

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

**March 19, 2025**

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held a Regular Board meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at Western Nebraska Community College, Coral E. Richards Boardroom, 1601 East 27<sup>th</sup> 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 Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

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

**ROLL CALL**

**AREA BOARD**

Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales.....	Present
Allan D. Kreman.....	Present
Starr Lehl.....	Absent
Lori J. Liggett.....	Present (via Zoom)
William M. Packard.....	Present
Coral E. Richards .....	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr.....	Present
Marjorie A. Schmidt .....	Present
John P. Stinner, Vice Chairperson.....	Present

*Ms. Starr Lehl informed the Board Secretary she would be unable to attend the meeting today due to personal business.*

**QUORUM**

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

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Chair Stinner asked for comments from the community. Pursuant to Board Policy BP-106, community members who wish to make comments will be limited to a five-minute presentation.

**BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS**

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

Chair Stinner announced the Board reserves the right to enter a closed session if deemed necessary for any item on the agenda per Section 84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

**BOARD VACANCIES**

**Report from the Board Vacancy ad hoc Committee**

Chair Stinner reported the ad hoc committee interviewed three individuals. Following the interviews, the ad hoc committee chose Mr. Josh Hanson to fill the District Two vacancy and Mr. Tony Kaufman to fill the District Four vacancy. Both had excellent resumes and experience and will be great additions to the Board.

## **Consideration of Appointments to Fill District 2 and District 4 Vacancies**

### **District 2 Appointment**

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve the appointment of Mr. Josh Hanson to fill the District two Board vacancy. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **District 4 Appointment**

Mr. Kreman MOVED to approve the appointment of Mr. Tony Kaufman to fill the District four Board vacancy. SECONDED by Ms. Schmidt. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Oath of Office**

Mr. Jerry Ostdiek, WNCC attorney, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Hanson and Mr. Kaufman and they assumed their role as members of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Review Contents of Consent Calendar
  - a. Agenda
  - b. Excuse Absent Board Member(s) - Ms. Starr Lehl
  - c. Minutes
    - i. March 19, 2025 Informal Meeting
    - ii. March 19, 2025 Regular Meeting
2. **Claims:** January 2025
  - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,671,133.77
  - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$5,305.32
  - c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$750.00
  - d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$2,437.58
  - e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
  - f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$2,465,949.62
  - g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$106,297.05
3. **Claims:** February 2025
  - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$3,070,749.15
  - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$25,658.96
  - c. WCCA Federal Fund - N/A
  - d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$3,814.34
  - e. WCCA Loan Fund - N/A
  - f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$268,896.86
  - g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$150,341.06
4. City Planning Commission Reports - N/A
5. **Approval** of Consent Calendar
6. Consideration of Items Extracted from Consent Calendar

### **CONSENT CALENDAR (cont.)**

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Ms. Lynne Klemke for \$110.32 and Mr. Allan Kreman for \$54.60. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Kaufman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: Kreman. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Ms. Starr Lehl for \$723.34 and Ms. Lori Liggett for \$176.40. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: Liggett. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Mr. R. J. Savely for \$126.00 and Ms. Marjorie Schmidt for \$179.20. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Liggett, Packard, Richards, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: Savely, Schmidt. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT**

Ms. Richards MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Mr. John Stinner for \$561.40. SECONDED by Mr. Hanson. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett. No: None. Abstain: Stinner. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **PRESIDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT**

Approval of President's Personnel Report

Review Contents of Personnel Consent Calendar

#### **Resignation(s)**

1. Mr. Daniel Joppa, Technical Studies Instructor  
Effective March 1, 2025

#### **Appointment(s)**

1. Mr. Craig Hoppes, Human Resources Specialist IV  
Effective February 24, 2025
2. Mr. Daniel Joppa, Associate Dean of Instruction  
Effective March 1, 2025

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the President's Personnel Report as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Schmidt. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

## **WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **Board Standing Committee Assignments**

Chair Stinner referenced the Board Standing Committee assignments for 2025. In the absence of additional discussion, Chair Stinner entertained a motion for approval of the 2025 Board Standing Committee assignments.

