

**Regular Meeting of the State of CT**  
**Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education**  
**Minutes**  
**September 09, 2022 WebEx**

**Present:**

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC  
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU  
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU  
Dunne, Matthew, Fac, HCC  
Emanuel, Michael, Fac, alternate, NWCCC  
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC  
Long, Jennifer, Fac, alternate, TRCC  
Lumbantobing, Rotua. Fac, WCSU  
Muldoon, Linsey, Fac, Alternate, MCC

Picard, Ron, Fac, alternate, NVCC  
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC  
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, Vice-Chair, GWCC  
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU  
Stoloff, David, Fac, alternate, ECSU  
Trieu, Vu, SUOAF, CSU alternate  
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC  
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, alternate, CCC

**Absent:**

Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, alternate, QVCC  
Blaszczynski, Andre, Fac, alternate, TXCC  
Fisher, Mikey, alternate, SCSU  
Goh, Bryan, Fac, alternate, MXCC

Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,  
WCSU  
Jackson, Mark, Fac, Alternate, CCSU  
Perfetto, Linda, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC  
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU

- Meeting called to order by Chair Blitz, at 1:00 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
  - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – MaryBeth Rajczewski, seconded – approved unanimously
  - Approval of August 19 minutes – Motion to approve – Vu Trieu, seconded – approved unanimously
- Co-Chair Community Colleges Report –
  - 9/01/22 CSCC report to NECHE – some commentary that does not make much sense:
    - CEOs will report to CSCC cabinet until they figure out what to do after elimination of Regional Presidents to comply with a component of the Nicole Esposito lawsuit settlement
    - Advising/Financial Aid will continue with regional structure
    - Noted that colleges that implemented Guided Pathways are seeing retention gains. They fail to mention that colleges that did not yet implement Guided Pathways are seeing the same or better retention gains. Example: at Higher Ed legislative hearing it was noted that HCC, a college that had implemented Guided Pathways earlier, saw an 8% retention gain for new students from fall 2021 to spring 2022. What they did not mention was that GCC and NCC (other 2 Shoreline West region colleges), that did not yet implement GP saw a 9% and 10% increase in retention, respectively, for the same period. GP Advisors pressing students to attend full-time also appear to be hurting retention rates over long term.
    - Consolidation expected to achieve fiscal stability by FY28
    - The Strategic Plan is shown as a draft in report. The requests FAC made to modify Introduction were not acted upon.
    - It is not apparent that the timeline in the report for implementation of various CSCC committees such as Shared Governance and Curriculum, etc. is being met.
    - Diversity outcomes are finalized
    - Crosswalk worksheets have been created and are available if you know how to get access to them

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- Six Academic Associates for Scheduling & Faculty Workload to be hired
- Have standardized scheduling time blocks, whether beneficial to local communities or not
- 181 Guided Pathways advisors hired
- Hiring of Assoc. & Asst. Deans on pause due union negotiations re Dept. Chairs
- Statement on how they engaged with individuals who were not supportive of consolidation –
  - Two all-college meetings – one at ACC and one at TXCC as proof of attempting to engage all
  - Webinars open to everyone – except participation was limited to not knowing who else was on; not being able to communicate with anyone except hosts, when permitted; no verbal questions, only chat questions at specific times
- Question re programs with external accreditation – are all programs being required to be accredited if they do not have outside accreditation right now? Response: It appears they have no clue what they are doing as they vacillate between outside accreditation or not for no apparent academic reason.
- No reference in this report to faculty control of curriculum and pedagogy
- The common schedule, along with the common hour that is actually 1.75 hours, five days a week, has been created with no regard whatsoever for the needs of the students and staff of the various communities served by the colleges. Public transportation schedules sometimes dictate course schedules, work hours also play a role in scheduling, as do public school schedules, as well as other factors, such as clinical rotations, etc. that are specific to each college because of their own community needs.
- Co-Chair Report on Universities
  - WCSU – Rotua Lumbantoging of WCSU presentation -
    - Six working groups created to review issues – these groups had meeting with WCSU management
      - Long and short – nothing is going to be done by Administration
        - Interim Pres. stated that Mgmt. controls the institution and the Interim President will make the decision
    - Groups will meet with departments to explain what they learned and what recommendations they came up with to save the university
    - AAUP needs to lead the fight – biggest union at WCSU
    - Will send a FOIA request to review data with reference to issues
    - Will meet with NCHEMS but need to understand what needs to be achieved
    - Need to hold management accountable to return university to solvency
    - BOR paying NCHEMS almost \$200,000 to write report on what happened/is happening
    - Working groups able to refute claim by NCHEMS that main problem is higher labor costs, specifically instructional costs. In fact, the costs have been flat over the last five years.
  - Are there plans to consolidate the state universities?
    - From the CSCU President – there are no plans to consolidate the state universities
    - From the chair of the BOR Finance Committee – if that were to come up, he would oppose it

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- COVID-19
  - The CSCU system has no COVID-19 procedures in place for the fall 2022 semester
  - We need more data from the CSCU SO on what was done over the last two years so that we can be better prepared
- FAC Conference
  - Perhaps a brief meeting of sorts in late October or early November on current issues in consolidation
  - Perhaps conversation on issues that still need to be resolved – like pretty much all of them
  - Conversation about what’s going on with English and Math? Nobody seems to know what’s happening in these areas
  - Motion – Set Conversation/Conference for November 4<sup>th</sup> for 2 hours, 3 themes: ACME; Dept. Chairs at CCs; situation at WCSU
    - Moved by David Blitz, seconded – approved unanimously
- Joint Meeting of FAC and BOR
  - Need to make request to BOR for this meeting sometime during fall 2022 semester
  - Question for this meeting – What is being done to advocate for public funding to be restored to public higher education at the level that existed many years ago?
  - David Blitz made motion that FAC ask for a joint meeting with the BOR on issue of full funding of public higher education in this state. Seconded and approved unanimously.
- FAC members should be sending out approved minutes, so all faculty and staff know more about the FAC and what it does

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm

**Next Meeting: October 07, 2022;** submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé