



# CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

## ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting January 10, 2014  
9:30 a.m. – 61 Woodland Street, Hartford

### MINUTES

- Regents Present: Naomi Cohen, Eugene Bell, Tom Failla, Sarah Green (by conf.), Merle Harris (by conf.), Craig Lappen
- Regents Absent: Lawrence DeNardis, Catherine Smith
- Staff Present: Tom Clark, Maureen McClay, Nancy Melnicsak, Ernestine Weaver, Ted Yungclas
- Other Attendees: Steven Breese (SCSU), Rhona Free (ECSU), Elliott Horch (SCSU), Steven Kliger (CCSU), Linda Ladder (SAC Vice Chair)

Regent Naomi Cohen called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

1. Minutes of December 6, 2013 – **A motion to approve was made by C. Lappen, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.**

CONSENT AGENDA. The Consent Agenda was **moved for recommended approval by C. Lappen, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.**

Consent items included:

2. Termination of Existing Academic Programs
  - a. Client/Server Systems Certificate [Naugatuck Valley CC]
  - b. Microcomputer Networking Customer Support Certificate [Naugatuck Valley CC]
  - c. Sales Support and Service Certificate [Naugatuck Valley CC]
3. Modifications of Programs
  - a. Administrative Medical Office Skills Certificate (name change) – Quinebaug Valley CC

### ACTION ITEMS

4. Licensure of New Programs
  - a. Finance Major – B.S. – Eastern CSU  
Dr. Yungclas described the program and introduced Dr. Rhona Free, Provost at ECSU. Dr. Free gave details noting it will help ECSU retain those finance business students who desire a finance major as well as attract others looking for that major including out-of-state students. (ECSU participating in the New England Board of Higher Education reciprocity program permits the University to offer lower tuition costs for most out-of-state students). The program will exist under Business Administration and the budget is cost-effective. It also will meet Connecticut's employment needs. Regent Harris asked a general question of how ECSU, as a liberal arts college, may differ in its approach to this major from other institutions. Dr. Free stated the Finance major itself did not differ, however, the college's liberal arts program in general builds from one tier to the next. Regent Cohen asked about the New England regional program and Dr. Free noted the NEBHE regional program means students may attend from other participating states. In response to a question of how enrollment projections are made, Dr. Free noted they had

looked at students already in their finance business program and increased by 25%. The committee would like to review the actual enrollments vs. projections for 2014 year student participation. **A motion to recommend approval was made by C. Lappen, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.**

5. Accreditation of Existing Program

a. Applied Physics – M.S. –Southern CSU

Dr. Yungclas introduced the program and Dr. Steven Breese and Dr. Elliott Horch from SCSU. Dean Breese spoke about the importance of sciences at SCSU and the new science building, also noting the Masters in Applied Physics was on track. He introduced the program coordinator, Dr. Horch, who gave a brief overview, noting it was a unique, inter-disciplinary program with emphasis on research and high-tech industry. He mentioned it meeting the needs of businesses in Connecticut, particularly in two areas – nanotechnology and advanced optics. Dr. Horch also mentioned their internships, noting that new students are attracted because of the research strength, innovative courses and internships. The first graduating class is scheduled for 2014. Regent Bell asked who chose the specific areas (nanotechnology and advanced optics). Dr. Horch stated the full physics department and their faculty had discussed, with the expertise of the faculty and needs in Connecticut as determinations. **A motion to recommend approval made by S. Green, seconded by C. Lappen and unanimously approved.**

6. Appointment to Wm. A. O'Neill Endowed Chair – Central CSU. Dr. Yungclas introduced Dr. Steve Kliger, Executive Director for the Center for Public Policy & Research from CCSU. Dr. Kliger gave a brief history of the O'Neill Endowed Chair, noting the original resolution from the former Board of Trustees. Governor O'Neill was the first chair holder. The last chair holder was Senator William Dyson. Former Senator Eileen Daly has now been nominated, recommended by Mrs. O'Neill, and is highly qualified with significant legislative background as well as local political experience. The position will now be a half-time, durational position. Ms. Daily will be lecturing, team teaching, setting up forums and more. Her experience in finance, the environment and juvenile justice will serve the Center well. Dr. Kliger mentioned the Center trains public officials, including town clerks and others. Ms. Daily is strongly supported by all involved and is expected to make important contributions. There was a question regarding funding and if the endowment covers all. Dr. Kliger thought that the half-time position will be covered sufficiently by the endowment, mentioning, however that the last chair holder, Mr. Dyson, was full-time and additional funding was raised. Regent Cohen noted she knew Ms. Daily and thought she was an excellent choice. **A motion to recommend approval was made by M. Harris, seconded by C. Lappen and unanimously approved.**

## DISCUSSION

7. Draft: Revised Student Code of Conduct/Sexual Misconduct Policy – Ernestine Weaver. Regent Cohen introduced Ernestine Weaver, Counsel for the system office. Ms. Weaver noted this revised proposed policy was a draft being shared with the ASA Committee first and would be shared with the campuses afterward. It is fully comprehensive including everything in the former boards' original policies and now covers all 17 institutions. The sexual conduct policy is part of the full student code of conduct, noting the need to address the whole policy. Regent Cohen expressed concern that being just part of the full code may not make it important enough. Ms. Weaver noted it, remarking it could become a separate policy but would also need to continue to be part of the student code of conduct. Ms. Cohen also discussed the need for more specific instructions for students, e.g. what one number students could call and from which students could be referred to one of several entities depending on the circumstances of the student's call. It was noted that specific telephone numbers do not need to be in the general policy from the system office but should be added at the

campuses. Dr. Harris agreed there should be some consistencies. Regent Failla remarked that input from the campuses was important and should include the Deans of Student Affairs as well as faculty. Regent Harris also stated that the policies and cultures are different at the community colleges and universities but hoped this policy would move toward greater consistency and would be simpler for students with Regent Cohen mentioning the goal is to make students as comfortable as possible getting through the process. Regent Harris also noted one thing stressed at the legislature was that students understand what conduct is expected of them and the institutions should address new students (at orientations) but also annually. Regent Bell agreed with the notion of training noting it should not just be in the code of conduct. In addition, when the process has started for a student reporting, Regent Cohen noted the student should be told ahead of time who would be on the hearing panel so there would be an opportunity to object to a particular panel member if the student felt uncomfortable because of previous interaction with a particular person.

Regent Cohen then asked about the timeline for implementation of the policy. Ms. Weaver said they would begin work immediately to incorporate the Regents' comments, then send to campuses for their input and, finally, come back to the Committee and the full Board for their March meetings.

There was a further question from Regent Bell regarding sanctions for the code and would they be from the Board level or from the institutions. Ms. Weaver noted the sanctions are not being revised and remain the same at the institutions and the individual hearing boards. Regent Lappen wondered if there should be consistency across the system. Ms. Weaver said the different cultures at the different institutions would make that difficult. Regent Green noted she thought institutions do need flexibility, with agreement by others. Regent Failla suggested that the sanctions listed on pages 20 and 21 of the Code also be included in the "definitions" section. Regent Harris and Cohen thanked Ms. Weaver for her work on this project.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Sabbaticals 2014-2015 – Regent Cohen indicated the information item of the 2014-15 sabbaticals noting it was not an action item.
  - a. Central CT State University
  - b. Eastern CT State University
  - c. Southern CT State University
  - d. Western CT State University
9. Below-Threshold Program notification – Regent Cohen noted this also was for information only and no action was needed.
  - a. Costume & Fashion Design-minor [Eastern CSU]
  - b. Film Studies-minor [Eastern CSU]
10. Other business. There was no other business.

#### **Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn was made by C. Lappen, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.** The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.