

**BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
CT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (CSCU)  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.  
CONDUCTED IN PERSON AND VIRTUALLY  
LIVESTREAMED ON <https://www.youtube.com/live/COKKqPWITs>**

<b>REGENTS – PARTICIPATING (Y = yes / N = no)</b>	
JoAnn Ryan, Chair	Y
Richard J. Balducci	Y
Ira Bloom	Y
Carla Galaise, Student Regent	Y
Marty Guay	N
Juanita James	N
Sophia Jappinen	Y
James McCarthy	Y
Richard Porth	Y
Luis Sanchez, Student Regent	Y
Ari Santiago	N
Erin Stewart	N
Elease E. Wright	Y
Ted Yang	Y
*Brendan Cunningham, FAC Chair	Y
*Colena Sesanker, FAC Vice Chair	Y
*Dante Bartolomeo, Labor Commissioner	N
*Dr. Manisha Juthani, Public Health Commissioner	N
*Daniel O’Keefe, DECD Commissioner	N
*Charlene Russell-Tucker, Education Commissioner	N
*Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Chief Workforce Officer	Y
<i>*ex-officio, non-voting member</i>	

**CSCU STAFF:**

Terrence Cheng, CSCU Chancellor  
 Jessica Paquette, Vice Chancellor for System Affairs & Chief of Staff  
 Danny Aniello, Special Asst to the Chancellor, Executive Director for System Project Management  
 Dr. Lloyd Blanchard, CSCU Interim Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer  
 Adam Joseph, Vice Chancellor of External Affairs  
 Vita Litvin, Interim General Counsel  
 Dr. Aynsley Diamond, AVP, Academic Affairs  
 Dr. Tamara O’Day Stevens, AVP for Enrollment Management and Student Success  
 Dr. Manohar Singh, Interim President, Western CT State University  
 Ed Klonoski, President, Charter Oak State College  
 Dr. Dwayne Smith, Interim President, Southern CT State University  
 Dr. Zulma Toro, President, Central CT State University  
 Dr. Stephen Hegedus, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, WCSU  
 Pam Heleen, Secretary of the Board of Regents (recorder)  
 Kaylah Davis, Executive Assistant, Academic Affairs

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. Following roll call, a quorum was declared. It was also noted that one letter was received and was shared with the Board in advance of the meeting.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Ryan called for a motion to adopt the meeting agenda; on a motion by Regent Porth, seconded by Regent McCarthy, the Agenda was unanimously adopted.

**3. CHAIR RYAN'S REMARKS**

- Chair Ryan welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- She stated that the Board started a tradition a few years ago to focus the last Board meeting of the academic year on celebrations and success – of our students, faculty and staff. No public comment was invited at this meeting.
- Chair Ryan congratulated the BOR's Student Regents, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Student Advisory Committee, Carla Galaise and Luis Sanchez on a very successful academic year and for representing the Board of Regents at commencements ceremonies on their campuses. All of the Regents appreciate the value of students participating in the governance of the institution and are thankful that they have continued to lend their voices to the issues facing our students. A special congratulations to Carla Galaise on her graduation from CT State Northwestern; she is transferring to Stanford University in California. Through her dedication, hard work, and unrelenting pursuit of her dreams to create a better life for herself and her son, she has been accepted as a transfer student at Stanford and is the recipient of a Jack Kent Cook Foundation Transfer scholarship. She has been selected as 1 of 60 students nationwide to receive this prestigious award which provides funding of up to \$55,000 per year for two to three years.
- She congratulated Regents Marty Guay and Ted Yang as the Connecticut General Assembly has confirmed their gubernatorial nominations as CSCU Regents. Regent Rich Balducci was congratulated on his re-appointment by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Speaker of the House.
- Chair Ryan noted that this will be President Elsa Nunez's last Board of Regents meeting as she prepares for her retirement from Eastern Connecticut State University. Chair Ryan extended the Board's heartfelt congratulations on her well-deserved retirement.
- On behalf of the Board of Regents, Chair Ryan offered congratulations to the students who are graduating this month, especially noting their outstanding dedication to their academics and wishing them well on their next adventure.

