The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Committee Chair Ira Bloom.

1. **Call to Order: Declare Quorum**

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   a. **April 10, 2024**
   
   Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the April 10th, 2024, minutes. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. **Western Connecticut State University – Dr. Stephen Hegedus, Interim Provost**
   a. **Academic Updates**
   
   Provost Stephen Hegedus provided an academic update. WCSU recently received and celebrated earning Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) designation from the US Department of Education, which provides the opportunity to expand opportunities for academic programming and funding. WCSU’s recent NECHE review summary has been provided to the Regents. The NECHE board stated that WCSU is achieving its mission and follows standards for accreditation. They noted three items to address to ensure the standards are met in the future; these are organization and governance, institutional resources, and educational effectiveness. Planning will occur over the summer to operationalize this framework and administration will work with colleagues to collaborate on goal setting, plans, and regular review. They are focused on a comprehensive retention plan, stabilizing enrollment, smooth transfer pathways, furthering their team advising model, and articulating pathways for regional high schools. Chancellor Cheng and Regent McCarthy were involved in the NECHE meeting, in which Provost Hegedus highlighted three key areas – their strategic plan is in final draft form and wrapping up this month; they are developing a comprehensive institutional effectiveness framework with stakeholder input and are working on curriculum development, and recruitment of international students and flexible graduate programs, such as 4+1. WCSU’s commencement is on Sunday.
Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if the next NECHE engagement is scheduled for 2025. Provost Hegedus confirmed that it is, and WCSU will submit response on progress at the end of next summer.

Regent James McCarthy thanked Dr. Hegedus for the report and was pleased about the planning for critical issues, for the work done and the steps being taken to move forward.

Regent Richard Porth inquired about how the report and visit was received by the WCSU community. Provost Hegedus advised the campus is aware, and that he will regularly be attending their Senate meetings to provide updates.

b. Modification – Music – MS to MM

Provost Hegedus, Dean Brian Vernon, and Dr. Laurel Larson presented. Western CT State University requested approval for the modification of the Master in Science in Music program. This is a program reconfiguration, and the transition will be appealing to performing musicians and music educators. This was a deliberative three-year process to reimagine the MS to MM. The Master of Music is a coveted degree and blends specializations. Music educators are required to complete a masters degree within 5 years of earning their bachelors degree. This program was designed with equity and enrollment in mind, as it accommodates the teaching schedules of current music educators by being offered 75% online. The in-person courses are intensive summer sessions, and other practical pedagogical classes also happen during summer. All music programs are accredited by NASM.

Regent James McCarthy added that he is impressed with the 75% online and 25% on ground model, as it keeps student needs in mind.

Regent Richard Porth seconded Regent McCarthy’s comment and added hopes that this may serve as a model across the system.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom confirmed that the program is consistent with budget mitigation plans. Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the modification. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the modification was approved unanimously.

4. Southern Connecticut State University – Dr. Robert Prezant, Provost

a. Academic Updates

Dr. Trudy Milburn, AVP of Academic Affairs provided an academic update. SCSU’s MBA Program Director and Professor of Finance, Dr. Benjamin Abugri was appointed as a faculty innovation fellow for the BHEF inaugural program. Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Outreach, Colleen Bielitz participated in a coffee talk discussion at the Connecticut Science Center, discussing details on the ‘blue economy’.

b. New Programs

i. Coastal Resilience – MS

Dr. Trudy Milburn and Dr. Miriah Kelly presented. Southern CT State University requested approval of a new Master of Science program in Coastal Resilience. SCSU will be the first university in the region to offer this program. They will address the need for research regarding climate change and the ‘blue economy’. This was previously approved about three years ago. More recently, they decided to revive the program and offer this in lieu of the current environmental studies program.

Regent James McCarthy added that this program is needed to meet the demands of the state. Regent Richard Porth agreed with the timeliness and need for the program. Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired about its second iteration. It was confirmed that this current cohort of faculty are poised to attract in-state and out of state talent.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the new program. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the new program was approved unanimously.

ii. Doctorate in Business Administration

Dr. Trudy Milburn, Dr. Jess Boronico, and Dr. Lynn Kwak presented. Southern CT State University requested approval of a new Doctorate in Business Administration program. Following the opening of the new business building and successful AABSC accreditation, the
DBA program was designed to enhance SCSU’s reputation by providing valuable regional and global business competencies. This program has been under development for 18 months and has used internal and external input to address prevailing needs, moves beyond sustainability, and moves forward to resiliency. This program addresses a gap by offering a degree at the highest level. There are opportunities to recruit globally and includes a list of over 20 schools that have interest in the program’s student and cohort capacity. It is a 39-credit program, with additional 12 credits available to students who may not have requisite skills. The program will uncover opportunities for global collaboration and attract high caliber faculty.