Ms. Linda Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the 2025 Board Standing Committee assignments. SECONDED by Ms. Schmidt. The vote was, Yes: Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Faculty Negotiated Agreement**

President Dart provided an update on the faculty association's negotiations with the institution regarding changes to the current agreement. This year's negotiations primarily focused on compensation, with added complexity due to proposed modifications to the benefits package. Notably, the cash-in-lieu benefit for incoming employees will be discontinued this summer, which led to a reduction in the planned 3.75% increase to 2.35%. As a result, the negotiations were centered on this single adjustment. Additionally, discussions included efforts to address hourly wage rates, particularly for those that had not seen increases in some time.

President Dart clarified that while he is not directly involved in the negotiation process, he receives regular updates from the College's attorney and the negotiating team. Board observers noted that, once again, the negotiations proceeded in a civil manner, with all parties working collaboratively.

In response to an inquiry, President Dart clarified that the workload for all courses is determined by credit hours. The standard course typically carries three credit hours. A full-time faculty member is assigned fifteen load hours for both the spring and fall semesters, totaling thirty load hours for the academic year.

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the 2025-2026 Faculty Negotiated Agreement. SECONDED by Ms. Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Non-Faculty Compensation**

It has been the College's practice that the percentage of total compensation negotiated for faculty is applied equally to staff. Accordingly, the recommendation is to approve a 2.35% increase in compensation for non-faculty employees.

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve the non-faculty compensation increase of 2.35% for the 2025 year. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Course Fees (amended)**

Ms. Koski reported that in November, the Board approved tuition, fees, and course fees for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. However, during the process of building the tables in the Colleague system to begin pre-registration, staff discovered that some music course fees had been inadvertently omitted. These fees support student lessons and performance group needs, such as costumes and related materials. Course fees for Powerline and Biology were also overlooked. These fees remain unchanged from the prior year; they were simply not included in the original list approved by the Board.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the amended course fees list as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Schmidt. The vote was, Yes: Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Requests for Sale & Use of Alcohol at a College Sponsored Event**

President Dart reported that there are two upcoming events, both held off campus. The Spring Gala, a vocal music performance, is scheduled at the Gering Civic Center. While the Jump, Jive and Swing instrumental music event will be held at the Hampton Inn. Traditionally, alcohol has been sold at these events, which requires Board approval.

A third-party vendor oversees all beverage sales and is responsible for monitoring consumption. The College does not receive any proceeds from beverage sales. These events serve as fundraisers for their respective music programs.

In response to an inquiry, President Dart noted the events bring in a good amount of funding for the programs. The revenue from the sale of beverages is unknown.

### ***Vocal Music Spring Gala, March 28 & 29, 2025, Gering Civic Center***

Ms. Richards MOVED to approve the sale and use of alcoholic beverages at the Spring Gala vocal music event. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Kaufman, Liggett, Richards, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Stinner. No: Savely, Schmidt. Abstain: Kreman, Packard. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### ***Instrumental Music Jump, Jive and Swing, May 4, 2025, Hampton Inn, Scottsbluff***

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the sale and use of alcoholic beverages at the WNCC Jump, Jive, and Swing instrumental music event. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Liggett, Packard, Richards, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Stinner. No: Savely, Schmidt. Abstain: Kreman. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

### **Reports and Recommendations from the Board Policy Committee**

#### **First Read: BP-417 Leave**

#### **Info Only: AP-417.01 Transfer of Sick Leave**

#### **Info Only: AP-417.02 Professional Development Special Activity for Staff**

President Dart explained that WNCC has forty-two separate policies that deal with leave. Approximately thirty of those policies were adopted quite some time ago, which prompted the updating. Review of the forty-two policies resulted in one policy which is BP-417.

## **Reports and Recommendations from the Board Policy Committee (cont.)**

### **First Read: BP-417 Leave**

#### **Info Only: AP-417.01 Transfer of Sick Leave**

#### **Info Only: AP-417.02 Professional Development Special Activity for Staff**

Two leave categories have been eliminated: Leave of Absence, which is not a formal leave category and is addressed through a separate policy, and Political Leave. While the College continues to support employees pursuing elected office, such circumstances are now more appropriately categorized under Administrative Leave of Absence rather than maintaining a distinct political leave category.

A new category, Emergency Leave, has been introduced in response to needs that emerged during the pandemic. In addition, two procedures accompany the updated policy:

- AP-417.01 Transfer of Sick Leave, which permits employees to donate sick leave to fellow employees in need; and
- AP-417.02 Professional Development Special Activity for Staff, which outlines expectations for staff pursuing external professional development opportunities. This procedure serves as a parallel to the faculty sabbatical leave process.

In response to an inquiry regarding the number of sick leave days that can be transferred, President Dart explained the donor must agree to donate either five days or forty hours of accrued sick leave.

### **First Read: BP-511 Transfer Credit**

#### **Info Only: AP-511.01 Transfer and Experiential Learning Credit**

#### **Info Only: AP-511.02 Credit-By-Examination**

BP-511 Transfer Credit was reviewed and updated, with the most significant change being the addition of language—both in the policy and in the accompanying procedure AP-511.01—regarding the evaluation and acceptance of non-traditional or experiential learning credit. This update reflects the College's ongoing efforts to increase flexibility in how credit is assessed. Incorporating experiential learning into the transfer credit process represents an important first step in aligning with institutional goals around recognizing diverse learning experiences.

There were other changes regarding removal of language specific to the Associate of Science degree. The degree was not eliminated, but the reference in the policy is to the Nebraska Transfer Initiative, which only addresses the Associate of Arts degree, which is a whole different discussion. This was a cleanup of the policy.

The College has used CLEP scores for CLEP exams but have never codified them. AP-511.02 codifies existing CLEP scores currently used for credit by exam.

### **First Read: BP-514 International Students**

#### **Info Only: AP-514.01 International Students**

#### **Info Only: AP-514.02 Employment Options for International Students**

BP-514 International Students was reviewed with no changes. AP-514.01 was updated, and the most significant change was the Toefl score required for admission to WNCC. Toefl is the course that non-English language students take to gain admission.

### **Reports and Recommendations from the Board Policy Committee (cont.)**

The TOEFL score of forty-six was identified as the lowest among comparable institutions. After reviewing peer institutions, a benchmark was established, and it was recommended that the score be increased to fifty-seven, aligning with the standards of our closest regional competitors. This adjustment aims to enhance the potential success of our international student population.

Administrative Procedure 514.02 addresses the employment options available to international students based on their student visas and employment regulations. Given the strict limitations that some students face regarding employment, this procedure provides flexibility within the bounds of federal guidelines, ensuring compliance while facilitating employment opportunities for international students.

### **Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee Residence Hall Furniture Replacement**

#### **Tabulation:**

<b>Company</b>	<b>City/State</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
Ecologic Industries, LLC-1	Waukegan, IL	\$115,566.00
Ecologic Industries, LLC-2	Waukegan, IL	\$102,180.00
RT London	Grand Rapids, MI	\$124,980.06
Sauder Education	Stryker, OH	\$208,757.61
John Savoy & Son, Inc. DBA Savoy Contract Furniture	Montoursville, PA	\$112,443.28
Southwest Contract - 1	Temple, TX	\$142,640.00
Southwest Contract – 2	Temple, TX	\$180,853.00
University Loft Company	Greenfield, IN	\$122,451.00

Ms. Koski reported this product is the highest rated bed in college housing with high rating for wear and tear, comfort, and ease of installation and maintenance. The chairs and dressers exceed the quality and features of the products in the two lower bids and comes with a 30-year warranty on the chairs. It was the recommendation of the selection committee to accept the bid amount of \$115,556.00 from Ecologic Industries, LLC.

### **Bid #25-SER-06 Sequel Server Migration**

#### **Tabulation:**

<b>Company</b>	<b>City/State</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
Campus Works	Sarasota, FL	\$397,500.00
Ellucian	Reston, VA	\$743,000.00
Ferrilli	Haddonfield, NJ	\$911,750.00

### **Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee (cont.)**

The Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Committee and the IT Department have been working on the strategic plan regarding our Colleague System.

Colleague is the primary application used for student and academic information, HR System, and Finance for the College. The College went live on Colleague in 1999. Its core platform utilizes Unidata for the database and runs on an HP-UX Server.

While there have been updates to Colleague since the implementation, the core Unidata database on HP-UX has not changed. HP-UX will no longer be supported by HP after June 2026 and Ellucian is recommending customers move the database from Unidata to Microsoft SQL Server for improved data management and controls. The ERP Committee has developed and requested an RFP for vendors to assist WNCC in migrating the Colleague database to Microsoft SQL Server. Three vendors submitted proposals, and the ERP Committee met with the vendors and reviewed their proposals.

CampusWorks had a more in-depth analysis of the bid information in developing their proposal and they were able to discuss items that are specific to WNCC's implementation.

