

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
February 09, 2024

Present

Aimé, Lois, Admin Fac, NCC
Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, QVCC
Blaszczynski, Andre, Fac, TXCC
Blitz, David, Fac, Emeritus, CCSU
Bonjo, Laurie, Admin Fac, alternate, SCSU
Carter, Catherine, Admin Fac, MCC
Chadic, James, Fac, ACC
Collins, Mary, Fac, alternate, CCSU
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU
Goh, Bryan, Fac, MXCC
Jagtiani, John, Fac, NWCCC

Keaney, Matthew, Fac, HCC
Keiser, Brian, Admin Fac, TRCC
Long, Jennifer, Fac, TRCC
Palkie, Brooke, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, GWCC
Stoloff, David, Fac, alternate, ECSU
Trieu, Vu, SUOAF, alternate, CSU
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC
Zorn, Sarah, Fac, CCC

Absent:

Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC
Jackson, Mark, Fac, CCSU

James, Cynthia, Admin Fac, COSC
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU

Guest: William Lugo, ECSU

Meeting called to order at 1:04 pm by C. Sesanker. Meeting is being recorded as required.

- Approval of Agenda – Motion by Brendan Cunningham; seconded – approved unanimously
- Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves
- Nominations and voting for Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary
 - Brendan Cunningham was nominated for Chair from CSUs – no other nominations, so Brendan is elected
 - Colena Sesanker was nominated for Chair from CCCs – no other nominations, so Colena is elected
 - Lois Aime was nominated for Secretary – no other nominations, so Lois is elected
- Legislative Schedule and SOTS (State of the State) Review
 - System has a mitigation plan to cover some of the \$140M+ deficit but needs more money from the state or there will be layoffs and further mitigation plans
 - Nothing new was added to the budget for CSCU
 - Question regarding what NCHEMS has been asked to do by the OPM. We are still uncertain about what they have been asked to review and comment on.
- BOR ASA Meeting Report
 - Only thing to report – Provost Rai Kathuria was not present, and it is not clear what that means
- Retirement Incentive Update
 - Unions in active discussion about this proposal – looking for an agreement on refilling positions
 - CCSU approved a statement that noted that the refill of positions should be a shared governance process
 - Concerns noted about using a shared governance process at the CCCs because the current shared governance is so dysfunctional at the college level
- Gateway News
 - CT Public.org posted an article that noted that students had been detained for protesting at Gateway CC while Gov. Lamont, Rep. Rosa DeLauro, and others, were on campus. Among other

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things, while the article noted the detention of some students, a spokesman for CSCU denied this, even though several journalists had watched the process unfold. Things might have been handled more appropriately.

<https://www.ctpublic.org/news/2024-01-25/student-protester-says-shes-banned-from-all-state-college-facilities>

- Eastern Resolution
 - There is no shared governance process any longer, from the search for the next ECSU president, to our ability to work with outside organizations, to internal issues where we no longer have a real say
 - Is the narrative working with the public and the legislature? Do they really understand the internal problems we are facing? No, the nuances of what we are seeing are very difficult to translate so that the general public and the legislature might fully understand.
 - Does the CSCU system have a strategy in what they are doing or are they just incompetent? We don't see a strategy, so where does this go?
 - Suggestion to establish a committee to review these problems – contact Colena and/or Brendan if you are interested.

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm

Next Regular Meeting: March 08, 2024

Submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois D. Aimé