Regent Richard Porth advised that there appears to be a demand, and inquired on the type of work that graduates with this degree will do. Dean Boronico advised that students in this program will have career opportunities throughout corporations, including leadership in executive branches.

Regent Richard Porth inquired if they expect interest from those students that are mid-career. Dean Boronico advised that this is a mid-career type of program and is suited for students that have careers and master’s degrees and are looking to move up in their field.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom commented that the program is a DBA, not a PhD. Dean Boronico confirmed that this DBA program is project based, as opposed to thesis.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired on the program’s enrollment projections. Dean Boronico advised that they anticipate projections will be met, and have a goal to exceed projections, adding that no new faculty are required, and any faculty costs will be at the adjunct level.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired on how potential employers of DBA graduates will view the degree. Dean Boronico advised that they have spoken with numerous executives to understand how this program would serve needs of the workforce, as well as student needs nationally and globally, adding that industry executives have expressed the need for this type of degree program.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if this will be reviewed by AASCB. Dean Boronico confirmed that the program has been created using AASCSB standards and has already been vetted by a team of accreditors.

Regent Richard Porth inquired if it is possible for a mid-career applicant to take one part of the curriculum and earn a certificate. Dean Boronico advised that to engage students that do not wish to earn a degree, their career credential academy offers stackable micro credentials.

Regent Richard Porth inquired on the delivery of the program as they hope to interest students from the state, nationally, and globally. Dean Boronico advised that they are starting with on ground delivery, and actively recruiting students from India and China, where students from those areas would come to SCSU on ground for two years. In the future, they are looking to explore online options.

**Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the new program. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy, second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the new program was approved unanimously.**

5. **Charter Oak State College – Dr. David Ferreira, Provost**
   a. **Academic Updates**

Provost David Ferreira provided an academic update. COSC is continuing their academic program planning process and will continue work on it over the summer. They are using predictive analytics to provide an overview of performance in programs, which will also aid in determining new programs to bring forward, likely in Fall 2024. They are finalizing their AI governance and are reviewing how and where proposed recommendations fit into academic integrity, and what kind of AI usage is acceptable within courses. Over the summer, COSC academic leadership and faculty will work together to determine future of curriculum, as a learner in the 20th century has different skills. For this, they will use the four skill categories from McKinsey’s list, cognitive, interpersonal, self-leadership, and digital, to scaffold into the curriculum.

b. **No Action Items for May 2024**

6. **CT State Community College – Dr. Levy Brown, Provost**
a. Academic Updates
   Dr. Levy Brown, Provost, Academic Affairs
   Provost Levy Brown shared an academic update. CT State is gearing up for about 4,000 students to graduate in the inaugural CT State Commencement ceremonies. The first ceremony will be the Norwalk campus, and the last will be the Three Rivers campus. He expressed pride in the first graduating class and the opportunity to recognize graduating students.

b. New Programs
   i. Plastic Injection Molding Technology – AS
   ii. Plastic Injection Molding Technology – Certificate Three
      Provost Levy Brown and Keith Carter presented. CT State requested approval for a new associate degree and Certificate program in Plastic Injection Molding. These programs were designed to address the needs of the workforce and with industry partner collaboration. This would be one of the first-degree programs of its kind in the state. Workforce and industry partners have also helped to provide necessary equipment, conduct trainings, and aid in the development of curriculum.
      Regent Richard Porth commented that this is an exciting new program.
      **Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the new programs. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy, second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the new programs were approved unanimously.**
   iii. Professional Writing – Certificate Two
      Dr. James Gentile, Rebecca Busch Adams, and Dr. Brad Baker presented. CT State requested approval for a new certificate in Professional Writing. They have engaged in a series of business round table events and met with industry workforce representatives to determine needs and employment retention. Industry partners identified the need for more effective writers to create platforms and social media. In this program, students will develop skills for a career in writing and improve their skillset for any professional career. This program offers stackable and standalone credentials for those seeking professional development and career advancement.
      Regent Richard Porth added that this is an exciting program.
      Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if this program provides students with skills and knowledge on how to represent their employer on social media. It was confirmed that students will obtain this information.
      **Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the new program. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the new program was approved unanimously.**

