



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Northeast Ohio Medical University
December 5, 2024 at 12:30 PM EST

Attendance

Trustees: Darrell L. McNair, M.B.A., Chair, William H. Considine, M.H.S.A., Vice Chair, Omer Ashruf (Remote), Paul Bishop, J.D., Sharlene Ramos Chesnes (Remote), Karen Soehnlén McQueen, J.D., Ward J. “Tim” Timken Jr., M.B.A., Phillip L. Trueblood, Susan Tave Zelman, Ph.D. (Remote), John T. Langell, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., FACS, Ex Officio

NEOMED Personnel: Julie M. Aultman, Ph.D., Tricia Babkoff, Marc Basson, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., Frank Beck, D.D.S., FAAHD; Janet Coon, Forrest Faison III, M.D., Sc.D.(hon), FAAP, Rebecca German Ph.D., Lacey A. Madison, M.B.A., M.Ed., LSSBB, Heather McColloch, Maria R. Schimer, J.D., M.P.H., Ruth Simera, M.Ed., LSW, Tonya Strong-Charles, Sophie Sureau, Mary Taylor, M. Tax., CPA, Katherine Tromp, Pharm.D., Randon Welton, M.D.,

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Darrell L. McNair, M.B.A., Chair

Request for Recusal

Request for Recusal

Chair McNair called the meeting to order at 12:31 PM. Secretary Coon called the roll and noted that a quorum was present. Chair McNair asked if any Trustee would need recusal from any of the agenda items presented; there being none, he proceeded with the meeting.

1.1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 10, 2024, Meeting

Approval

Chair McNair noted that all Trustees had received copies of the minutes from the full Board meeting on October 10, 2024. He asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections. There being none, Chair McNair called for a motion to approve the October 10, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion moved by Trustee Timken and seconded by Trustee Trueblood.

2. Oath of Office

Maria R. Schimer, M.P.H., J.D.

There has not been an appointment from the governor for any vacant positions.

3. Executive Session

Discuss

Chair McNair called for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Motion moved by Trustee Timken and seconded by Trustee Trueblood. Ms. Coon called the roll and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Chair McNair moved to reconvene the Board meeting at 1:23 p.m. and Trustee Trueblood seconded. Chair McNair confirmed that during Executive Session, no action was taken. Chair McNair asked Committee Chair Timken to provide a summary of the Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee.

4. Report of the Finance, Fiscal Policy and Investment Committee

Ward J. "Tim" Timken Jr., M.B.A., Committee Chair

INFORM

Committee Chair Timken confirmed the minutes from the October 10, 2024 meeting were approved during the December 3, 2024 Committee Meeting via Zoom. Several resolutions were discussed and unanimously approved including hourly and administrative personnel. Ms. Taylor provided information related to the Ohio Affordability and Efficiency Annual Report and presented the request for the Voluntary Intergovernmental Transfer. Ms. Taylor also shared details about the phased plan for the Capital Expenditure exceeding \$500,000 for the CMU Chillers, which are necessary to continue with research.

Claire Xu from Clearstead reviewed the University's investments and Investment Policy. Clearstead will keep NEOMED informed of new developments and provide recommendations as necessary.

Finally, Ms. Taylor reviewed updates within the Key Performance Indicators report related to finance, fiscal policy, and investments. Chair McNair thanked Committee Chair Timken for his report and asked Committee Chair Considine to provide the update for Institutional Advancement.

5. Report of the Institutional Advancement Committee

William H. Considine, M.H.S.A., Committee Chair

INFORM

Committee Chair Considine confirmed the minutes of the October 10, 2024 meeting were approved and no resolutions were brought forward before the committee. Sophie Sureau, Vice President for Advancement and President of the NEOMED Foundation shared an informative presentation regarding Development, Advancement Services, and Alumni Engagement, which included an update on gifts and pledges, current FY25, and growth targets. The team is focused on making incremental increases each year in the Blue Fund and overall cash and pledges to secure \$10 million annually by FY27. This, and other goals, continue to be evaluated by Ms. Sureau. She highlighted the success of Casino Night, including a generous \$100,000 donation by Trustee Emeritus Paul Bishop and his wife Jane and important upcoming events for Trustees to include on calendars. Committee Chair Considine also requested all Trustees provide names for candidates for consideration to the Foundation Board. Recommendations should be sent to Ms.

Sureau. Chair McNair thanked Committee Chair Considine for his report and asked Committee Chair Zelman to share the Academic and Scientific Affairs Committee report.

6. Report of the Academic and Scientific Affairs Committee

Susan Tave Zelman, Ph.D., Committee Chair

INFORM

Committee Chair Zelman reported that the committee approved the minutes from the October 10, 2024 meeting. Dr. Faison brought forward several resolutions for Board approval including academic personnel actions, tenure, and non-tenure track faculty appointments. All of the resolutions brought forward to the Committee for consideration were unanimously approved.

Dr. Beck provided an update related to the Bitonte College of Dentistry, and Dr. German shared brief highlights related to Research and Sponsored Programs.

Chair McNair noted that all reports and action items were reviewed and approved in their respective committees and a second is not required. The Consent Agenda includes Resolutions R2024-43 through R2024-50. Chair McNair asked if any items required further discussion. There being none, the Consent Agenda was adopted. Chair McNair asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion moved by Trustee Trueblood. The consent agenda was approved by roll call vote.

Chair McNair turned the meeting over to President Langell for his report. Following Dr. Langell, Lacey Madison, Vice President for Strategy and Transformation shared updates related to the Strategic Plan, followed by Ruth Simera, Executive Director for the Coordinating Centers of Excellence for the Department Showcase Story.

7. Report of the President

John T. Langell, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., FACS

INFORM

Northeast Ohio Medical University Strategic Plan

Lacey A. Madison, M.B.A., M.Ed., LSSBB Vice President for Strategy and Transformation

Inspirational – Coordinating Centers of Excellence

Ruth Simera, M.Ed., LSW, Executive Director – Coordinating Centers of Excellence

President Langell began his report by sharing a video on the history of NEOMED, followed by brief updates on University events. President Langell highlighted the Bitonte College of Dentistry (BCOD), the largest new initiative on campus. Over 1,600 applications were received, and over 300 qualified candidates were interviewed; offer letters will go out in mid-December. Everything is on time with a ribbon cutting and the first class white coat ceremony in August.

President Langell welcomed the new lead physician for NEOMED Healthcare, Dr. Greg Facemyer, and said the facility continues to grow with 450-500 monthly patient visits. He also congratulated Dr. Nancy Gantt, a longtime partner of the University and professor of surgery, who was initiated as the first Vice-President of the American College of Surgeons, a national honor NEOMED is proud of.

A recap of Casino Night was shared. The exciting night was sold out and brought in approximately \$352,000. President Langell recognized and thanked Trustee Paul Bishop and his wife Jane for their generous donation of \$100,000.

Military Appreciation Day was held on November 4 to honor military service members connected to NEOMED with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated Purple Star Military Lounge, a designated private space for those to interact with other service members and veterans. The ceremony also kicked off NEOMED's Military Academy Reserved Seat Plan, which will reserve seats annually for individuals enrolled at one of the three military academies (West Point, Annapolis, and Colorado Springs).

NEOMED is proud to be part of The Cleveland Browns and University Hospitals partnership that hosted the Future Shades In Medicine Youth Summit in October and provided over 500 high school and middle school students an opportunity to learn about healthcare. He also talked about this year's Student Research Symposium. This is the single biggest day for students to present the work they are doing and this year saw its largest participation with 156 students from all three colleges with 144 posters and 12 oral presentations. President Langell also congratulated students Hunter Landwehr (M3), Jared Hinton (M3), Andrew Fiorentino (M3), and Mark Villers (M2) who presented a poster with Dr. Matthew Moorman, titled "The Medical Student Research Arms Race: Can They Win?" Their project was recognized among the Top 10 posters during the Annual Research and Innovation Day event at University Hospitals.

President Langell ended his report with a recap of the Cleveland Browns Watch Parties, highlighted the upcoming Cleveland Cavaliers NEOMED Night on January 5 and the University's annual Jingle and Mingle Holiday Brunch on December 12, and invited Trustees to attend. He then introduced Lacey Madison to report on the University's Strategic Plan.

Ms. Madison shared the NEOMED Strategic Plan progress, nearing 90 percent completion. This is a critical roadmap to everything the University is doing and is undergoing a significant refresh. She noted the growth pillar at 79 percent is deceiving. This pillar currently captures new projects and action plans until the projects move into a permanent pillar.

Ms. Madison said the goal of the strategic plan refresh is to take a deep dive into the critical strategic work that needs to be identified in the next five years to continue NEOMED's growth and quality journey. She emphasized this report is to show work to date at the "concept" stage and that the team is working with Dr. Sally Kandel and Tomorrow's People in data collection and voice of customer analysis to validate assumptions and identify any major gaps. She asked for the Trustees' input and thoughts on each pillar: Academics, Research, and Operations. These three pillars are the critical areas of focus to enhance education quality, foster innovative research, and create a supportive and efficient operational environment.

Ms. Madison highlighted the goals within each pillar and how they are measured. Academics will focus on providing high-quality, high-value education, supporting academic success, and delivering exceptional student experience. Research focuses on expanding and promoting basic and translational research, strategic partnerships, and fostering a culture of support around research and innovation. The goals of the Operations pillar are to make NEOMED a workplace of choice reflective of the mission, expand NEOMED's citizenship at the local, regional, and national levels, and promote a culture of operational excellence.

Ms. Madison said incorporating these strategic priorities into the plan will ensure the University's growth and success. By focusing on high-quality education, impactful research, and operational excellence, the University will position itself as a leader in the medical health sciences field and make significant contributions to society.

Dr. Langell thanked Ms. Madison for her report and invited Ruth Simera, Executive Director for the Coordinating Centers of Excellence to provide insight on the work being done in her department. Ms. Simera said NEOMED's Department of Psychiatry is home to three statewide agencies including the Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment Center (BeST), Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CCoE), and the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health (OPCSMH).

Ms. Simera shared the timeline and important milestones for the Centers of Excellence beginning in 2001 when the Criminal Justice CCoE was established, followed by the creation of the BeST Center in 2009 and the OPCS MH in 2011. The goal of the CCoE is to promote and encourage mental health and criminal justice centers to work as a team to find alternatives to jailing Ohio residents who suffer from mental health disorders. In 2017, Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) was launched. The ECHO Model uses videoconferencing for specialists to provide continuing medical education to clinicians at academic medical centers and universities, in all geographic locations. In 2018, mental health funder and partner, Peg's

Foundation, presented a multimillion-dollar grant to the Department of Psychiatry and its three Centers of Excellence to increase the dissemination of evidence-based treatments to improve the lives of people with mental illnesses. This was the largest gift to NEOMED from a private foundation. Finally, in 2021 NEOMED became a Project ECHO Superhub, a partner approved by the ECHO Institute to certify, train, and support new ECHO partners. Ms. Simera concluded her report by sharing FY24 accomplishments and contributions and what is on the horizon for FY25.

8. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

9. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

10. Adjournment

ADJOURN

Chair McNair reminded Trustees that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Chair McNair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Considine moved approval and Trustee Chesnes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote and the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

**For a fully executed version of the minutes,
please contact the Board office at 330.325.6864**