

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 17, 2021
1:02 p.m.

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held a Regular Board meeting at 1:02 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 in the Coral E. Richards Boardroom, at Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff Campus, located at 1601 East 27th Street, in the City of Scottsbluff, in the County of Scotts Bluff, in the State of Nebraska, as per the publicized notice in the Star-Herald, on Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

A current agenda was available in the College President's office and the Board Secretary's office on the Scottsbluff Campus at the time of the publicized notice.

AREA BOARD

Karen S. Anderson, Vice Chair	Present
Margaret R. Crouse	Present
Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales (arrived.....)	Present
F. Lynne Klemke, Chair.....	Present (via Zoom)
Allan D. Kreman	Present
Kimberly A. Marcy.....	Present
William M. Packard.....	Present
M. Thomas Perkins.....	Present
Coral E. Richards	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr	Present
Richard G. Stickney	Present

QUORUM

Chair Klemke declared a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Chair Klemke asked for comments from the community. Pursuant to Board Policy BP-101, Chair Klemke reminded community members who wish to make comments that each speaker will be limited to a five-minute presentation. There were no public comments.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

Chair Klemke announced that for public information there is a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act available on the table at the back of the room.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Klemke reviewed the contents of the Consent Calendar, which includes the following items:

1. Review Contents of Consent Calendar
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Excuse Absent Board Member(s)
 - c. Minutes, October 20, 2021

2. Claims
 - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,309,519.05
 - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$8,484.88
 - c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$2,982.55
 - d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$3,623.70
 - e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
 - f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$356,397.48
 - g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$243,094.13
 - h. City Planning Commission Reports
 - i. City of Gering (TIF)
2. Consideration of Items Extracted from Consent Calendar
 - a. State of the Valley Luncheon – Ms. Anderson

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval

Chair Klemke inquired if there were any items on the Consent Calendar which any Board member wished to have extracted for separate consideration. Ms. Anderson requested extraction of the item payable to the Scottsbluff/Gering United Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Perkins MOVED to approve the Amended Consent Calendar. SECONDED by Dr. Crouse. The vote was, Yes: Anderson, Crouse, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Guzman-Gonzales. Motion carried.

Board member, Ms. Guzman-Gonzales arrived at 1:07 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consider Item(s) Extracted

Ms. Anderson reported that the expense payable to the Scottsbluff/Gering United Chamber of Commerce represents payment in the amount of \$20.00 for WNCC staff attendance at the State of the Valley Luncheon. Ms. Anderson explained that she is the Executive Director of the Scottsbluff/Gering United Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Richards MOVED to approve the extracted item payable to the Scottsbluff/Gering United Chamber of Commerce. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Anderson. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement

Approval of Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement

Ms. Anderson MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Dr. Margaret Crouse for \$2,748.43 (ACCT Leadership Congress) and Ms. Lynne Klemke for \$90.72. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Guzman-Gonzales. No: None. Abstain: Crouse, Klemke. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement

Approval of Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement (cont.)

Mr. Stickney MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Mr. Allan Kreman for \$65.52, Ms. Kimberly Marcy for \$213.92. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Kreman, Marcy. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement

Mr. Kreman MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Mr. R.J. Savely, Jr. \$100.80, Mr. Richard Stickney \$73.05. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Savely, Stickney. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Bid Consent Calendar

Review of Bid Consent Calendar

22-SE-03 Microsoft Subscription Services

Company	City/State	Total Amount
ScholarBuys (current contract provider)	Carpentersville, IL	\$54,281.84
V3 IT	Naperville, IL	\$53,404.59
CDW	Vernon Hills, IL	\$55,637.06
Zones Connect	Auburn, WA	\$170,449.37

Approval of Bid Consent Calendar

Consider Item(s) Extracted

Chair Klemke inquired if there were any items on the Bid Consent Calendar which any Board member wished to have extracted for separate consideration. Ms. Richards requested extraction of Bid 22-SE-03 Microsoft Subscription Services. As this was not the low bid, additional information was requested.

Ms. Koski reported that ScholarBuys has knowledge of the current environment. This is helpful when annual Microsoft true-up is required. ScholarBuys is able to help identify and recommend the right licensing with Microsoft based upon usage. ScholarBuys has coordinated discovery conversations with Microsoft experts on new products and changes to existing products at no charge. ScholarBuys routinely reviews the college licenses to ensure the right fit based on changes in Microsoft's licensing mode. These reviews are extremely valuable to develop the necessary strategic plans in comparison to Microsoft's continuous releases and pricing model.

