

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
March 12, 2021, WebEx

Present:

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

Kunene, Nikki, Fac, ECSU
Long, Jennifer, Fac, Alternate, TRCC
Picard, Ron, Fac, Alternate, NVCC
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC
Richards, Barbara, Fac, HCC
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, GWCC
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU
Stoloff, David, Fac, Alternate, ECSU
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC

Absent:

Breault, Benjamin, Admin Fac, Alternate, At-Large
Brewer, Adam, Fac, non-voting, WCSU
Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,
WCSU

Kaufman, O. Brian, non-voting, QVCC
Ruggiero, Christine, Fac, Alternate, MXCC
Wilson, Marvin, Admin Fac, Alternate, SUOAF,
CSU

Guests:

Heleen, Pamela, SO

Latour, Fred, CCSU

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

Meeting called to order by Chair, Colena Sesanker, at 1:07 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.

- Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve with qualification on approval of minutes from 2/12/21 meeting: S. Grace; seconded; approved unanimously
- Approval of 2/19/21 Meeting Minutes – deferred to 4/9/21 meeting because draft was submitted just before meeting.
- New voting member from ECSU, Nikki Kunene introduced herself to the committee members.
- Chair and Vice-Chair Reports:
 - BOR Finance & Infrastructure Committee – D. Blitz
 - Tuition and fees will remain static for upcoming year
 - Update on consolidation – Member Jimenez wants BOR to respond to faculty criticisms of plan. Pointed out that faculty control over curriculum is regularly violated; elimination of department chairs another concern; maintenance of integrity of each community college important to faculty; yes, need proper discussion on all of this; over-centralization an issue
 - Not using Guided Pathways structure to develop curriculum with stated reason being that there is not enough time to do so
 - BOR ASA Meeting 3/12/21 – C. Sesanker
 - John Lewis Institute for Social Justice opening at CCSU
 - Presentation from Dana Institute (UT, Austin, TX) and NCII on national trends as professional development for BOR members in preparation for presentation of ACME at BOR in April

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- Moving to co-requisite only model; told many states using this model but unknown how many are using this model alone with no pre-req programs
- Data not there to determine how successful this process is in increasing graduation rates and/or improving learning
 - FL was used as an example of how well this works because the number of students who took college-level math and English in their first year increased dramatically. However, in the course of one year, what FL did was to do away with all developmental courses in math and English and require that all students take college-level math and English in their first year. One wonders what else could have happened under this mandate.
- Glossy pamphlets – one of these was sent out to all last month regarding the consolidation. The only interesting thing we could find about this, since it did not contain any instructional information or data, is that it cost \$22K.
- Legislative Hearings:
 - 3/04 – HB6404 – PACT; HB6402 – Study Bill w/substitute language agreed by FAC
 - 3/09 – SB824 – training for BOR members; SB997 – expansion of BOT for UCONN and on voting rights for faculty members of BOR; HB5545 – allocate budget for System Office; HB6375 – unfunded pension liability; HB6403 – legislative approval for mergers and clotting of colleges/universities; HB6582 – unemployment benefits for adjunct faculty
 - 3/11 – Higher Ed Consolidation Ed Informational Hearing <https://ctn.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=18369>
 - 3 panels – System Office; NECHE; Faculty/Staff
 - It was a good day
- Conversation about TAP w/Steve Marcelynas & FAC Chair/Vice-Chair –
 - Need more data on how this is working but data not readily available
 - Number of students in TAP programs and who transfer to CSUs is not very large
 - This is positive achievement that was coordinated by faculty
 - Proposal to establish sub-committee to collect data to show how TAP is working
 - Will discuss further at later meetings
- Relationship between CC Governance and CC Management
 - TXCC having this problem; not at NCC under current administration; NVCC has some concerns about this; GWCC is working somewhat okay; CCC has seen some of this but generally functional; HCC senate leader deferential to local and system administration so meetings are confusing; NWCC is doing okay; ACC – overall feeling at college people being asked to do things that are not necessarily coming from local admin.
- Governance and Products of APRC Resolutions
 - NCC has passed a resolution on first 6 programs – not to approve
 - NVCC will be voting on similar resolution
 - New programs from APRC are sitting on website and need to be voted on by 4/19 but will not be distributed to colleges individually and TAP model will no longer be used
- Missed Payroll & Other Bag Office Messes
 - Unions at GWCC is trying to gather info on who has missed paychecks; GWCC got email from HR telling them not to ask them questions right now; Generally, everyone still having problems with Blackboard and other IT issues; payroll issues pretty

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widespread; many examples given about dysfunction in HR and IT since merged into Shared Services

- FAC Conference Update
 - 4/16 – save the date; 2 panels with lunch break; 10:00 am – 2:00 pm; Themes: Austerity, Neoliberalism, Reclaiming Shared Governance, Democracy at Work
- FAC Elections Update
 - Governance leaders at 12 colleges notified about elections coming up; need to do elections as soon as possible; university elections straight forward; community college elections somewhat convoluted
- Question on shared governance process for consolidation college: Response: Curriculum Committee for consolidated college to come into existence in 2022 and the Governance Committee slated to come into existence in 2023
- When Shared Governance proposal was distributed it had a number of names on it of people who had left the Shared Governance Workgroup prior to the document being created. These people asked to have their names removed from the final document since they had not participated in its creation. Response was no.
- Consider inviting Legislative Higher Education Committee to a meeting before or after FAC Conference
- Old/New Business – none
- Meeting adjourned at 3:28 pm

Next meeting: April 9, 2021

Submitted by,
Lois Aimé