A meeting of the Success Committee was held in the President’s Office conference room, Administration Hall on the Owens Community College, Toledo-area Campus.

Call to Order – Committee Chair Tom Uhler called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and directed the record to show that the Success Committee meeting was held in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 3358, and the policies of the Board of Trustees.

Roll Call - Roll call was taken, and the following committee members were present: Ronald McMaster, Ed Nagle and Thomas Uhler (3).

Attendees – The following were in attendance: Mike Bower, Patricia Jezak, Jennifer Fehnrich, Thomas Perin, Ann Savage and guest, Joe Inman.

Committee Chair Remarks – Mr. Uhler commented that this is the first meeting of the Success Committee, and he reviewed the charter for the committee, which includes:

Committee Charter

- the strategic alignment of the College with the State’s priorities and funding formulas for higher education;
- to advocate for the State’s recognition of the community college mission of access, success and workforce development in incentive-based funding formulas; and,
- to ensure metrics for institutional performance in program accreditations and areas of student retention, completion and graduation that contribute to student success and to the prosperity of our communities.

He commented that Jennifer Fehnrich, Tom Perin and Ann Savage were asked to orient the Success Committee and share information on their areas. He commented on the importance of measuring success and that he would like to have the Success Committee establish objectives that will assist the Board of Trustees in their support of the College and the mission. Mr. Nagle commented on adding to the charter to ensure metrics for institutional performance in finance.

Mr. Uhler commented that he would like to plan for a bimonthly meeting schedule including the summer. He also commented on resource people for the committee, and President Bower responded that he will make suggestions based on the agenda items.

State Funding Update – Jennifer Fehnrich, Executive Director, Government/Community Relations and Marketing, distributed handouts of the Ohio Board of Regents State Share of Instruction (SSI) Handbook (October 31, 2011) for community and technical colleges for FY 2012 and FY 2013, and the Recommendations of the Ohio Higher Education Funding Commission (HEFC) (November 2012). She stated that the SSI funding model components are enrollment, student success and institutional specific goals/metrics. She reviewed the FY 2013 funding formula and the success point component.

In response to a question, Jennifer Fehnrich confirmed that the funding formula has not changed for FY 2014. She said that it is subject to change for FY 2015. President Bower commented that the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) presidents will begin discussion for the development of the FY 2015 funding formula in August/September that will review the community college contributions toward transfers, certifications and workforce training, which add value to the State of Ohio.

Tom Uhler asked how the College is funded for workforce training, and Jennifer Fehnrich responded that the College’s workforce training is not directly funded by the State. The College is reimbursed from companies or through grant funding. She commented on Senator Beagle’s introduced bill for a revolving loan fund proposed to provide loans (from casino revenues) for workforce training through colleges. She said that the program is being defined, and the bill is being closely watched. President Bower commented on other states that utilize revolving loan funds and the difficulties for employers to fund workforce training. Jennifer Fehnrich also explained that state-funded workforce investment act boards may use any vendor for workforce training, which may include community colleges.

From the HEFC Recommendations document, Jennifer Fehnrich highlighted the charts that visualize the formula changes for the universities and the community colleges for FY 2014. The historical set-asides refer to the former access challenge funding for at risk students. In response to a question about “hold-harmless” or “stop-loss” funds, Jennifer Fehnrich commented on the FY 2014-FY 2015 biennial budget that proposes a “bridge” fund that will hold colleges harmless in the first year transitioning to the new funding formula. Owens is projected to lose $1,063,000 in funding for FY 2014. If the bridge fund is approved then it will help maintain the College’s revenue at the FY 2013 level for FY 2014.

Jennifer Fehnrich commented on the OACC funding consultation that is meeting for reviewing and making a recommendation for the FY 2015 funding formula for community colleges. The group has met two times, and they are looking at defining completers. A recommendation for the FY 2015 funding formula will be made by February 2014. In response to a question of how trustees could
strategically advocate, Jennifer Fehnrich responded that it will be based on timing and once the strengths and challenges are identified then advocacy can begin with the state legislators. She will continue to keep the Board of Trustees updated with communications on the progress of the State’s FY 2014-FY 2015 biennial budget. President Bower commented on the importance of OACC representing the member-colleges with the messaging that needs to be delivered to the Ohio Board of Regents and the legislators. Trustee Dee Talmage is expected to be appointed Chair of the OACC beginning July 1.

Report on Foundation and College Development – Ann Savage, Executive Director, College Development and Foundation, provided an overview of the functions of College Development including investments, 501(3)(C) donations, fundraising and financial management. She reviewed the Foundation’s mission, which is: Owens Community College Foundation develops and provides resources to advance the College’s mission of serving our students and our community. We Invest in Your Success.

