



CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting – January 11, 2013
9:30 a.m. – 61 Woodland Street, Hartford

MINUTES

Amended and approved 3/8/2013

- Regents Present: Merle Harris (Chair), Naomi Cohen, Lawrence DeNardis, Nick Donofrio, Michael Fraser (by conf.), Alex Tettey
- Regents Absent: Yvette Melendez, Catherine Smith
- Staff Present: David Levinson (by conf.), Elsa Núñez (by conf.), Braden Hosch, Gayle Barrett, Pamela Coleman, Maureen McClay, Nancy Melnicsak, Linda Perfetto, Terri Raimondi
- Other Attendees: Stephen Adair (FAC/CCSU), Shirley Adams (COSC), Patricia Bouffard (NCCC), Carl Lovitt (CCSU), Sandra Palmer (NVCC), Michael Rooke (TXCC),

Chair Merle Harris called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

1. **Minutes** of the December 7, 2012 meeting were moved by Mr. Tettey, seconded by Mr. DeNardis and approved unanimously.

There was motion to move item 7 to the beginning of the agenda to accommodate invited speakers. Moved by Mr. DeNardis, seconded by Mr. Tettey, unanimously approved.

7. TAP Core Competencies Steering Committee. Chair Harris gave brief overview of previous discussion noting the Faculty Advisory Committee had recommended the TAP Core Competencies Steering Committee become a standing committee and also stated the initial charge of the committee. She introduced Dr. Stephen Adair, Chair of the FAC. Dr. Adair remarked he had met with the Academic Council, noted their views and reasons that a standing committee was not necessary at this time, and requested that the recommendation for a TAP standing committee be withdrawn so that the steering committee could review the matter. The sub-committee from the Academic Council was introduced. Dr. Carl Lovitt mentioned the Council had reviewed and discussed the issue at great length and shared views for continuing a standing committee. The consensus reasoning re the committee was:

- It had fulfilled its charge
- It was primarily faculty with expertise for core competencies – not necessarily the right faculty for curricular decisions
- There were concerns re what would be, in effect, a system-wide curricular committee which is unprecedented

He also noted, however, they could possibly revisit if and when pathways committees' work was done.

Dr. Sandra Palmer agreed with Dr. Lovitt's review but wanted to thank committee for the superb job they did – all were very grateful for the good work that was done. However, the work now was ready to go in a different direction.

With consenting discussion, Dr. Harris stated the Board would continue as originally planned but would continue to monitor and institute changes if necessary. Dr. Adair mentioned the steering committee would be meeting at least one more time to complete rubrics with Dr. Hosch noting their charge term did not expire until April 1. Mr. Donofrio again added the Board's thanks for their good work.

Return to agenda order.

2. Consent Agenda was unanimously approved with a motion by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Donofrio. Consent items included recommendations for the following approvals:

- Accreditation – Environmental Studies (BA) [*University of Connecticut*]
- Licensure & Accreditation – Financial Management (BS) [*University of Connecticut*]
- Program Modification – Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MA and Ph.D.) name change to Literatures, Cultures and Languages [*University of Connecticut*]

Action Items

3. Issues related to the Transfer and Articulation Policy (TAP). Chair Harris mentioned the updates just discussed but noted resolution was needed on the issues of campus ratification, extension of the timeline and financial resources.

- Dr. Harris stated May 31 was the original timeline date with the legislature passing the date of July 1, 2013 for completion. Implementation was planned for Fall, 2014. Discussion noted the original timeline was a good one in order to comply with legislation. It was agreed the timeline would stay in place.
- The question of financial resources was discussed and if management of curriculum should be on local campuses. Money for curriculum design is with campuses and it was noted the Board should not direct campuses on use. The discussion was suspended with the notation that final decisions should be by management at both levels.
- Dr. Harris summarized the discussion re the resolution to adopt the TAP Framework and the Core Competencies Steering Committee and thanked the Steering Committee for their wonderful work and the Faculty Advisory Committee for their input and help in clarifying and revising the resolution. There were comments regarding the lack of clarity when the work was first begun. There was also discussion on the outcome of campus ratifications. Dr. Adair noted eleven have voted so far – ten favorably, one unfavorably.

Board members voted unanimously to approve the motion recommending approval by the full Board to accept the Framework (moved by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Donofrio).

4. Academic Honors Policy (Community Colleges).

A motion to revise the Academic Honors Policy of the Community Colleges as recommended was made by Mr. Donofrio, seconded by Mr. Tettey.

Discussion: Dr. Hosch noted the existing policies are separate for the community colleges and state universities. The Academic Deans of the Community Colleges have recommended revisions. He introduced Dean Rooke who noted they had worked with the Deans of Students to modify the policies regarding semester honors. They had had an ongoing discussion for over a year and it was unanimously felt that the change was strongly needed in order to create more parity between full-time and part-time students. Regent DeNardis asked questions regarding implementation and Regent Donofrio asked if the group had looked at policies outside Connecticut. Further discussion clarified the change was for semester honors only, there would be no change to graduation honors.

In response to questions, Nancy Melnicsak, the Director of Student & Academic Information Systems, noted the change would necessitate system-wide changes and modification including Banner IT systems. The idea was generally supported but more information was requested including more exact implementation information and additional information on other states' policies. Ms. Cohen noted the need to move forward in time for the next academic year.

A motion to table was made by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Donofrio, unanimously approved.

A question ensued on the CSU semester honors. Each university has its own policy. Board members asked for information to be provided on all policies with the possibility of discussing the issue for future development of a single policy manual. Dr. Hosch would pursue acquiring the information.

Updates

- 5. Progress on program review.** Dr. Hosch distributed a draft report on completions and gave an overview. He will provide the Academic Council with the completions of their institutions for their review and discussion for future determinations. He noted our institutions were participating in the Kansas Study survey and the Delaware Study survey but results were not due till next Fall. Discussion followed, noting at this point that individual campuses each have their own program review process.
- 6. Directory Information Policy.** Dr. Hosch provided a summary of the issues and noted there have been discussions at Academic Council and with IT. Current practices are now being looked at and information being collected. The CSUs now have separate policies and the CCs have a single policy. Dr. Hosch noted the issue will need to come to the ASA Committee for action after more information is obtained. There was a request that further research also be done outside Connecticut.
- 8. Other Updates. Campus Security.** Dr. Levinson noted a safety audit was being pursued. Good information and a preliminary review had already been provided by ECSU's Public Safety Director. There are large variances among two-year colleges across the country with 46% with armed security. It was noted that The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) was located right in West Hartford, CT and they had stated they can provide a complete review of all campuses at a cost of \$10,509 for the system in an acceptable timeframe (a few months). There are other agencies that can provide similar reviews and an RFP would be proposed. There were questions on the scope of services for the RFP. Information would be obtained from the CSUs police chiefs who have developed good scope. It was thought after the review is completed, campuses can move ahead individually as there would be different needs. Resource allocation would also signify.

There was no other business. Chair Harris noted there was the possibility that the February 1 meeting may be cancelled because of the short timeframe, the absence of some members, the fact the full Board will only be meeting in March, and the Office of Higher Education's Advisory Committee on Accreditation's meeting scheduled for after the February 1 ASA meeting.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. DeNardis and unanimously approved.