

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
March 11, 2022 WebEx

Present:

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC
Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, alternate, QVCC
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU
Coan, Francis, Fac, alternate, TXCC
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU
Dunne, Matthew, Fac, HCC
Emanuel, Michael, Fac, alternate, NWCCC
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC
Fisher, Mikey, alternate, SCSU
Garcia-Bowen, Myrna, SUOAF (retired)
Goh, Bryan, Fac, alternate, MXCC
Jackson, Mark, Fac, Alternate, CCSU

Long, Jennifer, Fac, alternate, TRCC
Muldoon, Linsey, Fac, Alternate, MCC
Picard, Ron, Fac, alternate, NVCC
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC
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

Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,
WCSU

Absent:

Perfetto, Linda, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU

Guests:

Brown, W. Terry, GCC, CEO
Heleen, Pamela, SO

Matthewson, J.D., Sr. Research Assoc., CSCC

- Meeting called to order by Chair Blitz, at 1:04 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
 - Approval of February 11 minutes – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded – approved unanimously
 - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded, with modification to add Terry Brown as presenter, unanimously
- Presentation by Terry Brown of Strategic Plan for CSCC
 - 3-year time frame – to be reviewed and revised within a couple of years
 - Developed draft of institutional values – will complete in next month or so
 - Question – Is Academic Freedom not a “value” in this Strategic Plan?
 - Plan will be submitted for approval in June to be in place by July
 - This is a draft being reviewed by the Strategic Plan Council
 - This will be presented to everyone in CSCU system for comments and feedback
 - Comment – Shared governance should be emphasized, especially considering the currently fraught issues in that area
 - Comment – Must be guarantee that all community colleges will remain open as branch campuses
- BOR Substantive Change and NECHE Response –
 - Questions sent to Pres. Cheng – 1) what is meant by “accepted” proposal; 2) please elaborate on three requested reports by June 2023. No response received
 - Comment – Continuing to assert Guided Pathways advisors will pay for themselves through increased enrollment when funding is no longer available to pay them, with no data to support this assertion.
 - Comment – FAC characterized as group of malcontents, with election issues, and do not really represent faculty
 - Comment – appears there is no supervisory leadership on campuses; all located in New Britain

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- Comment – it appears we are going to evaluate programs based on whether they make money for the college? How will that work?
- Comment – one concept that is being sold by many administrators in the CSCU/CSCC system to increase retention is to create a schedule that will give adult working students the ability to take 2 sets of 2 courses over a 15-week semester. The rationale being that this reduces the number of courses they take at one time but still allows them to complete their degree “on time.” This is not good advising and not good for learning because the short period of time limits how much content can be taught, and the students do not realize the time commitment involved in taking these accelerated courses. Students who take summer or winter courses go in with the understanding of the time commitment involved. Students who take these types of courses within a fall/spring semester format are not focused on the fact that these courses are shorter in length and therefore more time intensive in that period. It is not a good strategy for anyone. The fact that this continues to be advertised as a viable solution for students with other life events they are juggling, such as work and family obligations, is a disservice to our students and our system. If this is an example of the “equity” that consolidation will bring to our system then our students and we are in serious trouble.
- Chair’s report –
 - AAUP has agreed to the Tentative Agreement and will bring to members for a vote
 - Resolution on Ukraine –
 - **Resolution: re Russian invasion/attack on Ukraine:**
 - Whereas Russia has engaged in aggression against Ukraine, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations;
 - Whereas Russian armed forces have attacked civilian centers, including schools and hospitals, in violation of international law;
 - Whereas faculty, staff and students are endangered at all Ukrainian colleges and universities;
 - Be it Resolved that the Faculty Advisory Committee calls upon the Board of Regents to
 - i/ Express its solidarity with the Ukrainian people;
 - ii/ Request of appropriate governmental agencies that the leaders of Russia, in particular its President, Minister of Defense and Foreign Minister be charged with war crimes:
 - a. Crimes against peace and waging aggressive war
 - b. Crimes against the civilian population
 - c. Use of prohibited weapons
 - iii/ Provide free access to CSCU colleges and universities for any refugees from Ukraine.
 - Motion made by D. Blitz and seconded – Whereas #1 – approved unanimously
 - Whereas #2 – approved unanimously
 - Whereas #3 – approved with one No vote
- Vice-Chair’s report –
 - BOR ASA – modification for course withdrawal process on page 30 of 03/11/22 agenda; page 35, approval of 39 programs and certificates for CSCC within Consent Agenda
 - Legislature – mental health counselors bill being supported; food and housing insecurity bill being supported; bill re having FAC Chair/Vice-Chair ability to vote in BOR meetings is questionable; HB5300 re mergers and closings and consolidation of colleges and universities – over 60 testimonies submitted both verbal and written, for public hearing
- Community College tuition raise of 5% voted on by BOR; will vote on same level increase for CSUs next month – total amount that will be raised is about \$7M
 - CCC increase in tuition slated to occur in 5% increments over, at least, the next 5-6 years.

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- Need to get some questions and comments together to address any proposals to ask for adequate funding of CSCU system
- CCIC (Community College Implementation Committee) – Shared Governance proposal was approved; 39 programs/certificates approved and sent to BOR; Fresh Start re-worded and re-defined – 1) it is academic only, not connected to financial aid; 2) to reduce waiting period from 2 years to 1 year; and 3) to require students to take 9 credits before getting into Fresh Start. Governance structure will be in place and run concurrently with current structure by fall 2022/spring 2023; “area of study” Deans (whatever they may be) will be in place by fall
- COVID-19 –
 - Mask mandate will come to an end; social distancing will come to an end; testing will come to an end; contact tracing will come to an end – all by April 04, 2022
 - Conversations on this with COVID Coordinators. No conversation with FAC on this even though FAC was the group that came up with one of the original resolutions on COVID. Response from A. Pritchard acknowledging FAC was not part of the conversation.
 - Many of these protocols were not being followed anyway
- Joint Meeting of FAC and BOR –
 - No information on when this might happen; think about content for next meeting
 - They have asked when we might want to do this and should we use existing meeting time or add a meeting time
- FAC Conference now set for fall 2022 –
 - Since SO not giving any money for this not sure how to move forward. Might think about a spring 2022 conference date as a FAC update meeting advertised and open for all – perhaps broken into 4 update timeframes
- Bylaws Revision 2022 –
 - Just need to update Bylaws with correct information that was already voted on
- Research Committee –
 - Since we are discussing looking at net revenue on disciplines what about researching net revenue based on administrative departments and what kind of return-on-investment we get in these areas

Meeting adjourned – 3:31 pm

Next Meeting: April 1, 2022, submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé