

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 August 30, 2007 session of the
Academic Workgroup of the
Northeast Ohio Universities Collaboration & Innovation Study Commission
Held at the offices at the GAR Foundation, Fairlawn, Ohio

Attendees: Committee Chair, Jane Timken; Commission Chair, Ted Boyd, Dorothy Baunach, Bruce Beeghly, Richard Pogue, Ronald Weinberg, Dr. Lestor Lefton, Dr. Lois Nora, Dr. Luis Proenza, Dr. David Sweet

Guests: Jon Allison, Kimberly Chapple, Tom Maraffa, Dr. Chand Midha, Dr. Charlene Reed, Richard Lewis, Dr. Mary Jane Saunders, Dr. Peter Kasvinsky, Kathleen Ruff

Staff: Monica Turoczy, Amy Sabath, Steve Portch (via teleconference)

Opening Comments of Committee Chair Jane Timken:

- Ms. Timken welcomed everyone to the meeting. Minutes were approved from August 22, 2007.

Ann Womer Benjamin, Executive Director, NOCHE:

PLEASE NOTE: 2006 Strategic Plan Executive Summary document attached..

- Ms. Timken introduced Ann Womer Benjamin, Executive Director of NOCHE to address the NOCHE strategic plan and focus on engaging business leaders and economic development for Higher Education.
- Ms. Womer Benjamin noted several key projects to expand and regionalize including: adding virtual interview packages, entrepreneur internship program and College 360. These programs provide services to employers and students. The goal is to enroll, engage and employ. There is also a focus on the attraction and recruitment of international students with an immigration blueprint program.
- Dr. Lefton asked what BAHEE is doing if NOCHE is doing all of these things. Mr. Pogue noted there are three programs that develop factual data on improving business needs for higher education, increase the STEM principle, and enhance marketing of higher education to the general public. Dr. Lefton asked if any college Presidents were on this Board. Mr. Pogue responded that it's a business alliance and there are not any college Presidents on the Board.

- Ms. Timken asked for more detail on the College 360 program. Ms. Womer Benjamin explained that this program reaches out to students considering college. There is currently a *Campus Visit* magazine and NOCHE plans to implement a college fair in the future.
- Dr. Sweet asked for more detail on the immigration initiative. Ms. Womer Benjamin said there is a steering committee working on this project that has divided into several groups, one of which is working on recruitment of international students and scholars.
- Mr. Pogue asked what capacity NOCHE has or role they could play in expanding on the P-16 concept. Ms. Womer Benjamin noted this concept would be consistent with NOCHE's strategic plan. With the proper staff and funding, NOCHE could assist with coordinating this effort in the future. Mr. Boyd noted that given the fact that successful P-16's tend to have unique characteristics in each community and are driven by local needs, it might be more productive to have the P-16's initiate regional efforts.
- Dr. Portch asked about the level of staffing and budget NOCHE has for their internship program and if there is an evaluation component. Ms. Womer Benjamin noted NOCHE is currently working on the new budget for their October board meeting. There is currently no evaluation component. Dr. Portch noted there needs to be a more definitive picture of the scope and total programs in the area.

Consideration of Big Ideas, Round 2:

- **ACTION:** Dr. Portch will begin to draft recommendations of big ideas based on Committee discussions. Dr. Proenza suggested they be sorted by unique opportunities and those that are long-term goals.
- **Community College in Mahoning Valley:** (Presented by Dr. Sweet)
PLEASE NOTE: *Community College Education in Mahoning Valley document attached.*
- This would fill the gap for educational needs in the Mahoning Valley. The Mahoning Valley is made up of Columbiana, Trumbull, and Mahoning Counties.
- The goal is to avoid duplication, document the need, increase higher education enrollment, have courses at Community College pricing, and respond to the needs to the region.
- Three partnership models were presented: (1) (The preferred model) Integrated Community College Partnership of YSU, KSU, Jefferson Community College, Career and Technical Centers, school districts, and employers; (2) Expansion of YSU presence and programs at strategic sites in the Mahoning Valley; (3) New freestanding community college affiliated with YSU.
- Mr. Pogue asked if financial complications had been considered. Dr. Sweet said they had been discussed extensively. He also noted he would like this done without having a levy as it would be difficult to pass one.
- Mr. Beeghly presented his ideas on a regional community college. He noted that 55% of the state population lives in a district that does not have a community college. It's more acute in northeast Ohio. There needs to be an opportunity to provide a low cost window into higher

education. PLEASE NOTE: Ohio Districts Indicating the Current Lowest-Cost Option handout is attached.

- Dr. Lefton agreed there needs to be a community college system in northeast Ohio. Cost issues need to be addressed and are substantial; also look at funding and campus branches. Enrollment at regional campuses is affected by community colleges. There needs to be an overall strategy for regional campuses, levies, and funding issues.
- Dr. Lefton noted there are three campuses in these counties as part of YSU and KSU which will lose enrollment with this proposal. He is not convinced there would be an increase in students in a community college.
- Dr. Sweet suggested this would be more effective if done in a partnership.
- Mr. Beeghly quoted from the Chancellors speech of August 2, 2007 to Public Higher Education Leaders, “We will guarantee that every student in Ohio has access to a comprehensive community college education. We will do this by building a flexible system that enables all Ohioans to participate in the educational opportunities offered by all two-year schools, by filling the gaps in service areas for community colleges, by integrating the university regional campuses into our two-year system, and by taking full advantage of the opportunities to reach adult students presented by the transfer of the adult career centers and the adult basic literacy programs to the Board of Regents. We will also make real the statutory mandate that all associate 12 degree programs in Ohio fully transfer to four-year institutions.”
- ACTION: Dr. Portch will draft recommendations based on these discussions.
- Graduate Programs/Research Council/Northeast Research Alliance: (Presented by Bruce Beeghly) PLEASE NOTE: Graduate Program and Research Council Initiative handout attached.
- Dr. Lefton noted that Northshore was seeking funding through collaboration. This proposes new governance. He would rather not see a council decide who is getting graduate programs. Collaboration is good, but having a council make the decisions is not good.
- Dr. Kasvinsky noted we should include other players, such as NASA.
- Ms. Turoczy added that NOCHE took the lead and created a formal entity of the Alliance and is facilitating the creation of a business plan for the Alliance. The goal is for that plan to be ready by mid-September for consideration by the Academic workgroup in their deliberations.
- Mr. Weinberg asked for an explanation of the Alliance working. Dr. Kasvinsky explained that graduate deans meet to discuss any new graduate programs. Dr. Lefton added that the Alliance share intellects and ideas. Mr. Weinberg suggested it needs to be operationalized to work.
- Dr. Portch suggested NOCHE look at the Georgia Research Alliance as a model. Only a handful of areas lead to research dollars. Involvement of private institutions is important.

- Ms. Turoczy noted three operating alliances being considered as models: Carnegie Mellon/University of Pittsburgh, Dayton Area Graduate Studies Institution, and the Georgia Research Alliance.
- Dr. Nora added that incentives in research are important. Mr. Allison noted the RFP for the Research Scholarship Program is about to become available. If this region wants to be competitive then we must have our act together and not waste discussion on governance.
- ***Centers of Excellence:*** (Presented by Dr. Lefton) Agriculture and Polymer are the two largest industries in Ohio. Areas of strength across the region need to be further developed. It's important to try to bring in new students to be educated in these areas.
- Advanced manufacturing technology is another area to consider. Also, the fashion school at KSU is another area to advance. The last area suggested to consider is a virtual engineering and science program.
- Ms. Timken asked to clarify recommendations on Centers of Excellence. Mr. Pogue asked that Mr. Beeghly's final bullet be added, to establish and oversee an office of Technology Transfer for the region's universities.
- Dr. Proenza suggested we endorse the Centers of Excellence idea. Dr. Portch said he will separate out greater mission differentiation of the Chancellor and Centers of Excellence. Also, we should not determine Centers of Excellence for the institutions.
- Dr. Sweet added that advanced manufacturing technology was a great idea. Ms. Timken noted that we need to collaborate and cooperate on our recommendations as a whole.
- ***Virtual Electronic Engineering and Computer Science Program:*** (Presented by Ms. Baunach) We do not have the research base to succeed in the electronic engineering world. There hasn't been the money available to go out and seek world class faculty and research to be competitive and attract scholars.
- Ms. Baunach noted there are 7,000 IT jobs open in the region. We need to figure out how to fill these holes. Dr. Proenza and Dr. Nora added there needs to be targeted faculty hired in this area.
- Dr. Portch noted there needs to be focus on this area. We can't mandate a faculty to research things. There needs to be a combination of incentive and autonomy combined with resources that come with it.
- **ACTION:** Dr. Portch will provide recommendations based on the discussion on the meeting. Ms. Timken noted a schedule addition for September 18.