### **Bid #25-EQ-12 Cisco Network Infrastructure**

#### **Tabulation:**

<b>Company</b>	<b>City/State</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
All In Technology	Centennial, CO	\$116,509.29
Insight	Chandler, AZ	No Response
CDW-G	Vernon Hills, IL	No Response

Network infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, switches, wireless access points, and network access control to meet Gramm-Leach-Bliley-Act (GLBA) requirements. The recommendation of the selection committee was to accept the bid amount of \$116,509.29 from All In Technology.

### **Bid #25-EQ-10 PC Replacement 2025**

#### **Tabulation:**

<b>Company</b>	<b>City/State</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
CNB Computers USA, Inc. DBA System Liquidation	Houston, TX	\$66,400.00
Sterling Computers	North Sioux City, SD	\$165,400.00
CDW-g	Vernon Hills, IL	No Response
Insight	Chandler, AZ	No Response

The College computer fleet is on a 5-year replacement schedule to have 20% of the fleet replaced each year. This includes approximately 110 desktops, 75 laptops, 60 monitors and 100 docking stations. The bid from CNB Computers USA, Inc. DBA System Liquidation was not selected due to submission of a partial bid.



**Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee (cont.)**  
**Bid #25-SER-11 Mowing Services**

**Tabulation:**

Company	City/State	Total Amount
Yost Lawn Service, LLC	Scottsbluff, NE	\$76,000.00
Scottsbluff Landscaping	Scottsbluff, NE	No Response

This contract includes mowing services and chemical application for fertilizer and weed control. It was the recommendation of the selection committee to accept the bid amount of \$76,000 from Yost Lawn Service, LLC.

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve the following bids as presented: Residence Hall Furniture Replacement, Bid #25-SER-06 SQL Migration, Bid #25-EQ-12 Cisco Network Infrastructure, Bid #25-EQ-10 PC Replacement 2025, and Bid #25-SER-11 Mowing Services. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Richards, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Liggett, Savely, Schmidt, Stinner. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lehl. Motion carried.

**INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS**

**Phi Theta Kappa Report**

WNCC student Tawanda Sibanda presented information about his PTK Honors in Action project. This project allowed students to engage in meaningful scholarly research and service projects that align with their unique circumstances. The honors study topic was "The Power of Stories," and the theme for the Honors in Action project was "Perspectives Shape Stories."

*The Honors in Action team's initial research objectives were to:*

- Learn more about Honors in Action
- Have a WNCC librarian provide a session of scholarly research by September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Have each team member find three credible sources by September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Have each team member complete the Research Edge by September 30<sup>th</sup>  
(Research Edge equips students with advanced research skills through Phi Theta Kappa's Honors in Action program.)
- The stage two research objective was to have each member read the top ten sources and rank them according to relevance and value to the Honors in Action project.

*Research Journey*

- Explore topics and themes
- Create research question: in what ways do perspectives shape stories people share
- Started with twenty-five sources and narrowed down to ten most relevant and finally five credible sources
- Planned a media literacy week; collaborated with instructors and participated in classroom lectures
- A guest speaker was commissioned to speak to fake news, bias, and media literacy

*Action Objectives*

- Find two articles to use
- Find a short instructional video about tips for media literacy
- Create two different Kahoot quizzes
- Visit English Comp classes

### **Phi Theta Kappa Report (cont.)**

- Have a regional Kahoot Challenge
- Invite a speaker to present on media literacy

#### *Collaboration Objectives*

- Research resources from topics in research
- Collaborate with faculty, administration and WNCC students
- Collaborate with Heartland Region
- Collaborate with nationally known speaker

#### *Service or "action" components*

Help students become aware of social cultural perspectives in relation to media literacy.

- Two Kahoot challenges were done in Comp classes
- Kahoot challenge was done for the Heartland Region
- Commissioned speaker Joe Toscano

*(Kahoot is a Norwegian online game-based learning platform. It has learning games, known as "Kahoots," which are user-generated multiple choice quizzes that can be accessed via a web browser or the Kahoot app.*

#### *Qualitative and Quantitative and Outcomes*

##### *Qualitative Outcomes*

- One member liked issues that were linked to cultural beliefs, norms, and media literacy. He enjoyed the research and the results that suggest the impact these activities have on us.
- Several positive comments were shared about how the guest speaker, Joe Toscano.

