are not yet available. It will probably be during the 2018-2019 academic year, and it is conceivable that there could be a flood in enrollment. Jamie White stated that one stipulation she learned from Columbus is that students were required to file a FAFSA by the February 1 deadline in order to receive the financial assistance, which many of the Newark students may not have known.
- **Other Business.** Dean MacDonald noted that the installation of the dome in the SciDome is complete. Marcia Downes announced that on **May 16 at 5:30pm** there will be a test show exclusively for board members and their significant others. Participants will be asked to use their phones to answer questions to help gather feedback during this test. The opening for donors is June 8 at 6pm. The grand opening is on June 9, with a session for Ohio State faculty and The Works members only from 9am-12pm. SciDome will be free and open to the public from 12-5pm on June 9. On August 22 there will be an event for accepted science program students and Ohio State science faculty. Also, working in conjunction Professor Andy Roberts and the science team, plans are underway to begin Science Saturdays for a full year starting in January. This will be open to the public as well as academics and will cover academic science related topics. Marcia Downes also announced that Dean MacDonald has joined the board of The Works. She noted that it is a wonderful partnership that is incredibly important to the future.

Dr. Thakkar brought to the board a proposal to start all future board meetings at 9am rather than 8:30am. He opened the floor for discussion. All board members present were in favor of this change.

**Beginning Thursday, May 17, 2018, Ohio State Newark Advisory Board meetings will begin at the new start time of 9 a.m.** Board members can expect to adjourn at the usual time of 10:30am.

Marcia Downes proposed a session at a future board meeting dedicated to the topic of diversity and to invite Vorley Taylor speak. She stated that she was at Denison recently and students have been asked to wear their Denison logo apparel when they go off campus because people in the town are not being kind. This is an issue that should be addressed to make sure Ohio State Newark students feel safe and included and to learn what can be done to ensure that students feel supported. Talya Greathouse asked Marcia if she is getting feedback that students do not feel comfortable, which Marcia affirmed. Dean MacDonald added that this has been the subject of meetings with the Licking County Foundation and Dr. Coe. Holly Mason has also participated in discussions on the topic of diversity and inclusion within the community. Discussion followed regarding some of the efforts being made and what more can be done.

Josh Flickinger asked to revisit the topic of the STEM building. He wanted to know if the courses are going to be expanded, what will be the process for choosing new courses and would there be student input into those decisions. Dean MacDonald responded that it will be twofold. First there will be additional sections of courses already offered, as many of the biology and chemistry courses are completely filled. Secondly, over time there may be courses added based on student demand, which is data informed. Dean MacDonald stated that he would also consult with student government. Melissa Jungers added that course offerings are driven by the majors chosen by students and the core courses and GE requirements for those majors. Dean MacDonald asked Josh if he wanted to make a pitch for any specific course, and Josh stated that environmental science is one of his majors and Newark campus currently does not offer any of those courses.

**9. Next Board Meeting – May 17, 2018 – \*\*\*9:00 a.m.\*\*\* – 10:30 a.m. in the Reese Board Room**

- *Upcoming Board Meeting Dates for 2018 at 9:00 a.m.*

- June 21, 2018

**\*\*\*Note: New start time is 9:00 a.m.\*\*\***

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Nichole Lenglé*

*Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director*

*The Ohio State University at Newark*