

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

**STAFF**

Dr. Leah Barrett  
Scott Gray  
Paul Feilmeier  
Dr. Tracy Kruse  
Amanda Nipp  
Jessica Dvorak  
Lindsay Spiegel  
Jim Curry  
Diane Reikofski

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

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

**MINUTES**

1. Nicole Sedlacek, Chairperson of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 10:54 a.m. in Suites E&H of the Lifelong Learning Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the October 26, 2021 meeting as distributed.
3. External relations work and outreach activities that Dr. Leah Barrett and Dr. Tracy Kruse have been involved in includes:
  - Participating in the Nebraska Chamber Economic Develop Summit. Discussion was held on workforce challenges and not having a sufficient labor force to meet demand. Dialogue also held regarding pathways to careers and the role that higher education plays in that work. The Nebraska Chamber Alliance Workforce workgroup was developed to create some action items related to the discussion. The NCCA Executive Director comes from manufacturing and hopes to be involved in these discussions.
  - Manufacturing Summit is being planned for the region in January.
  - Spoke regarding higher education and global perspectives to cohort 39 of the Nebraska Leadership Education/Action Development (LEAD) group. Northeast's Tee Bush has been selected as a cohort 40 member of the LEAD group.
  - Open house was hosted in Hartington earlier this week. Mayor, Mark Becker and Chamber Director, Karen Flamig, were present. These are important relationship building activities as we develop our pipeline.
  - Along with former Norfolk mayor, Sue Fuchtman and Metka Kolm, controller at Nucor, Dr. Barrett will speak about Leadership in Action with the Leadership Nebraska group.

**Mission**

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

- Attended the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees reception last Wednesday which provided Dr. Barrett the opportunity to meet board members and discuss the strong working relationship that exists with Wayne State College.
  - Attending the AgCeptional Women’s Conference on November 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Provided an annual presentation to the Peter Kiewit Foundation on how we use their dollars for Guided Pathways.
  - Working on grant opportunities related to building construction.
  - Continue to have discussions on grant development.
  - Dr. Leah Barrett has been appointed as a board member of the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA). In conjunction with the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit (NLS), RCCA will have one day dedicated to advocating for community colleges.
  - Conversations are being held with senators and university system leaders to discuss ideas for the Nebraska Rescue plan.
4. Foundation Board of Directors quarterly report includes:
- Meeting was held on October 26, 2021. Lori Olson, from the accounting firm of Dana F. Cole, presented the Foundation Audited Financial Statement of June 30, 2021 and 2020. The Foundation received an unmodified opinion. The 2020 Form 990 was also reviewed and approved.
  - Amendments to the Foundation’s Investment Policy Statement were approved by the Board of Directors. The purpose of the Statement is to serve as a guide for the investment management of Foundation assets and is reviewed a minimum of every five years in order to remain relevant to current investment strategies.
  - The Foundation is entering into a request for proposal process for investment management services.
5. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.