

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 19, 2015

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Arlan Kuehn, Chairperson	PRESENT
Steve Anderson	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT
Shirley Petsche	PRESENT
Gene W. Willers, ex-officio	PRESENT

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

John W. Davies	PRESENT
Keith E. Harvey	PRESENT
Terry F. Nelson	ABSENT
Don Oelsligle	PRESENT
Larry W. Poessnecker	PRESENT
Julie Robinson	ABSENT

STAFF

Dr. Michael Chipps
Mary Honke
John Blaylock
Lynne Koski
Dr. Karen Severson
Derek Bierman
Dr. Tracy Kruse
Eric Johnson
Jim Curry
Jennifer Happold
Diane Reikofski
Coleen Bressler
John Robertson
Brenda Sock

MINUTES

1. The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m., in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center, by Arlan Kuehn, Chairperson of the External Relations Committee.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting.
3. Dr. Tracy Kruse reported that she continues to update the spreadsheet with information on the status of legislative bills. LB150, a bill which redefines the use of LB840 dollars is currently in final reading. Unfortunately, we were not aware of this bill and there was no one present to testify against it.

Dr. Michael Chipps, Dr. Tracy Kruse, Steve Anderson, Don Oelsligle, and Arlan Kuehn reported on their attendance at the Community College National Legislative Summit (NLS) in Washington, DC. Northeast and other Nebraska representatives were able to convey to senators and congressmen the importance and value of the Pell Grant and to inform them of Nebraska's community colleges involvement in the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) and justifying student success.

Mr. Oelsligle encourages other board members to attend these conferences to further expand their knowledge of the importance of community colleges.

The Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) Day is held in Washington, DC at the same time so attendees split their time between the two conferences. As part of the RCCA Day, valuable contacts were made within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office. These contacts will be of great assistance as Northeast proceeds with the National Center for Ag and Water Excellence.

4. Arlan Kuehn, Northeast Community College Foundation representative, reported that the Foundation Board is recommending an 18-month operational plan to be aligned with the Northeast Board of Governors. This past year, a total of \$225,000 was awarded to students through the Foundation Office.
5. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.