

Northeast Ohio  
Universities  
Collaboration &  
Innovation Study  
Commission

*Cleveland State University*  
*Kent State University*  
*Northeastern Ohio Universities*  
*College of Medicine*  
*The University of Akron*  
*Youngstown State University*

**Minutes from April 4, 2007 session of the**  
**Northeast Ohio Universities Collaboration & Innovation Study Commission**  
**Held at the Offices of the GAR Foundation, Akron, Ohio**

**Attendees:** Chairman, Ted Boyd; Dorothy Baunach, Bruce Beeghly, Robert Briggs, Dr. William Demas, Phillip Kaufmann, Dr. Lester Lefton, Dr. Lois Nora, John Pogue, Dr. Luis Proenza, Dr. Michael Schwartz, Dr. David Sweet; Jane Timken, Jim Trakas, Dr. Garry Walters and Ronald Weinberg..

**Unable to attend:** James Hambrick and Bradley Whitehead

**Staff:** Monica Turoczy

Introduction of guests: Dennis Lafferty, Executive Assistant to the Managing Partner, Jones Day; Jon Allison, The Allison Group; Roger Carroll, Office of the Attorney General; Dr. Charlene Reed, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Kent State University.

Welcome from Commission Member and host of the session, Rob Briggs; brief presentation on the recently announced regional economic development action plan, *Advance Northeast Ohio*, as launched on Friday, 30 March 2007.

**Engagement of Dr. Stephen R.Portch**

- The Chairman cited the desire to end the meeting with a set of directions and goals which can be shared with the recently appointed primary consultant to the Commission, Dr. Stephen R.Portch, Chancellor Emeritus of the University System of Georgia.
- As part of his early work, Portch wishes to talk with each of the Presidents directly to offer their candid insights into the Study Commission and its goals. Staff will work to schedule those session as soon as possible, likely via telephone.
- Portch has also begun to offer invited feedback regarding the management consultant which will be utilized by the Commission as it identifies Administrative collaboration goals within its scope of work..
  - Mr. Briggs highlighted the work of the Northeast Ohio Sourcing Office as a possible knowledge base for collaborations and shared sourcing across multiple constituencies.
  - Dr. Walters also urged, in light of current Commission resources, the consideration of the knowledge base already at the table

- Ms. Baunach raised idea of utilizing corporate loaned executive support for the management side, someone versed in consolidation in a private sector setting

### **Staff appointment**

- Mr. Boyd outlined the decision, in agreement with the NOCHE Chairman, to appoint Monica Turoczy, Associate Director of NOCHE, the Executive Director of the Study Commission.
- Discussion ensued regarding reimbursement of NOCHE for costs

### **Resource development**

- Mr. Boyd noted Mr. Richard Pogue's strong leadership on fundraising to support the Commission's budget; he also welcomed Dr. Walters' assistance in identifying funds to support the work with the Chancellor and the Speaker of the House
- Dr. Sweet moved for a resolution requesting the Commission support efforts to approach both Chancellor Fingerhut and Governor Strickland for already appropriated funds or future appropriated funds to support the effort, recalling the \$250,000 as originally outlined in the proposed enabling legislation; Dr. Proenza seconded the motion

### **Underlying Principals discussion**

- Dr. Proenza and Ms. Baunach noted the importance of beginning the work process by assembling an inventory/catalog of the current workforce contributions made by the universities and how those square up with the needs of individual industry clusters; "some clusters are well supported, while others are not."
- Mr. Briggs pointed out that it is during this time of budget crunches that the schools should view collaboration as even more important to drive down additional costs.
- Ms. Baunach, noted the vitality of a "transferable, portable" education portfolio which travels with a person across institutions. She said it is important to first establish the relationship between what is being produced currently in supply and how it matches demand.
- Dr. Nora suggested that there exists two types of joint degree programs and the Commission should be clear on which definition it is working from: i.e. degrees which are housed at a single school with other schools feeding the program with students, or degrees which are offered by schools jointly:

### **Study Commission Work Process**

- One of the earliest presentations should be on the North Shore Graduate Research Alliance
- Inventories across the five institutions are vital to the beginning the process
- Following the Academic/ Administrative workgroup structure, the second hour of each session could be used for workgroup meetings.

- Presidents urged that the work of a proposed management consultant be supported by subcommittees of the professionals on the campuses who are engaged in that work on a daily basis
- Dr. Lefton: In outlining the goals and outcomes in this way solutions have been put before defining the problems; urged answering the question of what is it that exists today which can be duplicated across the region

Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.