She distributed the Foundation financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2013. She commented that the majority of the Foundation’s net assets are in permanent restricted funds and are endowments, mainly for scholarship funds.

With respect to the role of fundraising, Ann Savage commented that the College sets the fundraising priorities for the Foundation. In turn, the Foundation reports to the College on donor trends. She commented that there are legal requirements that must be complied with for donations and for real estate. She noted that every potential donation is reviewed for the value that it may provide to the College. Forms of donations may also include real estate or appreciated stock investments. The Foundation has an investment policy and the Foundation’s Finance Committee provides oversight.

Mr. Nagle asked if there may be a plan for the Foundation to become self-sustaining, which is a trend for university and hospital foundations. Ann Savage responded that while it may be a trend for universities and hospitals, it is not a trend for community college foundations as the unrestricted funds are not significant enough. She commented that to move toward a self-sustaining model, the Foundation would have to grow, which is a long process in addition to having to provide state employee benefits for employees who may transition from the College to the Foundation. Mr. Nagle and Mr. Uhler asked about the College’s cost of the Foundation’s operations and the revenue that is brought in. Ann Savage commented that she would provide some articles on foundation growth, support for colleges and the management of foundation boards within the requirements of the law. She commented that public institutions have difficulties in accepting gifts from anonymous donors.

Mr. Nagle commented on behalf of the Board of the interest for future review of the Foundation’s operational costs, including benefits and value to the College. Ann Savage again offered that she would provide reference articles on foundations, and she commented on the memorandum of understanding between the College and the Foundation.

Report on Institutional Effectiveness – Tom Perin, Associate Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness, commented on the role of institutional effectiveness and of his position, which has evolved from reporting to oversight, and he also serves as the College’s AQIP liaison with the Higher Learning Commission. He commented that oversight of program accreditations was assigned to his position in 2010. In addition, his position has transitioned from reporting to the Vice President/Provost to the President. He reviewed the list of program accreditations updated for Spring Semester 2013. The College currently has 50 accredited programs; 1 pending approval; and 2 intents to apply that are in progress. He maintains a comprehensive status file for program accreditations, and he receives copies of correspondence from the 11 accrediting bodies. He provides regular status updates every semester to the President and the Vice President/Provost. He provides an update spreadsheet to the Board of Trustees every August, and the Success Committee requested that the
Board is provided with an updated spreadsheet at the beginning of the Spring Semester (January/February) and Fall Semester (August).

In response to a question on current priorities, Tom Perin commented that he has been monitoring the two applications in progress and that both submissions are in compliance with the associated criteria. He commented on the trend for assessment outcomes and that he is working with all instructional areas of the College to ensure continued compliance. He commented that assessment is faculty driven and that he closely works the College’s Student Learning Assessment Committee. Tom Perin also commented on the role of program advisory committees, and Mr. Uhler commented on the importance of employer and student feedback to the advisory committees.

In response to the value that accreditations may provide to academic programs, Tom Perin commented on the College’s Program Review and Evaluation Process that is done every three years, as required by the Ohio Board of Regents. He also noted that should a credentialed person retire or leave from a program that the accreditation criteria would be reviewed and addressed for continued compliance.

Tom Perin commented that he would be pleased to provide regular updates on the strategic plan to the Board upon request. Tom Perin also commented on the newly formed risk management advisory team to the President, as a continuous quality improvement practice communicated from the Higher Learning Commission. The team will review proposals and provide feedback to the President from the perspectives of accreditation, financial aid, finance and legal.

Mr. Uhler and Dr. McMaster commented on transportation as an area for potential growth and contribution toward economic development. Tom Perin again commented on program review, including viability when looking at technology and other factors. He also commented on the biennial environmental scan, which will begin next January and will identify areas of internal and external factors (economic, political, social, and technological) and that is used as a planning tool. Dr. McMaster commented on potential grant funding opportunities that were shared during the ACCT Legislative Summit last February, and he will forward the information to Tom Perin in the interest of the next environmental scan.

Tom Perin commented that the College’s AQIP System Portfolio is due in November and there are more than 60 persons involved in the self-study process.

Other – Mr. Uhler thanked Jennifer Fehnrich, Ann Savage and Tom Perin for their reports. He asked that Tom Perin continue to report for the next meeting agenda. He commented on key performance indicators (KPI), and Tom Perin provided a hand out that listed the College’s utilization of KPI’s in strategic planning.

Adjournment – As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Uhler declared the committee meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

ATTEST
Patricia M. Jezak
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved 9-17-13