

**BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes – 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 8, 2013

1st Floor Boardroom, 39 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Executive Committee members

Lewis J. Robinson

Yvette Melendez

Dr. Merle Harris

Gary Holloway

Craig S. Lappen

Naomi S. Cohen

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Rene Lerer

BOR STAFF

Philip E. Austin, interim President

Dennis C. Murphy, interim Chief of Staff

Braden Hosch, Director of Policy & Research and Interim Director of Academic Affairs

Erin A. Fitzgerald, Associate Director for Board Affairs and Secretary of the Board of Regents

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes – On a motion by Craig Lappen, with a second by Merle Harris the November 1, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Approval of Higher Education Accountability Measures

Following an overview by Braden Hosch on the development of the accountability measures, on a motion by Merle Harris seconded by Craig Lappen, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to move the following resolution to the full Board of Regents on January 17, 2013:

WHEREAS Sections 10a-6a and 10a-6b of the Connecticut General Statutes require development, approval, and implementation of a new set of accountability measures for higher education, and

WHEREAS A working group of representatives from the Connecticut Community Colleges, Connecticut State Universities, the University of Connecticut, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the Office of Policy and Management, the Department of Education, the Higher Education and Employment Committee of the State Legislature, and the Office of the Governor drafted an accountability framework and measures, and

WHEREAS The Higher Education Coordinating Council reviewed and modified this framework and accountability measures, and subsequently approved the measures on November 29, 2012, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approve the higher education accountability framework and measures for use in annual accountability reports.

Update – Policy Development

Dennis Murphy shared an update on issues relating to policy development, noting that staff has been developing proposed employee-related policies for Board staff, which will be submitted to the Committee on Administration for their review and development. Naomi Cohen noted her committee was looking first at human resource policies; however, there are other issues that also need to be reviewed. There was discussion regarding the approval process of policies; at the conclusion of which Yvette Melendez noted that would be one of the functions of the Executive Committee: to ensure as new policies are developed they were sited within the appropriate Board Committee.

Updates from Board Committee Chairs

Finance Committee, Gary Holloway – discussed the potential for tuition increases in light of current economic situation. President Austin noted that a document would be prepared by staff for the Board members' information regarding this topic. Chairman Robinson noted the need to clearly illustrate the analysis and thought behind whatever the final tuition and fee recommendation would come forth for the Board's consideration. There was discussion amongst members about the importance of ensuring all stakeholders, including students, are kept apprised of discussions and analysis regarding our current budget situation and potential changes in tuition and fees. Craig Lappen noted the administration needed to also look at identifying cost efficiencies.

Audit Committee, Craig Lappen – noted the Committee accepted the audits for CSUS 202 by Marcum and the university and college audits by PricewaterhouseCooper. Craig Lappen also shared that the committee received a report from BOR CIO Wendy Chang regarding IT security issues and that the search for the BOR Internal Auditor was proceeding on schedule.

Academic & Student Affairs, Merle Harris – noted the transfer and articulation policy was on the upcoming committee agenda and advised that while there was voting going on at the campus level, the committee will proceed with voting on the work product to date. The Committee was in the process in looking at existing programs; while there is not a recommendation at this point, the Committee is moving forward on this important task. Finally, the issue of campus safety was another matter the Committee would begin to review in the coming months.

Administration Committee, Naomi Cohen – noted that the Committee was looking at the issue of unvouchered expenses and, also, that an RFP is being developed to proceed with phase 2 of the study of management confidential employees.

Strategic Planning – Chairman Robinson noted that Rene Lerer was not present, however, he had previously communicated the status of the Committee’s deliberations to members via regular updates at the Board meetings.

Brief discussion took place on several topics, including, but not limited to the following:

- ensuring continued compliance with FOI open meeting requirements;
- IT security issues - Chairman Robinson will form a Special Committee on Information Technology, headed by Regent Nicholas Donofrio, who is in the process of inviting additional regents (Michael Pollard, Alex Tettey, Matt Fleury). Merle Harris noted the need to ensure IT security issues are developed also with the recognition that the guidelines developed should take into consideration the needs of faculty.

Discussion – Budget Rescission plans

President Austin provided an update on rescission plans, indicating that all university and college presidents had submitted their plans and they would be discussed at the Finance Committee, not as an approval item, but as an information item.

With no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Submitted,

Erin A. Fitzgerald