If the college changed vendors, there is a change in license contracts under which we provision accounts within Microsoft's licenses center. With a new vendor contract, licenses would have to be transferred from the old contract to the new contract and ensure there is no disruption in services. By staying with ScholarBuys, no changes in the license center must be made.

Dr. Perkins MOVED to approve the extracted item payable to ScholarBuys, the current contract provider, in the amount of \$54,281.84. SECONDED by Dr. Packard. The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Bid Consent Calendar

Review of Bid Consent Calendar (cont.)

22-FAC-07 WNCC Farmland Lease

Company	City/State	Total Amount
PLP Enterprises, LLC Court Merrigan	Torrington, WY	\$50/acre (\$625.00 annual cash rent)

The current lease agreement is 1/3 cash of total crop revenue. This will be a multi-year agreement and the lease provides all equipment and labor to maintain the property. No other bids were received.

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve Bid 22-FAC-07 WNCC Farmland Lease, \$50 per acre to PLP Enterprises, LLC. SECONDED by Ms. Anderson. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Klemke. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Personnel Consent Calendar

Review Contents of Personnel Consent Calendar

Approval of Personnel Consent Calendar

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the Personnel Consent Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Consideration of Items Extracted from Personnel Consent Calendar

No items were extracted from the Personnel Consent Calendar.

Western Community College Area Board of Governors

Presentation of Nebraska Public Power District Scholarship

Chair Klemke introduced Ms. Melody Baily, NPPD Retail Account Manager. Ms. Baily reported that she had the privilege of presenting a check in the amount of \$15,000 for student scholarships. The funds are a result of the 30th annual Wells Fargo Golf Tournament facilitated to raise funds for community college students to assist with tuition. A grand total of \$355,635 has been raised thus far for WNCC students. Ms. Baily stated that the Nebraska economy is strong and expressed appreciation for WNCC, as some of the students become NPPD employees. This is a statewide event and \$1,788,321.00 has been raised over the course of this tournament.

Jennifer Reisig, Foundation Executive Director shared data about the scholarship. As of August of this year they found that 273 students between 2000 and 2021 have received scholarships as a result of this program.

Approval of 2022-23 Academic Calendar

Dr. Wilson shared the proposed 2022-23 Academic Calendar included in the meeting information. Fall Semester 2022 timeline is August 15 – December 20 (last contract day for faculty (173-220 day), Spring Semester 2023 timeline is January 9 - May 17 (last contract day for faculty (173-220 day), and Summer Semester 2023 timeline is May 24 (220-day contract day resumes for faculty) to August 8. Dr. Wilson stated that the calendar is similar to this year's calendar and entertained comments or questions. In response to an inquiry, Dr. Wilson confirmed that the calendar includes 175 contract days for faculty as well as the 220 day option for some faculty. In the absence of additional discussion, Chair Klemke entertained a motion to approve the 2022-23 Academic Calendar.

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the 2022-23 Academic Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Marcy. The vote was, Yes: Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Board Member Conference Registration/Travel 2022 Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference

Chair Klemke reported that the 2022 Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference is scheduled April 1-5, 2022 in Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Karen Anderson and Dr. William Packard, members of the Board HLC Committee have agreed to attend the conference. Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of registration and travel expenses for the two Board members.

Mr. Stickney MOVED to approve the 2022 Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference registration and travel expenses for Ms. Karen Anderson and Dr. William Packard. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Anderson, Packard. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Board of Governors Informal Meeting December 15, 2021, 9:30 a.m. – noon, Scottsbluff Campus

Chair Klemke reported an Informal Board meeting has been scheduled December 15, 2021, 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Coral E. Richards Boardroom. The meeting has been scheduled so that work can continue with Dr. Geri Anderson as the strategic plan process begins. Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the December 15, 2021 Informal Board meeting.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the Informal Board meeting scheduled December 15, 2021, 9:30 a.m. to noon on the Scottsbluff Campus. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Executive Committee

Approval of District Boundaries as Part of the Redistricting Process Following the 2020 Census

Chair Klemke explained that this item is regarding the possible change of district boundaries as a result of the 2020 Census. Mr. Kelly and Ms. Richards recently spoke with Dr. Josie Gatti-Schafer, Director, Center for Public Affairs Research UNOmahaCPAR. Ms. Schafer is overseeing the redistricting process for the college. Mr. Kelly reported that there is no change to the district boundaries that Board members are serving. The number of voters has changed, but the actual boundary lines did not change. In District Four, population is the highest with 17,562 and District One population is the lowest with 15,986. The goal is to equalize the number of people in each district. Mr. Kelly contacted the Secretary of State's election office and was informed that they recognize it is not practical or possible to get that number exactly equal. They concede that if the total difference in population is less than ten percent among people in a district; that is acceptable and meets their standard. Mr.