**4. CHANCELLOR CHENG'S REMARKS**

Chancellor Cheng made the following remarks:

- The Chancellor noted that graduation season is underway, and the legislative session has ended. He recognized CSCU's faculty for their scholarship, teaching, service and other accomplishments and CSCU's dedicated staff and administrators who put in countless hours to serve students and their campuses and institutions at the highest level. He thanked everyone from across CSCU for their extraordinary work.
- He congratulated the CSCU students who are graduating, and those who have successfully completed another semester or another academic year. CSCU's graduates are going on to new jobs, or promotions, or maybe on to more education. The Chancellor noted that nothing makes a greater impact on social mobility and increases familial and generational wealth like higher education.
- The Chancellor thanked the legislature and the Governor's office. He noted that we have had many conversations with state leaders on the importance of investing in CSCU and Vice

Chancellor Adam Joseph, Chelsea Noonan, and Amanda Bellagamba did an incredible job of advocating for CSCU. Sam Norton and Terri Raimondi worked hard on the communications side to get the message out across the entire state. He added that whole team did research and analysis, put together proposals and presentations, and answered questions 24/7. It was the collective effort of students, faculty, staff, and presidents who made their voices heard at the State Capitol and beyond. Because of CSCU's collective efforts, the General Assembly passed a bill that will increase American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) system by \$80 million for FY25. This funding will help support the high-quality, affordable, and accessible education provided to 85,000 students across Connecticut. This one-time funding helps address CSCU's budget shortfall, as well as the recently passed SEBAC wage reopener and the expansion of Connecticut's free-tuition program.

The Chancellor provided the following context. Less than a year ago in June 2023, when the last budget bill was passed, CSCU faced a massive deficit—\$26M in FY24, and \$140M for FY25. The situation was dire. Thanks to CSCU presidents and campus leaders, dedicated faculty and staff, and students, the FY24 budget gap was closed, and we've aggressively worked to address the FY25 deficit. The Chancellor noted his gratitude for the understanding and support of the legislature and the Governor, demonstrated by this one-time funding. It positions CSCU to have a more elevated, sophisticated conversation about CSCU as part of Connecticut's long-term growth strategy, including CSCU's impact and strength. Planning has begun for next legislative session's conversations.

- The Chancellor thanked President Elsa Nunez who is retiring on June 1. She has served Eastern Connecticut State University for 18 years. He noted that when she took the helm of this institution, it was not in the best place. But through hard work, dedication, and perseverance, she built a team around her that helped to steer, shape, and mold Eastern into the shining star that it is today. He added that she is thoughtful, wise, experienced, and practical; beyond all else, she is committed to her students; to her faculty and staff; and to her institution. The Chancellor thanked her for her selflessness, her honesty and transparency, and for being a leader with integrity who thinks only of how she can help others.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

– **March 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Regent Balducci and seconded by Regent Yang, the March 21, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

– **April 9, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Regent Balducci and seconded by Regent Bloom, the April 9, 2024 Special Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

– **April 24, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Regent Balducci and seconded by Regent Bloom, the April 24, 2024 Special Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Regent Balducci, seconded by Regent Wright, the Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted.

**RESOLUTIONS APPROVED ON CONSENT**

**a. Academic Programs – Discontinuations**

- i. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science American Sign Language program at Charter Oak State College effective May 2024.
- ii. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the Associate of Arts in General Studies program (OHE# 01805 and CIP Code 24010) and the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies program (OHE# 01805 and CIP Code 240101) at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026.
- iii. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts program in General Studies (OHE# 01805 and CIP Code 240101) for the following concentrations at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:
  - General Studies – American Studies Concentration
  - General Studies – Communication Concentration
  - General Studies – Computer Science Studies Concentration
  - General Studies – English Concentration
  - General Studies – Foreign Language Concentration
  - General Studies – Health Studies Concentration
  - General Studies – History Concentration
  - General Studies – Information Systems Studies Concentration
  - General Studies – Paralegal Studies Concentration
  - General Studies – Political Science Concentration
  - General Studies – Public Administration Concentration
- iv. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate certificates at Charter Oak State College effective August 2025.
  - Connecticut Director Credential (Initial)      CIP Code: 190708    OHE#: 17057
  - Connecticut Director Credential (Master)      CIP Code: 190708    OHE#: 18077
  - Connecticut Director Credential (Standard)    CIP Code: 190708    OHE#: 18075
- v. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate certificates at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:
  - Cyber Security Investigation                      CIP Code: 430404    OHE#: 18916
  - Security Strategies Application                    CIP Code: 430404    OHE#: 18915
  - Technical Security Administration                CIP Code: 430404    OHE#: 18917
  - Paralegal    CIP Code: 220302    OHE#: 15444
  - Victim Advocacy                                      CIP Code: 430199    OHE#: 19445
- vi. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate certificate at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:
  - Cyber Security Fundamentals                      CIP Code: 430404    OHE#: 18914

