

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
January 27, 2023 WebEx

Present:

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC
Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, alternate, QVCC
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU
Dunne, Matthew, Fac, HCC
Emanuel, Michael, Fac, alternate, NWCCC
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC
Goh, Bryan, Fac, alternate, MXCC
Long, Jennifer, Fac, alternate, TRCC
Muldoon, Linsey, Fac, Alternate, MCC

Picard, Ronald, Fac, alternate, NVCC
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, Vice-Chair, GWCC
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU
Stoloff, David, Fac, alternate, ECSU
Trieu, Vu, SUOAF, CSU alternate
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, alternate, CCC

Absent:

Blaszczynski, Andre, Fac, alternate, TXCC
Fisher, Mikey, alternate, SCSU
Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, WCSU
Jackson, Mark, Fac, Alternate, CCSU

Lumbantobing, Rotua, Fac, WCSU
Perfetto, Linda, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC

Guest: Rob Whittemore, WCSU

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- Meeting called to order by Chair Sesanker, at 1:08 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
 - Approval of 12/02/22 FAC minutes – Motion to approve – Dyan Robinson; seconded – approved unanimously
 - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – David Blitz; seconded – approved unanimously
- Chair Report for CCCs
 - One Board since we last met.
 - Update from CCC
 - Public comments on WCSU issues and faculty pay at CCCs for the winter session
 - CSCU Vision statement discussed. Word “systemness” used in the statement. Currently that word is not actually a word in the English language and is therefore not in any dictionary and not well-defined on social media. Is CSCU really a system of independent systems or a system of dependent components?
 - Update on FAC resolution on faculty control of curriculum:
 - Provost Kathuria wants a meeting before it goes to ASA, if necessary.
 - Provost Kathuria will be at next FAC meeting to discuss a revision in the program review process and would like feedback from the FAC on this
- Vice-Chair Report for CSUs
 - No meeting of the BOR Finance & Infrastructure Committee to report on
- Universal Observances Calendar
 - Put together by a sub-committee of the CSCU Calendar Committee
 - What are we supposed to be doing with this? Should we send comments to someone?
 - Juneteenth not on the calendar along with many other days that are shown in lists of Universal Observances Day

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- This list is exclusionary since it does not include all possible days that are recognized in lists of Universal Observance days. There are many websites that have such lists:
 - What is the purpose of this list?
 - International Workers Day should be on the list
 - International Lefthanders Day should also be on the list
 - Motion by Mike Shea: Juneteenth, International Workers Day, Cinco de Mayo should be included on this list; seconded – approved, with one vote against
 - Motion by Ron Picard: To reject list as exclusionary; seconded – not approved by 4-3 vote
- FAC Conference
 - Small group met to discuss this. Believe it should be virtual
 - Looking for feedback from FAC - themes? who to invite?
 - Date might be 4/21 since we are limited based on meeting schedules for April
 - Lois Aime suggested Robin Isserles, faculty member in CUNY system and author “The Costs of Completion” about public higher ed issues. Certainly open to other suggestions
 - Suggestion to put together a faculty panel in the morning and a student panel in the afternoon
 - Topics – how do we measure success; how do we contribute to society
- NECHE Public Comments
 - 3 Public Comments were submitted to NECHE to be reviewed at their 3/02-03 meeting
 - One of the documents was previously submitted last October, withdrawn, and re-submitted on 1/09 with the other two documents
 - Won’t hear from NECHE until after their March meeting
- Update on CSCC Curriculum Congress Meeting
 - Mike Stefanowicz and Miah LaPierre Dreger chaired the meeting. Dr. Maduko was supposed to give charge but did not show up so LaPierre Dreger gave charge.
 - No Chair or Co-chair were elected so nothing was done
 - Elections to these two committees were not well thought-out since they work against the small colleges having representation on these committees
- No update on CSCC Senate Meeting – no one from FAC is on this committee
- Shared governance in general
 - Can we recruit dept. chairs from colleges to have conversation on how governance process might work with dept. chair structure
 - Shared governance also an issue at CSUs
 - Unable to get answers about how people will be compensated for being on these committees
- CSCU 2030 Proposal
 - Multi-year, “big vision” proposal in brochure format
 - Where did list of “new and innovative” programs come from? Were there any discussions with faculty, staff, students on any of this?
 - Shouldn’t the FAC and other constituents from around the system have been consulted regarding the “consortial” (a word, by the way, that is also not in the Merriam Webster dictionary) degrees?
 - Most asks have already been asked for and funding has already been received, but appears to not have been used for what it was asked for
 - What if this is ultimate wish list?
 - Couple of examples of asks:

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- PACT+ will be new and will be available to students at CSUs and Charter Oak who are majoring in programs aligned with Governor’s Workforce Council Strategic Plan
- Building an updated facility for Capital Community College
- Need to invite Provost and perhaps others to clarify items in CSCU 2030
- FAC Priorities This Year
 - Conference
 - Advocacy for funding
 - Feedback on Program Review
- COVID/Health Updates
 - Covid clinics happening at CCSU
 - Nothing happening at NCC
 - MXCC had a clinic in November
 - QVCC has a vaccination clinic once a month through spring semester
- Old/New Business
 - Lots of serious financial problems at WCSU
 - Much is unknown
 - Dropped enrollments; failure to collect student debt; serious mismanagement in general
 - Interim president appears to be looking to leave
 - Discontinuation of programs has been suspended but no written confirmation of this
 - General difficult time
 - Appears that 900 students have stepped away between fall and spring semesters
 - ECSU cancelling a number of classes students need to graduate
 - About 100 sections have been cancelled
 - Attempting to get students involved in questioning what is happening

DRAFT

Motion to adjourn – David Blitz; seconded – approved unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 3:36 pm

Next Meeting: February 10, 2023

Submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé