



CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting – October 7, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.
Conducted via Remote Participation

MINUTES

Regents Present: Chair Ira Bloom, Regent Juanita James, Regent Richard Porth

Ex-Officio BOR Members: Professor Colena Sesanker

Regents Absent: Regent Holly Howery, Regent James McCarthy

Staff Present: Kaylah Davis, Pam Heleen, Rai Kathuria, Kenneth Klucznik, Francine Rosselli-Navarra, and Noreen Wilson

Other Attendees: Missy Alexander (WCSU), Sandra Bulmer (SCSU), Lourdes Cruz (CT State), Nicole DeRonck (WCSU), David Ferreira (COSC), Carl Guerriere (CCC), Trudy Milburn (SCSU), Steve Nathan (ECSU), Joan Palladino (WCSU), George Peffer (NCC), Lori Pendleton (COSC), Robert Prezant (SCSU), Sujini Ramachandar (SCSU), William Salka (ECSU), Tracy Smith-Michnowicz (NWCC), Timothy St. James (ACC), Patricia Szczys (ECSU), Sheldon Watson (CCSU)

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Chair Ira Bloom.

An official roll call of the BOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee members was taken and a quorum was declared.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. September 7, 2022
Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2022, BOR ASA Committee meeting. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
2. Consent Items

- a. Discontinuations
 - i. Infant and Toddler – Certificate – Charter Oak State College
 - ii. Information Management and Services – BS and Minor – Southern CT State University

Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Action Items

- a. Modifications
 - i. Counselor Education: School Counseling – MS – Western CT State University [Significant Modification of Courses/Course Substitutions]
Dr. Missy Alexander, Provost, and Dr. Nicole DeRonck, Director of Counselor Education Program presented. WCSU seeks approval of program modification. The program’s accrediting agency has revised its standards, leading to program modifications in alignment with the new requirements. The program has been maintained as an online program since the pandemic and shows high enrollment.
Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve this modification. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth and second by Regent Juanita James. A vote was taken, and the modification was approved unanimously.
 - ii. Education Paraprofessional to Early Childhood Education – Certificate – Northwestern CT Community College [Significant Modification of Courses/Course Substitutions and Change of Degree Title or Program Title]
Dr. Tracey-Smith, Program Coordinator presented. NWCC seeks approval for program modification. This program has modified its name and curriculum to align with the program at CT State. This allows the option for students to complete the program at either NWCC or CT State. This option and the embedding of the certificate into the Early Childhood Education Associate Degree program at no additional cost is expected to boost enrollment.
Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve this modification. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth. A vote was taken, and the modification was approved unanimously.
- b. Suspensions
 - i. Speech and Language Pathology Studies – Certificate – Charter Oak State College
Dr. David Ferreira, Provost, presented. COSC seeks approval to suspend the program. It was built in partnership with the Capital Region Educational Council (CREC). CREC is no longer interested in partnering with this program. Charter Oak plans to re-build with its own curriculum and plans to collaborate with SCSU and their Communications Disorders department as a stackable credential pathway. This program will return to the committee in 2024 with either a recommendation to continue or discontinue.
Chair Bloom called for a vote to approve the suspension. A vote was taken, and it was unanimous.

- c. State University Centers and Institutes
- i. Continuation of a Center/Institute – The Center for Communication Disorders – Southern CT State University
Provost Robert Prezant, Dean of Health and Human Services, Sandra Bulmer, Chair of the Department of Communication Disorders, Jennifer McCullagh, and Director of the Center, Sujini Ramachander presented. The Center for Communication Disorders is set in the culturally and economically diverse community of greater New Haven and was developed as a teaching clinic. It serves as a required clinical training venue for undergraduate and graduate students. There are 50-60 students working within the clinic and the clinic sees 150 clients per week across all socio-economic statuses. This program allows students to gain hands on experience, fulfill program requirements, and meet the needs of the diverse community. Chair Bloom proposed an editorial change to the resolution, which is to update the continuance from the September 31st, 2029, date, to September 30th, 2029, as the 31st is not an existing date.
Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve this continuation. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the continued accreditation was approved unanimously.
- ii. Continuation and Name Change of a Center/Institute – Center for Sustainable Studies – Eastern CT State University
Provost William Salka, and Dr. Stephen Nathan, Chair of the Environmental Earth Sciences Department presented. An editorial change regarding name was addressed, the name of the Center is the Center for Sustainability Studies, rather than Sustainable Studies. The need for a name change is a result of the center’s revised mission. The revised mission broadens the focus of sustainable energy in a social justice and equity approach. This is achieved by providing a curriculum that actively engages students on sustainability issues, including climate change and the disproportionate impact that environmental crises have on marginalized communities and racial minority populations. The Center is building relationships with other departments including Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology to collaborate on the social justice and equity lens of the mission.
Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve this Name Change. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the name change was approved unanimously.
- iii. Continuation and Name Change of a Center/Institute – Institute for Sustainability – Eastern CT State University
Dr. William Salka, Provost, and Interim Director of the Institute for Sustainability, Dr. Patricia Szczys presented. The need for a name change is a result of the institute’s revised mission. The mission includes a broad focus on sustainability through an environmental justice lens and on serving as a resource for sustainable practices in the community. ECSU funds the institute; however, the institute does generate grants and other revenue sources with an expectation to become self-sufficient. The revised mission is in accordance with the current EPA stance and the evolving field of environmental studies. Chair Bloom suggested the

institute provide the Board with a report prior to the next application for continuation. Regent R. Porth and Regent J. James believe that the Institute is making important headway in this area and while a report may be favorable, it should not be conditional to the approval of the change. All in agreement to make an amendment in which a report is to be provided in 2025.

Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve amendment. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth and second by Regent Juanita James, a vote was taken, and the amendment was approved unanimously.

Chair Bloom asked for a motion to approve the amended resolution. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth and second by Regent Juanita James, a vote was taken, and the amended resolution was approved unanimously.

4. Informational Items

a. Below Threshold

- i. General Studies – B.S. – Business Administration – Concentration Only - Charter Oak State College [Program Modification]
- ii. General Studies – B.S. – Human Resources Management – Concentration Only - Charter Oak State College [Program Modification]
- iii. Nursing – B.S. – RN/ADN to BSN – Charter Oak State College [Program Modification]
- iv. Caribbean Studies – Minor – Central CT State University [Program Modification – to be discontinued]

b. CSU Emeriti

- i. Southern CT State University

c. Refugee Initiative Report

Lori Pendleton, Director of Admissions at Charter Oak State College and Carl Guerriere, Director for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at Capital Community College presented. Per the June resolution, each lead groups in an initiative to assist refugees. Both groups comprise representatives in varying departments from the community colleges and state universities. Both groups identified barriers that refugee students face and concluded that there are both non-academic and academic barriers, including difficulty obtaining transcript and/or transcript evaluation, housing insecurity, food insecurity, vaccination status, proof of residency, child-care need, FAFSA assistance, ESL programs, and transportation. Both groups identified the need for clarification of the existing CSCU system-wide policy for refugee students and will partner with refugee agencies to continue to engage and assist.

Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth, seconded by Regent Juanita James, a vote was taken and the motion to adjourn was passed unanimously at 10:35AM.