



Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 12, 2023, 10:00 am

Location: CSI room 262 and Virtual via Teams

Participants:

CSI Board Members: Mr. Rolf Blizzard (Chair), Mr. Malcom Fearing, Mr. Paul O’Neal, Mr. Steven Keen, Dr. Jack Bagwell, Dr. Kirk Havens, Mr. Mark Garner, Mr. Michael Kelly CSI Representative (ECU Foundation representative)

CSI Board Ex-Officio Members: Provost Robin Coger, Dr. Reide Corbett, Ms. Norma Houston, Dr. Sharon Paynter, Mr. Wally Overman, Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, Dr. Harvey Seim

CSI Board Members Not in Attendance: Dr. Ken Halanych, Dr. Walter Holton, Dr. Margery Overton

ECU & CSI Faculty & Staff: Dr. Stuart Hamilton, Dr. Sid Narayan, Ms. Nancy Rundhammer, Mr. Keith Wheeler, Dr. Eric Wade

Convene: Mr. Rolf Blizzard, Chair, welcomed everyone. Introductions were made around the room. Mr. Blizzard requested approval of the agenda. Motion to approve agenda made and approved, all were in favor. The minutes from the Oct. 2022 meeting. Motion to approve minutes was made and seconded; all were in favor. The minutes were approved. Mr. Blizzard announced that the meeting would not follow the order of the agenda due to some members needing to leave before the conclusion of the meeting.

Updates from CSI Partners

UNC-SO – Norma Houston

- Greetings from Peter Hans
- Updates UNC- system
- UNC System is now relocated to Raleigh downtown.
- State budget interest, house sent in, senate working on approval. Support from Legislators for raises for university employees. Asked for funding for enrollment growth & facilities growth. Small student financial assistance. Good feedback for other important University system initiatives.
- Government approved priorities in Feb
 - Cyber security
 - Distinguished professorships
 - FRIP – faculty early retirement program / buyout to tenured faculty close to retirement – sizing plan due to reduction in drops in enrollment.
 - Personnel costs 85% of the operating budget / some campuses need to

- ‘right size’ – rescaling for quality education – reduce faculty lines.
- Commitment to student access – affordability and access / instate tuition flat, student fees capped at no more than 3%.
- President Hans focusing on Faculty policy initiative – a comprehensive review of all UNC codes and policies that impact faculty. Working groups of faculties. Rework of faculty workload policy portioned and allocated. Policy on ‘fixed term’ (faculty on tenure track)– the largest category of faculty, post-tenure policies. Encourage high-performing faculty.
- Student mental health top of mind – grant from Governor Eight million dollar roll out to campus for additional training and resources aid in the crisis. Training law enforcement officers on skills and strategies in dealing with student mental health incidents.

Kirk – going through the same non-tenure process, asks to speak with Norma. (Will proceed if Senate approves funding.)

ECSU – Dean Kuldeep Rawat

Dr. Jinchun Yuan, ICP Fellow will start drone work at CSI in the summer.

- Marsh evaluation model Pine Island. Processing data, ending in June.
- November 2022, Large drone (16’x16’) received, working with sensor integration then put to research use. FAA approval in process.
- Two new grants, UNC-Central, NCA&T – NASA funding initiatives mapping and sensing.
- Summer programs

Reide – summer coastal scholar ECSU – Jinchun Yuan– sensor from drones at ocean surface – CSI looking for partnerships including UNCW – UAS institute – PI large NSF award, synergy along coast in using unmanned vessels and drones.

UNC-CH – Dr. Harvey Seim

- Personnel changes
- NASA Joint program – UNC-CH, CSI & WHOI
 - Muglia SWOT – surface monitoring, surface currents expand coverage – ocean topography, sea surface telemetry, special recognition, validation data over Gulf Stream, off Hatteras. Augment RADAR systems off the coast.
 - Malcom – any info online? Seasurface height, NASA is validating data, not yet released

ECU –Provost Robin Coger

- Dr. Paynter– refresh of strategic plan – 2028
- Two NSF projects partners across system
 - Regional – stimulate economic growth
 - First phase, Type 1 Engines
 - Reide & Forbes – prime Ecosystem Technology - lead UNC-W
 - 2nd Engine is a UNC-C lead, Dr. Terek Salam & George Bonner, advancing clean energy tech in Piedmont/triangle – position NC to be a leader

Dr. Eric Wade – Introduction and new research initiatives

- Spring 2022 – University of Oregon - Fisheries Science/ UNC-W – Marine Biology
- Work- leveraging behavioral and institutional insights for coastal and marine sustainability.
- Focus:

- Conservation psychology & anthropology– values, attitudes, norms, identities, beliefs, perceptions
- Review shocks – Political, overfishing, policy change, and natural disasters, impact how people
- Social dimensions
- Formal and informal institutions and how decisions are made.
- 60% international 40% NC
- Renewable energy / how folks think about marine NE and what they know
- Cognitive mapping – how to think about decisions.
- Two State of North Carolina funded-related studies- fisheries management

Questions –

Wally – Evaluate fisheries decision. What stocks are endangered? Eg: yet close down fishing controlled by the Division of Marine Fisheries, allowing upper Roanoke fishing during spawning. Inland water decisions vs. Outer Banks.

Eric - Evaluate – trust individuals of marine fisheries in decisions made. Not looking at specific rules, only at the division as a whole. Also looks at the eco side to understand.

Kirk – how do you engage stakeholders in underrepresented groups? How do you get survey results, and are you looking at native populations – cultural heritage issues? -

- Stakeholder modeling – trusted stakeholder identified,
- Native communities – careful approach to engagement – having community take the lead and how they depend on fishing

Kirk can help connect via APNEP group.

Paul – communities perceive that policies are put on vs. gaining stakeholder buy-in.

Malcolm- Considerations for Ocean Energy, Clean energy and impact on fishing, whales

Eric: Stakeholders collect opinions in summer research – understand what folks understand and pass them to policymakers for their input.

Rolf – Where is your Caribbean work? Answer: Belize, Panama, Barbados,

Reide -Last month, Science on sound, moving from Massachusetts to NC – equipment (Pioneer array) and additional science needed, two long line fisherman asked questions related to instrumentation. He started a conversation with WHOI & local fishermen. Direct connection with local fishermen using CSI as a resource. Making adjustments based on the conversation. – Measures “boundary levels,” which is CO2 levels above the water. Years of data – question how presented to the public? Instrumentation will be moving in 2024 – Ocean Observing network funded through NSF; part of what they do is provide links to the public. A summary of data can be delivered to the public.

Wally - Animation of collected data? NASA has global data from past decades available. NOAA imagery and reels of time change.

Housing Update – Dr. Reide Corbett

RJA Housing Master Plan – process & results

- ECU strategic plan driven by main campus, consider housing options and directions move forward, students, board, history of housing on the coast, direction information needed, number of beds, Undergrad & Grad, postdocs + technicians.

Coastal Studies Institute
850 NC Highway 345, Wanchese, NC 27981
Ph: 252.475.5400 - Fax: 252.475.3545, www.coastalstudiesinstitute.org

- Key findings –
 - Currently have a year lease to extend one more year.
 - Manteo Community Housing has met needs for the past year, and will meet needs the end of the year.
 - Challenged for summer programs, Fall and Spring meeting needs.
 - Backed into a corner, if SAGA backs out, there is nothing to lean on for backup. Maintain a relationship with owner to build a longer-term strategy where we want to go.
- Gathering data – Four scenarios 1) State appropriation, 2) acquiring existing a facility, 3) ECU finance, 4) Public/Private Partnership (P3) agreement. Looking at those, if break even, financial solvent first two scenarios are the best options. Estimated cost 10 million state appropriation. Or acquire will depend on what is available. (nothing currently available). No additional debt, 5-year timeframe break even, or will be able to support self.
- Moving forward, the Challenge is size – (P3 feasible would be 100 beds) unless put up 50% upfront. Pie chart of those occupied over 2022 renting currently through educational partners. Distribution of beds goes beyond ECU. Challenging in how to navigate. If solicit state appropriations, inter-institutional / sister institutions. How to approach ECU vs. other partners. Recognize ECU leads admin, still interinstitutional. Students are doing more than classes, part-time jobs, internships across partners, and part of the Dare County workforce.
- Of the 17 students in Spring 2022, 25% wanted to stay for the summer, only allowed if connected to CSI or partners. (Freshman, sophomore & continuing connection)

Comments:

