



CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting – March 8, 2013
9:30 a.m. – 61 Woodland Street, Hartford

MINUTES

- Regents Present: Merle Harris (Chair), Naomi Cohen, Lawrence DeNardis (by conf.), Nick Donofrio (by conf.), Michael Fraser (by conf.)
- Regents Absent: Yvette Melendez, Catherine Smith
- Staff Present: Elsa Núñez (by conf.), Braden Hosch, Maureen McClay, Nancy Melnicsak,
- Other Attendees: Stephen Adair (FAC/CCSU), Shirley Adams (COSC), Donna Crum (Middlesex Hospital) Steven Minkler (MXCC), Judy Wallace (Middlesex CC), Michael Rooke (TXCC) (by conf)

Chair Merle Harris called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

- 1. Minutes** of the January 11, 2013 meeting were **moved by Mr. DeNardis, seconded by Ms. Cohen.** There was a request for amendment to the minutes by Dr. Adair in regard to his input at that meeting. Item 7 was amended as follows:
 - add the following sentence within the first paragraph: *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committee was not necessary at this time, and requested that the recommendation for a TAP standing committee be withdrawn so that the steering committee could review the matter.*
 - add the words “at least” to the following sentence in the last paragraph: *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. DeNardis and Ms. Cohen amended the motion and the revised minutes were unanimously approved.

- 2. Consent Agenda.** Chair Harris asked Dr. Núñez for a general explanation of Academic Program Terminations and she noted that terminations are based on lack of activity and enrollments and a thorough analysis had been done by Dr. Hosch. In response to a question from Ms. Cohen re students left in the program, Dr. Núñez explained that the NEASC policy for “teach out” ensures institutions provide a viable pathway to completion.

On a motion by Mr. Donofrio, seconded by Mr. DeNardis, the Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously. Consent items included recommendations for the following approvals:

- i. Terminations
 - a. Customer Service-Marketing Certificate (Housatonic CC)
 - b. Word-Information Processor Certificate (Housatonic CC)
 - c. Accounting for Small Business Certificate (Housatonic CC)

- d. Special Subjects, Fields or Instructional Areas - K-12 (Remedial Reading/Remedial Language Arts) Graduate Teaching Certificate (Eastern CSU)
 - e. Communication Certificate (Tunxis CC)
 - f. Community Health Worker Certificate (Quinebaug Valley CC)
 - g. Aviation Maintenance – AS (Quinebaug Valley CC)
 - h. Arts Entrepreneur Certificate (Quinebaug Valley CC)
 - i. Wastewater Certificate (Naugatuck Valley CC)
- ii. Modification
 - a. BA/BS Liberal Studies (Southern CSU)
 - b. AS Radiologic Technology (Middlesex CC)

3. Action Items

- a) Academic Program approvals – Licensure & Accreditation of Middlesex Community College’s A.S. in Technology Studies: Computer Engineering Technology Option. This program was due to go before the Advisory Committee on Accreditation and that meeting was cancelled. It was tabled until the ACA process can be completed.
- b) Honorary Degrees. Adoption was moved by Mr. Donofrio and seconded by Ms. Cohen. With comments by Mr. DeNardis the posthumous honorary degree nomination from CCSU was pulled to be considered separately as an exception. **The other six nominations were then approved for recommendation to the full board by unanimous vote.** The exception for the posthumous honorary degree was then **moved by Mr. DeNardis, seconded by Mr. Donofrio, with comments that it was well-deserved. It was unanimously approved.** Mr. DeNardis asked that the Committee be notified of final awarding of the degrees.
- c) Databases and Studies. After brief discussion and by request of Ms. Cohen, the item was slightly amended to include the statement “in a manner consistent with state and federal laws and regulations” to the first two “Resolved” paragraphs. **The item was moved by Mr. DeNardis, seconded by Mr. Donofrio and unanimously approved.**
- d) Assessment Policy. The item was **moved by Mr. Donofrio and seconded by Ms. Cohen.** Dr. Hosch provided explanation of the item. There was discussion regarding reporting to the Board on the assessment studies. An amendment was made to add an additional “Resolve” to state: “Resolved that management will provide an annual report to the Board on assessment reports received from the institutions.”