Adjourn 10:03 AM

Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education

2006 Strategic Plan

Executive Summary

OUR VISION

NOCHE is the regional driver of higher education-business collaboration to achieve Northeast Ohio's economic competitive advantage.

OUR MISSION

To mobilize the region's higher education and business communities for collective action that advances regional economic development.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

CONVENE	Serve as a major forum for defining common issues to be addressed by the region's institutions of higher education and businesses
COLLABORATE	Lead and support cooperative efforts to accomplish shared objectives of the higher education and business communities
COMMUNICATE	Frame and advocate unified messages from the higher education and business communities to policy makers
CELEBRATE SUCCESS	Recognize accomplishments and innovate efforts that leverage higher education and business resources

STRATEGIC GOALS

ONE Engage business leaders in the creation of public policies affecting higher education and economic development

Objectives:

- a) Establish NOCHE as a principal source for data and information about higher education in NEO
- b) Raise awareness of higher education impact on regional economy
- c) Identify key public policies that impact support for, and participation in, higher education. Prioritize set of shared concerns among higher education and business

TWO

Advocate policies to generate greater support for, and participation in, higher education

Objectives:

- a) Establish and implement process to take formal public policy positions
- b) Raise levels of college aspiration, preparation and completion in NEO

THREE

Strengthen the alignment between higher education and business to produce and retain more college graduates

Objectives:

- a) Establish NEO as a premier destination to prospective college students
- b) Improve retention rate of new NEO college grads
- c) Attract and retain knowledge workers with advanced degrees
- d) Attract and retain knowledge workers with advance degrees to Northeast Ohio and academic and research institutions

Academic Collaboration Workgroup Northeast Ohio Universities Collaboration and Innovation Study Commission

Community College Education in the Mahoning Valley August 30, 2007

1. Higher Education Goals for the Mahoning Valley

- **Improve access to higher education by delivering academic programs at times and locations to best serve the people of the Mahoning Valley.**
- **Minimize the impact of cost as a barrier to higher education participation.**
- **Develop the educational pipeline to**
 - Improve the preparation of high school graduates for college level work and maximize the chances of success for under-prepared students.
 - Improve college going rates to contribute to Governor Strickland's goal.
 - Narrow the gap between higher education degree attainment rates in the Mahoning Valley and both the rest of Ohio and the United States.
- **Make the most effective use of resources.**

2. The Need

- **Youngstown is the only metropolitan area in Ohio not served by a community college.**
- **Higher education participation and degree attainment lag behind Ohio and the nation.**

	% 25 or Older Bachelors +	% 25 or Older Associate	% 25 or Older Some college but no degree or less
Mahoning	18.8%	5.6%	75.6%
Trumbull	14.9%	6.5%	78.6%
Columbiana	11.9%	8.4%	79.7%
Ohio	23.3%	7.0%	69.7%
US	27.1%	7.4%	65.4%

- **Need is recognized by community leaders and the Chancellor**

3. YSU Community College Planning Process

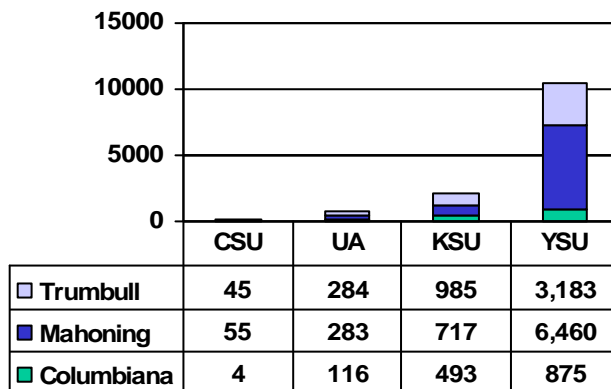
- **Began March 2006.**
- **Broad-based campus process involving faculty, staff, and community.**
- **Extensive research based on analysis of models for the delivery of community college education; published data; surveys of 18-49 year olds; community and business leaders; and YSU faculty and staff.**
- **Discussions with leadership of Career and Technical Centers; school districts; Jefferson Community College; and Kent State branch campus leadership.**
- **Report to YSU Board of Trustees June 2007.**
- **YSU Community College web page www.ysu.edu/cc/**