- vii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate certificates at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:  
Long Term Care Certificate for Direct Care Workers CIP Code: 513902 OHE#:017209  
Long Term Care Certificate for Direct Care Workers-Specialty Skills in Elder Care  
CIP Code: 513902 OHE#: 17210
- viii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate certificates at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:  
Public Safety Administration Level 1 CIP Code: 430103 OHE#: 15455  
Public Safety Administration Level 2 CIP Code: 430103 OHE#: 15446
- ix. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following graduate certificates at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:  
Leadership CIP Code: 520213 OHE#: 19529  
Organizational Development CIP Code: 520213 OHE#: 19531
- x. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following graduate certificate at Charter Oak State College effective Spring 2026:  
Nonprofit Leadership CIP Code: 520213 OHE#: 19530
- xi. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of a two program concentrations (CIP Code: 520201 and OHE#17955) at Charter Oak State College:  
Business Administration: Human Resources - Bachelor of Science  
Business Administration: Organizational Management – Bachelor of Science
- xii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the A.S. Program and Certificate in New Media Production: Web Design & Development at CT State Community College effective May 2025.
- xiii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the following undergraduate programs at Eastern Connecticut State University effective Spring 2027:  
Bachelor of Science – Communications CIP Code 090100 OHE# 02389  
Bachelor of Arts – New Media Studies CIP Code 090702 OHE# 17672
- xiv. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the discontinuation of the Labor Relations and Human Resources Management program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree at Eastern Connecticut State University effective Spring 2027.

**b. Academic Programs – Modifications**

- i. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of a program – BA in Computer Science, specifically a Name Change at Central Connecticut State University.
- ii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of a program – BS in Business Administration (CIP Code: 520201/ OHE# 17955), specifically a significant modification of courses/course substitutions at Charter Oak State College.
- iii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of two programs, specifically a significant modification of courses/course substitutions at Charter Oak State College.  
BS in Organizational Leadership CIP Code: 520213/ OHE# 19937  
BS in Human Resource Management CIP Code: 521005/ OHE# 19936

- iv. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of a program – BA in English (CIP Code: 23.0101/ OHE# 1392), specifically a significant modification of courses/course substitutions at Eastern Connecticut State University.
- v. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modifications of a program – BA in Theatre (CIP Code: 500501/ OHE# 14890) at Eastern Connecticut State University, specifically:
  - Modification to the CIP Code
  - Program name change
  - A significant modification of courses/course substitutions.
- vi. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of two programs, specifically a modification of program delivery method at Southern Connecticut State University:  
Applied Behavior Analysis – Masters of Science CIP Code: 42.2814/ OHE# 20032
- vii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of a program – Applied Behavior Analysis – Sixth Year Certificate (CIP Code: 42.2814/ OHE# 16944), specifically a modification of program delivery method at Southern Connecticut State University.
- viii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the modification of a program – MS in Music (CIP Code: 13.1312/ OHE# 183), specifically a significant modification of courses/course substitutions, a change in modality, and a change in degree title at Western Connecticut State University.

**c. Academic Programs – Reinstatement**

- i. WHEREAS: The Board of Regents suspended the Speech and Language Pathology Assistant (SPLA) Studies Certificate at Charter Oak State College in October, 2022 (BR 22-90) as a result of a cancelled agreement between Charter Oak State College and Capital Region Educational Council (CREC); and  
WHEREAS: The Speech and Language Pathology Assistant Studies Certificate has been redesigned to include courses written and owned by Charter Oak State College and to include the appropriate advisement and support structures for students; and  
WHEREAS: The Speech and Language Pathology certification area remains one where there are shortages and SPLAs help to service the needs of students in Connecticut schools; and now therefore be it  
RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the reinstatement of the Speech and Language Pathology Assistant Studies Certificate (CIP Code: 510816, OHE# 16819) at Charter Oak State College effective May 23, 2024.

