

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

**Minutes – 9:00 a.m., June 4, 2013**

Lower Level Community Room, 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT

**REGENTS PARTICIPATING**

Lewis J. Robinson  
Yvette Melendez  
Dr. Merle Harris  
Dr. Rene Lerer *via teleconference*  
Naomi K. Cohen  
Craig S. Lappen  
Nicholas Donofrio *via teleconference*

**REGENTS ABSENT**

Gary Holloway

**BOR STAFF**

Dennis C. Murphy, interim Chief of Staff  
Steven Weinberger, VP for Human Resources  
Erin A. Fitzgerald, Associate Director for Board Affairs  
Colleen Flanagan Johnson, Director of Public Affairs and Marketing  
Kyle Thomas, Legislative Program Manager  
James Howarth, interim Chief Financial Officer  
Ernestine Weaver, BOR Counsel

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and announced that Agenda Item #4, BOR Standing Committee Responsibilities, was removed from the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**On a motion by Naomi Cohen and a second by Craig Lappen, the minutes of March 5, 2013, were unanimously approved as submitted.**

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Chairman Robinson advised committee members of his recent conversations with incoming BOR President Gregory W. Gray and indicated he would be seeking board members' input regarding suggestions for evaluation criteria.

**UPDATE FROM ADMINISTRATION**

Interim Chief of Staff Dennis Murphy provided an update from Administration (interim BOR President Austin was attending a NEASC accreditation meeting) on the following items:

- plan of action for review and consolidation of existing policies
- legislative update
- finance/budgetary issues/funding formula

Discussion ensued among committee members of the need to proceed strategically – there was consensus that issues before the board must not be viewed purely from a budgetary standpoint, but to recognize and plan for strategic realignment and fundamental policy issues that come into play.

Additionally, Colleen Flanagan Johnson provided the following update regarding the Maguire Associates Project:

- All 17 of the campus visits have been completed. Maguire met with each of the presidents, a group of students and took a tour of the campus to get a better feel for the individuality of the campuses across our system.
- Maguire completed 17 Retention Diagnostic Questionnaires reports, based on findings from the RDQ survey fielded to faculty/staff at each institution earlier this year. The survey assessed the perception of campus faculty and staff regarding each institution's recruitment, enrollment, and retention efforts. The results included averages from the system as a whole, as well as the averages for each constituent unit. The report also highlighted "highest performing statements" and "lowest performing statements" – a summary of the areas in which each campus is doing well, and in which areas each campus may consider improving. The reports were shared with each president, the Steering Committee and the Board of Regents.
- Maguire received in May 5-10 years of undergraduate admission, enrollment, and financial aid data at the unit-record level for analysis from all 17 institutions. Findings are expected later in the summer or early fall.
- Maguire is preparing to field four surveys to the following groups: undergraduate/graduate alumni from the past 10 years; admitted undergraduate/graduate students; prospective undergraduate/graduate students; and current undergraduate/graduate students. The surveys will be fielded from June through October.
- Maguire is preparing a presentation to Dr. Gray, which is currently scheduled for July 8, to bring him up-to-speed on the project.
- Over the summer, Maguire will be reviewing the raw data collected by Sightlines and conducting interviews with facilities managers across the system. They will also be conducting phone interviews with key opinion leaders, whose impressions of the system, our institutions, programs and other issues will help further inform the project.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Naomi Cohen and Craig Lappen, the Committee voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 9:41 a.m. **to discuss**

- Records pertaining to strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency is a party.

All Regents listed above remained; Chairman Robinson directed the staff members listed above to remain during Executive Session:

Executive Session ended at 9:52 a.m.

## **OPEN SESSION**

The Committee returned to Open Session at 9:53 a.m. Chairman Robinson announced that discussion was limited to “records pertaining to strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency is a party” and that no votes were cast in Executive Session.

## **UPDATES FROM BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Committee Chairs present reported out on the status of various items pending before their respective committees.

Note: following his update on the Special Committee on Information Technology, Nicholas Donofrio left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business appearing, the committee meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Submitted,

Erin A. Fitzgerald