

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 10, 2021

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Nicole Sedlacek, Chairperson	PRESENT
Arlan Kuehn	ABSENT
Julie Robinson	ABSENT
Gene Willers	PRESENT
Steve Anderson, ex-officio	PRESENT

STAFF

Dr. Leah Barrett
Scott Gray
Paul Feilmeier
Amanda Nipp
Dr. Michele Gill
Dr. Karen Severson
Dr. Tracy Kruse
Jim Curry
Diane Reikofski

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Del Ames	PRESENT
Donovan Ellis	PRESENT
Terry Nelson	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT
Jeff Scherer	ABSENT
Carol Sibbel	PRESENT

MINUTES

1. Nicole Sedlacek, Chairperson of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 12:16 p.m. in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting as distributed.
3. Greg Adams has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2021. During a meeting last week in Lincoln, the timeline for filling the executive director position was discussed and includes having the new person begin on November 1st, allowing two months of time for the individual to work with Greg Adams prior to his departure. The vacancy will be advertised the next three weekends in the Lincoln Journal Star. Dr. Barrett suggested that some of the no-cost avenues for advertising the vacancy be utilized in an effort to get the information more widespread. Jim Curry was asked to work with Melanie Williams in the NCCA office to release the information to local media.
4. The ACCT Leadership Congress will be held in San Diego in October. Board members interested in attending should contact Diane Reikofski for registration.
5. The Nebraska Legislature has adjourned but Dr. Tracy Kruse will continue to monitor interim studies that are held throughout the summer.

A contract was awarded to complete Hwy. 275 between West Point and Scribner. Construction should begin sometime this summer.

Mission

Northeast Community College is dedicated to the success of students and the region it serves.

6. Discussion was held regarding America's College Promise Act, the current proposal for free community college. The Nebraska Community College Association (NCCA) and the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT) will continue to have discussions on the variances of how the funds would be received from the federal government, funneled to the states, and distributed to the colleges. The Northeast Community College Area Board of Governors will have future conversations to understand what the free community college proposal means for us.
7. Amanda Nipp provided an analysis of Northeast's Debt Forgiveness Program, outlining the eligibility requirements. She reported that a total of 473 students, with a median debt of \$459 owed, are eligible for this one-time opportunity.
8. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned 1:55 p.m.