**d. Academic Programs – New Programs**

- i. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of a program in Social Work (CIP Code: 440799, OHE# TBD) leading to a Master of Arts at Central Connecticut State University; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- ii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of Plastic Injection Molding Technology program leading to an Associate of Science degree (CIP Code: 15.0607, OHE# TBD) at Connecticut State Community College; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.

- iii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of Plastic Injection Molding Technology program leading to a Certificate 3 (CIP Code: 15.0607, OHE# TBD) at Connecticut State Community College; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- iv. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of Professional Writing certificate (CIP Code: 23.1303, OHE# TBD) at Connecticut State Community College; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- v. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of a program in Coastal Resilience (CIP Code: 030103, OHE# 19158) leading to a Master of Science at Southern Connecticut State University; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- vi. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of a program in Business Administration (CIP Code: 52.0201, OHE# TBD) leading to a Doctor of Business at Southern Connecticut State University; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- vii. RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the licensure of an Artificial Intelligence Program (CIP Code: 11.0102, OHE# TBD) leading to a Master's of Science at Western Connecticut State University; and grant its accreditation for a period of seven semesters beginning with its initiation, such initiation to be determined in compliance with BOR guidelines for new programs approved on or after April 3, 2020.
- e. **Board of Regents Faculty Awards**  
RESOLVED that the Board of Regents for Higher Education accepts the campus-based nominations for the Teaching Awards (CSU), Teaching Awards (CCC), Research Awards and the Scholarly Excellence Awards as the respective recipients of those awards for the 2023 - 2024 academic year, and  
RESOLVED that the Board of Regents for Higher Education accepts the recommendations of the respective selection committees for the Teaching Award (CSU), Teaching Award (CCC), Research Award, Scholarly Excellence Award and the Adjunct Faculty Teaching Awards as the respective recipients of the System Awards for the 2023 - 2024 academic year.
- f. **CSU Promotions and Tenure**  
RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the 2024 promotions and tenures recommended by the Presidents of the Connecticut State Universities.
- g. **Faculty Research Grants**  
RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the funding recommendations of the CSU-AAUP Faculty Research Grants' Selection Committee for the 2024 - 2025 program year.
- h. **CSCU Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-CT Academic Team**  
WHEREAS, it is central to the mission of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) to engage students in educational experiences that prepare them to continue their academic pursuits and begin careers, well-prepared to meet the evolving demands of the state's workforce; and  
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents for Higher Education embraces an unwavering commitment to

academic excellence, leadership, and career development; and  
WHEREAS, the All-Connecticut Academic Team is one of the All-USA Community College qualifying teams sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges and academic programs; and  
WHEREAS, each student selected for the All-Connecticut Academic Team is earning an associate degree, maintains a 3.5 GPA or higher and is involved in campus activities; and  
WHEREAS, the 2023 – 2024 All-CT Academic Team includes 25 outstanding CSCU Community College students:

CT State Asnuntuck	Kai Saucier-Drygren
CT State Capital	Yazmine Goodlett
CT State Capital	Brittany Janzer
CT State Gateway	Sophia Acevedo
CT State Gateway	Ajarano Smith-Bowe
CT State Housatonic	Maria Garcia
CT State Housatonic	Victoria Randolph
CT State Manchester	Ashley Birdsong
CT State Manchester	Karen Celine Luci
CT State Manchester	Maxat Yerkeshev
CT State Middlesex	Meghan Serpis
CT State Middlesex	Katherine Tocto Quituisaca
CT State Naugatuck Valley	Victoria Cruz
CT State Naugatuck Valley	Stephanie Girard
CT State Naugatuck Valley	Kathylee Perez
CT State Northwestern	Jamison Appell
CT State Northwestern	Carla Galaise
CT State Norwalk	Nanette Addow
CT State Norwalk	Gabrielle Hauck
CT State Quinebaug Valley	Julia Revellese
CT State Three Rivers	Patricia Monique Avisan
CT State Three Rivers	Max Richardson
CT State Three Rivers	Leah Thomas
CT State Tunxis	Jake Haynes
CT State Tunxis	Amelia Kearney

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents recognizes Kathylee Perez as a Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholars, Amelia Kearney as a Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar, and Max Richardson as a Coca-Cola Academic Team Bronze Scholar; and

WHEREAS, Professors Todd Bryda devoted his time and expertise in preparing the students for selection; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Board of Regents for Higher Education hereby recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of the students of the 2023 – 2024 All-CT Academic Team and advisors.