There was a question concerning the outcome of collecting the individual reports. Dr. Hosch noted that with minimal staff in the Academic Affairs office that only collection of the reports can be done at this time. Dr. Harris mentioned that NEASC teams look at all the information. Dr. Núñez commented that accountability connected to assessment had not been done well as a system but was improved with NEASC’s help and the TAP planning and core competencies assessment. At this point program review processes at the institutions was inconsistent and not provided to the system office. However, if System Office staff increased more could be done

in the future. In the meantime, NEASC fifth and tenth year reports provide monitoring. The Committee noted they will re-address reporting in the future.

Mr. Donofrio moved the amended resolution, seconded by Ms. Cohen. The amended resolution unanimously adopted.

- e) Policy for Academic Honors for Community Colleges. Chair Harris mentioned the previous discussion issues on this item. By unanimous vote, with a motion from Ms. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Donofrio, it was removed from the table. Dean Michael Rooke then offered additional information stating they had researched the questions previously asked by the Board, re-examining the effect on students in their final semester if the final term did not coincide with an increment of 12 credits. After reexamination by all 24 academic and student affairs officers, it was noted that this would not significantly create an issue. Students in such a situation would be close to graduation and eligible for graduation honors; semester honors would not be as significant as previous semesters. They also researched other institutions, including all the State Universities, the University of Connecticut, SUNY Rockland Community College, SUNY Geneseo, and Springfield Technical Community College. They found that there was a great amount of commonality with most having blocks of 12 credits. This proposed policy was much more consistent with the other institutions. With no further discussion, **Mr. DeNardis moved the recommendation of the resolution, seconded by Mr. Donofrio and unanimously approved.**

4. Information Item. Dr. Harris noted the information item-the Undergraduate Minor in Astrobiology at CCSU.

5. Updates

- Public Act 12-40

Dr. Hosch reported staff from the System Office with Senator Bye have been having meetings with each of the Community Colleges. Logistics are being arranged by the 4 C's (the CC's union). Attendance has been robust and the meetings have been going well. The Regional Strategies groups have also been moving forward. Proposals for the lowest remediation groups have been developed – many are very resource intensive. Discussions going forward will include costs and achievable plans. Staff will also be looking at the CUNY system model. Other levels of the remediation program are continuing to be worked on – establishing common outcomes and developing curricular experiences without mandating a specific model. This Fall will begin implementation. Additionally, a meeting was held with other community partners, including businesses, adult education, etc. There will be follow-up meetings with that group including a forum with all the remediation teams. Staff will also be looking at old policies regarding Accuplacer and the need for more formal guidance for using multiple measures. Mr. DeNardis commented on the cost effectiveness of pursuing more online methods. Dr. Hosch noted some institutions are using Kahn Academy.

- Transfer and Articulation Policy

Dr. Hosch stated that ratification at all institutions was completed with 15 out of 17 ratifying. BOR legal counsel is reviewing the course to be followed for the two

institutions that did not ratify. The TAP Pathways committees are moving ahead. They are at present developing a “shell” transfer degree with each pathway then evolving what is best for each. The expectation for the stated timeline is a number of them will be in place with the others on track.

- **Multi-State Collaborative**
Dr. Hosch provided an overview of the eight-state collaborative formed beginning with Massachusetts. Connecticut is participating in the pilot. Dr. Hosch attended the initial meeting in Denver with one representative from the CSU's (the representative invited from the CC's missed because of a snowstorm). The program is closely aligned with TAP and could be very useful, providing external peer review. The three will meet soon with additional interested faculty recommended from the institutions. The Collaborative is pursuing outside funding for the project (e.g. Lumina, others).
- **Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes (AHELO)**
Dr. Hosch noted the project began in 2009 and SCSU participated from Connecticut. AHELO was an international study with the final report being presented in Paris. Dr. Hosch was invited to be one of the United States participants by the U.S. Department of Education. Funding is through a SHEEO grant (State Higher Education Executive Officers Association).

There was no other business. Chair Harris mentioned the ongoing discussions regarding campus security and the legislative hearing on the topic the day before. She noted an rfp was being developed for an assessment of all our institutions. She would request an update for the next meeting.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn by Ms. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Donofrio and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.