##### *Quantitative Outcomes*

- Seventy students completed two Kahoot challenges at WNCC.
- All five classes had an increase in correct answers after watching an instructional video (51% to 55%, 40% to 52%, 40% to 55%, 51% to 57%, 42% to 52%) and showed a positive increase in the understanding of false information.
- Twenty-seven people participated in the Heartland Region Kahoot quiz. A correct answer ratio of 60% was recorded.
- Thirty people were on campus and online for the Joe Toscano presentation.

### **Fall 2024 End of Semester Report**

Mr. Arich Knaub, Enrollment Research Analytics Director reported he would be presenting a recap of the entire fall semester. A second eight-week session starts halfway through the semester that is not captured on the census report so this will provide a better idea of total enrollment and total full-time equivalency.

#### **Unique Students by Primary Campus**

An unduplicated count of students based on their primary campus. A primary campus is identified as the campus that the students take most of their courses.

Mr. Knaub explained that high school select are students that are taking courses with adjuncts who are teaching for WNCC, in the high schools.

## Fall 2024 End of Semester Report (cont.)

### Unique Students by Primary Campus

Type	Location	Fall 2024	Fall 2023
Full Time	Alliance	38	30
	High School Select	32	25
	Online	120	106
	Scottsbluff	403	476
	Sidney	25	11
	<b>Total Full-Time</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>648</b>

Type	Location	Fall 2024	Fall 2023
Part Time	Alliance	23	33
	High School Select	375	416
	Online	280	241
	Scottsbluff	263	179
	Sidney	15	1
	<b>Total Part-Time</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>870</b>
	<b>Total Students</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,518</b>

### Total Students Served by Campus

\*A duplicated count of students based on all campus locations they utilize. This visualizes how many students each campus serves. About 486 students utilize multiple campuses for education.

Location	Fall 2024	Fall 2023
Alliance	71	83
High School Select	435	470
Online	706	705
Scottsbluff	790	841
Sidney	51	24
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>2,123</b>

### Total Credits by Campus

Location	Fall 2024	Fall 2023
Alliance	754	605
High School Select	2,234	2,435
Online	3,977	3,883
Scottsbluff	6,916	7,003
Sidney	531.5	401.5
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>14,412.5</b>	<b>14,327.5</b>

## Fall 2024 End of Semester Report (cont.)

### Full Time Equivalency by Type

\*Light (1.5) courses require the use of equipment, facilities, or instructional methods that are easily adaptable for use in general academic transfer classroom or lab.

\*Heavy (2.0) courses require the use of specialized equipment, facilities, or instructional methods not easily adaptable for the use in general academic transfer classroom or lab.

FTE Type		Fall 2024 (Unofficial)	Fall 2023 (Official)
FTE	Academic (1.0)	289.3	309.3
	Light (1.5)	109.8	72.7
	Heavy (2.0)	81.5	95.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>480.6</b>	<b>477.8</b>
	<b>REU</b>	<b>631.2</b>	<b>609.8</b>

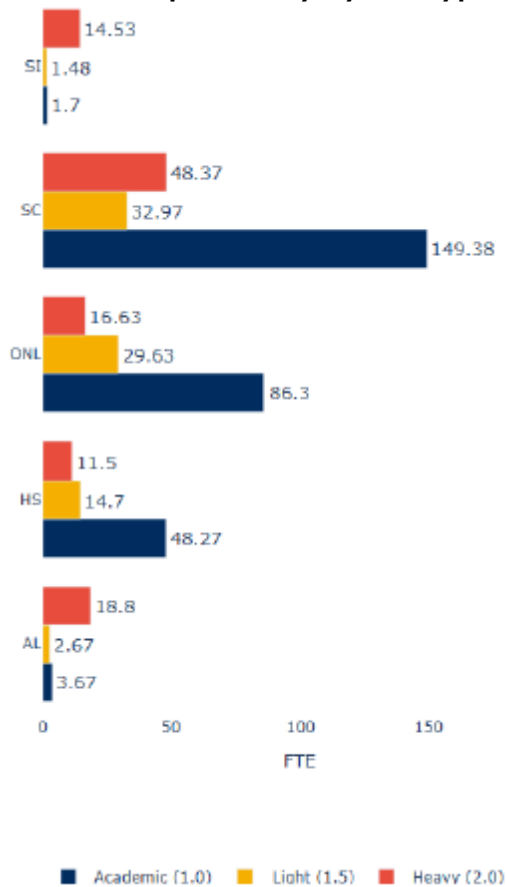
FTE Type		Fall 2024 (Unofficial)	Fall 2023 (Official)
CREDITS	Academic (1.0)	8,674	9,275
	Light (1.5)	3,295	2,180
	Heavy (2.0)	2,443.5	2,872.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14,412.5</b>	<b>14,327.5</b>