**j. Henry Barnard Award Recipients**

WHEREAS, it is central to the mission of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) to engage students in educational experiences that prepare them to continue their academic pursuits and begin careers, well-prepared to meet the evolving demands of the state’s workforce; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents for Higher Education embraces an unwavering commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and career development; and



WHEREAS, the Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award Recipients are chosen by their respective Connecticut State University and presented with the award and a \$500 scholarship by the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Foundation; and  
WHEREAS, each student has maintained a 3.7 grade-point average and has a record of substantial voluntary service to their universities and communities; and  
WHEREAS, twelve students representing the Connecticut State Universities have received a 2024 Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award:

Central Connecticut State University

Haneen Alkabasi  
Shealin Callahan  
Isabella Galdamez  
Emily Palmieri

Eastern Connecticut State University

Billi Gray Kozak  
Kathryn Kubisek

Southern Connecticut State University

Kyle Mashia-Thaxton  
Jen Evelyn Ng  
Emily Rowland  
Nadesha Shakes

Western Connecticut State University

Ezaan Khan  
Desiree Velez

BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Board of Regents for Higher Education hereby recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of the student recipients of the 2024 Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award.

**k. CCSU – Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism & Mass Communication**

WHEREAS, Central Connecticut State University is seeking to fill the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism & Mass Communication, and

WHEREAS, This endowed chair is to be filled by a person with a distinguished record of recognition in the fields of journalism and mass communication, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Aimee Crawford has decades of experience as an editor, journalist and writer. Her distinguished career as an editor began at The Sporting News, then continued at CNN/Sports Illustrated, Major League Baseball Advanced Media, Sports Illustrated, and ESPN, where she was Senior Editor for ESPN The Magazine and ESPN.com. She currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Journalism at Springfield College. Ms. Crawford was Senior Editor for an ESPN team that won the 2018 George Foster Peabody Award for "Spartan Silence: Crisis at Michigan State." Ms. Crawford's professional experiences will inspire Central students planning careers in journalism and mass communication, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Crawford received her bachelor's degree with Honors in Journalism and French from Oklahoma State University. She also received a Certificate in French Language and Literature from the University of Paris Sorbonne. She holds a master's degree in Journalism and Magazine Publishing from Northwestern University; and

WHEREAS, The President of Central Connecticut State University, Dr. Zulma Toro, has endorsed the recommendation to appoint Aimee Crawford to this position, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents for Higher Education of the Connecticut State Colleges

and Universities System designates Aimee Crawford to fill the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism & Mass Communication at Central Connecticut State University at the rank of Associate Professor for a period of one-year, renewable yearly at CCSU's discretion.

**7. FACULTY AWARD RECOGNITION**

Regent Bloom and Dr. Diamond recognized the 2023 – 2024 Faculty Award recipients. The awards were given to faculty who distinguished themselves as outstanding teachers, promoting instructional improvements and innovation or who are doing exceptional research, scholarly, and/or creative work that informs what they do in the classroom. Regent Bloom noted that the caliber of teaching and research award winners throughout the CSCU system is inspiring. Details of the presentation are included in Attachment B.