Kelly explained that today, the Board is asked to approve the district map that was presented and once approved, the UNOmaha staff will move forward with finalizing the maps and preparing appropriate documents for the Secretary of State and each county.

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the redistricting map as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Board Secretary Position

Chair Klemke reported that in 2019, the Board had approved separation of the Board secretary position from the President's office. The position was posted but no appropriate candidates applied. Chair Klemke explained that no action is necessary, this is just a reminder that separation of the two positions and responsibilities will move forward.

Reports and Recommendations from the Finance and Facilities Committee

Approval of Resolution to Continue Membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust for a Three-Year Period

Ms. Koski reported this is a request to approve a resolution to continue membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust for another three year period. The insurance trust is actually the risk management pool created for all of the community colleges and has been successful since it was started. The trust contracts with the Nebraska Risk Management Association to administer the program, they are full administrators for both K-12 and the community college systems. The college has been pleased with the work that has been done and it saves each college a great amount of work. They have assisted in acquiring competitive pricing for the various insurance coverages for the college. Ms. Koski recommended the Board consider approval of the Resolution to extend membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust for an additional three year period; July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

Ms. Anderson MOVED to approve the Resolution to extend membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust for an additional three-year period, July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Proposed 2022-2023 Academic Year Student Charges Tuition and Fees – Room and Board

Ms. Koski reported that after visiting with various groups and a review committee, the recommendation was to leave the tuition and mandatory fees as they stand with no increase. Course fees had a few changes. ADNR saw significant changes but others were reduced so in total, there was only a \$36.00 change in that category. Auto Body had additional costs identified due to the increase in cost of materials nationally and Surg-Tech had changes related to fees.

In response to an inquiry, Ms. Koski confirmed that room and board rates did increase last year. The meal plan will see a 3% increase this year. The cost of products continues to rise and availability of products is a concern as well, but the meal program continues to do well.

Mr. Marrin added that holding the tuition allows review of enrollments and gives enrollment management staff as much opportunity as possible to promote the college next fall. Additionally, review of fees and the higher priced areas allows us to compensate and we are doing that reasonably well. If tuition is raised in the future, it is important to look at elasticity of demand as well. What will that do to the demand, to an in-state student, to a border state student? We may raise the price \$5, but lose

\$10 worth of students, so we need to be mindful of that and we need to keep in the array, so that we do not get too far behind.

In response to an inquiry regarding increasing the cost of specific programs because of the differential and wages, such as the Nursing program, Mr. Marrin explained that would involve the class cost, not the tuition.

Tuition and Fees per credit hour - \$0.00 increase

Resident Tuition \$106.50
Border State Tuition (CO, WY, SD) \$109.50
Non-Resident Tuition \$110.50
High School Partnership Tuition \$53.25
Student Activity Fee: \$3.00
Facility Fee: \$9.00
Scholarship Fee: \$5.50
High School Partnership Fee \$8.75

Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the Tuition and Fee rates for 2022-23. Ms. Anderson MOVED for approval of the Tuition and Fee rates for 2022-23 as presented. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Room and Board per semester – 2.58% average increase

Pioneer:

Double with 14-meal plan \$3,373
Double with 19-meal plan \$3,559
Addition Double with 14-meal plan \$3,696
Addition Double with 19-meal plan \$3,882
Addition Triple with 14-meal plan \$3,373
Addition Triple with 19-meal plan \$3,559

Conestoga:

Single with 14-meal plan \$4,257
Single with 19-meal plan \$4,443
Super Single with 14-meal plan \$4,501
Super Single with 19-meal plan \$4,687
Double with 14-meal plan \$3,937
Double with 19-meal plan \$4,123

Sidney:

Double with no meal plan \$1,618

Room and Board - Meal Plans per semester – 3% increase

10 meal plan \$1,573
14 meal plan \$2,270
19 meal plan \$2,456

Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the Room and Board rates for 2022-23. Ms. Anderson MOVED for approval of the Room and Board rates for 2022-23 as presented. SECONDED by Mr. Stickney. The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Institutional Reports

Stacking and Scaffolding Classes

Stacking

Dr. Wilson reported that stacking refers to sections or courses that are happening at the same time. Listed below are definitions of the different modalities and the types of sections offered.