c. Discontinuation
   i. New Media Production: Web Design & Development – AS and Certificate
      John Schafer presented. CT State requested approval for the discontinuations of the associate degree and certificate programs in New Media Production: Web Design and Development. These programs are identical in requirements and have low enrollment. Removing the programs allows students to move into a flourishing multimedia degree or certificate program.
      **Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the discontinuation. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy, second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the discontinuations were approved unanimously.**

d. Below Threshold
   i. Radiography – AS – Modification of Credits

7. Central Connecticut State University – Dr. Kimberly Kostelis, Provost
   a. Academic Updates
      Dr. Kimberly Kostelis provided an academic update. CCSU’s commencement ceremony is tomorrow (May 11). Additionally, CCSU will be celebrating their 175th birthday this summer, with a celebration gala during homecoming in the Fall. Their AI corridor has officially moved to their new location, and they are excited for the research that will take place. Their new College of Health and
Rehabilitation Science is ‘starting’ on July 1st and will have an inauguration ceremony. Their student-run community health education clinic has been running since October and is open to the community every Wednesday.

b. New Program
   i. Social Work – MSW
      Dr. Kimberly Kostelis and Dr. James Mulrooney presented. Central CT State University requested approval for a new Master of Social Work (MSW) program. A market analysis was done prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and completed again recently to confirm that this program is needed. CCSU received funds from a Health Horizons grant to provide scholarships to students for this program. Additionally, a program director and clinical director are in place, which was a requirement for accreditation. CT House Bill 5290 was amended and allows students to receive their licensure while a program is going through the process of accreditation. This program serves the needs of the state and focuses on clinical social work with an emphasis on trauma. Regent James McCarthy inquired if students in the MSW program will also work in the community clinic. It was confirmed that it is part of their curriculum, and that this is an opportunity for students to obtain experience on campus before they move on to their clinical rotations.

   Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if this program is consistent with budget mitigation plans. Provost Kim Kostelis confirmed it is.

   Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if students that were not social work majors at the undergraduate level can be admitted. Provost Kim Kostelis confirmed that for students who did not complete their BSW at CCSU or are coming from another program, they can still enroll with an additional coursework to build their social work foundation. They anticipate students with psychology backgrounds to also show interest.

   Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired on enrollment projects. Provost Kim Kostelis and Dr. James Mulrooney confirmed that the numbers provided on the proposal are conservative, and they expect higher enrollment. They are basing the higher enrollment expectation on the success of their BSW students. The program is a cohort model and they do not anticipate issues with retention.

   Regent Richard Porth inquired if supervision will be a feature of the program. It was confirmed yes, especially as this program focuses on clinical social work with an emphasis on trauma.

   **Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the new program. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the new program was approved unanimously.**

c. Modification
   i. Computer Science – BA – Name Change
      Provost Kimberly Kostelis and Dr. James Mulrooney presented. Central CT State University requested approval for the name change modification for the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science program. This need was discovered when entering programs into the OHE system. Currently, two programs in computer science exist, one is an honors track and the other is an alternative track. Both programs were entered into the OHE system, with no way to distinguish between them. In effort to make each program distinguishable, the Alternative program will become a BA in Computer Science, and the honors will remain a BS in Computer Science. The BS is accredited by ABET, whereas the BA is not.

      Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired about the career options for students from the BA program. Dr. James Mulrooney advised that students can complete either program and have similar career options. Students in the BA program can also have a sub-discipline if they choose. The BS program offers more math and science courses, whereas the BA is an interdisciplinary approach. Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired about how the program will adjust with AI in the forefront of the field. Dr. James Mulrooney advised that CCSU has their AI corridor and have computer rooms on separate networks so that they can run without disruption. He added that the faculty in this area continue to stay up to date on AI, and it is a continually growing subject.

      Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired on the retention outlook in these programs. Dr. James Mulrooney advised that math can be a hurdle for some students, but students will find that the
BA has a lesser math demand than the BS program. He advised that overall, retention is healthy. Provost Kimberly Kostelis added that the computer science department provides support for their students, including having their own tutors, in addition to the already available university resources.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the modification. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy, second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the modification was approved unanimously.

d. Endowed Chair Appointment
   i. Recommendation to Appoint Aimee Crawford to the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication
      Dr. Kimberly Kostelis presented. Central CT State University requested approval to appoint Aimee Crawford to the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication. Ms. Crawford received her bachelor’s degree in journalism and French from Oklahoma State University, and holds a master's degree in Journalism and Magazine Publishing from Northwestern University. Her career and industry experience includes journalism, writing, and editing. She has worked for ESPN, and currently works as an Assistant Professor of Journalism.
      Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if this is a one-year renewable appointment, and if the appointment will go year-by-year. Provost Kim Kostelis confirmed that this is a one-year renewable appointment, and hope that Ms. Crawford can continue.
      Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the endowed chair appointment. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the endowed chair appointment was approved unanimously.

d. Below Threshold
   i. Business Analytics – BS to MBA – Accelerated New Track
   ii. Business – BS to MBA – Accelerated New Track
   iii. Cybersecurity – BS to Computer Information Technology MS – Accelerated New Track
   iv. Database Management – New UG Certificate
   v. Deaf Studies – New UG Certificate
   vi. Game Studies – New Minor
   vii. Marketing – New Minor
   viii. Physics – BS to MBA – Accelerated New Track
   ix. Project Management – New UG Certificate
   x. Sports Management – MBA – New Track
      Provost Kimberly Kostelis commented that the below threshold items are exciting and responsive to student needs. They are looking to see how the Deaf Studies certificate may couple with the Teacher Certification. She added that upon market analysis, they have paired the MBA program and Sports Management track.

8. Eastern Connecticut State University – Dr. William Salka, Provost
   a. Academic Updates
      Provost William Salka provided an academic update. ECSU received an almost $300,000 Davis Foundation Grant, which will aid in funding faculty professional development. They are also celebrating Nurses Week, which includes celebrating their new nursing program, and the Hartford Healthcare Partnership. Another celebration is their upcoming commencement ceremony on Tuesday.
   b. Modifications
      i. Theatre – BA
      Provost William Salka, Dr. Kristen Morgan, and Dr. Niti Pandey presented. Eastern CT State University requested approval for modification to the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre program. In connection to the modification of the Theatre program, they will discontinue their New Media Studies and Communications programs. This revision is anticipated to attract more students and will be a cost saving measure as it relies less heavily on adjunct faculty. Additionally, by moving students to the professional studies school, they will have greater access to alumni
resources. Dr. Morgan added that the pandemic has changed the entertainment and digital media design fields. They have had requests to move from majors from arts and sciences to professional studies, as many majors already participate in both areas. This modification immerses theatre into the professional studies area. The program also has a focus on employability, as 100 and 400 courses ingrain this into their work, and they host an entertainment employability day, which includes those from CT organizations such as Mohegan Sun, the Yard Goats, and ESPN. Committee Chair Ira Bloom commented regarding the substantial changes occurring for the modification and subsequent discontinuations. Provost William Salka advised that the discontinued programs become integrated into the existing Theatre program. Committee Chair Ira Bloom added that in the future, we need to consider how to tackle situations with a comprehensive set of changes.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the modification.
On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the modification was approved unanimously.

c. Discontinuations
i. BS in Communications and BA in New Media Studies
Dr. Kristen Morgan, Dr. Niti Pandey, and Provost William Salka presented. Eastern CT State University requested approval for the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science in Communications and Bachelor of Arts in New Media Studies. The programs will no longer exist, as they have been immersed into the Theatre program.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the discontinuations.
On a motion by Regent Porth, second by Regent McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the discontinuations were approved unanimously.

ii. BS in Labor Relations and Human Resources Management
Dr. Niti Pandey presented. Eastern CT State University requested approval for the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science in Labor Relations and Human Resources Management program. The program has seen consistent decline over the years, and in response, faculty have tailored an HRM minor option housed within Business Administration program. In discontinuing the major and offering it as a minor, a wider range of students can be served.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom inquired if students interested in this area will have options within the program. It was confirmed that they can pursue the minor.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the discontinuation.
On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the discontinuation was approved unanimously.

9. Board of Regents Faculty Awards
Committee Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the BOR Faculty Awards. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy, and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the awards were approved unanimously.
Regent Richard Porth expressed that he is proud to recognize the excellence of faculty.

10. Faculty Research Grants
   a. Central CT State University
   b. Eastern CT State University
   c. Southern CT State University
   d. Western Connecticut State University

Committee Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to approve the Faculty Research Grants. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the Faculty Research Grants were approved unanimously.