**8. ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Committee Chair Bloom**

Committee Chair Bloom reported that the Academic & Student Affairs Committee met on April 5th and May 10th. He thank the Board for their approval of the Consent Agenda as the academic items represent two months of work by the provosts and faculty at the institutions, especially the Charter Oak Academic Council which typically meets only three times per year and accounts for more than a third of the Consent Agenda. He made special note of the following:

- The new Master's program in Social Work at Central Connecticut State University meets the needs of both students and the State of Connecticut. Currently, CCSU offers only a BS in Social Work, requiring many of our graduates to seek an MSW program elsewhere. A market analysis completed by Hanover Research supports the creation of a MSW program at CCSU. In addition, the Health Horizons grant, which is designed to increase the number of nurses and MSWs in the State supports the creation of this new program which has an emphasis on trauma and clinical work. CCSU is a recipient of funds (particularly to support student scholarships), for both the nursing program and the development of an MSW program.
- The development of CT State's Plastic Injection Molding Technology programs has been a collaborative effort with industry partners to develop curriculum content that directly aligns with the latest industry trends and demands. The program has received machine sponsorships to support the technical programs so students will graduate with immediate employable skills. Currently, there are no for-credit Plastic Injection Molding programs in the state of CT. The market for plastic injection molding continues to grow due to increased spending, faster technological progress, the development of on-demand injection molding, and shorter supply chains. The Plastic Injection Molding Technology A.S. degree program and Certificate introduce various molding techniques and introduce students to the concepts and specifications of injection molding. OSHA10 Certification and Lean Certification are embedded within the program; students obtain certification in those areas.
- Southern Connecticut State University's new Doctorate in Business Administration incorporates aspects of fields like data analytics, technology management, and resiliency into their curriculum to prepare graduates for a rapidly changing business landscape. EMSI research estimated that the need for individuals with a doctoral degree is projected to grow by 8% between 2019 and 2024. Top hiring companies for such doctoral-level candidates include companies like Intel (hiring 191 doctoral qualified employees), AstraZeneca (hiring 170) and E&Y (hiring 158) between 2019 - 2020. The inaugural cohort, consisting of approximately 12 students, will primarily be comprised of international students, with a particular focus on recruitment from countries like China and India, aligning with the initial emphasis on international outreach. The program is appealing to international students as it offers them the opportunity to earn a prestigious DBA degree in the United States.

- And at Western, the new The Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence provides students with a broad and deep knowledge of both practical and theoretical aspects of this discipline. Many of the most prestigious institutions in the field of computer science now offer MS degrees in artificial intelligence, including Carnegie-Mellon University, Cornell University, Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Southern California. Western’s MS in Artificial Intelligence aligns with these program trends in the number and type of prerequisite courses, the number of required credit hours and courses, and content. In addition, MS in Artificial Intelligence will be attractive to international students because it is a US Department of Homeland Security-designated Degree Program. Western’s MS in AI will also strengthen undergraduate STEM enrollments at the university.
- At the June 27th full board meeting, the General Education Transfer Credit Alignment Policy will be presented. This policy seeks to support and protect student success by ensuring the transfer of general education credits from CT State to the four-year CSCU institutions. This policy has been extensively vetted by the faculty, utilizes best practice models, and has undergone a review process which culminated in amendments being made using feedback received from each campus. It was introduced to the Academic & Student Affairs Committee on May 10th and will be presented for a vote at the June 7th ASA meeting, prior to being considered by the full board at our June 27th meeting.

**9. AUDIT COMMITTEE - Committee Chair Wright**

No report.

**10. FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE – Committee Chair Balducci**

No report

**11. HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Committee Chair Sophia**

**Jappinen**

No report.

**12. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Committee Chair Yang**

No report.

**13. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Chair Ryan**

No report.

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None Needed**

**15. SPECIAL RECOGNITION – Chair Ryan & Chancellor Cheng**

Chair Ryan requested a moment of personal privilege to recognize the remarkable contributions of Eastern Connecticut State University’s President Elsa Nunez who begins her retirement at the end of the month. She asked the Secretary of the Board to read into the record the Board’s resolution as her motion to approve.