Blended - classes include some on-campus, in-person class meetings combined with online teaching and learning.

Face-to-Face - Classes will be exclusively on-campus, in-person class meetings at one of the WNCC campuses.

ITV (Interactive Video) - The instructor is located at the host campus, but students are able to attend the course on a different campus than the host campus, using classes set up with the ITV technology.

Online (Asynchronous) - Instruction courses allow students to participate in the course at their own preferred time. There is no set time for classes to meet. An instructor posts videos, discussion forums and other activities that the students complete on their own time.

Virtual (Synchronous) - Instruction classes have a set time to take place. Instructors and students are online at the same time. Students and the instructor are all online at the same time for "2-way livestream" courses.

Hy-Flex – "Hybrid Flexible" - Each class session and learning activity is offered in-person, synchronously online, and asynchronously online and will view the video later. Students can decide how to participate.

Stacked - More than one section meets at the same time in the same classroom (may be the same course, may be different courses.)

In response to an inquiry, Dr. Wilson shared possible methods for confirming attendance. Perhaps measure hits on a video that students logged in to view, use a participation point such as a quiz that can be completed online, note students who signed in to the class session, etc.

"Scaffolding" or Stackable Degrees

Dr. Wilson reported that scaffolding is adding different credentials together to form larger credentials. An example of the section numbering and coding used with scaffolding or stackable degree courses was reviewed. Dr. Wilson added that a student can attend WNCC for one year and earn a diploma. If they return a second year, they can work on earning an Associate of Applied Science even if they return a year after earning a diploma. Dr. Wilson added that students should work with an advisor or Career Pathways staff to ensure they are taking courses in the proper sequence.

Section Numbering and Coding:

S1 – Section meets the 1st 8 weeks of the spring term

S2 – Section meets the 2nd 8 weeks of the spring term

F1 – Section meets the 1st 8 weeks of the fall term; F2 – Section meets the 2nd 8 weeks of the fall term

Location Codes: Indicates on which campus the course is held or if the section is online

ALL - Alliance Campus

SCB - Scottsbluff Campus

SID - Sidney Campus

ONL – Online

Section Code Descriptions:

Description	Section Alpha	Section Number
Alliance Campus Face to Face	AL	01, 02, 03, etc
Scottsbluff Campus Face to Face	SC	01, 02, 03, etc
Sidney Campus Face to Face	SI	01, 02, 03, etc
Online Sections	IN	01, 02, 03, etc
Virtual Section (Synchronous)	AL, SC, SI	01V, 02V, 03V, etc
ITV Sections	A, B, S	XXXX

Example of a Stacked Section

COURSE	SECTION	TITLE	CR.	START	END	DAYS	RM	INSTRUCTOR
ARTS 1050	A0269	Intro to Art History & Criticism I	3	12:30pm	1:45pm	T, Th	121	Khanevskaya
ARTS 1050	B0269	Intro to Art History & Criticism I	3	12:30pm	1:45pm	T, Th	D7	Khanevskaya
ARTS 1050	S0269	Intro to Art History & Criticism I	3	12:30pm	1:45pm	T, Th	112	Khanevskaya
ARTS 1050	AL01V	Intro to Art History & Criticism I	3	12:30pm	1:45pm	T, Th		Khanevskaya
ARTS 1050	SI01V	Intro to Art History & Criticism I	3	12:30pm	1:45pm	T, Th		Khanevskaya

**The instructor would be located in Room D7 on the Scottsbluff campus, so students can drive to either Sidney, Room 112 or Alliance Room 121 to participate via ITV or join virtually.

Award Definitions

Certificate – 12-18 credit hours (16 for financial aid) in a specific area

Diploma – 24-48 credit hours in a specific area and some General Education (Written communication, Math, Personal Development, Social or Lab Science and Oral Communication)

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) – Minimum of 60 credit hours – 43-45 of coursework in a specific area + 15-17 hours of general education. Primarily prepares students for careers in applied technology, business, health, physical education and the social sciences. Students should be able to transfer part or all of an AAS degree, but additional credits of general education may be required at the destination institution.