FTE Type		Fall 2024 (Unofficial)	Fall 2023 (Official)
CONTACT HOURS	Academic (1.0)	165	150
	Light (1.5)	0	0
	Heavy (2.0)	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>480.6</b>	<b>477.8</b>
	<b>Total REU</b>	<b>631.2</b>	<b>609.8</b>

### Total Full-Time Equivalency by Campus

FTE Type	Fall 2024 (Unofficial)	Fall 2023 (Official)
Alliance	25.1	20.2
High School Select	74.5	81.2
Online	132.6	129.4
Scottsbluff	230.7	233.6
Sidney	17.7	13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>480.6</b>	<b>477.8</b>

### Fall 2024 End of Semester Report (cont.) Full-Time Equivalency by REU Type at Each Campus



### Spring 2025 Enrollment Census

Mr. Knaub reported as of the tenth day of the Spring 2025 semester, there were 553 full-time and 925 part-time students. The total enrollment of 1,478 represents a 2.50% increase compared to Spring 2024 ten-day census. 72.0% of students that took courses in Fall 2024 returned in Spring 2025, which was a 6.4% increase in retention from Fall 2023 to Spring 2024.

Female to male ratio was 63.6% female to 36.4% male overall. This gap increased by 1% from Fall 2024, 2% from Spring 2024. Hispanic enrollment was 379, representing 25.6% of all students. This is the seventh consecutive semester where Hispanic enrollment is above 25%.

Total FTE of ten-day students was 440.01 while total REU was 581.87. This is a 1.48% decrease in FTE compared to Spring 2024 FTE Audit (which includes second eight-week term). Auditable FTE is expected to increase compared to Spring 2024. On track for over 1,000 FTE for 2024-25 Academic Year.

WNCC's student body has students representing each of the counties within the WNCC service area, twenty states outside of Nebraska, and international students from thirty-one countries.

High school dual enrollment represents 39.45% of WNCC total enrollment. 583 CollegeNow! students are a 2.5% increase in enrollment from Spring 2024, 69% of CollegeNow! students take

many of their classes at their high school campus, 31% of CollegeNow! students take most of their classes at a WNCN campus or online.

### **IT Annual Report**

Mr. Loren Moench, Information Technology Director, reported that the staff within the IT Department have been diligently engaged in their work, and he expressed his appreciation for their continued efforts. This report is partially in fulfillment of the requirements set forth by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

#### **2024 Goal Update**

- Controls
- New Technologies
- Key Performance Indicators
- Infrastructure
- Partnerships

These goals were developed last year and will help elevate the IT Department's maturity level and provide improved services.

#### **GLBA assessment**

BerryDunn conducted their annual assessment in the May–June 2024 timeframe. The CIS (Center for Internet Security) Framework was used to rate the assessments. The assessments are grouped into three categories (IG1, IG2, and IG3) in which each group gets progressively stronger in the controls.

Significant progress has been made over the past year. These annual assessments are vital in providing a core baseline for continuous improvements to our security infrastructure.

#### **Cyber security review**

IT had a PenTest (Penetration Test) completed through a grant. Most risk items have been resolved. WNCN currently works with SecurityHQ to monitor logs and activity.

#### **Active project review**

IT projects are focused on the continuing advancement of the infrastructure.

#### **Roadmap overview 2025-2027**

From the project list, a strategic roadmap was developed.

#### **2025**

- Colleague SQL migration
- Phone system modernization
- Network access controls
- WiFi Modernization
- Improve identity management and lifecycle
- Data warehouse and report development Desktop infrastructure management
- A/V standardization and modernization

#### **2026**

#### **2027**

Data loss prevention Software consolidation  
Unify and streamline workflows across platforms

### **Student Report**

Audrey Gosvener, a student representative from WNCC, introduced herself and informed the group that students have returned from spring break and classes have resumed. Prior to the break, a student safety initiative was planned, with the most notable event being a self-defense workshop that saw significant student participation.

