



CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting September 25, 2015
9:30 a.m.– 61 Woodland Street, Hartford

MINUTES

- Regents Present: Merle Harris, Stephen Adair, Naomi Cohen, Lawrence DeNardis
- Regents Absent: Catherine Smith
- Staff Present: Estela Lopez, Corby Coperthwaite, William Gammell, Maureen McClay, Steve McDowell, Nancy Melnicsak, Arthur Poole, Erika Steiner, Ernestine Weaver
- Other Attendees: Missy Alexander (WCSU), Lisa Bigelow (CCSU), Ann Branchini (TRCC), Irene Crawford (SCSU), Michael Davis (MCC), Sheri Fafunwa-Ndibe (CCSU), Robyn Housemann (WCSU), Jeremiah Jarrett (CCSU), Mark Kosinski (GCC), Kimberly Kostelis (CCSU), Evelyn Phillips (CCSU), Luis Recoder-Nunez (CCSU), Michael Rooke (TxCC), Gregory Sneed (CCSU), Lynn Stoddard (ECSU), Debbie Thomas (CCC), Paul Torcellini (ECSU)

Chair Merle Harris called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

1. Minutes of August 28, 2015 – **N. Cohen moved to approve the minutes, seconded by L. DeNardis and unanimously approved.**
2. Executive Session – Chair Harris requested a motion to go into Executive Session stating the purpose of security issues and naming the state statutes. N. Cohen made the motion, seconded by L. DeNardis and unanimously approved. Chair Harris announced no votes would be taken and asked the following individuals to remain: Stephen Adair (ex-officio member of the committee), and CSCU staff members Erin Fitzgerald, Estela Lopez, Maureen McClay, Elsa Nunez, Chief Gregory Sneed, Erika Steiner, Ernestine Weaver.

Chair Harris announced the return to Open Session at 11:07 a.m. The public was invited back and the meeting agenda continued with Chair Harris first announcing the meeting was now in Open Session and no votes had been taken.

3. Consent Items – **A motion to approve consent items was made by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardis. It was unanimously approved.** Item on Consent was:
 - a. Modification

i. International and Area Studies – BA – CCSU

4. Action Items

a. New Programs

i. Dance Education – BS – CCSU. A motion to approve was made by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardis. Provost Lopez presented the program and introduced Provost Carl Lovitt and Dr. Kim Kostelis. They mentioned the work to normalize the credits to 120 and provided details on the program and the need in the state. In answer to a question regarding jobs, they noted there were presently over 40 openings, many in magnet schools with others in commercial areas and hospitals. It was noted the program would be self-sustaining. Regent DeNardis offered comments stating he was again concerned about too many new programs and not enough discontinuances. Dr. Kostelis provided additional comments that CCSU is the only institution in the state to certify for dance and at this time students must take many more credits than needed in order to get certified. This program would greatly benefit the students. A side discussion ensued regarding program review and low enrolled programs with the regents asking Provost Lovitt to provide CCSU's plan to address the situation. Dr. Lovitt spoke about several initiatives they were undertaking, including reorganization and looking at terminating programs. Dr. Lopez added other comments on system initiatives being done. The vote was taken and the motion passed 2/0/1: two in favor; none opposed; DeNardis abstained.

b. State University Centers & Institutes – Seven-Year Reports.

i. Continuations

1. CCSU. Dr. Lopez provided an introduction and invited Provost Lovitt to present Central's reports. Dr. Lovitt provided general information on the Centers – what they do and what they provide to students. He then gave some details on each of the five Centers being considered and noted the directors from each were present. He observed how each addressed special needs, provided hands-on experiences and were part of the life-blood of the university. Funding for each varied and included grants, gifts, operational funds, fees. A motion to approve CCSU's Centers was made by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardis and unanimously approved. CCSU's Centers approved for continuation were:

- a. Center for Africana Studies
- b. Center for Educational Research at Outer Island
- c. Center for International Education
- d. Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Center
- e. Center for Public Policy and Social Research

2. ECSU. Dr. Lopez introduced Provost Pachis and the directors of Eastern's two centers, Dr. Paul Torcellini and Lynn Stoddard. They talked first about why there was a Center and an Institute, noting the Center had an Endowed Chair and centered on education. The independent Institute was established for far-reaching ideas and plans and was self-sustaining. It has raised over \$10 million dollars over the years. They commented on policy development, direct service to municipalities and the savings they help provide. A motion to approve by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardi and unanimously approved. Approved for continuation at ECSU were:

- a. Center for Sustainable Energy Studies
 - b. Institute for Sustainable Energy
 - 3. WCSU. Dr. Lopez provided preliminary remarks and introduced Dr. Missy Alexander and Dr. Robyn Housemann from Western. Dr. Alexander spoke about the Nature Preserve noting it served Western's students as well as students from the local middle school and the public. They were looking to also expand to high schools. Students do on-site research. Funding was from an endowment and partially from the operational budget. Dr. Housemann provided details on the Institute for Holistic Studies, the programs offered and other opportunities for students and the outside community. A motion to approve was made by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardis and unanimously approved. The approved continuations at WCSU were:
 - a. Institute for Holistic Health Studies
 - b. Westside Nature Preserve Center
 - ii. Discontinuation
 - 1. Center for Multicultural Research and Education – CCSU. Provost Lovitt noted CCSU was recommending discontinuation. The Center was not heavily used and the director had now stepped down. They were looking at other broader issues. A motion to approve discontinuation was made by L. DeNardis, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.
 - iii. Suspension
 - 1. Institute of Hospitality and Tourism – CCSU. Provost Lovitt explained they were recommending suspension in order to allow them the opportunity to come back with a new plan and reinvigorate the institute. He stated their Hospitality/Tourism program now sits in the Geography department and there were plans to reorganize it into its own program. He noted the suspension was only until the Fall of 2017. A motion to approve made by L. DeNardis, seconded by M. Harris and unanimously approved.
 - c. Consideration of 2014-15 Academic Program Review by CSCU Institutions. Dr. Lopez introduced Arthur Poole and thanked him and other colleagues for providing this report. She noted this was a learning year to establish good timing and procedure. She pointed out some highlights under the Rationale section as well as the summation chart, noting the terminations. She spoke about the awareness of all the deans and provosts not to continue low-enrollment programs, also pointing out they were looking at patterns – low enrollments, number of resources, etc. Discussion ensued. Also discussed further was the process for termination that included phase-out for students in a program and other reasons for termination besides low enrollment, including quality and workforce demand.
- 5. Other Business
 - a. Revised ASA Committee Charter. Chair Harris pointed out the changes discussed at the last meeting had been incorporated. There was consensus for acceptance.

There was no other business. **A motion to adjourn was made by N. Cohen, seconded by L. DeNardis and unanimously approved.** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.