

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES
9:30 a.m. – Friday, April 13, 2012

CSU System Office
Boardroom 123
Hartford, CT

Regents Present: Merle Harris, Chair, Naomi Cohen, Lawrence DeNardis, Nicholas Donofrio, Michael Fraser (via conference), Yvette Melendez

Regents Absent: René Lerer, Catherine Smith, Alex Tettey

Provosts, VPs, Deans Present Ken Bedini (ECSU), Rhona Free (ECSU), Dana Wilkie (COSC)

Others from Colleges Gena Glickman (MCC), Maureen McDonnell (ECSU)

CSUS/CCC Staff Present: Louise Feroe, Germán Bermúdez, Braden Hosch, David Levinson, Mike Meotti (via conference), Maureen McClay

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

1. Minutes were accepted and approved

ACTION ITEMS

2. Approval of Nominations for Honorary Doctoral Degrees

- Additional nominees presented for 2012 commencements
 - Western CT State University – Ronald Bruder
 - Central CT State University – Carol Ammon

Approval moved by Naomi Cohen
Seconded by Nick Donofrio
Motion approved unanimously

Discussion ensued regarding future nominations. It was suggested a list should be developed by institutions with a few possible future nominations for each. Dr. Feroe would pursue with presidents to make this a practice.

3. Academic Program Approvals

It was noted all items on the agenda had been approved by ACA.

(a) New Programs

Licensure and Accreditation:

- A.S. Degree and UG Certificate (C2) for E-Commerce - Three Rivers CC
 - Moved by Nick Donofrio; seconded by Naomi Cohen
 - Unanimously approved

General discussion ensued regarding an explicit label for community college program as leading directly into the workforce or as pathways to baccalaureate degrees. The implementation of the BOR transfer policy will result in clear definitions. Discussion continued on a more clear definition for A.S., A.A.S. designations, emphasis on stackable credentials, and further clarity on transfer pathways.

Additional comments ensued regarding duplication of programs. It was noted that community colleges are geared to local draw. Pres. Glickman also noted that the Community College Deans

share information up front and a full process is implemented. It was noted a seamless process is important, identifying combined modality as an important way to facilitate student access to programs. A timetable will be developed for implementation of a more formal seamless process similar to that described within the Deans' group, to be shared at next meeting. There was a question regarding financial structure and if the reports count only new students. It was noted that the new form is more rigorous and addresses this concern. Another issue being addressed is joint programs that can be more efficient and better quality. Expecting cohesiveness but not necessarily making all programs identical was mentioned, as was the need to develop distinct strengths at individual colleges.

- A.S. Degree Program in Sport & Leisure Management – Three Rivers CC
 - Motion for approval by Naomi Cohen; seconded by Nick Donofrio
 - Discussion – began as certificate; with increased interest built to an A.S. degree
 - Unanimously approved

- UG Certificate Program (C2) in Women's Studies –Three Rivers CC
 - Motion for approval by Nick Donofrio; seconded by Yvette Melendez
 - Discussion – it was noted this is an on ground certificate program (not online)
 - Unanimously approved

- UG Certificate Program in Speech Language Pathology Studies – Charter Oak SC
 - Motion for approval by Nick Donofrio; seconded by Naomi Cohen
 - Discussion: Dean Dana Wilkie described program. Developed with CREC and under guidelines suggested by the American Speech Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Will reach broad audience because fully online. Some inaccuracies in original submission re Manchester Community College's similar program have been addressed. It was noted that a similar MCC program exists, although fully on ground and with slightly different emphasis, principal target population, and number of credits. There was question re CREC's "ownership" of intellectual property. The standard of developer maintaining ownership for 5 years only was mentioned. It was determined the issue needs to be further addressed and formalized in policy. A "friendly" amendment to the motion was made to require that the contract that COSC signed with CREC be reviewed and the legal determination of intellectual property of courses be fully clarified.
 - Motion unanimously approved, with amendment noted.

Accreditation:

- B.S. Degree Program in Labor Relations & Human Resource Management – Eastern CSU
 - Motion for approval by Yvette Melendez; seconded by Nick Donofrio
 - Discussion: enrollment projections not yet met because of late start of program due to approval delays. Expect to draw from out-of-state enrollees under New England tuition agreement.

