

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 14, 2019

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Julie Robinson, Chairperson	ABSENT
Del Ames	PRESENT
Donovan Ellis	PRESENT
Terry Nelson	ABSENT
Steve Anderson, ex-officio	ABSENT

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Arlan Kuehn	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT
Jeff Scherer	PRESENT
Carol Sibbel	PRESENT
Gene Willers	PRESENT

STAFF

Mary Honke
Steve Schram
John Blaylock
Dr. Michele Gill
Coleen Bressler
Amanda Nipp
Dr. Karen Severson
Eric Johnson
Dr. Tracy Kruse
Jim Curry
Diane Reikofski
Brenda Sock
Corinne Morris
Brandon Keller
Tara Smydra

OTHERS

Dr. Leah Barrett

MINUTES

1. Del Ames, member of the Student Success Committee, convened the meeting at 1:14 p.m. in Suite G of the Lifelong Learning Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the October 10, 2019 meeting as distributed.
3. Mary Honke introduced the Northeast Community College agriculture update, reporting that today's presentation will highlight programming, grant information, partnerships, and the Nexus campaign.

Northeast Community College's primary role is educating the next generation of farmers and producers while instilling in them the value of sustainability, conservation of energy, water conservation, and other natural resources while preparing students for jobs now and in the future in agriculture and agriculture-related fields.

In northeast Nebraska, agriculture accounts for one in two jobs; one in four jobs in Nebraska is related to agriculture. Nebraska ranks 5th in overall agriculture production and has one of the largest concentrations of diversified farms, meat processing facilities, and agribusiness found in the country.

Nebraska's Revised Statute, 85-962, Community colleges; legislative intent and purposes include:

Mission

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

- Applied technology and occupational education, and, when necessary, foundations education.
- Transfer education, including general academic transfer programs, and when necessary, foundations education.
- Public service, adult continuing education for occupations and professions, economic and community development, business and industry training, and personal development courses.
- Applied research.

Northeast Community College offers 12 agricultural programs and current agriculture enrollment is nearly 350 students. According to the 2018 Graduate Report, 58% of the graduates are employed in Northeast's 20-county service area and 85% of the graduates stay in Nebraska.

While enrollment in agricultural programs has grown, facilities have not kept pace with needs. A \$23M dollar Nexus campaign is underway to construct facilities in a phased approach. The project will consist of two new buildings; Veterinary Technology Building and a Large Animal Handling/Farm Operations Building with site development and support buildings for the farm relocation. This project will replace a dated 1920's dairy facility and 55-head cattle/calf feedlot. In addition, the project relocates existing agriculture labs and classrooms to one site, enhancing seamless delivery of educational programming. Once fully implemented, the College believes it can grow its agricultural programs from 350 students today to more than 500 students in the future.

National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant funds have provided to the Precision Agriculture program a mobile lab, high school Introduction to Ag Curriculum course, workshops and seminars, and Fridays @ Northeast programming. The NSF Advanced Technological Education (ATE) grant started with six high schools and has grown to 22 high schools.

Northeast Community College recently hosted the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement (C2A3) Consortium on campus for a two-day conference and continue to brainstorm opportunities to work together. C2A3 is a group of Midwest community colleges who joined together in a national consortium with the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDS-NRCS). Northeast also continues to offer statewide sales and marketing training for the NRCS.

Steve Schram reported that the program statement for the Veterinary Technology Building and a Large Animal Handling/Farm Operations facility was approved by the Board of Governors in August and it was submitted to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE). Mike Wemhoff from CCPE visited campus a few weeks ago and his summary comments were supportive of a new facility. Since that time, a few modifications were made to the program statement. The funding page of the program statement has been modified to provide a funding range. The funding range has been submitted to the CCPE so that the construction process is not slowed down. Commissioners will review the proposal during their December 12th meeting. Northeast representatives will be present at the CCPE meeting to address any questions that may arise. If approved by the

CCPE, the topic will be included on Northeast's December Board of Governors agenda for consideration.

4. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.