CSCU

CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting – September 6, 2019 - 9:30 a.m.
Western CT State University Midtown Campus
White Hall, Room 127
181 White Street
Danbury, CT 06810

MINUTES

Regents Present:	Merle Harris, Aviva Budd, Del Cummings, William Lugo (via teleconference), Peter Rosa,
Regents Absent:	Naomi Cohen
Staff Present:	Jane Gates, Bill Gammell, Ken Klucznik, Arthur Poole, Pat Ryiz, Rob Steinmetz
Other Attendees:	Missy Alexander (WCSU), Ilene Crawford (SCSU), Marianne Fallon (CCSU), David Ferreira (NCCC), Rob Farinelli (TRCC), Daniel Larose (CCSU), Robert Prezant (SCSU), Crystal Wiggins (NCCC)

President John B. Clark welcomed the BOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee and guests to Western CT State University.

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chair Merle Harris.

1. Approval of Minutes
   a. June 7, 2019
   On a motion by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa, a vote was taken and the minutes from the June 7, 2019 meeting were approved as amended (the motion to adjourn the June 7, 2019 meeting was seconded by P. Rosa instead of A. Budd).

2. <u>Consent Items</u>
   a. Discontinuations
      i. Women's Studies – Certificate – Three Rivers CC
      ii. Laser and Fiber Optic Technology - Certificate - Three Rivers CC
      iii. Manufacturing Engineering Technology: Laser Manufacturing Opt. – AS - Three Rivers CC

On a motion by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa to adopt the Consent Items, a vote was taken and the consent items were unanimously approved.

3. Action Items
   a. Modifications
      i. Data Mining – MS - CCSU [Program Name Change and Modification/Substitution of Courses]
         Chair Harris called for a motion to approve the modification of the Central CT State University MS in Data Mining and a change in name to MS in Data Science. The motion was moved by P. Rosa and seconded by A. Budd.
         Dr. Marianne Fallon, Interim Associate VP Academic Affairs, and Dr. Daniel Larose, Professor, Mathematical Sciences, presented for CCSU which is proposing four modifications to the MS in Data Mining Program: 1) A change of title to the MS in Data Science; 2) A reduction in course credits from 33 to 31, 3) A CIP code change to 30.3001 Computational Science, and, 4) the addition of five tracks to the program: Bioinformatics, Text Analytics, Clustering, Computational Techniques, and, a General Track which allows students to pick classes from different tracks or from electives.

      ii. Data Mining – Official Certificate Program (OCP) – CCSU [Program Name Change and Modification /Substitution of Courses]
         The CCSU representatives noted that the OCP is embedded in the MS in Data Mining. CCSU is proposing four modifications to the OCP in Data Mining: 1) A change of title to the OCP in Data Science; 2) An increase in course credits from 18-20 to 20-22, 3) An increase in the number of elective credits from 6-8 to 8-10, and, 4) A CIP code change to 30.3001 Computational Science.
         Questions/comments from the Committee regarding these two programs:
         a) *What is the student population for the OCP? What is the motivation to take the OCP?* Response: Most students in these programs are working adults. The MS is the stronger program; but, the OCP is important because students who can't finish the MS will have a credential after 20-22 credits.
         b) *Enrollment – How many enrollees are in the MS and OCP? Why is the number of enrollees so low?* Response: The OCP has had less than 5 students the last two years and has a lower enrollment than the MS degree which had 27 enrollees in 2016 and 17 enrollees in 2017.
         c) *Marketing Plan?* Chair Harris stated that CCSU needs to figure out better ways to increase the enrollment in these programs by interacting with companies that hire data scientists. She suggested that CCSU look at Northwestern CT CC's very detailed marketing plan included in the agenda packet.
         d) *Relationships with various CT companies interested in graduates with Data Science degrees?* Response: Although CCSU has not pursued CT companies as feeders for Data Science graduates, Provost Gates stated that the System Office will work with CCSU to identify CT companies which employ data scientists.
         e) *What is the pathway to the MS? Is it a Bachelor's degree? Or, are working professionals pursuing the MS? Which Bachelor's degree is the best fit for students, without work experience, pursuing the MS?* Response: Most of the students in the MS program are working professionals; however, the number of students with bachelor's degrees is increasing. A Statistics undergraduate degree

would be the best fit for students pursuing the MS in Data Science. *The community colleges need a clear path for math-oriented students to the MS in Data Science.*

    f) Do students pay an online fee? Response: Yes, CCSU students pay a fee of $50.00 for an online course. *Is it the same across the system?* Provost Gates stated that the online fee is established per institution.

