

**Regular Meeting of the State of CT**  
**Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education**  
**Minutes**  
**January 29, 2021, WebEx**

**Present:**

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC  
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU  
Breault, Benjamin, Admin Fac, Alternate, At-Large Rep, MCC  
Coan, Francis, Fac non-voting, TXCC  
Emanuel, Michael, Fac non-voting, NWCCC  
Grace, Sean, Alternate, SCSU  
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC  
Garcia-Bowen, Myrna, Admin Fac, SUOAF, CSU  
Long, Jennifer, Fac, Alternate, TRCC

Picard, Ron, Fac, Alternate, NVCC  
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC  
Richards, Barbara, Fac, HCC  
Ruggiero, Christine, Fac, Alternate, MXCC  
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, GWCC  
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU  
Stoloff, David, Fac, Alternate, ECSU  
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC  
Wilson, Marvin, Admin Fac, Alternate, SUOAF, CSU

**Absent:**

Brewer, Adam, Fac, non-voting, WCSU  
Creech, Paul, Fac non-voting, CCC

Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting, WCSU  
Kaufman, O. Brian, non-voting, QVCC

**Guests:**

Heleen, Pamela, Associate Director Board Affairs  
Key, William, NCC

Latour, Fred, CCSU

[Voting Members: Aime, Lois, At-Large NCC; Blitz, David, CCSU; Farquharson, Patrice, COSC; Garcia-Bowen, Myrna, SUOAF CSU; ?, ECSU; Rajczewski, MaryBeth, ACC; Richards, Barbara, HCC; Sesanker, Colena, GCC; Shea, Mike, SCSU; Wilder, Linda, COSC]

Meeting called to order by Chair, Colena Sesanker, at 1:08 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.

- 12/11/2020 Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve: F. Coan; seconded;
  - Approved unanimously
- Martin Mendoza-Botelho, ECSU, is no longer a member of FAC. ECSU will elect a new representative
- Sean Grace, SCSU, has been elected as the SCSU alternate and joins us starting with this meeting
- FAC Chair Report –
  - 12.17 BOR meeting FAC Chair/Co-Chair gave reports from FAC. BOR report on SF update is misleading and does not directly respond to questions and concerns brought forward by FAC. Report is superficial with little documentation to verify content.
  - Scheduled meeting with Chair/Co-chair and Vice-Chair of legislative Higher Ed committee. It was, on the whole, a positive meeting. Asked for meeting with FAC and Higher Ed committee as required in legislation that created the CSCU system. A few bills related to public higher education now in the pipeline in the legislature.
- FAC Co-Chair Report –
  - Phone conversation with Matt Fleury. Want to revise relationship between FAC and the BOR. Have bi-annual joint meetings with BOR as required in documentation that created the CSCU; have monthly FAC reports as a committee for the Board to help normalize relationship.
    - Will have meeting on 2/05 with Colena, David, Matt Fleury, Jane Gates, and Alice Pritchard. Merle Harris will possibly be there.
- Re-opening –

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- Still questions about what will happen summer and fall 2021
- NWCCC and ECSU will have fully online summer sessions
- ACME Draft Policy –
  - Interim Pres. Gates attended last CCET meeting. CCET had questions that Pres. Gates did not respond to but she went over a list of misconceptions that she attempted to clarify
  - Pres. Gates noted that ACME policy is not going away but she understands that it needs to be revised
  - Pres. Gates received commentary that suggested that the policy was racist, and she wanted to know who might have made those comments
  - CCET role in revision process still up in the air
  - Idea of “racism” may initiate in the fact that the developmental courses will be eliminated and the students coming from areas that have historically underfunded and underserved K-12 education and may not, therefore, be prepared to start in college-level classes will be ill-served by this. And these students are majority black, brown, immigrant, and low-income. Co-requisite model will not replace the current developmental course structure that supports students from these areas.
- HR Consolidation and IT Consolidation –
  - Discussion on serious issues with IT at the end of the fall semester and all during this semester that were seriously disruptive to the teaching and learning process that started during the registration process for students and carried through to teaching and learning during the semester. The dissolution of the local IT structure compounded the problem, as did the timing of these ongoing upgrades to an aging system.
  - Motion to collect information on the effect of the consolidation of HR services and the consolidation of IT services. Motion to approve: F. Coan; seconded; passed unanimously
- NECHE reports on individual campuses –
  - Is any college having an issue with how reports are being written to accommodate consolidation processes: Tunxis CC 10-year report due this year will not know how content is presented until the report is finalized; Naugatuck Valley CC having some issues with addressing Standard 8 but will not know anything until report is finalized. NVCC will use System Office data to assess students at NVCC in their report; At Gateway CC two of the lead writers have not been at GCC for a number of years – one person is retired from GCC for a couple of years and the other has been working at System Office for a couple of years; At Norwalk CC the 5<sup>th</sup> year report that was sent 2019 was edited and sent to NECHE without the lead writer, any of the committee chairs/members, or anyone else, seeing the final product before it was sent to NECHE.
- Inviting System Office leadership to future meetings –
  - Tanya Milner, Assoc. VP Teaching & Learning, would like to speak with us about Strategic Plan
  - Suggestion that Jane Gates come to FAC
  - Thought Ben Barnes might come to FAC
  - Suggestion to invite Interim Pres. Jane Gates – poll to invite Jane Gates to next FAC meeting: passed 6 in favor and 1 against
- Conference Update –
  - Panelists and breakout sessions; possibility of 2 dates but still up in the air – 4/16 and possibly 3/26 or 4/30
  - System Office not contributing funding to this conference
  - Unions have agreed to help fund the conference

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- Possibility of panelists/speakers on austerity and neoliberalism
- FAC elections –
  - Elections generally take place in the spring every 2 years. At CCs it is a complicated process, while at the universities it is a simpler process.
  - Need committee members especially for CCs – will pursue further at February meeting
- Documents received –
  - There will be a space on the FAC website where various documents from the colleges and universities can be housed in one location
  - There should be structure that would allow individuals to easily find specific documents

Meeting adjourned 3:46 pm

**Next meeting: February 19, 2021**

Submitted by,  
Lois Aimé