Secretary of the Board, Pam Heleen, read the following resolution into the record:

THE CONNECTICUT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
EXTENDS ITS DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO  
PRESIDENT ELSA M. NÚÑEZ  
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, President Elsa M. Núñez has served as the esteemed president of Eastern Connecticut State University (“ECSU”) with unwavering dedication, visionary leadership, and a profound commitment to academic excellence, beginning her appointment on August 17, 2006; and

WHEREAS, For the last 18 years, President Núñez has championed innovation, inclusivity, and academic excellence, leading ECSU with a commitment to accessible, affordable, and equitable education; prioritizing student retention and graduation; enhancing the liberal arts core curriculum; and ensuring alignment with Connecticut’s goal of an educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, President Núñez championed equity in education by establishing robust academic support systems for at-risk students, such as the successful Dual College Initiative, as well as a partnership with TheDream.US to support undocumented students who do not have access to higher education opportunities; and

WHEREAS, President Núñez prioritized sustainability, leading ECSU to national recognition as a “Green College” and advocating for climate action and sustainability both on and off campus; and

WHEREAS, President Núñez has played a pivotal role in integrating ECSU into the local community of Willimantic, establishing strong connections and fostering a sense of belonging among residents and students; and be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents for Higher Education fully supports Chancellor Cheng’s conferral upon Elsa Núñez the title of President Emeritus, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, in recognition of her distinguished service and lasting contributions to ECSU and Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents for Higher Education does hereby express its deepest gratitude and highest commendation to President Elsa M. Núñez for her outstanding service, tireless dedication, and transformative leadership and extends its sincere, heartfelt wishes to her as she continues her work in retirement at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

*Following the Chair’s motion, the resolution was seconded by Regent Wright and approved unanimously.*

Prior to adjournment, Regent Porth thanked Vice Chair McCarthy and ASA Committee Chair Bloom for their request for more research into enrollment projections. The report that was received within the last month indicates that while enrollment is still a challenge, CSCU is making projections in a careful way. This is important work as it guides other decisions (i.e., setting tuition and fees). He looks forward to continued discussions, including topics like retention and persistence. Committee Chair Bloom confirmed that this is the next step in required reporting to the Board.

## **16. ADJOURNMENT**

*Regent Porth made a motion to adjourn the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m. The motion was seconded by Regent McCarthy and unanimously carried.*

Submitted,

Pamela Heleen  
Secretary of the CT Board of Regents for Higher Education

I note this month that the lists of tenure and promotion of faculty are being approved and graduation ceremonies are being held for students; a significant moment for the faculty and students that we all celebrate. I wish that the same could be said for the faculty who are retiring, though much more can and will be said.

The CSCU system is, to put it bluntly, in continuing difficulty – I hesitate to use the word crisis as that is a technical term - , despite the recent and welcome injection of an additional \$80 million of one time ARPA funding, for which the CSCU leadership, Faculty Advisory Committee, and union leadership, despite my criticisms of them, deserve full praise.. But we all know that the structural deficits at two of the six CSCU institutions – CTState and Western, will not go away so readily.

Nor will the lack of collegiality and civility in interpersonal relations. This was evidenced in the recent dismissal of the CSCU Provost who in my opinion was making considerable progress to improving system/faculty relations. It is evidenced by union leaders' continued denunciations of members of the Board and in particular the ex-ex-officio member who wrote this, now derided as leader of an anti-union cabal, a convenient if false claim intended to silence anyone critical of how the union leadership handled the retirement initiative.

“Systemness” will not solve the problem, as it is just another ill-defined term for over-centralization and a command and control approach by CSCU leadership; nor will a redefinition of union goals to focus on power to the detriment of groups of its own members – retirees come to mind. Both approaches, mirror images of each other, neglect basic components of problem solving. Conflict will not disappear, but it can be handled in ways that facilitate resolution rather than escalation.

These include items which should be common sense but often in the heat of conflict are forgotten: *listen and learn*, even with those with whom we disagree, and perhaps especially with them, *communicate and consult* with all parties involved, instead of making decisions based on the closed door thinking of small groups, *review and revise* decisions made in the light of new information and changed circumstances, be *realistic and reasonable* in making demands, and my two favorites: *seek truth from facts* and *speak truth to power*.

I have appropriated all of these items from other sources and claim no originality except perhaps in synthesis and application. I admit that all of us, including those I have criticized above, agree on the principle of protecting and promoting public higher education in our state. But though necessary that is not sufficient. A strategy involving a recognition of both the scope and the limits of power, and correlatively, the respect for all parties despite disagreement and disputes is needed as well. And that is just the beginning.