Chair Harris called for a vote to approve the modifications to the Central CT State University MS in Data Mining and the vote was unanimous.

On a motion by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa, a vote was taken and the modifications to the Central CT State University OCP in Data Science were approved unanimously.

iii. <u>Business Administration – Online MBA - Southern CT State University [Change from jointly conferred, with Liverpool John Moores University, to singly conferred]</u>

Chair Harris called for a motion to approve the modification of the Southern CT State University online Master of Business Administration (MBA). The motion was moved by P. Rosa and seconded by A. Budd.

Dr. Robert Prezant, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Ilene Crawford, Assoc. VP for Academic Affairs, presented the program which seeks to offer the previously approved online MBA program (BR 17-089) as a singly-conferred degree solely at SCSU without the partnering institution, Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU). Provost Prezant and Dr. Crawford addressed both programs together. Activities in the UK, including Brexit, global IT security, and enrollment issues at LJMU have impacted SCSU's ability to deliver the joint degrees. SCSU is not abandoning its plan to deliver both degrees jointly with LJMU; but, is delaying the process at this point due to the issues stated above. SCSU has the ability and capacity to deliver both degrees independently. SCSU approached NECHE to discuss how this change should be addressed. If the modifications to the programs are approved at the BOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee on Sept. 6, 2019, the programs will move to the BOR Meeting on Sept. 19, 2019 for approval, and then presented at NECHE's November meeting. Questions/comments from the Committee on both programs:

    a) Will the singly-offered programs be as appealing as the joint program with LJMU? Response: For the online MBA, students will be offered an option to take one on ground course in Liverpool taught by SCSU faculty. If SCSU moves to jointly offering the degrees, the transition will not affect students. For the MS in Coastal Resilience, a one-month winter session will be offered off site run by LJMU faculty. Provost Prezant stated that SCSU faculty have long-standing relationships with LJMU faculty and these will continue. SCSU will assess the success of the singly-run programs and if a joint program is run in the future with LJMU, SCSU will determine whether to offer both programs or only combined program.

    b) Does SCSU have an existing online MBA program? Response: The accelerated MBA program is a hybrid.

Chair Harris called for a vote on the modifications to the Southern CT State University online MBA program to approve the program to be offered singly by SCSU. A vote was taken and it was unanimous.

iv. Coastal Resilience - MS - Southern CT State University [Change from jointly conferred, with Liverpool John Moores University, to singly conferred]

On a motion by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa, a vote was taken and the modifications to approve the Southern CT State University MS in Coastal Resilience to be offered singly was approved unanimously.

b. New Programs
i. Technology Studies: Data Science Option – AS – Northwestern CT CC

Chair Harris called for a motion to approve the new Data Science degree option within the Technology Studies AS Program at Northwestern CT Community College. The motion was moved by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa.

Dr. David Ferreira, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, and Professor Crystal Wiggins, Mathematics, presented the new program option for NCCC. The Technology Studies Data Science option AS degree is a 67-credit hybrid program. Professor Wiggins noted that NCCC worked with the College of Technology on this degree which will be transferrable to the CSUs for students who wish to pursue a bachelor's degree. Many of the electives in the program are open and Professor Wiggins will work with individual students to structure the program to align with their future four-year degree focus. Students need a bachelor's degree and the skills and knowledge to enter the data science field.

