

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, April 14, 2016

**STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Terry Nelson, Chairperson	PRESENT
Arlan W. Kuehn	PRESENT
Julie Robinson	ABSENT
Jeffrey M. Scherer	ABSENT
Shirley J. Petsche, ex-officio	PRESENT

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

Steve Anderson	PRESENT
Keith E. Harvey	PRESENT
Don Oelsligle	PRESENT
Dirk A. Petersen	PRESENT
Larry W. Poessnecker	PRESENT
Gene L. Willers	ABSENT

**STAFF**

Dr. Michael Chipps  
Mary Honke  
John Blaylock  
Lynne Koski  
Dr. Karen Severson  
Derek Bierman  
Eric Johnson  
Dr. Tracy Kruse  
Craig Garrett  
Jim Curry  
Diane Reikofski  
Brenda Sock  
Faye Kilday  
Shanelle Grudzinski  
Connie Sixta  
Matt McCarthy  
Colleen Barnes  
Makala Williams

**MINUTES**

1. The meeting was convened at 1:37 p.m., in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center, by Dr. Terry F. Nelson, Chairperson of the Student Success Committee.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting.
3. John Blaylock, Vice President of Educational Services, advised that the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE) requires a program review to occur once every seven years. Today's review of the Criminal Justice program is part of the CCPE review schedule.

Criminal Justice instructors, Matt McCarthy and Colleen Barnes, presented the Criminal Justice program review.

Nebraska law mandates that officers must be 21 years of age before they can become police officers, an associate's degree represents an excellent bridge for the time period between high school and their 21st birthday. The practicum offered by the Criminal Justice Department and opportunities to ride along with police officers on patrol also help to bridge this gap. Additionally, employers indicate that Northeast Community College graduates do very well once in the field, and four-year colleges report that they do well when pursuing higher degrees.

The Criminal Justice program at Northeast Community College serves an important role in the education and training of students for careers in the criminal justice field. It bridges the gap for students who have graduated from high school but who are not yet 21 years of age; it contributes to the abilities and performance of law enforcement and corrections personnel as indicated by studies that compare college-educated personnel to those with only a high school diploma; and it provides students with many opportunities to gain valuable experience and network through various partnerships.

Northeast has added a Public Safety and Law Enforcement Training Facility that serves as a laboratory for the Criminal Justice and emergency responder programs. It allows students to experience much more realistic training scenarios in a real home setting, which is where many emergency situations occur. The Criminal Justice instructors stage crime scenes in the house, for which students must protect the crime scene and process and establish evidence. At times they will work with the Paramedic program so students gain a holistic experience involving the emergency medical responders.

The demand for graduates in Criminal Justice is good with growth rates in Northeast's 20-county service area, statewide and nationwide. Faculty actively promote the program to students in K-12 schools by participating in a variety of activities aimed at different age groups.

Through input from the program's advisory committee members and partnerships with organizations and agencies, the faculty stay abreast of new developments in the field and have made a number of improvements within the last few years. One of these is to offer an associate of applied science degree option targeted to those already employed in law enforcement and corrections but who have not completed a college degree.

Acknowledgement was made that both the number of degrees awarded and the student credit hour production per full-time equivalent (FTE) faculty exceed the minimum thresholds established by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE).

A consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee to recommend to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education the continuation of the Criminal Justice program at Northeast Community College.

4. John Blaylock and Dr. Karen Severson provided an update on connecting to K-12 schools as it relates to Vision 2020 and the Board of Governors goal of 'Increase student success and access'. A review of activities that bring students, principals, counselors, parents, sponsors, superintendents, grandparents, etc., to campus include:
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Exploration Workshop and Technology Day
  - Norfolk Public Schools After Shock Program
  - Explore Northeast Community College
  - Career Awareness Activities
  - High School Student Engagement Activities
  - Providing community service to schools
  - Financial Aid Workshops
  - Career Academy Partnerships
  - Fridays at Northeast

- Dual Credit Programming
  - District One-Act Plays
  - State Journalism
  - Mid-States Basketball tournament
5. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.