4. Partnership models for the delivery of community college education in the Mahoning Valley

- **Integrated Community College Partnership of YSU, KSU, Jefferson Community College, Career and Technical Centers, school districts, and employers.**
 - YSU would organize and manage an entity to pull together multiple institutions' resources. It would manage existing programs, develop new programs, and contract with other institutions to deliver programs as necessary. It would have its own board and Chief Academic Officer. This model is the mirror image of the University Partnership at LCCC.
- **Expansion of YSU presence and programs at strategic sites in the Mahoning Valley.**
 - YSU would develop programs on campus and at selected sites with public and private partners to align with the needs of traditional students; adult learners; and now-underserved residents.
- **New freestanding community college affiliated with YSU.**
 - A community college would be formed under a compact with YSU and with its own board. It could contract with partners to offer programs to meet the needs of the region.

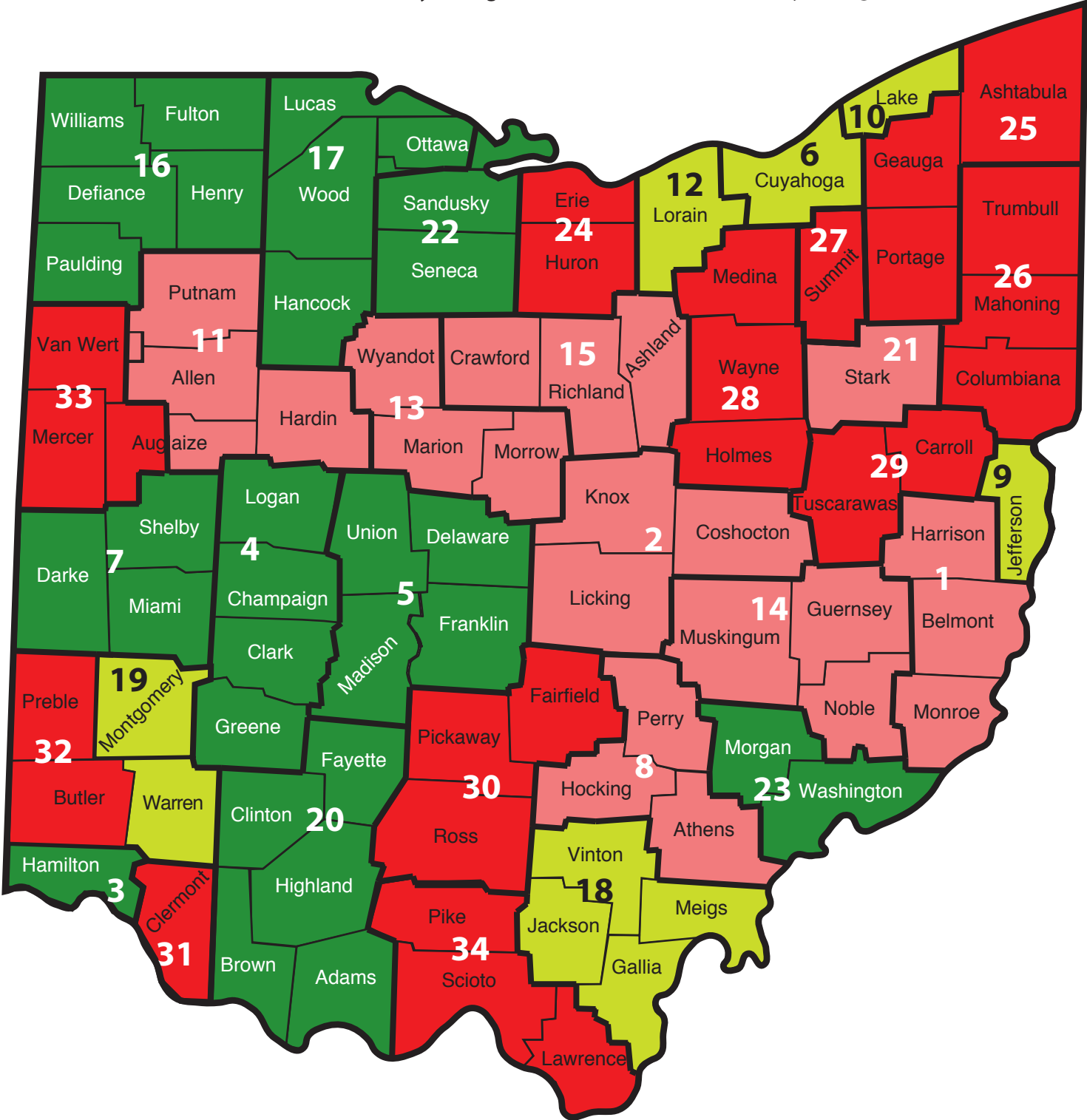
5. Characteristics of partnership models.

