



CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting – March 10, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Conducted via Remote Participation

MINUTES

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

Ex-Officio BOR

Members: Colena Sesanker

Staff Present: Kaylah Davis, Pam Heleen, Rai Kathuria, Kenneth Klucznik, and Noreen Wilson

Other Attendees: Robin Avant (HCC), Stanley Bernard (SCSU), Amy Feest (CT State), Caroline Fisher (Guest), Teresa Foley (ACC), Jess Gregory (SCSU), Kim Kostelis (CCSU), Trudy Milburn (SCSU), Joan Palladino (WCSU), Debra Risisky (SCSU), Antonio Santiago (NVCC), Timothy St. James (ACC), Emily Stevens (WCSU), Michele Vancour (SCSU), Roberta Wachtelhausen (Guest), Ayanna Walker (SCSU)

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 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.

Chair Ira Bloom began the meeting with a comment regarding Regent Holly Howery, as she will be cycling off the board in June and will be gradually relinquishing board duties. Chair Ira Bloom, on behalf of the committee expressed thanks and appreciation for the outstanding contributions that Regent Holly Howery has made to the Academic and Student Affairs committee.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. February 3, 2023

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2023, BOR ASA committee meeting. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy and second by Regent Juanita James, a vote was taken, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Action Items

a. New Programs

i. Health & Wellness Coaching – B.S. – Southern CT State University

Dr. Trudy Milburn, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Michele Vancour, Executive Director of Healthcare Programs, Dr. Stanley Bernard, Chairperson and Associate Professor, and Dr. Debra Risisky, Professor and Undergraduate Program Coordinator presented. Southern Connecticut State University seeks the approval for a new program in Health and Wellness Coaching. This program provides skills and qualifications in the health and wellness profession and addresses a workforce shortage in CT. Students pursuing this path will work with individuals to address critical health needs and health management, which has become prevalent since the pandemic. As one of the first Public Health bachelor's degree programs to become accredited in the country, SCSU aims to again pioneer new programs in this field, by being the only program in the Northeast to provide Health and Wellness Coaching as a bachelor's degree. According to Bureau of Labor, this field will grow at a 12% rate and can include sectors such as insurance. In collaboration with the SCSU Departments of Recreation, Tourism, and Sports Management and Health and Movement Sciences, courses are specifically designed for flexibility and career readiness. The new Health and Human Services building will allow students the opportunity to practice observation and coaching, while also serving the university and the community. Guests from Well Spark, located in Farmington expressed their support. Their organization is growing and welcomes opportunities for internships and a pipeline to employment opportunities.

Regent James McCarthy commented regarding his previous work as a public health faculty member. He expressed excitement for SCSU taking the lead and collaborating to expand the approach to public health and wellness.

Regent Richard Porth agreed with the comment and added that this program will prepare students in their future critical role in public health.

Chair Bloom seconded the comments of fellow regents.

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve this new program. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the new program was approved unanimously.

ii. 092 Intermediate Administrator – Post-Masters Certificate – Southern CT State University

Dr. Trudy Milburn, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Jess Gregory, Interim Department Chair and Professor, and Dr. Christopher Trombly, Coordinator of EDL 6th Year Program and Associate Professor presented.

Southern Connecticut State University seeks the approval of a new program, 092 Intermediate Administrator, Post Masters Certificate. This program will allow students who are enrolled in the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership to apply for the Intermediate Administrator Certificate provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education. With a qualifying score on the exam, students will be eligible for the certificate prior to completing their dissertation; currently, they would need to wait until program completion. By allowing eligibility while

enrolled, the students will be able to apply for highly needed administrator positions.

Regent Juanita James commented that this program recognizes today's reality of stackable credentials and achievement of knowledge, while continuing to learn.

Regent James McCarthy congratulated their ability to provide flexibility and recognize qualifications of employment in the field.

Chair Ira Bloom inquired on the number of doctoral students in the program.

Dr. Gregory confirmed that there are about 15-16 students in a cohort, and that typically half of those students are pursuing the K-12 route and would pursue this certificate.

