

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
February 10, 2023

Present:

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC
Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, alternate, QVCC
Blaszczynski, Andre, Fac, alternate, TXCC
Blitz, David, Fac, Vice-Chair, CCSU
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU
Dunne, Matthew, Fac, HCC
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, Chair, GWCC
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU
Whittemore, Rob, Fac, WCSU
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, alternate, CCC

Absent:

Fisher, Mikey, Fac, alternate, SCSU
Jackson, Mark, Fac, alternate, CCSU

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

Guests: Provost Rai Kathuria; VP Administration/CFO, Ben Barnes; Sr. Director Gov't Relation/External Affairs, Sean Bradbury

- Meeting called to order at 1:04 pm by Chair Sesanker. Meeting is being recorded as required.
 - Approval of 1/27/23 FAC minutes – Motion to approve – David Blitz; seconded – approved unanimously
 - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – Matthew Dunne; seconded – approved unanimously
- Provost Rai Kathurai – presentation regarding Program Review. Program reviews occur every seven years. Each institution and each program have different ways to review programs. Looking to come up with a uniform process and a common calendar for program reviews. For example, all Business degrees reviewed in one year, all biology degrees reviewed in another year, etc. Right now the timing is staggered for all of this.
 - One problem is faculty will be wary of this process. It appears to be the beginning of another consolidation that might include the CSUs.
 - Response – easier to compare and contrast programs if all are using same documentation and process. Wants to use this as opportunity to make more informed decisions.
 - Requesting feedback from FAC in the next couple of weeks and will then go to universities/colleges to discuss further
- CSCU 2030 and Governor's Budget (Ben Barnes & Sean Bradbury)
 - Two major parts of 2030 – Capital request and Operating request – capital consists of seven-year capital authorization with legislation to be more predictably obtained; proposed some language to make happen; listings for these requests are on the website.
 - Operating side - \$200-300M per year
 - PACT expansion – PACT+ - asked for expansion of PACT to include more students - \$50M per year to expand
 - \$40M per year to provide PACT for some students at COSC and the CSUs – students who are in certain workforce labor programs where there is acute shortage of workers in CT – healthcare/K-12 educators as examples – total 7-yr cost is \$650M
 - Supporting students in academic programs – 1) estimate of what it will cost to operate per year = \$1.8B over seven years & includes creation of about 30 new programs at CSUs and similar amount at CCCs – these could be consortia programs that would include more than one college or university

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- Governor's proposals and BOR proposals are not at all in concert. There is a huge deficit between Governor's proposed funding vs. what the BOR has forecasted as needed funding
- Follow up on Dept. Chairs
 - Some interest in developing descriptions for Dept. Chairs moving forward but unions working on this as well, but on hold.
 - There was no real interest in continuing to put together a group to work on this
- FAC Conference –
 - Talk about having FAC Conference on 4/14, date of April FAC meeting, if Robin Isserles is available on that date
 - We will hold date for 4/14 if she is available
- Community College Ed Tech Discussion
 - Some colleges have Ed Tech Specialists working with their Ed Tech Directors. These Ed Tech Specialists are to be moved to the "Academic IT" (whatever that might be) area and their title will be changed to Academic Tech positions that will no longer report to the Ed Tech Directors
 - There was a charge for the Ed Tech Directors without the input or knowledge of the Ed Tech Directors. The Ed Tech Directors wrote a response to the charge rejecting it for various reasons, including the fact that they were not participants in its creation. The document was offensive on many levels.
- Update on WCSU
 - Two programs up for discontinuance – 1) Meteorology, not discontinued, has been redesigned as a 4+1 program, BA & MS; 2) Social Sciences – BA in Anthropology & Sociology will continue; were working on a social justice track and a policies and global studies track for the Social Sciences degree that will now be folded into the BA in Anthropology and Sociology; applied learning internships are being folded into the degree as one of the tracks;
 - BA in Political Science off "parked" list and are charged with developing more applied learning opportunities
 - BA in Economics – will continue but will be moved to Dept. of Finance
 - If enrollments in remaining Soc. Sci. majors remain low, the degrees in social sciences will become minors
- Chair Update
 - BOR ASA Ctte. met Friday –
 - new policy on centers and institutes; there are new program forms; new BS in Business at CCSU;
 - The new program forms require that new programs account for how the introduction of a new program would affect other institutions in the system (systemness in effect).
 - In addition to the new Business degree at CCSU there are two new degrees in the arts at WCSU (BFA in Theater Arts and a popular music program)
- Vice Chair Update
 - BOR Finance Ctte. – reallocation of funds that were part of CSCU 2020; question about land at GWCC that included possibility of building for GWCCC Automotive program; CSCU 2030 appears to have been developed at the System Office only since no discussion at the BOR Finance Ctte.; Discussion on tuition increase at CCCs has been delayed

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 pm

Next Meeting: March 10, 2023

Submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé