



August 10, 2011

As a result of the recent discussions regarding partnership opportunities, Central State University (CentralSU) and the Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) are moving forward to build a strong collaboration. CentralSU and NEOMED envision a partnership that will help address the health care workforce needs of Ohio through developing interprofessional health education and research programs, attracting and educating students from diverse backgrounds, and providing an urban primary care educational experience.

In the initial phase of the partnership, CentralSU and NEOMED will work together on institutional and college-specific components of the partnership. This will involve medical, pharmacy and graduate education and research opportunities, as well as fund-raising as outlined below. Both institutions will further develop the CentralSU/NEOMED Partnership Program during 2011-2012

Medical Education

- The NEOMED College of Medicine (COM) will develop a direct entry pipeline for academically qualified students from CentralSU.
 - Effective fall 2012, NEOMED COM will designate up to 5 direct entry seats, if available, for a preferential admissions process determined by NEOMED that will preferentially admit CentralSU students who are qualified and meet the medical school admissions standards as set forth by NEOMED.
 - O The College of Medicine will work with CentralSU, as requested, to ensure CentralSU's pre-med program has the course content and rigor needed to ensure that students will be academically qualified to enter and be competitive for medical school.
 - CentralSU will work with its students to ensure that they are aware of the program and assist them in preparing to apply for the program.
 - O The College of Medicine will explore with CentralSU the possibility of developing curriculum around public health, health disparities, and primary care experiences to introduce and attract students into primary care health careers.
- The College of Medicine will work with Cleveland State University to develop a pipeline pathway for entry of students from CentralSU to Cleveland State University's post-baccalaureate program in collaboration with NEOMED. The post-baccalaureate/MD program will have an urban primary care focus.

Pharmacy Education

- Effective fall 2012, NEOMED College of Pharmacy will provide the opportunity for CentralSU students to have a guaranteed admissions interview process.
- The College of Pharmacy will work with CentralSU on developing a pre-pharmacy program that includes the course content and rigor to ensure that students will be academically qualified to enter and be competitive for pharmacy school.
- The College of Pharmacy will work with CentralSU on a transfer articulation agreement that allows courses at NEOMED to transfer back to CentralSU so that students can complete their baccalaureate degree.

Graduate Education

- The College of Graduate Studies will work with CentralSU to develop opportunities for graduate education.
- The College of Graduate Studies will work with CentralSU to ensure that students are academically qualified and competitive for entry into the MS/PhD in biomedical sciences and in integrated pharmaceutical medicine.
- The College of Graduate Studies will introduce and work to attract CentralSU students to other graduate degree programs such as the Master of Public Health and the Certificate in Bioethics.
- The College of Graduate Studies will partner with CentralSU to support these students through mentoring and other programs while the students matriculated in graduate school.

Research

- NEOMED and CentralSU will determine where synergies exist between the research focus areas
 of both universities.
- NEOMED and CentralSU will explore the possibility of establishing visiting scholar programs, joint seminar series where faculty present research at the other campus, and faculty development programs.
- The institutions agree to develop research opportunities for students such as summer research experiences, internships, and other collaborative research experiences.
- NEOMED and CentralSU will work together to identify opportunities for grants.

Student Support Services

- NEOMED and CentralSU will develop appropriate student support services in the following areas:
 - o Information regarding potential opportunities
 - Academic preparedness programs
 - o Interview preparedness programs
 - o Professional school admissions test preparation
 - o Summer programs

Joint Fundraising

CentralSU and NEOMED agree to engage in joint fundraising for this partnership. CentralSU and NEOMED will raise funds for:

- Education for Service initiative including
 - o Scholarships
 - O Student Pipeline programs (programs to support students through the educational continuum, i.e. "Middle School to Practice")

It is expected that the activities in this initial phase of the partnership will occur during academic years 2011/12, 2012/13, and 2013/14. CentralSU and NEOMED will conduct an assessment of the partnership in September of 2012, 2013, and 2014 to ensure that the partnership is meeting its accreditation, financial, and programmatic goals and milestones. In the event that the partnership is not meeting its goals and milestones, CentralSU or NEOMED will reassess the framework of this phase of the partnership to determine how to move forward in the future.

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