11. Recognizing the CSCU Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-Connecticut Academic Team
Committee Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to recognize CSCU Phi Theta Kappa All Connecticut Academic Team. On motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the CSCU Phi Theta Kappa All Connecticut Academic Team were recognized. Regent Richard Porth commented that the students are impressive, and he is proud to be connected to CSCU.

12. Recognizing 2024 Henry Barnard Award Recipients
Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to recognize the students representing the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities who have received the 2024 Henry Barnard Award. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the 2024 Henry Barnard Award recipients were recognized.

13. CSU Promotions and Tenures
   a. Central CT State University
   b. Eastern CT State University
   c. Southern CT State University
   d. Western Connecticut State University
   Committee Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to approve the CSU Promotions and Tenures. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the CSU Promotion and Tenures were approved.

Committee Chair Ira Bloom advised that the members of the committee received a preliminary report. As per the resolution, the report was due in May. A broader conversation will occur at the June committee meeting, when those that are presenting this information are able to attend.
   Committee Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to move the report discussion to the June 7th, 2024, BOR-ASA Meeting. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and all agreed to move the report discussion to the June 7th, 2024 Meeting, adding that this will be a discussion at the top of the agenda.

15. Preliminary Overview – General Education Transfer Credit Alignment Policy Draft – Dr. Aynsley Diamond, AVP of Academic Affairs, CSCU
Dr. Aynsley Diamond presented a preliminary overview on the General Education Transfer Credit Alignment Draft. This will be brought as an action item at the June Committee and full Board Meetings. The discussion in June will include the Director of Transfer and Articulation, Stephen Marcelynas, and have more details regarding the competencies and course by course review. The overview included the socialization and feedback process of the draft policy. This ensures that the policy was written with student success and integrity at its core. In November, the campuses were asked to map their general education courses to the Framework 30. They were also asked which faculty were involved in the process and for additional feedback and questions. The feedback received was that the campuses did not have enough time to adequately go through the process. This feedback was taken into consideration and the plans were adapted to include appropriate feedback timelines. The draft policy included in the packet was sent to the provosts to share accordingly and were asked to provide feedback by May 3rd. COSC and CCSU responded confirming they have already adopted. Feedback received by faculty were thoughtful and constructive, and work is currently being done to address all questions. The draft in June will include the feedback received. This draft policy solidifies the work already being done at the campuses, provides clarity and guidance to advisors who currently support different procedures at each campus, and protects students. A lengthy presentation in June will detail competencies, as well as the faculty groups that advised and gave structure on the processes and plans for further data collection.
   Committee Chair Ira Bloom commented that the policy’s purpose is to create a seamless process in which students will be assured that courses at CT State will be accepted as general education requirements at the universities and added that this is an important step in being a system.
   Regent James McCarthy elaborated and advised that this is a critical component to student success. Adding that there are several students that reverse and lateral transfer amongst the CSUs and CT State. The review stage with advisors and faculty is critical and advised that answering questions and accommodating feedback
continue as much as possible. Dr. Diamond added that the focus on faculty voice is important, as they are so connected to curriculum, and that the provosts have been crucial in providing critical feedback and support. Professor Colena Sesanker inquired about the developmental portion of the Framework 30, as CSUs are not open enrollment institutions and CT state is. She added that there is an additional step needed to ensure requirements are met, and inquired if that is part of the conversation. Dr. Diamond commented that this overview is primarily on socialization and feedback, but that, the Transfer Council and FIRC committee are a part of the process. Dr. Diamond added that if there are questions to be addressed in upcoming presentation or separately, please share. For this, faculty at all levels are represented and are working on alignment of courses and the specific scaffolding of courses. Professor Colena Sesanker added that there must be a conversation about the ability to comply with PA 1240, ensuring that students are not lost in the shuffle and have that as part of the conversation. Dr. Diamond confirmed that she has worked directly on PA 1240 and can discuss further.

Regent Richard Porth added his thanks for the work being done, adding that this is a crucial piece regarding the commitment to our students.

Dr. Diamond suggested that we can discuss the feedback and updated draft at the beginning of the June meeting.

16. Community College Promotion and Tenures

17. Sabbatical Leaves
   a. Central CT State University
   b. Eastern CT State University
   c. Southern CT State University
   d. CT State Community College

18. Emeritus Awards
   a. Eastern CT State University
   b. Southern CT State University
   c. CT State Community College

Committee Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.