More general discussion followed, including question regarding online course criteria – it was noted that NEASC establishes a 50% threshold for a program to be considered online. There was additional discussion regarding the process of determining success of programs, meeting of objectives, and the criteria for elimination of programs.

- Motion unanimously approved

Licensure Only:

- B.S. Degree Program in Health Information Management – Charter Oak SC
 - Discussion: Program was described by Dean Dana Wilkie. First major being offered at COSC. Used consultant for study and development, coincides with COSC's mission. CWEALTH grant funded development, advisory committee from area hospitals, national market research firm also used. Determined a shortage in the field in northeast, expect COSC's program to take lead as more programs are developed throughout the region.
 - Motion moved by Larry DeNardis; seconded by Nick Donofrio
 - Motion unanimously approved

4. Manchester Community College's management contract for Great Path Academy.

President Glickman summarized item. MCC continues to host and sponsor Great Path Academy. With current management contract expiring, an RFP had been issued for new management contract. The Hartford Public Schools won the bid. MCC continues to have sponsorship authorized under previous Board of Trustees. The Attorney General's office asked for ratification of authorization under new Board of Regents. Mr. Meotti explained AG's stance was for clarification purposes only; the AG's office signs off on all state contracts. The Hartford BOE has already approved management contract.

- Motion for approval by Nick Donofrio; seconded by Larry DeNardis
- Unanimously approved

5. Program Modifications Not Requiring BOR Action

- Modification of Bachelor of Music at WCSU. Mr. Fraser noted a full studio had been created for audio and music production.

6. Discussion Items

- (a) Academic Program Review Criteria – Dr. Feroe described previous process. Question now is what role should the BOR have going forward. Seventeen institutions would mean an enormous number of programs to review. Possibilities for process could include one modeled by NEASC standards and learning outcomes. Questions should be developed (e.g. assessment, general academic quality, student characteristics, enrollment, efficiencies, cost benefit analysis). Generic approach may be too broad, categories may be needed.

Mr. Hosch noted there are over 1200 programs among the 17 institutions. With ideas of what Board wants to look at, a plan can be developed. Mr. DeNardis noted a cost benefit analysis to be applied fairly but rigorously important. Other requirements: units, system-wide approach, institutional autonomy. Mr. Donofrio noted at this point need to enlist presidents to get their data. Dr. Levinson stated national benchmarks and tools can be used. Mr. Fraser noted identities of individual institutions very important to students.

Requested actions:

- refer to Pres. Kennedy to be included on next Council of Presidents agenda
 - include in afternoon discussion session at BOR's upcoming retreat
 - come back with information for June ASAC meeting
- (c) Issue of Tenure for Academic Administrators – there is no change in policy yet but issue is being examined from the standpoint of attracting recruitment.

A motion to recess was made at 11:25 by Naomi Cohen, seconded by Larry DeNardis, for purpose of convening full BOR conference call meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

ASAC meeting reconvened at 11:40 a.m.

Discussion items continued:

- (d) Legislative Update – SB 40 – the bill re college readiness and completion continues to be changed. At this point, an amendment was written on the incorporation of adult education programs, implementation was pushed out to 2016, and language has been removed regarding high school graduates ability to enroll into any general education course, regardless of proficiency. Fiscal issues remain important and in need of revision. The BOR did submit financial information but it is not yet in the bill. However, it has gone to the Appropriations Committee. Several sections are still being looked at and amendments continue to be written.
- (b) Sexual Harassment Policies and Climate Study – harassment issue is in a legislative bill with no apparent implications for the ConnSCU System. There are issues and concerns on campuses. Drs. Feroe and Levinson are conducting climate reviews at the campuses, to be concluded in May. Issue includes "bullying", another area of concern.

Other items

- A Transfer and Articulation Policy draft plan has been written by committee and review and implementation is being developed. Implementation plan for TAP to be put on next agenda.

- Dr. Bermudez noted the upcoming LTA Conference (Learning, Teaching and Assessment) on April 20, previously a state university conference, is now open to all 17 institutions. There is a national speaker and facilitator. Ms. McClay noted she would send the link to all Committee members.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis, unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.