- **All would offer academic programs at community college level pricing, reducing costs to students.**
- **All would be flexible and readily adaptable to the needs of the region.**
- **All make effective use of existing educational resources and deliver programs where they are needed.**
- **All are consistent with the stated goals of collaboration and partnership.**
- **All could eventually evolve into an independent community college.**
- **Affiliation with YSU accounts for existing higher education patterns in the region and takes advantage of YSU's existing expertise in delivering two year programs, workforce development, and developmental education.**



Ohio Districts Indicating the Current Lowest-Cost Option

- University Branch/
University Main Campuses
- Technical College
- State Community College
- Community College



Ohio Board of Regents

Two-Year Campus Service Districts

(Chartered & Assigned)

1. Belmont Technical College
Ohio University – Belmont
2. Central Ohio Technical College
The Ohio State University - Newark
3. Cincinnati State Technical & Community College
University of Cincinnati - Raymond Walters
University of Cincinnati - University College
4. Clark State Community College
5. Columbus State Community College
6. Cuyahoga Community College
7. Edison State Community College
8. Hocking Technical College
9. Jefferson State Community College
10. Lakeland Community College
11. Lima Technical College
The Ohio State University - Lima
12. Lorain County Community College
13. Marion Technical College
The Ohio State University - Marion
14. Muskingum Area Technical College
Ohio University - Zanesville
15. North Central Technical College
The Ohio State University - Mansfield
16. Northwest State Community College
17. Owens State Community College
University of Toledo - Community & Technical College
18. Rio Grande Community College
19. Sinclair Community College
20. Southern State Community College
21. Stark State College of Technology
Kent State University - Stark
22. Terra State Community College
23. Washington State Community College
24. Bowling Green State University - Firelands
25. Kent State University - Geauga
Kent State University - Ashtabula
26. Kent State University - East Liverpool
Kent State University - Trumbull
Kent State University - Salem
27. University of Akron - Community & Technical College
28. University of Akron - Wayne
29. Kent State University - Tuscarawas
30. Ohio University - Lancaster
31. University of Cincinnati - Clermont
32. Miami University - Hamilton
Miami University - Middletown
33. Wright State University - Lake Campus
34. Shawnee State University
Ohio University - Ironton

GRADUATE PROGRAM AND RESEARCH COUNCIL INITIATIVE

Advanced graduate degree programs and university research provide the greatest potential for moving the northeastern Ohio region forward in a dramatic way. One result of four distinct universities and a stand-alone medical college has been a relatively low cumulative research effort - all five NEO schools combined generated just 1/8th the total research of Ohio State or 1/4th that of the University of Cincinnati in 2004.

This factor is perhaps the strongest argument for a universal governance approach in NEO. Something meaningful needs to happen in this area.

PROPOSAL: Establish a Northeast Ohio Public Universities Graduate Program and Research Council consisting of the Provosts and other selected personnel from the NEO Universities and NEOUCOM. The purpose would be to strengthen the quality of graduate education and enhance opportunities for research funding through collaboration between the partner universities.

- Build on the foundation of the North Shore Graduate and Research Alliance.
- Identify areas of strength and concentration for each of the four universities in the STEM fields or generally identify Centers of Excellence.
- Establish “Signature Graduate Programs” on each university campus where the other NEO universities design feeder programs for the first 2-3 years in the mode of the NEOUCOM Doctor of Medicine program, in place successfully for over 30 years.
- Emphasize multi-university graduate programs in the future.
- Seek increased research funding by collaborating on larger grant requests from multiple universities.
- Require approval of the Council for all new graduate degree programs from the region.
- Establish and oversee an office of Technology Transfer for the region’s universities.