

**Regular Meeting of the State of CT  
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education  
Minutes  
May 06, 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  
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  
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU  
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, Vice-Chair, GWCC  
Stoloff, David, Fac, alternate, ECSU  
Trieu, Vu, SUOAF, CSU alternate  
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC  
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, alternate, CCC

**Absent:**

Fisher, Mikey, alternate, SCSU  
Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,  
WCSU

Perfetto, Linda, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC  
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU

**Guests:**

Frye, Maureen, NVCC  
Gertner, Camela  
Heleen, Pamela, SO  
Japely, Christine, NCC  
Latour, Fred, CCSU

Lockwood, Heidi, SCSU (FIRC)  
Marcelynas, Steve, SO  
Ricker, Nicola, TRCC  
Selke, Sarah, TRCC (FIRC)  
Tuccio, Christopher, NVCC  
Weiss, Deb, SCSU

- Meeting called to order by Chair Blitz, at 1:06 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
  - Approval of April 01 minutes – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded – approved unanimously
  - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – Fran Coan, seconded – approved unanimously
- Chair Report –
  - CSCC President was named – John Maduko, MD
  - CSCU Provost was named – Hitesh Rai Kathuria, PhD
  - FIRC Committee designing Learning Outcomes (LOs) for Gen Ed TAP at CCs – has been sent to governing bodies of all colleges/universities for vote – some believe this is part of effort to water down math curriculum at CCs and there are general concerns about some of these LOs – the new LOs would replace the 2012 version put out by FIRC
    - Faculty frustration re lack of ability to provide feedback prior to vote and concern about the LOs in general
    - FIRC – been told current LOs are difficult to assess so these are more streamlined
    - Looking at new LOs as written it appears we would be, for example, creating an eighth-grade math course masquerading as a college-level math course
    - Intention may not have been to water down the curriculum, however based on some of the wording of the LOs, it would be easy to use them to support the watering down of the curriculum in the name of “equity,” as is being proposed within consolidation
- Biology lab issue –

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- C3Bios meeting – discussion regarding online labs. They noted that all core biology courses must have on-ground labs to be able to meet the Learning Outcomes. This was approved by APRC and BOR. Then, Amy Feest sent email requesting meeting noting that on-ground labs for these courses were a concern. Meeting occurred with Amy Feest and Miah Dreger. At meeting Dreger stated that 1) CCCs are hemorrhaging students, and we need to offer online labs or students will go elsewhere to take these courses 2) the fact that online labs don't transfer to 4-year colleges such as UCONN doesn't matter since a) delivery method not noted on transcripts, and b) state universities will accept online labs from CCCs (faculty unsure if that was a choice or a mandate).
  - Bio committee stated that faculty have seen that students who have taken online labs due to scheduling during pandemic have deficits regarding their ability to perform lab-related activities. Response – WCSU is creating 1 or 2 credit remediation course for students who have taken only online labs. Other colleges/universities will need to do the same.
  - Bio committee was also advised that modality of teaching is an administrative decision not a faculty decision.
  - Question – what, if anything, are the Bio faculty going to do about that? Answer – they will write a written rebuttal that all Bio faculty will be asked to sign. It will go to Dreger, new CSCC president, and President Cheng. Question – what do you expect to get from this? Answer – don't know. Question – why wouldn't letter be publicized? NECHE? Legislature? Media? Answer – not sure how this will be handled
  - Question – How important is it that we respond sooner rather than later? Answer – not a sense of what timing might be best
  - On one hand we are getting rid of remedial English and Math courses yet on the other hand we are encouraging 4-year institutions to create remedial courses to bring students who took online labs at CCCs up to speed in that area.
  - We are at a point of offering students what they want instead of what they need. We are in a race to the bottom.
- NECHE Report on CSCC Application –
  - Review of some of the highlights (or, perhaps, lowlights) of the 14-page response from NECHE
  - NECHE asks for three progress reports through June 2023 – one in September 2022, one in February 2023, and one in June 2023
- Co-Chair Report –
  - April 27 CCIC meeting – 24 degree programs, 16 certificates, 166 courses were approved and 2 sample crosswalks were shared
  - Letter from NECHE dated 10/21/21 was not released by BOR until it was recently FOIAed. Relatively strong letter.
  - Legislative – SO finances must now be identified to review how much money is actually going to colleges/universities
  - New ex-officio member of the BOR – Governor's chief workforce person
  - Contract made it through CT House/Senate – in a very bizarre development, there is disagreement between system and unions regarding what was negotiated
  - Although we seem to have a lot of support within the legislature that support is not translating into any actions by the legislature
  - OFA (Office of Fiscal Analysis) added fiscal note to HB5300 re mergers and closures of CSCU institutions that stated, among other things, that it would cost the state \$11M in the

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- next fiscal year to stop the merger – this is questionable analysis and has been commented on in a CT Mirror Op-Ed
- FAC Conference – Ken Klucznik would approve funding for spring but planning at this point is not possible and extending funding beyond this fiscal year not possible either
  - Crosswalk nonsense – to replace any teach-out; Concern as shown on one sample: CCS101 (Career & College Success) replaces MAT165 (Elementary Statistics w/Computer Applications).
    - Is this even legal? Isn't the catalog a contract between a student and the institution? Isn't that why "teach-outs" exist? Student enrolled in a specific program and now that program will no longer exist.
- COVID measures –
    - UCONN went back to indoor masking requirement while the CSCU system has not done so
  - Meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm

**Next Meeting: June 3, 2022**, submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé