

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, August 11, 2021

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

**STAFF**

Dr. Leah Barrett  
Scott Gray  
Paul Feilmeier  
Amanda Nipp  
Dr. Michele Gill  
Jessica Dvorak  
Jim Curry  
Diane Reikofski

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

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

**MINUTES**

1. Julie Robinson, member of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 1:31 p.m. in Suites F & G of the Lifelong Learning Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting as distributed.
3. The search committee for the NCCA executive director has been meeting regularly and have chosen four candidates to be interviewed on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Following the interviews, the NCCA board members will meet with their respective college president to discuss the candidates. Each community college will provide one vote. Greg Adams' successor as the NCCA executive director will be announced at the NCCA Annual Meeting, scheduled to be held in Scottsbluff, October 3-4, 2021.
4. Nicole Sedlacek is transitioning to fill Gene Willers' seat as Northeast's NCCA Board of Directors representative, with the remainder of the board serving as alternates. Should either Steve Anderson or Nicole Sedlacek be unable to attend a meeting, any of the remaining nine board members could step in to represent Northeast. It is important for Northeast to have two representatives participate in each of the NCCA Board of Directors meetings.
5. The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) has selected Jee Hang Lee to replace J. Noah Brown as the new president and CEO. Lee's presidency becomes effective on November 1, 2021. Mr. Lee is currently ACCT's senior vice president and has been with

**Mission**

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

ACCT for 15 years, having previously served as vice president of public policy and external relations.

6. Dr. Barrett, Dr. Cyndi Hanson, and Tara Smydra attended the recent Governor's Ag and Economic Development Summit, held in Kearney, NE. Presentations included expanding educational opportunities, broadband access, growing agriculture, venture capital and more.
7. On August 12<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Leah Barrett will attend the Federal Legislative Summit in Ashland, NE. She is looking forward to the Q&A session with the congressional delegation.
8. Following discussion, a consensus was reached by the External Relations Committee to recommend to the Board of Governors to approve the nominations for the Alumni Hall of Success, Distinguished Service, and the Nebraska Community College Association (NCCA) Distinguished Alumni awards. Names of the awardees will remain confidential until the recipients have been properly notified.

The awards will be presented during Northeast's Achievement Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> in the Lifelong Learning Center. The NCCA Distinguished Alumni recipient will also be recognized during the NCCA annual meeting awards ceremony on October 3, 2021 in Scottsbluff, NE.

Nominees from 2020 will also be recognized during the October 26<sup>th</sup> Achievement Awards Ceremony.

9. The quarterly Foundation Board of Directors meeting was held on July 27<sup>th</sup>. The meeting also served as the annual meeting of the Foundation. Meeting highlights include:
  - Two new members, Melissa Figueroa and Leia Piper, were approved for a three-year term ending 2024.
  - Bill Tielke, Kendra Barnes, Greta Roth, Roy Miller, and Wayne Studebaker were reelected to serve as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and past president respectively.
  - Walter Aschoff, Kendra Barnes, Roy Miller, Dr. G. Tom Surber, Bill Tielke and Juan Sandoval will serve another three-year term.
  - The nominations process is ongoing, and members are encouraged to submit names for approval throughout the year.
  - Foundation Board members are at 94% giving for FY2021.
  - The Foundation budget for FY2122 was reviewed and approved.
  - Review and approval of revisions to the Foundation By-Laws to allow each officer to serve a maximum of eight consecutive years.
  - Amendments to the Foundation's Document Retention and Destruction Policy were approved. The policy was adopted in 2009 and revised to be more in line with the College's Records Management policy.
10. Dedication of Norfolk's Canteen Lady will occur on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m., at the Norfolk Veteran's Home. Because it is Northeast's all-campus in-service, Dr. Barrett encouraged board members to attend to represent Northeast Community College.

11. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.