



BOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Agenda and Notice of a SPECIAL MEETING
Via Conference call originating from the BOR Room (Ground Floor)
61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT**

Monday, December 3, 2018 – Noon

A Special Meeting of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Regents will be held at Noon, Monday, December 3, 2018 via conference call originating from the BOR Room (Ground Floor) at 61 Woodland Street, Hartford CT.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum
2. “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy
3. Vote on Resolution
4. Adjourn

CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

RESOLUTION

concerning

Adoption of a “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy

- WHEREAS,** Southern Connecticut State University established a joint enrollment and student success partnership with Housatonic Community College in 2016 and added Gateway Community College in 2017; and
- WHEREAS,** The Board of Regents has determined that the other universities and community colleges within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities System should be afforded the opportunity to replicate the joint admissions initiative known as “A to B in CT”; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Board of Regents adopts the “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy as a collaboration between CSCU Colleges and Universities for student success, in accordance with the provisions of the “Welcome to CSCU” Policy Statement; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the other universities and colleges of the CSCU System are free to maintain any pre-existing joint enrollment initiatives or to enter into an “A to B in CT” partnership, per their determination as to what is best for the students of their region.

A True Copy:

Erin A. Fitzgerald, Secretary of the
CT Board of Regents for Higher Education

ITEM

“Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy

BACKGROUND

Fundamental to the viability and the sustainability of institutions of higher education is the enrollment of students.

One of the most attractive features of higher education in the nation is the flexibility it provides through the number and diversity of institutional types it encompasses. More than 4,500 institutions comprise higher education in the United States. Higher education in the U.S. is incredibly diverse – there are public institutions and private, very large and very small, situated in urban, suburban and rural settings, secular and religiously affiliated. The academic offerings of U.S. colleges and universities are also enormous and comprehensive in their totality.

Given the variety of higher educational options, students are likely to find the right “fit” for their academic, financial and personal needs. Since, college selection is a two-way proposition; college enrollment is very competitive, now and more so in the near future. College enrollment has declined for seven consecutive years; and enrollment is projected to continue declining or be stagnant for the next two decades, due in large part to falling birth rates.

The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities System consists of public institutions - four regional universities, an online college and twelve community colleges. The universities and online college employ selective admission criteria in admitting students. The community colleges utilize an open admissions policy that means that anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent may attend.

RATIONALE

Students who apply for admission to a Connecticut State University exhibit an expectation or a hope that they have found their “fit”. However, some of these students do not meet the institution’s admission standards; but would benefit from acquiring higher education.

In 2016, to expand its marketing and student recruitment strategies, Southern Connecticut State University established an enrollment and student success partnership with Housatonic Community College. This partnership invited those students not admitted to Southern to enroll at Housatonic where they would complete an Associate degree, then seamlessly transfer to Southern to pursue a Bachelor’s degree. This partnership also ensured participating students would receive targeted supportive services from both institutions from day one, including academic advising from Southern. This partnership known as “A to B in CT” was expanded to include Gateway Community College in 2017.

The proposed policy affords students denied admission to a CSCU university the opportunity to enroll at a CSCU community college of their choice – a path to earn an Associate degree and subsequently a Bachelor’s degree at the CSCU university of their choice. The proposal allows for supportive services by the two institutions to be implemented for participating students when is logistically practical. Moreover, the proposed policy allows the CSCU universities and colleges to determine whether

existing or alternative partnerships outside of the “A to B in CT” model are more feasible for their campus and suit their regional needs.

RECOMMENDATION

Following its review and deliberative process, it is the recommendation of the CSCU Council of Presidents that the Board of Regents adopts the “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy.

12/03/2018 – Academic & Student Affairs Committee

12/13/2018 – Board of Regents

“Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy
A Collaboration Between CSCU Colleges and Universities for Student Success

Purpose:

The purpose of the “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy is to enroll students who applied to but were not admitted to one of the four universities in the CSCU system. These students who are denied undergraduate admission to any of the four universities will be invited to enroll in a CSCU community college, complete a CSCU Transfer Ticket, and then transfer to a CSCU university to complete a Bachelor’s degree.

History and Goal:

Southern Connecticut State University and Housatonic Community College established this enrollment and student success partnership in 2016. Gateway Community College was added to the partnership in 2017. This partnership (known as A to B in CT, see more detail below) includes two key components:

1. Inviting students who are not admitted to SCSU the opportunity to enroll at HCC or GCC, complete their Associate’s degree, and then transfer to SCSU for their Bachelor’s degree
2. Ensuring that participating students receive targeted support from SCSU and the community college from day one, including academic advising from SCSU

The goal of the “Welcome to CSCU” Admissions Policy is to establish the first key component across the CSCU system at every university and college: That all students who are denied admission to a CSCU university will automatically be offered the opportunity to enroll in a CSCU community college and provided information about Transfer Tickets, associate degrees that place students on the right path to seamless transfer into Bachelor’s degrees at all four CSUs and Charter Oak.

The policy also allows the second key component to be established between participating partner universities and colleges in the CSCU system when it is logistically practical for the two institutions to establish such a partnership. In these partnerships, students receive targeted support and advising from the university they wish to eventually attend.

System-wide Enrollment Process:

When any student is denied undergraduate admission to a CSCU university, the denial letter they receive will include standard language detailing the opportunity to enroll at a CSCU community college, complete a CSCU Transfer Ticket, and then enroll at the university for their Bachelor’s degree. A web link designed for this process (or similar functionality) will be established by the CSCU system office.

In a timely and periodic manner, at least biweekly when new data is available, each CSCU university will also generate a list (containing only directory information) of all students who have been denied undergraduate admission. These lists will be submitted electronically through the CSCU system office so students can be contacted regarding this enrollment opportunity.

A to B in CT Partnerships (Supplemental Process):

CSCU universities and colleges that agree to engage in a more meaningful model of partnership that provides targeted support from the university and the college from day one may participate in the A to B in CT program.

Participating partners must agree to:

- Use an established Banner Student Information System code to designate the student as an A to B in CT participant
- Notify A to B in CT students of their university advisor and their college advisor
- Monitor A to B in CT students and provide periodic scheduled advising and student supports as appropriate
- Provide opportunities for A to B in CT students to participate in select university activities and/or utilize select university services
- Encourage A to B in CT students to complete their Associate's degree at the college and then transfer to the university for their Bachelor's degree

CSCU universities and colleges partnering to participate in the A to B in CT program will be supported by the system, including:

- Annual reports created and/or supported by the CSCU Office of Research and System Effectiveness, indicating the number (and demographics) of students who participate, persist, and graduate in the A to B in CT program at various partner institutions
- Marketing and other logistics considerations as appropriate to encourage the growth of the A to B in CT program

Other Partnerships (Supplemental Process)

CSCU universities and colleges may determine that existing or alternative partnerships outside of the A to B in CT program parameters are more feasible for their campus and suit their regional needs.

Students benefitting from these non-A to B in CT partnerships will not be coded in the Banner Student Information System as A to B in CT students.