- Kirk – a good way to keep the connection
- Paul – are we at a point to make a decision? Who has to ask for the money?
- ECU had a priority – Cogger ECU has not decided yet, a future meeting is necessary to have more discussions. It is a vulnerability to stay as is. Cost to move forward. Seems like a legislative decision, but not every institution has a priority list; this is a UNC system resource. We are working the rules and having the conversation. Study important needed data to apply
- Paul - Legacy project with Senator Basnight, memories fade, as new folks come in, step up to resolve housing issue. Other alternative? Long-term plan for SAGA and the building. Do they want a long-term relationship with ECU?
- Cogger – What is long term ?– Paul replies: 10 years
- Reide – unknown, needed approval from ECU BoT to extend approval.
- If extended, need an RFP process to move forward.
- Wally – closing on a large property on RI, not far from Manteo/Community housing. Essential housing/workforce housing. Construction to start asap. Some units may be available. Different rent ranges within the year.
- Malcom – addresses Provost Cogger, - long time issue with CSI (Norma, Mike K, Rolf) in the beginning envisioned/in plan on current campus – critical in Dare county – county commissioners working to fill the need for affordable housing.
- Provost Cogger – Need further assessment and needs financing.
- Malcom – for CSI to grow, need to have
- Norma – grateful that ECU took the study to lay out options (Chancellor), remind that the process that our campus, public entities, subject to state laws and financing.
- Points to consider:
 - Campus do not go directly to legislators for funding requests
 - Precise process within UNC-system to develop our legislative processes that are approved by the board of Governors.
 - Consolidated university by law. If not, we would compete instead of shared priorities.

- Campus' considers capital projects, internal approval processes, public entities subject to state laws.
- If P3, the campus gets authority (Millennial vs. P3) over other financing options, the campus assesses other options if fiscally feasible, subject to state debt laws, internals, trustees – BoG, and state offices.
- Public sector moves at a slower pace due
- Campus do not have flexible reserve funds, not permitted to sit on millions of dollars
- Includes repair and renovations, which must be approved internally, the system office and BoG.
- All funds are preapproved for spending.

Comments:

- Malcolm – initial resistance to dormitories,
- Rolf – summarize CSI board has studied for a long time to solve the issue, the board took the position, timing some transition at ECU, and the chancellor is aware of the Board recommendation. Rolled into ECU priorities, Rolf will meet with the Chancellor in the next few weeks with an update, where in the process. Appreciate your interest and time spent a lot of time resolving the issue.
- Where the housing study is and next steps.
- Critical to resolve to allow CSI Success.
- Rolf will report back

Executive Director's Report – Dr. Reide Corbett

Academic Programing

- Seven grad students at Coastal Community Env Data Scholars understand moving sand/ NE Side of Jockeys Ridge.
- 9 – REU students full summer, research experience (3rd summer)
- A lot of moving parts this summer
- 32 beds on 2nd floor, all full. Sharing rooms

Research Efforts

- K-12 program 1700 students fY23 Moved through building.
- Several large groups, boat programs making new connections with different counties
- 2 student interns
- Renewable Energy Challenge – first year did Ocean Current teams. Tested in a wave tank, the winner from Currituck Middle
- Teacher workshops.
- Summer camps – (10-15 year olds) 4 themes,
 - Partnered with Dare County to hold 4 slots to place students into camps, otherwise would not be able to participate
- Public programs, science on the sound lectures, Open house partnered with OBX Earth Fair, partners 300 people. Displayed diversity of work on campus.
- Lifelong learning programs – Maritime program, maybe Oyster and wine paring in fall. Get people in the building and partner outside of CSI walls
- Jim Morley – fisheries ecologist, sound work, new award focus on invasive blue catfish, sheepshead
- Alyson Roop – Receive Sjostrom scholarship + Ferebee Howard Scholarship in Marine Science
- Samantha Farquhar – DOD SMART award, pays for PhD, US Coastal Reserve, leading stipends for grad students.

NCROEP

- George – DOE recognized as Renewable program -AMEC
- Represented internationally, with other testing centers connections with Peter S, Netherlands, responsibly combining marine and wind energy.
- NCROEP | Ocean Energy Symposium, good attendance.
- Impact outside of NC
- Proposal DOE, opportunities for testing in Gulf Stream, w NC-Central, hope will be awarded, feasibility study putting in AMEC, one task (Dubbs) reach out to understand Marine Energy. Outreach makes sure there is no impact to the environment.
- Outreach: Dominion Energy Conference, Water Power Week
- ETIPP – looking at resilience on coastal communities, Nags Head – solar, Ocracoke – small energy grid, ferries move to hybrid electric ferries, PR – build resilience in remote communities.
- Internships, ECU & NCState, NREL, Navy facility, DOE funds Marine energy side. NSF Engines integrate Marine energy with other initiatives.

