



Minutes
Advisory Board Meeting
The Ohio State University at Newark

Thursday, January 16, 2020 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The John Gilbert Reese Center - Executive Board Room (Room 255)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Matt Miller 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 21, 2019 Board Meeting

The minutes of the November 21, 2019 Board Meeting were approved as distributed.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed except for postponed committee reports due to illness. *Enrollment Committee* and *Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee* reports will be given at the next meeting.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. COTC Board Report

Rob Montagnese, Chair of the Board for Central Ohio Technical College, provided a report on current programs and events at COTC. Rob reported that the Pataskala campus will undergo a \$4.2 million renovation that will enable COTC to expand academic offerings in nursing and information technology. Phase One of the project will include renovation of 16,000 square feet of interior space and will be completed during the summer of 2021. The second and third phases will be for reconfiguration of office space and a 5,800 square foot addition. Rob also reported that Autumn Commencement took place on Friday, December 13. Two graduates delivered the keynote address, sharing stories of their journey to obtaining their degrees.

Lastly, Rob reported that COTC has moved to a provost model and on January 2, 2020, Dr. Eric Heiser started as the institution's first provost. Dr. Heiser will serve as chief academic and enrollment officer. Dr. Heiser came to COTC from Salt Lake Community College where he served as dean and director of career and technical education. He led 54 programs within the School of Applied Technology and Technical Specialties. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education Leadership from Colorado State University, a Master of Arts in Adult and Post-Secondary Education, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Wyoming.

6. Dean's/Director's Report

Dean MacDonald gave brief updates on Student Life and Enrollment. He said that Holly Mason and Diane Kanney will give their full reports at the next meeting of the board. He reported that Student Life is conducting a search for another mental health counselor. There are currently two, and a third one is being added. Diane reported at the last meeting that Enrollment has had another record increase. One question that has come up is whether there has been any impact on enrollment due to the Buckeye Opportunity Program, which closes the financial gap for students who are on PELL grants but have unmet financial needs. Dean MacDonald reported that this year there has not yet been any impact on enrollment numbers. It has not drawn PELL students to the Newark campus, and in fact there has been a slight decrease. Going forward, student debt and retention will be tracked, and there will be a full report in the Fall. Student debt is measured by the annual survey of graduating seniors. The trend has been a decrease in the percentage of students graduating with greater than \$20,000 in student debt. Tara Houdeshell added that, based on what she has seen at A Call to College, the Buckeye Opportunity Program has had a tremendously positive impact on the lives of local students. She said that approximately two-thirds of her organization's students from the Newark City Schools end up attending at Ohio State Newark.

- ***Alford Center Update.*** Brian Boehmer, Superintendent of Facilities & Support Services, reported that the Alford Center construction project is going well. He reminded board members that Smoot Construction, the CMR of the project, (Construction Manager-at-Risk) provided a GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) which protects Ohio State from rising construction costs. GMP1 came in as expected. There is not a final computation for GMP2, but the preliminary numbers appear to be well within GMP and may come in slightly lower. Phase 1 of the project includes site preparation, infrastructure, tapping the water lines and completing foundation work. Phase 1 is on schedule and nearing completion. Phase 2, which is the actual construction of the building, will be starting soon. As of right now the project appears to be at or slightly below budget and on schedule to be completed in Spring of 2021. Final bid calculations will be submitted soon. Kim Manno reported that the fundraising goal is \$14.4M and currently \$13.55M has been raised. Kim added that after Smoot was selected as the contractor, it was learned that there is a touching story connecting Smoot and the Newark community. When Sherman Smoot was starting out in business in Columbus, he was unable to obtain a loan from any of the Columbus banks. He eventually came to Licking County and John Alford gave him his very first business loan. Park National has been Smoot's bank ever since.
- ***Framework 2.0.*** Dean MacDonald reported that Framework 2.0 is about to launch. A working group and steering committee have been identified for the Newark campus and board members will eventually be contacted for input. [Framework 2.0](#) is a physical planning vision that supports the university's strategic plan, including the strategic plan for the Newark campus for the next 50 years.
- ***Faculty Achievements and Updates.*** Dean MacDonald reported that there has been a spate of Newark faculty accomplishments in the news lately. David Ruderman, a poet and Associate Professor of English at Newark, was featured in the Newark Advocate for his work with people in the community recovering from addiction. Lucille Toth is an