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

- b. Modifications - Health Promotion Studies – B.S. – Western CT State University
[Name change to Public Health]

Dr. Joan Palladino, Interim Dean of Ansell Business School and School of Professional Studies, and Dr. Emily Stevens, Department Chair presented. Western Connecticut State University seeks approval of a name change from Health Promotion Studies to Public Health. The name change better aligns with the program content and provides clarity on what is offered. The concept of public health has become more defined since the pandemic and is a need in the health care field. WCSU already has connections with local health care organizations, and this program will assist students with accurate job attainment.

Regent Juanita James added the importance of clarity for both the student and employer, so that students can find meaningful employment in their area of expertise.

Chair Ira Bloom inquired and confirmed accreditation status of program.

Chair Ira 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.

- c. Honorary Degrees
 - i. CCSU – Dr. Richard Fichman
 - ii. ECSU – Dr. Thomas Gibson
 - iii. SCSU – Dr. Miguel Cardona, Toni Nathaniel Harp
 - iv. Charter Oak State College – Sabrina Tucker-Barrett
 - v. Asnuntuck CC – Madonna Jones-Searle, William Searle
 - vi. Gateway CC – Dr. Ilene Tracey
 - vii. Housatonic CC – Reverend Dr. James Logan, Lourdes Delgado, John Torres, Kathy Saint, Gwen Brantley, Peter Werth
 - viii. Manchester CC – Vinh (Ocean) Vuong

- ix. Naugatuck Valley CC – Catherine Awwad
- x. Quinebaug Valley CC – Steven Townsend
- xi. Tunxis CC – Cindy Bombard

Chair Ira Bloom requested that the honorary degree nominations are voted on as a group, and called for any comments or questions, to which there were none.

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the honorary degree nominations. On a motion by Regent Richard Porth and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the honorary degree nominations were approved unanimously.

d. Policy Revisions

i. Centers and Institutes

Provost Rai Kathuria presented on the Centers and Institutes policy revision. The revision describes the distinction of the primary functions of centers and institutes. A center focuses on instruction and research, whereas institutes focus on community and public service. The revision acknowledges that there can be overlap, and that institutes may evolve over time. The revision also removes detailed procedures, and delegates those to the office of the CSCU Provost. Chair Ira Bloom commented that this was reviewed as an information item at the last meeting and is now ready for the committee’s approval.

Regent Richard Porth added that the revision is helpful, as it provided clarity of terms.

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the Centers and Institutes policy revision. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the revision was approved unanimously.

ii. CT State Policy Rescissions

Dr. Amy Feest, Associate Vice President of Programs and Curriculum presented. CT State is currently reviewing all policies and manuals, and as part of this process, old policies that are still on the books and are out of date, are being recommended for rescission. It is recommended that removing these will benefit students as they will no longer be referenced.

Regent James McCarthy added the removal of old policies is an important job and congratulated for achieving this.

Chair Ira Bloom advised that sorting these out to provide clarity on the policies that are in place is an important practice.

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the CT State Policy Rescissions. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent Richard Porth, a vote was taken, and the rescissions were approved unanimously.

e. Tenures – Western Connecticut State University (effective Spring 2023)

Western Connecticut State University's Promotion and Tenure Committee has recommended two faculty members for tenure effective Spring 2023, with approval from the WCSU President and Provost.

Chair Ira Bloom added that as part of the collective bargaining agreement, there is the need for board approval.

Chair Ira Bloom asked for a motion to approve the Tenure recommendations. On a motion by Regent Juanita James and second by Regent James McCarthy, a vote was taken, and the tenure recommendations were approved unanimously.

4. Informational Items

a. Below Threshold

- i. Health Care Studies – Minor – Southern CT State University

b. Endowed Chair Reports

- i. CCSU American Savings Foundation Endowed Chair in Banking and Finance
- ii. CCSU Gov. William A. O'Neill Endowed Chair in Public Policy and Practical Politics
- iii. CCSU Robert J. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism and Mass Communications
- iv. ECSU J.C. Hick's Endowed Chair in Biology
- v. SCSU Goodwin Endowed Chair in Special Education
- vi. WCSU Macricostas Endowed Chair in Hellenic and Modern Greek Studies

Chair Ira Bloom called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Regent James McCarthy and second by Regent Juanita James, a vote was taken, and the motion to adjourn was passed unanimously at 10:07 a.m.