

**BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
CT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (CSCU)  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD AND THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.  
CONDUCTED IN REMOTELY  
LIVESTREAMED ON <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36SWVXXi1ck>**

<b>REGENTS – PARTICIPATING (Y = yes / N = no)</b>	
JoAnn Ryan, Chair	Y
Richard J. Balducci	Y
Ira Bloom	Y
Carla Galaise, Student Regent	Y
Marty Guay	Y
Juanita James	Y
Sophia Jappinen	Y
James McCarthy	Y
Richard Porth	Y
Luis Sanchez, Student Regent	Y
Ari Santiago	Y
Erin Stewart	N
Elease E. Wright	Y
Ted Yang	Y
*Brendan Cunningham, FAC Chair	Y
*Colena Sesanker, FAC Vice Chair	N
*Dante Bartolomeo, Labor Commissioner	N
*Dr. Manisha Juthani, Public Health Commissioner	N
*Daniel O’Keefe, DECD Commissioner	N
*Charlene Russell-Tucker, Education Commissioner	Y
*Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Chief Workforce Officer	Y
<i>*ex-officio, non-voting member</i>	

**CSCU STAFF:**

Terrence Cheng, CSCU Chancellor  
 Jessica Paquette, Vice Chancellor for System Affairs & Chief of Staff  
 Danny Aniello, Special Asst to the Chancellor, Executive Director for System Project Management  
 Adam Joseph, Vice Chancellor of External Affairs  
 Tamara O’Day Stevens, Interim Assoc. Vice President, Enrollment Management and Student Success  
 Pam Heleen, Secretary of the Board of Regents (recorder)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Following roll call, a quorum was declared.

**2. CHAIR RYAN’S REMARKS**

- Chair Ryan welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the Spring 2024 report from the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) would be presented.
- She introduced Carla Galaise, Chair of the Student Advisory Committee and Luis Sanchez, Vice Chair of the Student Advisory Committee to present the report.

**3. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

See Attachment A

- Regent James and Regent Bloom commended the group for the work they are doing, especially around leadership and culture change. She asked about the feedback loop and with what frequency will the SAC report back to the Regents or to the SAC's various constituencies to monitor progress. SAC Chair Galaise agreed that the process is a two-way street; the SAC has identified where communications is breaking up and is beginning work to realign the work of the SAC, beginning with the institution student government associations (SGAs) and student activity directors. SAC Vice Chair Sanchez noted that students have not been briefed by their SGAs or student activity directors about what it means to be on the BOR SAC.
- Regent Guay thanked the SAC and reinforced that they are an important ingredient in all of our success. He also extended the offer for the SAC to let the BOR know what the BOR can do to help make the SAC more successful (i.e., visibility, participation, and recognition).
- Regent Bloom noted that the SAC's conduit for communication to the BOR might be through the BOR Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Regent Wright supported this suggestion.
- Regent Bloom also asked about any systematic way students can provide course feedback. SAC Vice Chair Sanchez responded that at an institution level, there are voluntary course evaluations completed by the students. SAC Chair Galaise added that the hope is to bring forward some sort of unified survey along major themes (i.e., modality). Regent Bloom followed up by asking what happens to the surveys once they are completed.
- FAC Chair Brendan Cunningham thanked the SAC students for their service. He extended an invitation for the SAC to interact with the Faculty Advisory Committee. He also commented on the collection of information from students on their classroom experience, explaining that it (and the way the data is used) is spelled out in the AAUP contract.

Chancellor Cheng thanked Chair Galaise and Vice Chair Sanchez for being wonderful student advocates and Chair Ryan thanked everyone for their participation.

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:40 a.m. on a motion by Regent Balducci, seconded by Regent Wright, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining issues and the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

*Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.*

Submitted,

Pamela Heleen  
Secretary of the CT Board of Regents for Higher Education



**CONNECTICUT STATE  
COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

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# **Student Advisory Committee Report**

- **Legislative Outreach Project**
- **Advisor transition**
- **New path for Student Advisory Committee (SAC)**
- **Focus Areas**
- **Goals for the Fall Semester**

**GOAL:** To educate students on the issues affecting CSCU system and connecting with legislators

- ECSU: Tabling event.
- CT State - Housatonic: Tabling event.
- CT State - Northwestern: Campus-wide email blast.

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Transition to new advisor Dr. Tam O'Day-Stevens.

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Limited guidance/advising between December 2023 – March 2024.

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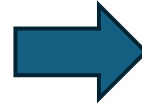
Emphasized culture of apathy and lack of direction.

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Decline in attendance and participation.

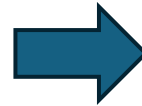
# An Opportunity for Growth

**Implemented meeting expectations**



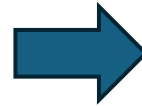
**Culture shift of mutual respect and teamwork**

**Advisor meeting with  
Student Activity Directors**



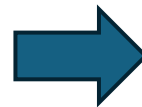
**Align staff to support SAC representatives  
and facilitate engagement**

**Clarification of SAC role**



**Developing a unified mission**

**Clarifying roles of leadership  
within SAC**



**Increases responsibility and  
accountability for members**

## **GOALS:**

- To create culture centered around teamwork and efficiency.
- To effectively identify and accomplish goals.
- To create a clear roadmap for students to share suggestions.



- **Course Modalities and Effectiveness**
- **Development of surveys to identify areas of improvement**
- **Veteran support services**
- **Food insecurity**
- **Access to services and resources (both on and off campus)**

- Elections for SAC leadership
- Identification of one or two focus areas for Fall 2024
- Realignment of SAC processes and culture to make long-term impact
- Leadership training for SAC and its members