Associate Professor of French at Newark who is also a dance scholar. Lucille was featured in the Columbus Dispatch for her work in establishing On Board(Hers), a dance project which seeks the participation of female immigrants who currently are based in Ohio. The group performed at the Urban Arts Space in Downtown Columbus in January. Several Discovery Themes Grants have been awarded to Ohio State Newark Campus faculty. Victor Espinosa, who is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and is new on the Newark campus, is the co-recipient of a grant on Bringing the Boarder to Columbus. John Low, Professor and Director of the Newark Earthworks Center, is the co-recipient of a grant related to Native American art on Objects, Orality, Poetry, Place and Things. Tiyi Morris, Angela Bryant and Mary Thomas received a grant to support their Prison Education Exchange Project through the Race, Ethnicity, and Social Justice Grants in the Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme. Marti Chaatsmith also received a grant last month through one of the Discovery Themes.

- ***Board Appointments.*** Marcia Downes will finish her third and final term on the Newark Advisory Board on June 30, 2020. Dean MacDonald asked board members to consider nominations to fill the vacancy. The nomination is due to the provost **Tuesday, May 26, 2020** (the Tuesday after Memorial Day), so the recommendations will need to be finalized at the May meeting.
- ***Blue Light Emergency Poles.*** Following up on a question from the last board meeting, Dean MacDonald consulted with Brian Boehmer in facilities and Adam Featherling in security regarding blue light emergency poles. The poles are becoming obsolete because most students have cell phones and emergency apps. Universities are tending not to renew the emergency poles or not to obtain them if they have not already. OSU's app does include emergency services.
- ***"A Noble Cause" Breakfast January 20th.*** Dean MacDonald reminded board members about the Noble Cause Breakfast on campus on Martin Luther King Day on the Newark campus. Rob Montagnese is the featured speaker.

7. Other Business

Alexa Robinson-O'Neill asked about **lighting on campus**. Brian Boehmer stated that there are at least two poles on campus in which the lights are off, and the contract has been awarded for repair. Dean MacDonald explained that the lights on campus are LED, which provides better lighting, less glare, and they can be controlled from a central location. They can also be dimmed at on a schedule to conserve energy.

Kim Manno distributed copies of thank-you letters from students chosen to receive the **Newark Advisory Board Scholarship** through the Newark Campus Development Fund for the 2019-20 academic year. The students are extremely grateful for the financial support.

Kim also announced that Diane Kanney and the Admissions Office is planning the first ever **Girls and Women in Sports Day** on the Newark campus for girls ages 8-18 on Sunday, March 1 from 12-5 p.m. One of the featured speakers is Amanda Schneider who is an

Olympic swimmer from Granville. Board member Alexa Robinson-O'Neill will be leading a workshop on nutrition. There will be other workshops, activities and speakers celebrating women in sports.

Matt Miller asked the board to consider the **reappointment of Rob Montagnese to the Newark Campus Development Fund**. This request came through NCDF by way of a letter to Todd Ware. Dean MacDonald explained that NCDF needs approval from an external entity for appointments to their board. There was a motion, which was seconded, and the Newark Advisory Board unanimously voted in favor of the reappointment of Rob Montagnese to the NCDF board for the term ending in December 2022.

8. Next Board meeting – March 19, 2020– 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

- ***Upcoming Board Meeting Dates for 2020 at 9:00 a.m.***
 - May 21, 2020
 - June 18, 2020
 - September 17, 2020
 - November 19, 2020

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Nichole Lenglé

Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director

The Ohio State University at Newark