

CT Board of Regents

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular Meeting – June 1, 2012
9:30 a.m. at 39 Woodland Street, Hartford

MINUTES

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

Regents Absent: Michael Fraser, Rene Lerer, Yvette Melendez, Alex Tettey, Catherine Smith

Staff Present: Braden Hosch, Elsa Nunez, Tom Clark, Jill Ferraiolo (via conference) Pamela Coleman, Maureen McClay

Invited Guests: Pamela Edington (NCC), DonnaJean Fredeen (SCS&), Steven Minkler (MxCC), Michael Rooke (TxCC)

Other attendees: Dana Wilkie (COSC), Kurt Oster (Pieper Memorial Veterinary Center)

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

Nick Donofrio moved to change the order of the agenda, seconded by Naomi Cohen: item 5(c) – Legislative Update - to be addressed first.

Legislative Update Legislative Report by Ms. Ferraiolo distributed. Ms. Ferraiolo noted the report will be finalized after the special legislative session to be held on June 12. She noted full report could be read and reviewed several bills of particular interest.

Academic Program Approvals. It was noted that approvals at this committee meeting would be contingent on approvals at the Advisory Committee on Accreditation to be held at the Office of Higher Education on June 7.

Licensure and Accreditation

Norwalk Community College – Braden Hosch noted planning and quality assessments had been conducted on all three programs and that they had received affirmation from the ConnSCU Academic Council. Provost Pamela Edington introduced and clarified the three proposed certificate programs, noting an Advisory Board had recommended and approved each.

Smartphone App Development – intended to upgrade current curriculum and for those in field to upgrade skills. Will also be offered online. No other such programs being offered at present.

Digital Journalism – also intended for those already in field to upgrade skills.

Film & Television Production – the college already has a film studio and have been in the field for a long time. No additional resources or faculty will be needed. This program also intended to upgrade skills of people already in the field.

Motion to approve all three programs moved by Nick Donofrio; seconded by Larry DeNardis - unanimously approved.

Middlesex Community College – *Veterinary Technology* – Dr. Hosch noted quality assessment completed and that only one other program in the state offered in the Winsted area at Northwestern CT Community College. Dean Steven Minkler expounded on program noting it had been in development for some time and that it was recommended by a veterinary hospital (Pieper Memorial Veterinary Center) who will partner with the college - the hospital's facility will be used as a lab and will also sponsor internships. Dean Minkler introduced Kurt

Oster from Pieper who offered additional information. Dean Minkler noted the Center was already working with the college in a Veterinary Assistant program and the collaboration was well established. It was requested a waiver allowing 69 credits for the program be established. A resolution, amended with the waiver notation, was moved by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis and unanimously approved.

Program Modifications

Southern CSU – *Professional Science Masters track in Chemistry* - Braden Hosch noted an M.S. in Applied Physics program was previously approved by the Board in December 2011, and this proposal asks for a similar track. He introduced Dean DonnaJean Fredeen to provide background. Dean Fredeen said they had determined the need and been working on the Professional Science Masters track for some time. The program would help those who stay in a laboratory as well as the workforce needs of the state. Motion by Naomi Cohen, seconded by Larry DeNardis. Unanimously approved.

University of Connecticut – Braden Hosch noted both UConn program modifications were fairly routine and had previously been approved by the UConn Board.

Languages, Literatures and Cultures – consolidation into a single program of Comparative Literature, French, German, Italian and Spanish leading to M.A. and Ph.D. Moved by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis; unanimously approved.

Teaching Certificate leading to M.A. in Education – to be offered at additional campus (Avery Point). Moved by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis; unanimously approved.

Non-Substantive Changes

For information only, a new post-baccalaureate certificate program in *Energy and Environmental Law* (12 credits), approved by the UConn Board.

Terminations

Tunxis CC - *Drug and Alcohol Recovery Counselor (A.S.)* and *Criminal Justice-Drug and Alcohol Treatment Option (A.S.)*. Dean Michael Rooke noted three determinations in terminating the programs – 1) enrollment; 2) expense, and 3) changes in field. Programs have struggled for several years to get students into internships as a major part of the program. Additionally, employment opportunities in the field have diminished significantly. He indicated the termination process will phase out over four years. All students now in pipeline will complete the program. Comments noted that four years is a “generous teach-out” period. Resolution, amended to include phase-out language, was moved by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis; unanimously approved.

Other Business

Chair Merle Harris introduced the proposed search for a Director of Academic Programs and Student Services. A draft job posting was distributed. Vice President for Human Resources, Steven Weinberger, reviewed the description and noted the need to include student services as well as academics in the position. It would be advertised broadly and regents were encouraged to make available to any appropriate candidates. There were suggestions for minor changes which would be included in the final version. Mr. Weinberger noted the process of review would include naming a search committee to screen resumes, do initial phone interview and reference checking. In-person interview will include Board of Regent participation.

Program Inventory Cleanup

Dr. Hosch noted he had worked with institutional research staff and chief academic officers on campuses to review and reconcile current degree and certificate offerings, accumulating a list of significant discrepancies which was also reviewed by the Academic Council. He noted that by the Board taking this one-time action to reconcile program offerings, he will then be able to produce an accurate list of actual programs some time during the summer. An annual reconciliation will take place in the future as well as a requirement for more concrete documentation from the institutions in order to keep the list in good order. The resolution was moved with an amendment allowing adjustments to be made before the June Board of Regents meeting. Moved by Nick Donofrio, seconded by Larry DeNardis; unanimously approved.

Campus Climate Report

Dr. Nunez reported she had visited the four CSU campuses and Dr. Levinson had visited six of the 12 Community College campuses. Their findings were recorded in the distributed report. She reiterated they met with the faculty senates, the student governments, HR personnel and an open forum for all staff and students. All had policies and procedures in place including policies for specific incidents (e.g. sexual harassment). There was general community satisfaction with responses to complaints. Issues to be addressed include strengthening communication, more training and timing of offerings for new employees, and systemic

assessment and reporting function. She noted that this was an important issue on the campuses. The issue would continue to be worked on with the Academic and Student Affairs Councils. Present Board policies and best practices from outside institutions would be examined.

Discussion items

- a) Planning assessment criteria for program approval
Braden Hosch distributed talking points, noting five items – 1) conformance with institution's role and mission; 2) need for the program; 3) unnecessary duplication of existing programs; 4) cost effectiveness; and 5) availability of adequate resources.

Next steps would include going back to the Academic Council, obtaining models, and reviewing again with the Academic & Student Affairs Committee.

- b) Program review parameters – it was noted some elements were very good, however, others need more parameters. Dr. Hosch will bring issue to the Academic Council and then it will be reviewed by ASA Committee.

It was determined the September meeting will be devoted to program review and assessment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. with a motion by Larry DeNardis, seconded by Naomi Cohen and unanimously approved.