More could be said, and I am available to discuss with anyone interested. In the meantime, I am working on several dossiers I consider as pertinent and with which I have been involved: the first on lessons learned in the process leading to the vaccine mandate, as we may face another pandemic in the future; the second on a system of system approach to governance, focused on cooperation and coordination, not command and control; and a third on the recent retirement initiative which has been a failure for all concerned. The dossier on the retirement initiative is now complete and available on request.

# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## 2023-24 Board of Regents Faculty Awards

**Recognizing Excellence in Teaching and Research**

# Board of Regents

## Board of Regent Faculty Awards

- Campus-based awards may be presented to faculty from each of the 4 universities, Charter Oak, and CT State Community College.
- Based on campus-wide awards, six system-wide awards are presented.
- Teaching Awards
- Research Awards (universities only)
- Scholarly Excellence (CT State only)
- Adjunct Faculty Teaching Awards

# Board of Regents

## Board of Regents Faculty Awards Selection Committee Members

Dr. Charles Baraw, SCSU	Dr. Todd Barry, CT State Three Rivers	Mr. Robert Brown, CT State Asnuntuck
Dr. Neeta Connally, WCSU	Dr. Kelli Custer, WCSU	Mr. Joshua Hummel, CT State Capital
Mrs. Sarah Leone, CT State Middlesex	Ms. Sabrina Marques, WCSU	Ms. Yumi McCarthy, Ct State Norwalk
Ms. Jean Robinson, WCSU	Ms. Sarah Roe, SCSU	Mr. Rahul Singhal, CCSU
Ms. Shelly Stoehr-McCarthy, SCSU	Mr. Richard Zipoli, SCSU	



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## Campus-Based Board of Regents Teaching Awards for the Connecticut State Universities

**Dr. Manuel Otero**

Assistant Professor of English  
Eastern Connecticut State University

**Dr. Zara Waldman DeLuca**

Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders  
Southern Connecticut State University

**Dr. Eileen Campbell**

Associate Professor of Nursing  
Western Connecticut State University

# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## System-wide Board of Regents Teaching Awards for the Connecticut State Universities

***Dr. Zara Waldman DeLuca***

*Assistant Professor*

*Communication Disorders*

*Southern Connecticut State University*



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## Campus-Based Board of Regents Teaching Awards for the CT State Community College

**Mr. Peter Bonadies**  
Assistant Professor  
Arts and Humanities  
CT State - Gateway

**Mrs. Elaine Ippolito**  
Assistant Professor  
HIM – Health Careers  
CT State - Middlesex

# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## System-wide Board of Regents Teaching Awards for CT State Community College



***Mr. Peter Bonadies**  
Assistant Professor  
Arts & Humanities  
CT State - Gateway*

# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## Campus-Based Board of Regents Research Awards for the Connecticut State Universities

**Dr. John Protzko**

Assistant Professor

Psychological Science

Central Connecticut State University

**Dr. Kwangwon Lee**

Assistant Professor

Education

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Dr. Anuli Njoku**

Associate Professor

Public Health

Southern Connecticut State University

# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## System-wide Board of Regents Research Awards for the Connecticut State Universities

***Dr. Kwangwon Lee***

*Assistant Professor*

*Education*

*Eastern Connecticut State University*



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## Campus-Based and System-wide Board of Regents Scholarly Excellence Awards for the CT State Community College

**Dr. Rachel Jasiczek**  
Associate Professor  
English  
CT State - Norwalk



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## Board of Regents Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award Nominees

<b>Dr. David Ballena</b> <b>Music</b> Eastern Connecticut State University	<b>Ms. Maria Belval</b> <b>Human Services</b> CT State – Three Rivers
<b>Ms. Wendy Bradley</b> <b>Psychology</b> CT State – Quinebaug Valley	<b>Mr. Cesar Llontop</b> <b>Mathematics</b> CT State - Middlesex
<b>Dr. Jeanette Moore</b> <b>Education &amp; Educational Psychology</b> Western Connecticut State University	



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

## System-wide Board of Regents Adjunct Faculty Teaching Awards

***Wendy Bradley***

*CT State Quinebaug*

*Valley*

*(no photo available)*

***Dr. David Ballena***

*ECSU*



# **CSCU** Board of Regents

Congratulations to all the  
Recipients of the 2023-24  
Board of Regents  
Faculty Awards!!