Questions/comments from the Committee:
a) *Difference between the Data Science Certificate (approved in June 2019) and the AS Data Science Option* – Response: The Data Science Certificate has not been eliminated. Students can get the standalone certificate or use it as a double major with another associates degree.
b) *Where can students transfer with the Technology Studies: Data Science Option AS degree?* Response: Four to five TAP programs fit into the Data Science Option AS degree. Students can transfer into a number of bachelor's degrees at the CSUs with no loss of credit. Students will need a lot of support and guidance on navigating transfers to the CSUs to insure that they are properly placed. Also, the college is working with SCSU to create a pathway to its new BS in Data Science.
c) *Is one faculty member sufficient for both the Certificate and the AS programs in Data Science?* Response: Eventually, if the enrollment increases, a part time adjunct will be hired. Faculty expenses in the budget were proportionately divided between the Certificate and AS in Data Science. A faculty sharing agreement with CCSU and establishing a coordinated adjunct pool were discussed.
d) *Student Demographic* – Regent Rosa was pleased that Post Latino.com was included in the marketing plan. Dean Ferreira noted that the number of Latino students has increased at NCCC from 5% five years ago to 20% this year.
e) *Are internships available for AS in Data Science students?* – Response: Most companies want interns who are near the end of their Bachelor's degree program. Some companies, however, don't have a level of degree requirement. NCCC is working with these companies.
f) *Can graduates get jobs with AS degrees in Data Science?* Response: The trend for degree levels in job postings has gone from Doctorates to Bachelor's degrees. Jobs may soon open up for graduates of AS degree programs who have good portfolios.

Chair Harris called for a vote to approve the new Data Science degree option within the Technology Studies AS Program at Northwestern CT Community College and the vote was unanimous.

c. Suspensions
   i. <u>Energy Management – AAS – Tunxis CC</u>
   Chair Harris called for a motion to approve the suspension of the Energy Management AAS program at Tunxis Community College. The motion was moved by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa.
   Provost Jane Gates presented this program. The Energy Management AAS program is a low-completer program with fewer than three graduates per year. The degree is part of the STEAM plan which is merging or reorganizing existing programs. No new students will be enrolled in the program, with a teach out date of May 2022. Tunxis is suspending the program to determine what changes would meet the needs of industry, students and the institution. Regent Cummings asked if the Committee can get more information ("Lessons Learned") when programs don't work out that can be used in creating new programs. Chair Harris suggested that Tunxis CC look at a similar program at Gateway CC that transfers to the Public Utility Management program at Southern CT State University.
   Chair Harris called for a vote to approve the suspension of the Energy Management AAS program at Tunxis Community College and the vote was unanimous.

d. <u>Renaming Institution's Academic Units from Schools to Colleges – Southern CT State University</u>
   i. Renaming the School of Arts and Sciences as the College of Arts and Sciences
   ii. Renaming the School of Education as the College Education
   iii. Renaming the School of Health and Human Services as the College of Health and Human Services
   Chair Harris called for a motion to approve the renaming of the Southern CT State University School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health and Human Services to the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, and the College of Health and Human Services, respectively. The motion was moved by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa.
   Provost Robert Prezant presented the rationale for the requested changes. SCSU has hired 52 faculty in the last two years and is in the process of hiring 32 additional faculty. SCSU hired many faculty in different departments who will work together. Provost Prezant discussed the concept of "cluster hires" and stated that SCSU has established three clusters: 1) Climate Change, Blue Economy, and Resilience; 2) Health Informatics, and 3) Social Equity/Access. Interdisciplinary work will be easier in this configuration. There also will be naming opportunities.
   Questions/comments from the Committee:
   a) *Will there be a dean in each school/college?* Response: SCSU just named two associate deans to the School of Arts and Sciences.
   b) *Will the School of Business become a College?* Response: No, the School of Business will remain a school.
   c) *Is there a foundation and does it support this move?* Response: Yes.

Chair Harris called for a vote to approve the renaming of the Southern CT State University School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health and Human Services to the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, and the College of Health and Human Services, respectively, and the vote was unanimous.

4. <u>Informational Items</u>
   a. Below Threshold
      i. <u>Principles of Manufacturing – Certificate – Naugatuck Valley CC</u>
   No vote is taken on Below Threshold programs. The programs are forwarded to the CT Office of Higher Education.

On a motion by A. Budd and seconded by P. Rosa, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of the BOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee at 10:49 a.m.