



Minutes
Advisory Board Meeting
The Ohio State University at Newark

Thursday, March 17, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Reese 255

1. Call to Order

Board Chair Talya Greathouse called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of the John Gilbert Reese Center.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2021 Board Meeting

The minutes of the November 18, 2021, board meeting were approved as distributed.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed with minor edits.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) Board Report

Rob Montagnese, Chair of the COTC Board, reported that COTC is continuing its year-long 50th anniversary celebration. As part of the festivities, COTC held a Coshocton Campus Town Hall meeting on February 16. During the event, President Berry presented longtime COTC trustee and Coshocton resident, Marion Sutton with the Legends of Loyalty Award, the highest honor bestowed by the college. Marion has been a trustee since 2014 and prior to this appointment, she served on the Coshocton Campus Advisory board. On March 7 COTC held a press conference in Mount Vernon to announce the news about the Knox Promise. COTC guarantees to fund the gap between tuition and remaining student need after all other private scholarships and aid are exhausted. The Knox Promise will be available to eligible students starting with autumn semester. Initial Knox Promise funds are made possible through a collaboration between COTC, The Ariel Foundation, the Knox County Foundation, Mark & Denise Ramser, and Gordy & Fran Yance. Lastly, the COTC 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala is planned for Saturday, April 9.

6. Faculty Assembly Report

Niles Johnson, faculty assembly chair, gave an overview on activities Newark faculty are engaged in. The Faculty Assembly has approved a new faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee (DEI) which is reaching out to local organizations to raise awareness of its mission and develop community/campus collaborations in this area. On April 10 there will be an open house at the Earthworks Octagon and Great Circle led by John Low. There

will be tours at 2pm and 4pm. Ohio State Newark was awarded a \$1.4 million National Science Foundation grant to support economically disadvantaged students studying science, technology, engineering and Mathematics (STEM). This is the largest NSF grant ever awarded at the Newark campus. The initiative is called *Ohio Means Science* (OHMS). will contribute to the national and regional need for well-educated scientists, mathematicians, engineers and technicians by supporting the retention and graduation of high-achieving, low-income students with demonstrated financial need at Ohio State Newark. There will be 15 \$10,000 scholarships available for Autumn 2022. A retreat is being planned for summer 2022 to enable 15 students to attend a retreat at Stone Lab with faculty. Lastly, the Ohio State University will be implementing a new General Education curriculum beginning in autumn 2022. Discussion followed regarding the new DEI committee. Brianna Johnson, PhD, is the new cost-shared DEI officer and is reaching out to different organizations in Newark and Licking County to start doing work to make the community a place that students feel welcome. Dr. Greathouse asked if there is any programming set up for this coming year. Dr. Johnson said yes, including monthly DEI community conversations which are open to faculty, staff and students from both COTC and OSU Newark. It has been well received so far.

7. Newark Earthworks Center (NEC)

John Low, Associate Professor and NEC Director, worked with faculty from the Knowlton School of Architecture to develop a conceptual plan to build a 55,000-square-foot building for NEC on the Newark campus. He shared concept renderings of what a future facility could look like. The facility's proposed location is southeast of Hopewell Hall South and could include pooled classroom spaces, an auditorium, public gathering spaces/study spaces, exhibition space, NEC staff offices and the NEC archive. With impending UNESCO World Heritage designation for several ancient earthworks in Ohio, including the Great Circle in Newark and possibly the Newark Octagon, this type of facility would position the university and NEC as a world research center for Native American history, cultural issues and diversity. It will be a place for visitation, exhibition, and archival retention. The UNESCO designation is going to be across seven sites in Ohio, so other universities will have the opportunity to build a world-class Earthworks Center, and NEC already has a good track record of success. It would be beneficial to Ohio State to build a center before someone else does.

Aspects of the building will reflect Licking County landscape features. Flexible classroom spaces are included in the plan in accordance with the priorities set forth by Framework 2.0. Inside/outside gathering spaces are also included in the plan. It would be a two-story building on one side with a rooftop accessible garden and a two-and-a-half story on the other side, with a below-ground archive area and a sunken courtyard. The cost of such a building is estimated to be \$13.8 million. Future funding discussions could include state and Ohio History Connection funding.

8. Newark Alumni Update

Kim Manno filled in for Pat Whilding, who was unable to make it to the meeting. Kim stated that there are four people in the Newark Advancement Office representing both Ohio State Newark and COTC. Pat Whilding's sole focus is Ohio State Newark alumni relations, including Ohio State alums who did not attend at Newark campus but are living in Licking County. Over the past ten years that Pat has been with the campus, she has developed some well-established annual alumni events and initiatives, and she continues to add to the list of things she is doing to engage our alums. Kim provided an overview of programming currently offered annually to engage all generations of Ohio State Newark alumni. One example is an event held every spring called "Dinner for 12 Buckeyes" which brings together current students, alumni, faculty and administrators for a dinner in the library. Students get to talk to alumni, and the alumni get to hear what the students are doing and what they have planned for the following year. Other programming includes events such as a holiday reception, alumni and student service day in partnership with the South Newark Civic Association, Ohio State athletics game watches and homecoming gatherings, and student mentoring. Pat is also working with Professor Karen Goodell and Newark campus facilities to develop an alumni pollinator garden. Pat often recruits alumni volunteers for various events throughout the year including commencement, Alumni Association Board of Directors, and serving on information panels for admissions events. Pat reaches out to alumni for one-on-one meetings for coffee or lunch, which has helped her create a core group of volunteers. Kim also reported that the alumni record keeping has improved dramatically over the years with not only names but also details about alumni educational careers at Ohio State, so engaging has become much more efficient. Ohio State Newark has close to 28,000 alumni.

