

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 9, 2020

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Carol Sibbel, Chairperson	PRESENT
Donovan Ellis	PRESENT
Terry Nelson	PRESENT
Nicole Sedlacek	PRESENT
Steve Anderson, ex-officio	PRESENT

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Del Ames	PRESENT
Arlan Kuehn	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT
Julie Robinson	PRESENT
Jeff Scherer	PRESENT
Gene Willers	PRESENT

STAFF

Dr. Leah Barrett
John Blaylock
Coleen Bressler
Dr. Michele Gill
Amanda Nipp
Jim Curry
Diane Reikofski
Shanelle Grudzinski
Brad Ranslem
Terri Heggemeyer

MINUTES

1. Carol Sibbel, Chairperson of the Student Success Committee, convened the meeting at 1:34 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing. The meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing pursuant to the Executive Order issued on March 17, 2020 by Nebraska Governor, Pete Ricketts.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the March 17, 2020 meeting as distributed.
3. Terri Heggemeyer, Director of Career Services, presented the 2019 Graduate Report. Data reveals that 99% of the 2019 graduates are employed or are continuing their education, 88% are employed in a field related to their program of study, 88% are employed in Nebraska, and 61% of the 2019 Northeast graduates are employed in our 20-county service region.

Other services provided by the Career Services Office includes providing assistance to students with writing and completing resumes, applications, and cover letters, providing one-on-one advisement as students conduct their job search, conducting mock interviews, etc. The Career Services office hosts the Spring Job Fair in March of each year. Because of the demand for students in certain programs, there are a number of career-specific job fairs that are conducted through the year.

The Graduate Report serves as a report card and shows the value of Northeast Community College in the 20-county service area and region. Copies of the Graduate Report are mailed to high school counselors and principals, state senators, congressmen, etc.

Mission

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

4. Because of COVID-19, the 2020 commencement ceremony will be held via a virtual ceremony as close to May 16th as possible. Conversations are being held with local vendors to pull this ceremony together. 2020 graduates will be provided the opportunity to walk in our next commencement ceremony, likely May 2021. President Barrett will share the announcement with our upcoming graduates through a virtual announcement.
5. Shanelle Grudzinski, Dean of Applied Technology, and Brad Ranslem, Associate Dean of Applied Technology, presented the Building Construction program review. Northeast's Building Construction program provides graduates with strong skills to construct, erect, install, and repair fixtures made of wood and alternative construction materials such as concrete forms, building frameworks, joists, rafters, door and window frames, and flooring. Students also gain additional knowledge in proper installation of cabinets, siding, drywall, and insulating techniques.

Freshman students begin by designing a home given a set of parameters and learn to draft the full layout. Through the curriculum, students learn all functions of construction from quality to material estimating to time management. Freshman students complete the framing, roof, installation of windows and doors, and seal the home. A benefit of this process is that students are provided the opportunity to connect to the community, vendors, and inspectors.

Sophomore students install sheetrock, siding, complete the finish work on the home, including trim, finishes, and bathroom and utility cabinetry. Sale of the student-built homes occurs in early June of each year. Funding from the sale of the homes helps to cover the cost of the new builds beginning the following year.

Utilizing funds from the sale of previous houses, Northeast has been able to fund a Green House. The Green House provides the opportunity to partner with industry on new products and processes and experiment with new technology. Jeff Scherer inquired about the useful life of the Green House. Ms. Grudzinski explained that the design of the house allows us to install and uninstall various components; being able to remove a wall, change technology, etc. without having to do an entire structural component. Mr. Ames suggested that as Northeast builds buildings on our campus, that we use green friendly materials and opportunities such as solar. Mr. Nelson cautioned that as the entire world is going green we must also make sure that we are being practical. Dr. Michele Gill reported that as buildings are being designed, the architects are very good at making recommendations on what green opportunities we should take advantage of.

Every three years an internal program review is conducted to evaluate the program and make any changes to the degree. According to the Nebraska H3 (high wage, high demand, high skill) website, carpenters rank fourth in the top ten H3 Occupations.

Faculty are working with the Admissions office to reach out to students to improve matriculation rates. Other actions to increase enrollment include the Building Construction program being offered as part of P2T as well as Fridays @ Northeast. As soon as the travel

ban is lifted due to COVID-19, Northeast will travel to O’Neill to work with high schools who have robust construction programs to set up additional curriculum opportunities.

The Building Construction program exceeds the CCPE requirement of 10 graduates. One area of improvement noted is the Student Credit Hour (SCH)/Faculty FTE. One way to increase the SCH/Faculty FTE number is to increase credit hours. Opportunities to increase enrollments have already been initiated.

Following discussion, a consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee that the Building Construction program is a solid program serves an important role locally and regionally and will recommend to the Board of Governors the continuation of the Building Construction program at Northeast Community College and to forward the proposal for consideration to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE).

6. Shanelle Grudzinski and Brad Ranslem presented the program review of the Electrical Construction and Control program at Northeast Community College.

Electrical Construction and Control students learn the basics of electrical wiring used in the installation and maintenance of lighting, appliances, motors, heating, and air conditioning. Training includes the operation, testing, and maintenance of electrical equipment and electronics for skills in electrical controls and solid-state devices, as well as computer experience using programmable controllers. Power distribution, industrial maintenance, electrical service work, installation and service of irrigation equipment and new construction are some of the areas with employment opportunities for graduates of Northeast Community College’s two-year electrical program.

The Student Success Committee feels that the Electrical Construction and Control program is a premier program at Northeast Community College and it exceeds all thresholds established by the Nebraska CCPE. A consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee to recommend to the Board of Governors the continuation of the Electrical Construction and Control program at Northeast Community College and to submit the proposal for consideration to the Nebraska CCPE.

7. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.