

**Regular Meeting of the State of CT  
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education  
Minutes  
September 10, 2021 WebEx**

**Present:**

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC  
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU  
Coan, Francis, Fac non-voting, TXCC  
Emanuel, Michael, Fac non-voting, NWCCC  
Garcia-Bowen, Myrna, Admin Fac, SUOAF, CSU  
Grace, Sean, Alternate, SCSU  
Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,  
WCSU  
Jackson, Mark, FAC, Alternate, CCSU

Long, Jennifer, Fac, Alternate, TRCC  
Picard, Ron, Fac, Alternate, NVCC  
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC  
Richards, Barbara, Fac, HCC  
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, GWCC  
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU  
Stoloff, David, Fac, Alternate, ECSU  
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC  
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, non-voting CCC

**Absent:**

Breault, Benjamin, Admin Fac, Alternate, At-Large,  
MCC  
Brewer, Adam, Fac, non-voting, WCSU  
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC

Kaufman, O. Brian, Alternate, QVCC  
Ruggiero, Christine, Fac, Alternate, MXCC  
Wilson, Marvin, Admin Fac, Alternate, SUOAF,  
CSU

**Guests:**

Brown, William, GWCC CEO  
Crerar, Gregg, SUOAF  
Fisher, Michael, SCSU  
Freeman, Seth, CCC, 4Cs Pres..  
Goh, Bryan. MxCC

Heleen, Pamela, SO  
Mathewson, Jesse-Douglas, Interim AVP for  
Institutional Effectiveness, CSCC  
Novo, Josh. COSC

[Voting Members: Aime, Lois, At-Large NCC; Blitz, David, CCSU; Farquharson, Patrice, COSC; Garcia-Bowen, Myrna, SUOAF CSU; Stoloff, David, ECSU; Rajczewski, MaryBeth, ACC; Richards, Barbara, HCC; Sesanker, Colena, GCC; Shea, Mike, SCSU; Wilder, Linda, COSC]

- Meeting called to order by Chair, Colena Sesanker, at 1:06 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
  - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – David Blitz, seconded
    - Proposed change to agenda to include presentation by William (Terry) Brown and JD Mathewson on creation of Strategic Plan for CSCC – motion to amend agenda, approved unanimously
- Amended meeting requirements – must have “roll-call” vote for any vote on anything, that is not unanimous
- Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded – approved unanimously
- Presentation by Dr. Brown & Mr. Mathewson on Strategic Plan for CSCC –
  - No faculty members currently on the committee – need to recruit some faculty
  - Strategic Planning important part of NECHE Standard 2
  - Strategic Plan Guiding Principles wedded to student needs in higher education setting with strong emphasis in working with CT businesses to prepare students to meet their needs while being aware of the minimal investment the state is willing to make in the public higher education system, in particular to the community colleges.
  - Strategic planning priorities appear to focus on getting students in and out and into the workforce as quickly as possible with no stress on quality education that might encourage intellectual inquiry,

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multicultural awareness, and lifelong learning. Faculty are mentioned only once, in an academic context, in the eleven listed priorities.

- Comment – 11 strategic planning priorities have little to do with higher education; public higher ed is not just about delivering students, it's about creating knowledge and the quest for knowledge. Faculty are the college/university. Response – 1) this is not a final list of priorities 2) this is the idea stage; listening regarding recommendations, feedback, etc. 3) community colleges are a community and faculty are only one part of that community – Comment – we had 12 individual community colleges that were responsive to their local communities; that will no longer be able to happen
- Comment – CEOs have little authority left so how will you be able to be heard; majority of faculty not particularly interested in continuing to attempt to participate and not be heard
- Council will be reconvened; need to review what we have now and have a draft by spring; community college community need to participate
- Vice-Chair report
  - Vaccine mandate is of great interest. Have created resolution on this issue; need to address all of the problems associated with so-called “vaccine mandate” in CSCU system: such as non-medical exemptions; religious reasons that are not, in fact, supported by a particular religion.
  - Watched a video with placard stating that “you cannot put students first if you put faculty last.”
  - Need to review and revise Students First and retire it. Need to rebuild and repair relationship between FAC & BOR and faculty and administration at community colleges. Need to continue to promote faculty control of curriculum.
  - Development of huge bureaucracy of administrators in the CSCC to the detriment of students and faculty
  - Should be willing to meet and work with new CSCU president, Terrence Cheng, to encourage him to bring faculty back into discussions
- Chair report
  - ASA meeting this morning. New low completer information on page 111 of ASA agenda
  - Still no joint meeting set with FAC and BOR
  - Another informational hearing with Higher Ed committee coming up soon
  - ASA meeting today mentioned nothing about how COVID safety issues are being implemented this semester
- Vaccine Mandate Resolution
  - Motion to approve – Ron Picard, seconded,
  - Lois Aime voiced concern about passing another resolution that will be ignored and suggested that there were many things that are problematic with respect to COVID and the vaccine that are not being addressed in this resolution
  - Mike Shea suggested that we pass the resolution and approach the other issues separately
  - Motion passed unanimously
- Return to campus issues and problems
  - Naugatuck Valley CC has building with water seepage problems and mold in one of their buildings. Individuals required to work in offices with serious mold issues. OSHA has been called and will come, but meanwhile some quick fixes are being implemented that people worry will just conceal the problem, not fix it.
  - GWCC resolution regarding on-ground office hours was presented as possibly being used later as a basis for future resolutions. Concern voiced that this resolution addresses only office hours.

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- Motion for FAC to endorse GWCC resolution. Moved by Mike Shea, seconded. Approved unanimously
- Higher Ed action in September
  - 9/29 Higher Ed action at GWCC – rally for students, rally for contracts, rally for better funding for public higher education; it is time to stand up and fight for all these items
  - Union negotiations have been contentious for all unions in the system
- Add addendum to vaccine mandate with additional concerns – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded, approved unanimously.
- Question – can we get minutes earlier please – yes, secretary will make every attempt to do so.
- CCET will not be allowed to contribute to creation of voluntary supports for English courses as developmental courses are eliminated. That will be taken over by two appointed individuals.
- With no oversight of BOR it does not have to respond to any questions or concerns voiced by governance bodies in the system, including the FAC, concerning any decisions that are put forward by it.
- Motion to adjourn, David Blitz. Meeting adjourned at 3:51 pm.

**Next Meetings:**

**October 15, 2021**

**November 12, 2021**

**December 10, 2021**

submitted by,  
Lois Aimé