Upon returning from break, math and science trivia events were organized, which had a strong turnout. Several prizes were awarded, further enhancing student engagement. These activities contribute to strengthening the campus community by fostering interactions among students who may not typically have opportunities to connect.

President Dart attended the Cougar Council meeting that took place before the spring break. His visit provided an opportunity for students from the three campuses to participate, voice their concerns, and make requests.

Cougar Council, in collaboration with Luke Stobel, Dean of Student Success, has been working on the development of a peer mentoring program. This initiative pairs experienced students with new students to ensure a smooth transition. The program is currently in the planning stages and, with Mr. Stobel's leadership, is progressing positively.

A survey was distributed to students to gather feedback on the grievance resolution process. However, the results were insufficient for drawing meaningful conclusions, and alternative methods for obtaining additional input are currently being explored.

In response to an inquiry, Ms. Gosvener reported that online communication channels were used to contact students, but their effectiveness was limited. As a result, other methods of outreach are under consideration.

On behalf of WNCC students, Cougar Council President Charles Oguoma presented a letter of recognition to Board Chair John Stinner for his induction into the Nebraska Business Hall of Fame. Mr. Stinner was honored for his contributions to the WNCC student body and his dedication to the growth of the community.

### **Faculty Report**

Mr. Brian Croft reported seven PTK students and two advisors attended the Heartland Region Convention a couple of weeks ago and the Lambda Pi chapter returned with several awards: College Project Award (first place), Most Outstanding Chapter, Service Award (first place), Honors in Action Award (first place), Distinguished Chapter Member, Katalia Adams (Honorable Mention), Great Idea Award (third place), Distinguished Chapter Officer Team, Tawanda Sibanda, Regan Mader, Jessica Soler, and Phillipine Andjawo, and Distinguished Advisor, Patsy Yager. Jessica Soler from WNCC was one of 467 semifinalists for the Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. This year, the Foundation received over 1,600 applications from students at two-year colleges across the county.

### **Faculty Report (cont.)**

Veteran Pipe Welder Bryan Yeik, a former student of WNCC Welding Technology instructor Russell Pontarolo during his time at EWC, has generously volunteered his time to work with WNCC welding students. For the past seven years or more, Bryan has dedicated a day each year to share his industry experience, tools of the gas piping trade, and insights from the field. He brings in twelve-inch diameter pipe, giving students hands-on exposure to pipeline welding and a sense of what it takes to test for companies like Black Hills Energy. In addition to demonstrating techniques, he walks students through common challenges and offers practical tips to prepare them for real-world applications.

### **Nebraska Community College Association**

Chair Stinner reported that the budget process and dual credit programs remain key issues affecting community colleges. The budget is scheduled to advance next month, and further clarity is expected by the end of April with the release of the second or third round of forecasting and revenue projections.

### **Western Nebraska Community College Foundation**

Ms. Alena Haun, Foundation Development Director reported Friday, March 7th, the WNCC Foundation hosted its annual scholarship lunch, an event dedicated to sharing student stories and celebrating the success made possible through scholarship opportunities funded by our generous community of donors.

It was a privilege to collaborate with donors who establish scholarships and plan future gifts to support the educational success of WNCC students, both now and in the future. The College has an excellent team in the Financial Aid office to administer nearly one hundred donor-funded scholarships each year. For the current academic year 73 unique donor-funded scholarships provided 388 awards to 296 students, totaling over \$326,000 through the WNCC Foundation for the 2024-25 academic year.

Ms. Haun noted the most rewarding aspect of her role is receiving notes of gratitude and hearing how these scholarships positively impact the lives of our students. During the program, they heard from three WNCC students.

Jennifer Kinsey is a non-traditional student from Gering in the Surgical Technology program. She shared her decision to return to school and change her career path after entering remission from a stage four cancer diagnosis. As a veteran, Jennifer has benefitted from scholarships such as the Morrill Legion Post 10 scholarship and the John and Loana Perrin endowed scholarship.

The second student we heard from was Carter Dorman, a powerline student from Oshkosh. Carter shared how much he liked WNCC and the powerline program as well as his gratitude for donors who support the WNCC Foundation to fund scholarships like the Outstanding Leader Scholarship for high school seniors and the TeamMates scholarship.

