

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 14, 2015

**STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Julie Robinson, Chairperson	PRESENT
John W. Davies	PRESENT
Don Oelsligle	PRESENT
Larry W. Poessnecker	PRESENT
Gene L. Willers, ex-officio	PRESENT

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

Steve Anderson	ABSENT
Keith E. Harvey	ABSENT
Arlan Kuehn	ABSENT
Terry F. Nelson	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT
Shirley Petsche	PRESENT

**STAFF**

Dr. Michael Chipps	Brenda Sock
Mary Honke	Corinne Morris
John Blaylock	Chris Burbach
Lynne Koski	Bill Barnes
Dr. Karen Severson	Gene Reed
Derek Bierman	Steve Wagner
Eric Johnson	
Dr. Tracy Kruse	
Craig Garrett	
Jim Curry	
Diane Reikofski	
Lyle Kathol	
Shanelle Grudzinski	

**MINUTES**

1. The meeting was convened at 10:48 a.m., in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center, by Julie Robinson, Chairperson of the Student Success Committee.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting.
3. John Blaylock, Vice President of Educational Services, reported that the Diversified Manufacturing Technology certificate was approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE) on January 24, 2014 and Northeast began offering courses in August 2014.

Steve Wagner, Diversified Manufacturing Technology program instructor, reported that the program provides students the opportunity to acquire highly valued skills in an innovative, hands-on learning environment. In addition to developing basic knowledge, skills, and abilities for successful integration into manufacturing industries, the program features integrating experiences through which students participate in middle skills training in safety, quality, general maintenance, introductory welding and fabrication, precision measurements, basic machining, and the operation and programming of computerized manufacturing technologies including computer numerical control (CNC) and robotics. According to manufacturing employment projection the expected job growth for 2012-2022 remains high.

Discussion included the importance of working with high school counselors and teachers to provide an accurate account of manufacturing opportunities to students. Mr. Wagner reported that they continue to educate recruiters, students, parents, counselors, etc. that technology is involved in 21<sup>st</sup> century manufacturing.

The Manufacturing Bootcamp is currently only being offered in Cuming County. Shanelle Grudzinski reported that they are working to find qualified trainers to provide the Manufacturing Bootcamp, with a goal of offering the training in Madison County by late fall 2015.

While all of the CCPE thresholds are not met for this program, this is due to the program being in its first year of offering. A consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee that this is a viable program and will recommend to the Board of Governors to approve continuation of the Diversified Manufacturing Technology program at Northeast Community College for submission to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

4. Electromechanical Technology instructors, Gene Reed and Bill Barnes, reported that the Electromechanical Technology program allows students to learn the skills and knowledge to install, maintain, and repair complex industrial equipment, focusing on electrical principals, circuitry, electrical controls, robotics, print reading, programming, computer-aided drafting, mechanical systems, and other components related to electromechanical repair. Modern technologies have vastly increased industry's capacity to produce, communicate, and collaborate. The technology changes the relationship between people and knowledge, placing further demands upon higher education and community college programs to build the multidisciplinary skills needed to assemble, inspect, install, operate, repair, and otherwise maintain the wide array of machines.

Following discussion, a consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee that the Electromechanical Technology program exceeds the CCPE's thresholds and is a strong and viable program that is meeting the needs of employers across the region and state and will recommend to the Board of Governors to approve the continuation of the Electromechanical Technology program at Northeast Community College for submission to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

5. John Blaylock reported that Northeast Community College is proposing a new program of study in Precision Agriculture leading to an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. Although portions of the proposed program requirements are met through existing courses housed in the Agriculture department, the College has developed a series of specialized courses to prepare the necessary skill set for precision technicians. Over the past year, Northeast staff have been working closely with industry partners to study the needs for a precision agriculture program. Local and regional employers from various agricultural industries have confirmed that Northeast should begin a program focused on precision agriculture.

The Northeast Agriculture department carefully researched model out-of-state precision agriculture programs and worked closely with industry partners to develop proposed curriculum. The current facilities in the Agriculture and Allied Health building will be used to offer the new program. However, as the program matures, indoor space will be required for students to learn how to work with large farm equipment that now includes precision technologies as standard equipment. Simulation equipment, instructional supplies, and updating of current precision agriculture equipment and technology will be required for the program.

Following discussion regarding the need and demand for the program and projected revenue sources and expenses for the program, a consensus was reached by the Student Success Committee to recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of the Precision Agriculture program for submission to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

6. Dr. Karen Severson presented an overview of the commencement ceremony that will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
7. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.