

Regular Meeting of the State of CT
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
Minutes
October 07, 2022 WebEx

Aime, Lois, Admin Fac, At-Large Rep, NCC
Blaszczynski, Andre, Fac, alternate, TXCC
Blitz, David, Fac, Chair, CCSU
Cunningham, Brendan, Fac, ECSU
Dunne, Matthew, Fac, HCC
Emanuel, Michael, Fac, alternate, NWCCC
Farquharson, Patrice, Fac, COSC
Jackson, Mark, Fac, Alternate, CCSU

Andersen, Jonathan, Fac, alternate, QVCC
Fisher, Mikey, alternate, SCSU
Goh, Bryan, Fac, alternate, MXCC
Gustafson, Robin, Fac, Alternate, non-voting,
WCSU

Guest: Rob Whittemore, WCSU

Present:

Long, Jennifer, Fac, alternate, TRCC
Lumbantobing, Rotua. Fac, WCSU
Muldoon, Linsey, Fac, Alternate, MCC
Rajczewski, MaryBeth, Fac, ACC
Sesanker, Colena, Fac, Vice-Chair, GWCC
Shea, Michael, Fac, SCSU
Stoloff, David, Fac, alternate, ECSU
Wilder, Linda, Admin Fac, COSC
Yiamouyiannis, Carmen, Fac, alternate, CCC

Absent:

Picard, Ron, Fac, alternate, NVCC
Perfetto, Linda, Admin Fac, alternate, COSC
Robinson, Dyan, SUOAF, CSU
Trieu, Vu, SUOAF, CSU alternate

- Meeting called to order by Chair Blitz, at 1:07 pm. Meeting is being recorded as required.
 - Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve – Mike Shea, seconded – approved unanimously
 - Approval of 9/09/22 minutes – Motion to approve – MaryBeth Rajczewski, seconded – approved unanimously
- Report on September BOR meeting –
 - First meeting held in person and virtually; somewhat complicated to run since some individuals online and some in-person
 - Public comment period has been improved
 - Concerns re projected budget deficit for FY23 and FY24 - \$105M and \$110M respectively
 - Administrators have been asked to prepare budgets that reflect 1%, 2%, 3%, 4%, and 5% cuts
 - CT rainy day fund is full yet higher ed not being fully funded
 - Need to change focus from anticipating budget cuts to lobbying to be appropriately funded
 - A policy regarding use of university housing during the summer – resident directors be allowed to have their family live in housing during the summer
 - Concern was voiced about the long wait period before public comments in the new policy may be made at BOR meetings
- Co-Chair Community Colleges Report –
 - Need to make legislature aware of why we need funding instead of the constant drumbeat of how much CT higher ed is failing our students, in particular the community colleges, so therefore they must be consolidated. So why would the legislature be willing to fund failing institutions? Actually, we are doing some amazingly good things for our students and our communities
 - Consolidation of Community Colleges – slideshow
 - Completed: Aligned curriculum; start of transition of Title IV funds to CSCC; September 2022 Progress Report

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- Feb. 2023: Governance elections taken place; Strategic Plan adopted; legal agreements at 12 colleges transitioned to CSCC; catalog and website up; students being accepted to CSCC; Title IV funding available
- June 2023: Identify KPI measures tied to Strategic Plan; CSCC budget developed; governance structure operational; all outside accredited programs part of CSCC; all external agreements transitioned to CSCC; GP assessment underway
- Fall 2025: CSCC site visit by NECHE – 2-yr self-study to begin fall 2023; self-study complete August 2025
- Question on how governance structure will be created. Nothing has been done on this yet and 9/01/22 report is unclear in almost all respects
- Catalog a serious problem – filled with more erroneous entries than accurate entries
- 9/01/22 Progress Report a serious problem – appears they took anything and everything they had, threw it together and sent it to NECHE, with no concern about content validity. Strategic Plan example of this.
- How will governance structure look in consolidation? No clear plan, as in everything else.
- Refugee and Asylum seekers – lot of work being done to help these individuals
- Co-Chair Universities Report –
 - Anticipated budget deficit impacting morale. Could propose to legislature that budget be increased by 10% per year to go to classroom teaching issues, etc.
 - WCSU update by Rotua/Rob – FOIA request filed for financial data – waiting for that; planning & budget and gen ed committees going through summer recommendations; met with NCHEMS and they admitted issues based on incompetent leadership – a conflict of interest since NCHEMS being paid by System Office; trying to find out pay for Interim President.
 - Gen Ed Ctte. has made short-term and long-term recommendations
 - Financial exigency has been brought up as a possibility for the CSCU system in the midst of all this
- Planning for November Joint FAC/BOR Meeting –
 - Change the narrative regarding financial support for higher education, specifically, CSCU, from one where we just expect and accept the lack of sufficient funding for our system and our students to one where we press for the funding necessary to help us succeed in supporting our students.
 - Define community college needs in the context of open enrollment and the supports that many community college students should be able to anticipate that will help them succeed in college
 - We are dealing with students who come to us at levels of preparedness that vary greatly, and this is amplified in the state of CT. Therefore, we need the financial stability to be able to have the necessary assets in place, both human and operational, to be able to support them.
 - It is our mission, and it is our privilege, to work with our students and to ensure that the students who come to us succeed in reaching their educational goals.
- Planning for November 4th FAC Pre-Conference
 - ACME update
 - Dept. Chairs update - possible
 - State of Affairs at WCSU update
 - Should be around 1.5 hours total – if only 2 topics, would be 1 hour
- Confusion reigns re scheduling of system meetings vs. college specific meetings – surprisingly –

Meeting adjourned at 2:49 pm; **Next Meeting: November 18, 2022**; submitted by FAC Secretary, Lois Aimé