Associate Degree of Nursing (AD-N) – 72 credit hours of nursing and general education courses. Graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse.

Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Fine Arts (AFA) – Minimum of 60 credit hours – 28-29 credits in a specific area + 31-32 credits of general education. Students are prepared for careers or advanced study at a four-year college or university.

Associate of Science (AS) – Minimum of 60 credit hours – 26-27 credits in a specific area + 33-34 credits of general education. Students are prepared for careers or advanced study at a four-year college or university.

Micro-credential – Credential that addresses a subset of field-specific knowledge, skills, or competencies; often developmental with relationships to other micro-credentials and field credentials.

Badge – Recognition designed to be displayed as a marker of accomplishment, activity, achievement, skill, interest, association, or identity. The disadvantage of a badge is that there are no national standards in place, but could be a good retention tool.

Dr. Wilson referenced material included in the meeting information that contains examples from a few programs with the stacking option.

Example of Possible Credentials in Programs

Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology – Certificate, Diploma, Associate of Applied Science
Business Technology – Options: Executive Assistant, Information Technology Technical Support, Medical Office Management, and Staff Accountant – Certificate, Diploma, Associate of Applied Science
Human Services – Certificate, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Arts

Student Report – Ms. Shelby Cordes

Ms. Cordes reported that students have been busy participating in activities on all three campuses. Ms. Cordes shared information about various student activities/events.

- The men's and women's athletic teams had great seasons.
- A Halloween dance party was scheduled in the Residence Hall.
- Several students participated in the November TRIO First Generation Day.
- Bellevue University sponsored a cupcake day and shared information about opportunities and scholarships with Bellevue University.
- Student Engagement featured a program using watercolors to encourage students to showcase their talents. The event was fun and a number of faculty and staff joined the students in the activity.
- Sidney campus clubs hosted several fun trick or treat activities.
- The Criminal Justice Club hosted Doves and assisted in helping to raise awareness of domestic violence.
- PTK participated in Cleaning up Scottsbluff, and plan to participate in the upcoming Turkey Trot Run.
- United Leaders partnered with Multicultural Inclusion Services to recognize missing, murdered indigenous women as part of the Native American Indigenous Month, which is November.
- Ms. Cordes thanked all who have donated to the Cougar Cupboard to provide help with food insecurity. Donations are appreciated and welcome at all campus sites.
- During finals week, several stress reducing activities have been planned. Cougar Council will be preparing finals bags for students that will be distributed throughout the week.
- The late night breakfast is scheduled in the Bishop Dining Hall, Monday, December 13 at 9:00 p.m.

Faculty Report – Mr. Croft, Ms. Winters,

Ms. Winters stated that faculty appreciate the opportunity to give reports at the Board meetings and always willing to take information and questions back to the faculty assembly.

Ms. Winters reported that recently, Mr. Lorin King represented WNCC at the National Association of Biology Teachers Conference in Atlanta.

Last week, Dr. Patrick Newell and Dr. Nat Johnson took students in Varsity Vocalize and Cougar Rock on tour, along with Violette Kjeldgaard representing theater and Yelena Khanevskaya representing visual arts. They performed for students and provided workshops in art and theater as part of a dual mission to provide community outreach while recruiting students to WNCC. Around fifty admission cards were completed by perspective students. Tuition remission scholarships continue to be a big draw for students to attend WNCC, while touring provides current students with excellent experience performing in various venues.

November 15, Dr. Patrick Newell was the clinician/coordinator of the Western Trails Conference Honor Choir held this year at Morrill High School. Seventy-five students attended from the seven high schools that were participants of the conference. The event culminated in a performance at the end of the day.

Ms. Violette Kjeldgaard, Theater instructor, was a guest director for Scottsbluff and Gering High Schools earlier this month and will be judging two upcoming competitions this week-end and next week for the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Dr. Nat Johnson worked with the Mitchell High School Jazz Band in September and returned a week before Veteran's Day to work with their concert band on military and patriotic music they had planned for their Veteran's Day program.

Ms. Winters shared information from Bill Loring regarding the Nebraska Space Grant. WNCC has worked with NASA since 2008 through the Nebraska Space Grant. Each state has a Space Grant that works with students of all ages. Michaela Lucas, Associate Director for NASA Nebraska Space Grant and EP-SCOR Office visited WNCC and asked instructors if they were interested in re-establishing a relationship. Instructor, Dr. Bill Spurgeon (now retired), volunteered to be the local coordinator.

NASA Nebraska has eleven academic affiliates, only three are community colleges – Western Nebraska, Metropolitan, and Nebraska Indian. Only affiliates can participate in the activities of NASA Nebraska. The benefits include student fellowships, research, and faculty training or course development. All granted projects must have relevance to the NASA mission directorates. This can vary widely from basic science, agricultural, environmental, robotics, to computer science.

WNCC instructors have sponsored a variety of student fellowship research projects. A few examples are: astronomy data and age of stars, evaluating reaction catalysts for methane production from manure, and the effect of cleanliness of microscope slides.

Many projects have been sponsored by IT instructors Bill Loring and Bill Spurgeon, several of which were robotics related. Mr. Bill Loring has four student fellowships in robotics this year.

Some of Mr. Bill Loring's projects include: 3D printing, robotics and Computer Science curriculum development. The curriculum project is a Higher Education Mini Grant: Using off the Shelf Robotics Kits to Enhance Computer Science Curriculum and Whole Brain Learning.

NASA higher education grants have included purchasing equipment, instructor training, or course development. Many of these improvements have involved hands-on projects and adding an Intro to Robotics course.

Students apply for NASA fellowships in the spring. They create their own project plan and submit progress reports during the school year. Each student gives a presentation at the spring meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences held at Wesleyan University in Lincoln. The students give an oral presentation to a diverse audience of undergraduate and graduate students and faculty from many different disciplines. Most students have not attended a technical conference or given a technical presentation. This conference gives them exposure to a wealth of peer networking and information.

The relationship WNCC has with the NASA Nebraska Space Grant has improved courses, kept faculty and labs up to date, and has given students an opportunity to get hands-on research experience early in their academic career.

Two weeks ago, Ms. Jane Kelly and Ms. Amy Winters were involved in District DECCA as judges for the event.

Nebraska Community College Association – Dr. Perkins, Dr. Crouse

Dr. Perkins and Dr. Crouse stated that they had no report at this time.

Association of Community College Trustees – Dr. Perkins

Dr. Perkins stated that he had no report at this time.

Western Nebraska Community College Foundation – Ms. Anderson

Ms. Reisig reported that the Homecoming Celebration this past month included the Alumni Awards Banquet. Several well deserved awards were handed out at the banquet. At the recent quarterly Foundation Board Meeting, the Foundation Faculty and Staff Opportunity Grant was reviewed and awarded to the Behavioral Health Department to help bring Mr. Vance Johnson to the area. Mr. Johnson talked about his mental health and addiction struggles. This was a great event for the community.

Ms. Reisig thanked the Board of Governors for meeting with the Foundation Board. A summary of discussions will be forwarded at a later date.

Foundation staff recently attended a non-profit storytelling conference in California. Alena Haun has been working with the Financial Aid office to distribute the second round of scholarships. Ms. Reisig stated that she was surprised by the number of scholarships that are awarded, but not accepted. Part of the process of scholarship distribution is to confirm that the student does not have unaccepted scholarship funds. If a student has not accepted an award, they are contacted to inquire whether they know they have a scholarship and how they can accept it.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Stickney commented that the morning meeting with the Foundation Board was a positive experience and the facilitator was good.

President Comments

President Marrin reported that on Tuesdays, the Executive Planning Team meets with students for lunch in the dining hall. This has been a great opportunity to interact with the students and to hear about things that need to be improved as well as what is working on our campuses. The students are engaging and their outlook is encouraging. Overall, this has been a truly positive experience.

The Hispanic Advisory Council has been reinstated and meets regularly. Maricia Guzman and Allison Judy have been assisting with scheduling and drafting agendas for the meetings. The meetings are an opportunity to hear concerns and gain insight into the needs of the Hispanic community. The group will also serve as one of the focus groups for the strategic planning process.

President Marrin thanked the Board for agreeing to meet with Dr. Geri Anderson in December. This meeting is a part of the strategic planning process. The strategic plan is vital to the operations of the college. The plan provides guidance and direction for decisions that are made, why specific resources are being utilized and to what end. It all has to work together and should be used on a daily basis.