9. Board committee reports

- ***Enrollment Committee report.*** Diane Kanney, director of enrollment, reported that the month of March marks the peak of the "yield" season, when students are making their college decisions if they haven't already. The entire staff is intently involved in many events. There is a Sunday afternoon reception coming up that is hoped to attract students from the Columbus City Schools. In the past, this reception was held in the evening on a weekday, and Diane thinks it would attract more people on a Sunday afternoon because it allows the families more time to travel to the event. There are 42 students registered for the reception, which is lower than what was hoped. It has been slow to recover after the pandemic, but slowly attendance is improving at yield events. Attendance at the last Buckeye visit day showed signs of improvement. The goal is 100 attendees and they have 96 on that day. Another Buckeye Visit Day is coming up in April. A challenge this year is that there are more second choice or "optioned" students and fewer first choice. Diane is not sure why, but she presumes that because many of them are from the Columbus City Schools, they are trying first at the Columbus campus and hoping to get in because Columbus is test optional. Diane has reported enrollment projections to David and Bill. She believes enrollment will be down but that is expected as we emerge from the pandemic. Diane predicts that it will take about one year to build momentum

and recover.

- ***Finance Committee report.*** David Brillhart, Senior Fiscal Officer, provided a very brief but positive overview of the Ohio State Newark financial report for the period through December 31, 2021, which was distributed to board members prior to the meeting. Although impacted greatly by the pandemic, the Newark Campus is navigating extremely well and associated revenues are very close to projections. Expenditures are being managed conservatively and are pacing consistently with the prior year. Instructional subsidy is one of our main revenue sources. David reminded board members of the recent news that Columbus campus would be giving \$1.5 million more in subsidy this year. Newark did budget for that but received the news so late that it was not able to be built into the budgetary processes. Newark is getting that money and is at 50% of that revenue line, which is very good and will help in the coming year when downturns in enrollment are predicted. Student fees are at 54.8% of projected budget due to the enrollment results in summer and autumn, and David commented that Diane's enrollment projections were very accurate. Investment income is not a major part of the budget, but as of December 31 investment income is 0% of projected budget. This is because Newark has not received interest income following the change to Workday. David is working with Columbus to get this resolved. Expenditures are looking excellent, with overall expenditures at 39.3% of the budget through December 2021. Salaries for vacant positions combined with SSI will result in a surplus for this year. This will help to ease the impact of the anticipated decrease in enrollment.

10. Dean's/Director's Report

Dean/Director Bill MacDonald began by formally introducing Brianna Johnson, PhD, the Newark campus' first director of diversity, equity, and inclusion/chief diversity officer. Brianna earned her PhD at the University of Texas at Austin. She comes to us from the Columbus campus where she was the program manager for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation. We are happy to have her here.

Bill also acknowledge the passing for former board member Mike Cantlin. He was a fantastic community member and a major champion for the Newark campus. Mike served on the advisory board from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2019. He was also a major contributor to student scholarships and capital projects including the John and Mary Alford Center for Science and Technology. If board members want to make a donation in Mike's memory, they can do so through the Newark Advisory Board Endowed Scholarship Fund . The campus will notify his wife of all memorial gifts. Bill is thankful for Mike's wisdom and insight and his incredible knowledge of people and organizations. He will be greatly missed.

- ***University Strategic Planning.*** Bill informed board members that the university has a new provost, Dr. Melissa Gilliam. Dr. Gilliam is putting some changes in place and is leading the university into a new strategic planning phase. That is still taking shape, and

the group that is leading that effort understands that the campuses and colleges are all on different cycles for strategic planning. For example, Ohio State Newark just did a refresh of its strategic plan last year. One change is the elimination of the role of executive dean at Ohio State. Dr. Gilliam did research on the structure of the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) and recommended that change to University Senate, who approved it. There is no longer an executive dean for the regional campuses. Bill believes this will create a tighter connection between the provost and the leadership at the individual campuses. Other changes include redefining duties of various leadership roles within OAA.

- ***Debt free Bachelor's degree.*** The debt free Bachelor's degree is a university-wide initiative and some progress is already being made. Newark has already received some gifts to help move the initiative forward. People are motivated to participate and that has been a pleasant surprise. The goal over ten years is \$10 million.
- ***Intel.*** As most everyone is aware, Intel has announced that it is planning the construction of two new leading-edge chip factories on a 1,000 acre parcel of land in Licking County. There is a \$50 million fund dedicated to higher education, and Ohio State is planning to pursue some of that funding. Bill has been involved with the College of Engineering on this project. The Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology (BSET) is very relevant to Intel's needs, and it is expected that there will be high demand. When Ohio State pursues funding from the \$50 million fund, it will include a request for support for BSET program at Newark. This will help with equipment needs and possibly renovation of Hopewell Hall where the program will be housed.

11. New Business

- ***Secretary to the board.*** Talya announced that Tara Houdeshell has agreed to take on the position as secretary to the Newark Advisory Board.

12. Next Board meeting – January 20, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Nichole Lenglé

Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director

The Ohio State University at Newark