Gloria Hanyani, recipient of the Norman Ott Memorial scholarship, shared her story through a letter to the donors while she was working transition hours at the hospital in preparation for full time employment after graduation in May. Following is part of that letter:

"I came from Zimbabwe in 2022 with my two teenagers, it was a significant transition and pursuing my nursing education while navigating these changes has been both challenging and rewarding. We did not know anyone in Nebraska, so research was conducted to find a community where she could raise her kids. We picked this one and it was the right choice. have I



### **Western Nebraska Community College Foundation (cont.)**

Not only received emotional support from this community, but I have also been blessed to receive financial assistance from the WNCC Foundation, allowing me to focus on my studies without the overwhelming burden of tuition costs.

As a single mother, I cannot fully express how much these opportunities have meant to me. Your generosity enabled me to complete my LPN in 2023, and now, as I work toward earning my RN with a graduation date set for May 2025, your continued support remains invaluable. The impact of your kindness extends beyond my education, it has given me the chance to build a stable future for my family and contribute meaningfully to the community that has embraced me. After graduation, I look forward to remaining in this community and giving back in the same spirit of generosity that I have been fortunate to receive."

### **President Comments**

President Dart reported the renovation projects, health science renovation, powerline project, and aviation engine start room schedules and budget are on track. Some of those projects will be completed this summer. The health science renovation will be completed this coming winter.

President Dart mentioned that the WNCC graduation is scheduled May 10<sup>th</sup> and the nurse's pinning is scheduled May 9<sup>th</sup>. Commencement exercises start at 10:00 a.m. in Cougar Palace and Adult Education graduation starts at 2:00 p.m. in the Judy Chaloupka Theater. This is a wonderful time to celebrate our students, and hopefully Board members can attend.

An inquiry was made regarding budget concerns and the possibility of reducing positions, specifically asking whether AI could play a role in enhancing efficiency. President Dart acknowledged that determining how to effectively implement AI remains a challenge. He noted that while generative AI has posed challenges in the classroom setting, the College is actively evaluating how AI can be integrated across various functions. Utilizing AI to support institutional operations is absolutely being considered as part of ongoing strategic discussions.

### **Board Member Comments**

Chair Stinner welcomed new Board members, Josh Hanson, and Tony Kaufman. The Board appreciates their willingness to serve as members of the WCCA Board of Governors.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales acknowledged the women's basketball team. Saturday before their tournament, team members put up posters all over town and talked to people asking them to come to the game. It was wonderful to see them promoting the College and their team.

Chair Stinner reminded Board members the April 16 meeting will be at the Sidney campus.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

#### **March 28 and 29, 2025 | Vocal Music | Spring Gala**

Gering Civic Center

6:00 p.m. Social Time | 6:30 p.m. Performance

Tickets: \$35 | Ticket sales close on March 21

**Box Office:** Wed & Thurs, 3/19 & 3/20: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m., Fri, 3/21: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events (cont.)**

#### **April 27, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Spring Band Concert**

Judy Chaloupka Theater

3:00 p.m. Performance

\$10 General Admission | \$8 Seniors | Free - WNCC Students & Staff

**Box Office:** Fri, 4/25: 12:00 - 4 p.m.; Sat & Sun, 4/26 & 4/27: 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

#### **May 1–3, 2025 | Theatre Arts | Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience**

Judy Chaloupka Theater

10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Thursday & Friday | 5:00 p.m. Saturday

\$10 General Admission | \$5 Seniors, Students & Military | \$3 Groups of 10+

**Box Office:** Thurs 5/1 & Fri 5/2: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., 12:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Sat, 5/3: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

#### **May 3, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Honors Recital**

First Presbyterian Church 3:00 p.m. Performance

Tickets: Free

#### **May 4, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Jump, Jive & Swing**

Hampton Inn & Suites

5:15 p.m. Cocktails & Live Music | 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Dancing

Tickets: \$30 | Ticket sales closed at noon on April 26

**Box Office:** Wed & Thurs, 4/23 & 4/24: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.;

Fri, 4/25: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.; Sat, 4/26: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **NCCA Second Quarter Board Meeting**

Monday, May 12, 2025

Lincoln, NE or via Zoom

#### **2025 ACCT Leadership Congress**

October 22-25, 2025,

New Orleans Marriott & Sheraton, New Orleans, Louisiana

**Next Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 1:00 p.m., WNCC Sidney Campus, 371 College Drive, Sidney, NE.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 2:51 p.m.

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John P. Stinner, Chairperson

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Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary