

**Minutes**  
**Board Meeting**  
**The Ohio State University at Newark**

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March 19, 2015 -- 8:30 a.m.

The John Gilbert Reese Center, Executive Conference Room (Room 255)

**1. Call to Order**

Board Secretary, Christopher Meyer, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of The John Gilbert Reese Center.

**2. Approval of November 20, 2014, Board Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the November 20, 2014, Board meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

The meeting agenda was approved as distributed.

**4. Public Comments**

Chris Meyer, Board Secretary, invited public comments. No public comments were made.

**5. Dean's/Director's Report**

- ***Introduction of New Staff Appointments.*** Dean and Director Bill MacDonald introduced Diane Kanney, new Director of Enrollment for The Ohio State University at Newark; and Sandra MacNevin, new Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director of Ohio State Newark.
- ***Budget Update.*** Dean MacDonald reported that there is considerable uncertainty related to the budget for FY 2016 at both the state level and internally with The Ohio State University in Columbus. Dean MacDonald noted that in FY 2016, the regional campuses will receive their state share of instruction (SSI) subsidy based on the state's new performance funding model which rewards course completion and graduation rates. He noted that this funding model favors selective colleges and universities and places the regional campuses at a disadvantage as a result of our open access policy and the number of students we enroll who require developmental courses due to gaps in their academic preparation. As a result, our retention rates and graduation rates are lower.

In addition, the state legislature and the Governor have proposed that state colleges and universities may raise tuition by 2 percent in FY 2016, but allow for no tuition increase in

the second year of the next biennium budget. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University is reluctant to raise tuition this year, so this source of additional revenue is not likely to be available during the next fiscal year.

Dean MacDonald also reported that in past years, the state share of instruction was allocated by the state directly to the regional campuses, but the new process involves the state allocating funds directly to the main campuses. The main campuses then, in turn, allocate funding to the regional campuses based on the new formula. As a result of this change in the process, it is the main campus in Columbus that must develop and implement a new funding formula for the regional campuses. At this time, the Columbus campus has not yet determined the method it will use to allocate funds to the regional campuses. Dean MacDonald noted that he and David Brillhart, Senior Fiscal Officer, are working closely with the university committee on the development of a model for funding the regional campuses based on the new state funding formula.

As a result of the uncertainty related to the budget for FY 2016, Dean MacDonald has been consulting with his leadership team, the Faculty Assembly, and student government leadership to plan for a significant budget reduction in FY 2016. Ohio State Newark is planning for the worse-case scenario of a possible budget reduction of approximately \$1 million.

David Brillhart, Senior Fiscal Officer, noted that all of our revenue streams are challenged right now: both tuition revenue and revenue from state subsidy. He reported that the regional campuses are required to submit their FY 2016 budgets to Columbus by April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and given the uncertainty and the likelihood of significant reductions in state subsidy, we have to take action to reduce the campus' budget for FY 2016.

- ***Legislative Update.*** Dean MacDonald reported that Senator Keith Faber has sponsored Ohio Senate Bill 4 which calls for a 5 percent reduction for all of Ohio's public higher education institutions and urges public colleges and universities to operate more efficiently. David Brillhart noted that state legislators tend to assume that all higher education institutions are alike in this area, and that this places institutions that are highly efficient (such as Ohio State Newark and COTC) at a disadvantage. He noted that our campuses serve as a model of efficiency for higher education in the state of Ohio.
- ***Governor's Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency.*** Dean MacDonald reported that Governor Kasich has established the Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education to examine ways for Ohio's public colleges and universities to hold down costs and increase efficiencies. The Governor appointed Geoff Chatas, Chief Financial Officer of The Ohio State University to chair the Task Force. The Task Force

is charged with completing its work and issuing a report to the Governor with recommendations by October 1, 2015.

- ***Student Enrollment and Student Progress Report.*** Dean MacDonald reported that we are projecting fall 2015 enrollment for Ohio State Newark to be close to flat or with a slight decrease. He presented a review of data that show that projections for high school students over the next five years will decrease throughout the state of Ohio. Based on these data, Dean MacDonald noted that our goal is to sustain enrollment over the next five years, but that we do not anticipate significant enrollment growth. He further noted that our plans to have an additional residence hall come on line in 2017 will help, as many of our prospective students indicate that they would like to attend Ohio State Newark if they could have a residential experience. Other strategies to maintain our enrollment include greater collaboration in recruitment and marketing with the other regional campuses and with the Columbus campus.

In relation to student progress, Dean MacDonald reported on the six-year graduation rate for students who begin their studies at Ohio State Newark and complete their studies at Ohio State. He also reported that in comparison with other regional campuses throughout the state, Ohio State Newark ranks in the top 10 for six-year graduation rates and that our goal is to rank in the top four of Ohio's regional campuses. Dean MacDonald reported that he regional campus deans are working closely with administrators from the Columbus campus to develop strategies that will improve graduation rates for all students. He also reported on the success of the Buckeye Generation Learning Community, which has now enrolled three cohorts of students. These students are the first in their families to attend a college or university. He reported that the initial data show that participation in this learning community initiative has made a significant difference in the students' learning outcomes. He noted that once we have the data for this spring semester, we will have three years of data to review and present to the Board.

The question was raised as to whether or not the Next Generation Scholarship funds have an impact on the time-to-degree for our students, and Dean MacDonald responded that the awarding of these funds has a significant impact on our students and that this year we are awarding approximately \$650,000 in student scholarships.

- ***Facilities Update.*** Dean MacDonald reported that the campus held the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new Facilities Operations Building in February and that we have selected an architect for the initial design of the Adena Hall Renovation Project. The new Facilities Operations Building will replace approximately 9,000 square feet of grounds operations and maintenance trades currently located in Adena Hall; and the

Adena Hall renovations that follow will provide new and expanded recreation as well as health and wellness amenities for our students. He also noted that our intention is to seek LEED certification for the project and that the cost of the new facility is \$3.65 million which is cost-shared between Ohio State Newark and COTC. In addition, additional funding allocated for the new building include \$2.75 million in state funds and \$900,000 in local funds. Construction on the new building is schedule to be complete in November to December of 2015. Dean MacDonald noted that the new building follows the Framework Plan which is the master plan for our campus. He also reported that the estimate for funding for the new Residence Hall Project is approximately \$8 million and the goal is for the new residence hall to be on line by 2017. An architectural study is currently underway to determine the capacity of the planned site for the building and this study should be completed by July of 2015.

- ***Certificate of Recognition from American Electric Power (AEP) for Ohio State Newark and COTC.*** Dean MacDonald announced that Ohio State Newark and COTC are committed to energy efficiency and that both campuses recently received a certificate of recognition from American Electric Power (AEP) for campus efforts to reduce energy usage. He reported that in 2004 the state of Ohio required a 20 percent energy reduction to be achieved within ten years, and that Ohio State Newark and COTC achieved this goal quickly and we continue to make progress in this area. He noted that as we replace equipment and mechanical systems, we focus on energy efficiency as a key component of decision-making.
- ***Faculty Awards.*** Dean MacDonald announced that Professor Julie Hupp, Psychology, is the recipient of The Ohio State University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching for 2015. Professor Hupp received a congratulatory letter from the President and Provost, an increase in her base salary, and she will be recognized in the fall of 2015 on the field at half time during a home football game, along with other faculty who received awards this year in various categories of achievement. Dean MacDonald also announced that Professor Alcira Duenas, History, received a distinguished fellowship from Brown University.
- ***Academic Program Highlights.*** Dean MacDonald reported that on March 11<sup>th</sup>, the Newark campus held its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Research Forum. This event showcases undergraduate research with faculty mentors across the disciplines. Another highlight this semester was the class visit and presentations by two Honorary Consuls of Switzerland and Germany earlier this month which provided students with an excellent opportunity to learn more about diplomatic service and interact with diplomats representing their countries.

- ***Pelotonia Planning.*** Dean MacDonald reported that planning is underway for the August Pelotonia at The Ohio State University and that, once again, Ohio State Newark will participate with faculty, staff, student and community member participation. The Buckeye Pelotonia will be held on August 7 to 8, 2015; and 100 percent of all funds raised by Pelotonia directly support cancer research at the Comprehensive Cancer Center-James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute at The Ohio State University.
- ***The Ohio State University Campus Campaign.*** Dean MacDonald announced that The Ohio State University Campus Campaign is underway with faculty and staff showing their commitment to our mission. Ohio State Newark's participation rate in the Campus Campaign was 60 percent last year which shows a strong commitment by our faculty and staff to the University's mission.
- ***Announcements.*** Dean MacDonald announced that the Investiture Ceremony for President Michael V. Drake, 15<sup>th</sup> President of The Ohio State University will be held on March 31, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. in the Mershon Auditorium.

He also reported that The Ohio State University's national Alumni Advisory Council will be visiting the Newark campus on April 17<sup>th</sup> to learn more about the access and affordability mission of the regional campuses. The Alumni Advisory Council meets once a year in Columbus and serves in an advisory capacity to the President of The Ohio State University.

Dean MacDonald also announced that this year's spring Graduation Ceremony for Ohio State Newark will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

- Dean MacDonald invited all Board members to attend the Annual Faculty and Staff Picnic for Ohio State Newark and COTC which will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Amphitheater.

## **6. Chair of Faculty Assembly Report**

Dr. Karen Goodell, Chair of Faculty Assembly, reported that faculty voted to establish a new Communications Committee to allow faculty to contribute to the campus' communications related to faculty teaching, research and service. She also reported that faculty are planning to hold a Faculty Forum this spring to discuss strategies on how best faculty might engage with more students outside of the classroom. Other issues under discussion by faculty include technology in relation to teaching and learning, and the changing demographics of our students.

## 7. COTC Board Report

COTC Board Chair, John Hinderer, reported on the March Board meeting of COTC. He reported that COTC had an accreditation visit by the Learning Commission in December and that the outcome of the visit resulted in a letter granting full approval with no qualifications. Mr. Hinderer also reported on the Engineering program at COTC and noted that this program will provide a critical resource to keep people in the community and will greatly benefit our community and region. He noted that COTC held its fall commencement ceremony in December of 2014 with 200 graduates and that an inspiring commencement address was delivered by Charles Finklea, a graduate of COTC. Mr. Hinderer also reported on the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) advocacy day at the statehouse in Columbus which COTC Board members attended in collaboration with board members and community college presidents from across the state. He noted that it was a productive day with meetings with legislators and noted that there are many issues being addressed by the state legislature right now related to higher education and that critical decisions on higher education's budget will be made between now and June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year.

## 8. Board Committee Reports

- ***Academic and Student Life Committee Report.*** Chair of the Board Committee on Academic And Student Life, Diane DeLawder, introduced Holly Mason, Director of Student Life, who reported on several student life initiatives, including: Operation Feed that involved students, faculty and staff in collecting food donations to donate to area food banks; and the "Diversity through Artistry" program that involved Ohio State Newark students, faculty and staff working together with third grade students in our local schools as they learned about issues related to diversity through engagement with art projects in their classrooms. In addition, Ms. Mason announced that on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the campus will hold its annual Career Fair for students and employers, and that to date over 100 employers have registered to participate in this event. Ms. Mason also reported that the campus' annual Family and Friends event was held in Adena Hall on April 25<sup>th</sup>. She also announced that the campus will hold its annual Community Intercultural Relations Conference (CIRC) on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, with all community members invited to attend.
- ***Finance Committee.*** No report.
- ***Facilities and Planning Committee.*** No report.
- ***External Relations Committee.*** No report.

- **Executive Committee.** Board Secretary, Chris Meyers, reported that the Board will take formal action at the June 18, 2015 Board meeting to reappoint Board members whose terms expire on June 30, 2015. He also reported that the Executive Committee is preparing a Board resolution in recognition of Sandy Sturman, former Executive Assistant to Dean and Director Bill MacDonald, on the occasion of her retirement following a long and successful career. He noted that the resolution will be presented for adoption at the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 Board meeting.

## **9. Reappointment of Board Members to The Works**

Board members unanimously approved the reappointment of C. Daniel DeLawder of Park National Bank and Robert O'Neill of Southgate Corporation to serve an additional three year term on the Board of The Works: The Ohio Center for History, Art and Technology. Ohio State Newark Board member, Marcia Downes, noted that the Bylaws of The Works state that two members of The Works' Board are appointed by the Ohio State Newark Board.

## **10. Other Business**

Board member, Marcia Downes, announced that Ohio State Newark will sponsor a summer camp for high school students in the region called "Camp Architecture: High School Design Studio at the Newark Campus." This is a two-week camp for students entering grades 9-12 that will run from June 2-12, 2015 on the Ohio State Newark campus. The camp provides an introduction to architecture, landscape architecture, and city and regional planning. The camp directors include graduate students from the Knowlton School of Architecture of The Ohio State University. She noted that the Sullivan Building in downtown Newark will be involved in the camp and that this will introduce a new career field and opportunity the students in our community and region. Board member Downes expressed her appreciation to Dean MacDonald for supporting this initiative.

## **11. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by  
Sandra A. MacNevin  
Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director  
The Ohio State University at Newark*