Paul – Is CSI involved with beach erosion/nourishment? Reide fields calls and his own studies, geomorphic & life, Rodanthe residences, engaged in conversation, studies done by environmental consultants, volumes of sand, cost, erosion, associated with developing long-term nourishment programs. Involvement from the science side, a resource to county & Park. Long-term effects on going research.

Financial Report – Dr. Reide Corbett

FY '23 Budget Status

- Slight budget cut, managing budget, 10th year, focus on needs across campus, academic affairs provided financial assistance.
 - Needed repairs and reinvestment
 - How to utilize other parts of campus, outdoor classroom, and finished concrete with power.
 - Bring in external dollars and overhead funds
 - Looking at how to best invest, CSI Post Doc fellowship, Pre/post support , Kayak Launch
- Where the Money Comes From – Chart on overview of CSI funding
- FY'23 personnel changes
 - Alex Nolte departs
 - Katy Wilson departs
 - Brandon Pfahlert – Horticulture Specialist – grounds effort
 - Julie Kirn – University Program Associate
 - Ongoing searches
 - Challenges infilling positions
 - Environmental Building Tech
 - Assist Professor – Ecology (physical background) or econ modeling
 - Admin associate
 - Several Tech, postdocs, education staff
 - Summer interns
 - Need for support staff to support faculty growth in awards.

Research Trends

- Update on FY'23
 - Growth in advancement – big year \$50K brought in to priority fund- pirate nation gives

- Notable Awards – building momentum for giving.
 - Olivers – bequest CSI + IRA (goes to CSI 2.5 million) -
 - Malcom says to send a thank you gift from the board
 - Mr. Bob Rippy – company jungle rapids (connection with ECU Business & RI, Stan Riggs brought students at Field Site- Bob met his wife). Donation \$250K
 - Push towards a building scholarship fund to assist students undergrad & grad students (stipends not competitive, need to increase going forward)
 - Scholarships provide additional support for the cost of living in OBX

ECU Foundation – CSI updates – Katy Fader

- Working to promote CSI
- 80% of ECU population receiving financial support (27,000 students)
- A undergrad student borrows \$8000 annually, totally cost per year is \$18K
- ECU Pursue Gold Campaign
 - Goal \$500 million
 - To date \$480.2 million
 - Additional 19.8 left to raise
 - Supports scholarships, programming, research and infrastructure.
 - ICP/CSI goal \$800 goal and raised, 4.3 Million
 - 3 open proposals for CSI – individuals interested in supporting CSI. This can increase if faculty and board members if connect potential donors.
 - Met nine contacts yesterday
 - Suggestions: 1) to meet with N. Nettles (tourism director) – direct mailing – 2) Allison Kelly Fishing tournament, 3) Manns Harbor community foundation
 - Don Peal – custom boat building at CSI?
 - Kitty Hawk Visitors Center – learning more about CSI
 - Michael Jordan had a \$6 million boat built in Wanchese.
 - Ian Connery, 2019 CSI student works for USAF – a research oceanographer.
 - Mayor of Rocky Mount visiting May 12th.
 - Pirate nation gives, March 22, largest day of giving. Big push on participation 11.8 million in support of university priorities.
 - 2323 individual donors, 536 new donors
 - Next year goal – 150 donors
 - New ideas to reach that goal?
 - Kirk – list of UNC univ local alumni in OBX area? – need to market connection beyond ECU.
 - Inter-institutional organization
 - Cut sheet on CSI webpage, to highlight what CSI does, value add.
 - Mitigate the perception that CSI is a threat.
 - Jennette's pier advert to support

Comments:

- Mike Kelly – growth over the past five years. Work with Katy and her contacts, and suggestions in Oct for 2024 to get 150 donors. Think beyond usual suspects. Comments on the growth of giving over the past years.
- Kirk – Oliver contribution, not only from \$, advertising gift, opportunity for others to give.
- Reide – story going out through publication (ECU's *Navigators*) – Olivers wanted to use the gift as momentum for others.

Other New Business

- Kirk – leadership Albemarle/Pamlico group – 1 million annually to support a comprehensive conservation plan. Figure out how to align researchers at CSI can apply for funding through.

- Reide, - challenge to board (before endowment changes) create a board endowment, focus on scholarships for students to be at CSI – raise \$25K. each person 25/18 board members
 - \$1300+ each

Adjourn – 12:26 pm

- Rolf – May 13th, Mark Basnight's birthday, adjourn in memory and honor what he did for CSI.