

**BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
JOINT MEETING OF FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMMITTEE  
HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 @10:30 a.m.  
Regents Boardroom System Office, 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PARTICIPATING**

Richard J. Balducci, Chair – Finance & Infrastructure  
Naomi Cohen, Chair – Human Resources & Administration (via teleconference)  
Felice Gray-Kemp (via teleconference)  
David R. Jimenez (via teleconference)  
JoAnn Ryan (via teleconference)

**CSCU STAFF PARTICIPATING**

Ben Barnes, Chief Financial Officer  
Andrew Kripp, Vice President of Human Resources  
Keith Epstein, Vice President of Facilities, Real Estate & Infrastructure Planning  
Joe Tolisano, Chief Information Officer  
Greg DeSantis, Executive Director of CSCU Student Success Center & Academic Initiatives

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Chairman Balducci called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 29, 2020 MINUTES FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AND JANUARY 23, 2020 MINUTES FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION MEETING**

Regent Jimenez moved, seconded by Regent Ryan, the minutes of the January 29, 2020 Finance Committee meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

Regent Balducci moved, seconded by Regent Jimenez, the minutes of the January 23, 2020 Human Resources and Administration Committee meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

## **Information Items**

- **CSCU 2020 Semi-annual Report**

VP Epstein provided a status report and progress on numerous projects that are being performed under CSCU 2020 at the universities. The bulk of the \$4 million awarded to the State universities will be spent by end of summer 2020. Since the inception of the CSCU 2020 program, an estimated \$850 million has been spent on campus projects and renovations.

- **Guided Pathways Implementation**

CFO Barnes provided a fiscal summary and outline for the implementation of a Holistic Case Management Advising policy at the CSCU Community Colleges that will be rolled out over a three-year period. The program is designed to provide an advisor and support staff to all degree and certificate seeking students to ensure they stay on track to completion. The policy is one of the primary pillars of Guided Pathways to improve completion rates and close the achievement gap. The estimated cost is \$3 million in the first year of the program. Funding for implementation of this advisement program at three community colleges this fall, with additional colleges coming on-line over the two following years. A full-scale implementation at the 12 colleges could produce an additional \$20 million or more and increase full-time equivalent enrollment by 20%. Conservative assumptions predict that Guided Pathways will pay for itself over time.

- **Students First Update – Shared Services**

The Students First Plan supports institutional resources through cost effective ways that improves the quality of services. The plan consolidates administrative functions of the separate accredited institutions allowing for uniform procedures and creating significant and recurring savings and revenue enhancement. Greg DeSantis commented that based on feedback received, the plan language was modified.

Administrative functions are planned for the restructuring in three main areas: Human Resources, the Office of Information Technology and Finance and Administration shared services. Outlines of the plan were reviewed by Vice President Kripp, CIO Tolisano and CFO Barnes. Combined administrative functions includes creating a HR Centers of Excellence, a centralized IT office, reduction of facilities staffing to industry standards, centralized management of capital projects and expanding system support for day-to-day financial operations. The colleges' budgets that are not converting to shared services will remain at the college level.

## **Action Item**

- **Property Conveyance Between Gateway CC, North Haven Campus and the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES)**

VP Epstein reported on the property conveyance between Gateway CC, North Haven campus and the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES). As a cost savings measure the CSCU and ACES is seeking to obtain legislation for a conveyance bill to transfer ownership of GCC's North Haven campus from the care of the Board of Regents for Higher Education to ACES. The college relocated its academic programs except the Automotive Technology program from the North Haven campus to the new Church Street location in 2012. The change of ownership requires legislation. As part of the conveyance, a long-term leaseback for GCC's Automotive Technology program will be sought and subject to BOR's approval prior to finalizing conveyance approval.

*It was unanimously voted to approve the Property Conveyance Between Gateway CC, North Haven Campus and the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) on the motion of Regent Jimenez, seconded by Regent Gray-Kemp.*

## **Adjournment**

*There being no further business, on motion of Regent Cohen, seconded by Regent Jimenez, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.*