

**MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Board of Regents for Higher Education  
Wednesday- Friday, May 11-13, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.  
61 Woodland Street, Hartford CT

**Minutes**

**REGENTS PRESENT**

Matt Fleury, Committee Chair  
Richard Balducci  
William McGurk  
Barbara Richards  
Catherine Smith (Telephone)

**CSCU REPRESENTATIVES**

Mary Papazian, President CCSU; Mark Rozewski, Executive Vice President, SCSU; Charlene Casamento, Chief Financial Officer, CCSU; James Howarth, Vice President for Finance & Administration, ECSU; Sean Loughran, Vice President for Finance & Administration, WCSU; Cliff Williams, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, COSC

**CSCU STAFF**

Mark Ojakian, President; Erika Steiner, Chief Financial Officer; Alice Pritchard, Chief of Staff; Melentina Pusztay, Director for Budgets and Planning; Pamela Mikaelian, Associate Director of Budgets & Planning; Maribel La Luz, Director of Communications; Louisa Despina, Administrative Assistant for Finance

*With a quorum present, Chairman Fleury called the meeting to order on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 9:15 a.m.*

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 28, 2016 MEETING**

*The minutes of the March 28, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved, as written.*

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. FY16-17 Institutional Spending Plan Hearings**

CFO Steiner provided an overview of the day's presentations schedule and gave a recap of budget events since the Governor released his budget on February 23, 2016. All institutions have been asked to present a balanced budget. The manner in which a balance was achieved was not prescribed, and in one case the use of reserves was deemed to be necessary.

The presentations included budgets compared to prior year, enrollment assumptions, and expected full-time employee counts and personnel costs. Each presentation also included a narrative.

CFO Steiner stated that the State Budget and the appropriations to CSCU have changed substantially since the FY 17 Biennium was issued. The most current Legislative proposal is \$25.3 M lower than the original FY 17 Biennium, and \$17.4 M lower than the final FY 16. This does not include the impact that the fringe benefits have on general fund allotments. The System was able to project a balanced budget by implementing some changes in the current fiscal year: established hiring freezes, eliminating management confidential raises, eliminating positions, not filling vacancies and delaying hiring, requesting voluntary furloughs, requesting retirement schedules for planning. Additional actions to be taken in FY 17 required to balance the budget include: continuing to hold vacancies open, deferral of raises, tuition increases and reduction of operating expenses.

The Committee heard informational institutional budget presentations from Naugatuck Valley CC, Southern CSU, Eastern CSU, Tunxis CC, Western CC, Three Rivers CC, Housatonic CC, Northwestern CC, CCSU, Manchester CC, Middlesex CC, Norwalk CC, Quinebaug Valley CC, Charter Oak SC, Gateway CC, Capital CC, Asnuntuck CC and the System Office.

CFO Steiner explained that the negative result overall comes from Western CSU's negative budget for FY 17. The Finance Committee will need to approve use of reserves for Western CSU. Many of the proposed actions included in the preliminary budget look for the best case outcomes. There were several ideas presented by the Presidents to look at new ways to engage with each other: ideas for shared services have been suggested and are underway; ideas to improve enrollment and to cooperate on enrollment strategies between the Universities and Colleges; Deans of Administration and the Community College Presidents are planning a retreat to further explore ideas for them to share resources and processes.

CFO Steiner stated that state deficit is expected to be more challenging in the next biennium and it's important to start planning for that now.

*The meeting recessed on May 11, 2016 at 11:52 a.m.*

*The meeting recesses on May 12, 2016 at 11:38 a.m.*

*No action was taken. The agendas and presentations may be accessed online at:*  
<http://www.ct.edu/regents/meetings>

*With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on May 13, 2016 at 11:43 a.m.*