

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Via Teleconference

Board of Regents for Higher Education
Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 2:00 pm
39 Woodland Street, Hartford CT

Minutes

REGENTS PRESENT

Matt Fleury, Committee Chair
Richard Balducci
Merle Harris
Catherine Smith

CONNSCU REPRESENTATIVES

James Schmotter, President, WCSU ; Charlene Casamento, Chief Financial Officer, CCSU; Richard Bachoo, Chief Administration Officer, CCSU; James Blake, Executive Vice President, SCSU; Sean Loughran, Interim Chief Financial Officer, WCSU;

CONNSCU STAFF

Erika Steiner Chief Financial Officer; Keith Epstein, Vice President for Facilities & Infrastructure Planning; Karen Stone, Director of Internal Audit; Michael Kozlowski, Director, Public Affairs & Marketing; Christopher Forster, Controller; Melentina Pusztay, Director, Budgets & Planning; Rosalie Butler, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

John Noonan, OPM
Kerry Kelley, OPM
Keith Phaneuf, Connecticut Mirror

With a quorum present, Chairman Fleury called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 10, 2014 MEETING

The minutes of the June 10, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved, as written.

2. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. CSUS 2020 Update

VP Epstein provided an update on CSUS 2020 construction projects. All projects are largely on schedule and within budget. Projects cited were the Fine Arts Building at Eastern CT State University, the Science Building at Southern CT State University and the ribbon cutting ceremony for Western CT State University's Visual and Performing Arts Center.

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Naming Requests at Western Connecticut State University

- a) Macricostas School of Arts & Sciences
- b) Veronica Hagman Concert Hall
- c) Branson Lobby
- d) Boa Family Design Studio
- e) Ruth G. Schmotter Instrumental Rehearsal Room
- f) David and Nancy Nurnberger Sculpture Terrace
- g) Caraluzzi Family Conference Room

Chairman Fleury indicated the BOR has the authority to provide for the naming of facilities and programs at the Connecticut State Universities. He turned to President Schmotter for further explanation. President Schmotter provided detail on WCSU's capital campaign, background on individual donations, and the programs and spaces to be named.

The naming requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Balducci, seconded by Regent Fleury.

President Schmotter left the teleconference at 2:09 PM

B. Approval to utilize University Reserves for Central Connecticut State University

VP Epstein advised Regents that the Data Center at CCSU has reached full capacity and is limited by its current power and cooling capabilities. The university had previously (2009) received approval to use up to \$500,000 of its designated fund balance for the upgrade of the Data Center/Server Room. Design commenced, but no resolution was reached and expansion efforts were tabled. A new design within the Energy Center was

proposed in 2012. Revised estimates indicate the project will cost an additional \$375,000 above 2009 cost. University Fund Balance Guidelines (CSUS BR#08-39) require Board approval for any use off current fund or plant fund balances in excess of \$250,000. CCSU CFO Casamento clarified that the university intended to use Operating Funds to cover the additional cost of the project.

The Resolution was unanimously approved, as amended: That CCSU is authorized to use up to \$375,000 in Operating Funds to upgrade the Campus Data Center/Server Room.

C. FY2016/FY2017 Biennial Budget Submission for Board of Regents, Connecticut State Colleges & Universities (CSCU) including Current Services and Capital Requests

Chairman Fleury provided an overview of the process by which the biennial budget request is submitted to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). He emphasized that the request before the Committee was the very beginning of the budget process. He explained the submission consists of three distinct pieces, Capital Requests, Current Services and Expansion Options. The first two pieces are due to OPM immediately, while Expansion Options are not due to OPM until October 2014. The Expansion Options budget will be presented to the Committee and full BOR prior to submission to OPM.

CFO Steiner explained that since the materials for today's meeting had been published, the Developmental Education and Early College (PA 12-40) programs presented as Current Services were reconsidered. In retrospect, these programs are more accurately reflected as Expansion Options since funding was considered by the State to be one-time. Subsequently, the amount needed for developmental funding was moved out of the Current Services Request and into the Expansion Options portion of the biennial budget.

CFO Steiner indicated the **revised** request would consist of **\$162.9 million** and **\$163.3 million** for Capital requirements, and **\$625.0 million** and **\$681.2 million** for Current Services requirements for FY2016 and FY2017 respectively. This represents a 9.9% FY 2016 increase over FY2015 and includes collective bargaining wage increases as agreed-upon. The same increases were then assumed for FY 2017.

Key assumptions were discussed (including a tuition and fee increase of 2%, decrease in enrollment of 2%, cost of utilities, collective bargaining increases), as were capital planning, deferred maintenance and project prioritization.

The Resolution concerning FY2016/FY2017 Biennial Budget Capital Request and Current Services Request (General Fund and Operating Fund) was unanimously approved, as amended.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.