The meeting with the Foundation Board was very productive. The two boards agreed that an annual meeting would be beneficial.

The Nebraska Community College Association, along with a sponsored legislature is working toward accessing funds set aside for COVID relief. The 150 million (25 million each) would be divided among the six colleges to be used for the purchase or renovation of buildings. These funds are vital to the continued development of the workforce. There is a need for construction and electrical wiring training as well as expansion of the welding and allied health programs. This is a great opportunity and Senator Stinner's support is appreciated.

The Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference is scheduled in April 2022. A small group from WNCC will be in attendance. President Marrin stressed the importance of staying connected and stated he is grateful that WNCC will be represented at the event. WNCC recently received notification that February 12, 2024 has been set as the assurance review date for the college.

Recess

Chair Klemke declared a fifteen minute recess at 2:38 p.m.

Open Meeting

Chair Klemke declared the Open meeting in session at 2:49 p.m.

Executive Session-2022 – 2023 Collective Bargaining

Dr. Crouse MOVED, Pursuant to Section 84-1410 of the Reissue of the Revised Statutes, known as the Nebraska Public Meetings Law that the Board hold a closed session with Mr. John Marrin, Ms. Susan Verbeck, Ms. Lynne Koski, Ms. Kathy Ault, and Mr. Phil Kelly, attorney, for the purpose of discussion of the 2022-2023 Collective Bargaining.

She further moved that this closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual(s) and that strategy sessions with respect to Collective Bargaining are specifically authorized by the Nebraska Public Meetings Law. Ms. Richards SECONDED the motion.

The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Chair Klemke stated the reason for the Executive Session is for the purpose of discussing the 2022-2023 Collective Bargaining. The Board of Governors and those so named in the motion adjourned to an Executive Session at 2:52 p.m.

The Executive Session ended at 3:12 p.m.

Open Meeting

Chair Klemke declared the Open meeting in session at 3:12 p.m.

Executive Session-Personnel Matters – Evaluation of the College President

Mr. Stickney MOVED, pursuant to Section 84-1410 of the Reissue of the Revised Statutes, known as the Nebraska Public Meetings Law that the Board hold a closed session with Mr. John Marrin, for the purpose of discussion of Personnel Matters.

He further moved that this closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual(s), and that Mr. Marrin has not requested a public meeting and has consented to discussion in closed session, and that evaluation of the job performance of a person is specifically authorized by the Nebraska Public Meetings Law. Mr. Savely SECONDED the motion.

The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Chair Klemke stated the reason for the Executive Session is Personnel Matters. The Board of Governors and those so named in the motion adjourned to an Executive Session at 3:14 p.m.

The Executive Session ended at 3:34 p.m.

Open Meeting

Chair Klemke declared the Open meeting in session at 3:34 p.m.

Approval of Addendum to the Interim President's Contract

Chair Klemke reported that an addendum to the Interim President contract was recently requested by the Board of Governors. With the implementation of a new shared governance structure and the start of the strategic planning process, Ms. Klemke stated that so this very important work can continue, it is in the best interest of the college to extend Mr. Marrin's contract. Therefore, the college attorney was asked to prepare an addendum that allows extension of the interim president contract. Mr. Marrin will

continue as interim president through June 21, 2023. Mr. Kelly reviewed the addendum and stated that all other terms of the employment contract entered into on or about July 21, 2021 shall remain in force and effect. Chair Klemke thanked Mr. Marrin for agreeing to continue as Interim President at WNCC for an additional year. Chair Klemke added that Mr. Marrin has been moving the College forward in a positive direction and the Board is grateful.

In the absence of additional discussion, Chair Klemke entertained a motion for the approval of the addendum that allows extension of the interim president contract to June 21, 2023. Ms. Marcy MOVED to approve the addendum to the interim president contract. SECONDED by Mr. Stickney. The vote was, Yes: Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. 2022 National Legislative Summit
February 6-9, 2022, Washington, DC
2. 2022 HLC Annual Conference (early bird registration rates end February 1, 2022)
April 1-5, 2022, Chicago, IL

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 1:00 p.m., Coral E. Richards Boardroom, Scottsbluff Campus, 1601 East 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 3:37 p.m.

F. Lynne Klemke, Chairperson

Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary