

**Student Advisory Committee to the  
Board of Regents for Higher Education  
January 14, 2016**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Central Connecticut State University**

**Agenda – Special Meeting**

Minutes –

- I. Call to Order – 10:17
  - a. Introduction to guest speaker President Ojakian, and his assistants; legislative advocate, Sean Bradbury and secretary.
  - b. Roll Call:
    - ACC
    - CCC
    - COSC
    - CCSU
    - HCC
    - MCC
    - NCC
    - NVCC
    - NWCC
    - QVCC
    - SCSU- (Rep stepping down)
    - TRCC
    - TXCC
    - WCSU
- II. Approval of Minutes from November meeting.
  - a. Approved unanimously
- III. Rep for SCSU announced that this is the last meeting of attendance questions regarding the election procedure for the now vacant position.
  - They should write a letter to the committee president Ojakian and Gordon
  - Make a vote of the members at the next meeting
- IV. President Ojakian Presentation:

From president acknowledged and thanked SCSU rep for service. Explain his initiatives that he would go forward with.

  - The cost of books he is meeting with bookstore vendors to discuss ways to save recognizing the expense to students.
  - Committed to a strong advocacy for students through stories
    - a. You want stories of student funding challenges
    - b. More access to Budget Office to respond and represent.
  - Promote schools
  - a. Concern about the stigma of community colleges where people are ashamed of affiliation.
  - b. Committed to school and institutional success as an advocate and leader.
    - We need to change the public perception.
  - a. To see college as an investment.
  - b. To see community colleges as economic development

- c. He will use his relationships with legislature to make the consolidation really work and he wants to hear from students so that he can articulate student needs to state legislators.
  - On February 3rd through May 1st week the legislative session will take place
    - a. they need to see us.
    - b. Get a strategy going for how the SAC will approach 2017.
    - c. Establish a process for getting students involved
      - i. Go to fit into the state budget
      - ii. work with elected leaders
      - iii.
      - iv. Put a face on community colleges and SAC through personal stories
      - v. Tap into alumni of your school that start got their start from Community College impact of students that was dry for financial needs
        - President gave a brief overview of how this procedure is done with the governor making cuts and the legislature branch coming in and they will ask for those cuts to be put back we need to strategize by telling stories on the personal perspectives from the students.
        - \*\*It was also suggested to create a database of student stories from all of the different schools so that the information can be shared.
        - \*\* it was suggested have a CSU day at Capital like husky day that is put on by University of Connecticut.

Oj response: funding may be an issue for transporting large amounts of students to the state capital as University of Connecticut. It might be possible to use foundation funds for that purpose right now legislature is very open to CCSU concerns

\*\* comment attendance is important at legislative meetings lack of engagement by regions could affect outcomes

\*\* Comment: transform initiative (Developmental Services)

- This is a line item that might be cut there is a misunderstanding about what transform initiative means a name change might be in order.

#### VII. Legislative Training Sessions Updates

Legislative advocacy Sean Bradbury was introduced. He is willing to do training on advocacy covering issues such as the image number to budget number 3 representation his proposed date to train is two weeks before the deadline which will be posted by February end. Block grant were explained by his assistant. Based monies received by the state so it is important to keep this money so that the balance is not made up with tuition and student fees. He suggested invite legislators to event being held by the school he would like to do for regional trainings within the next year.

\*\* Comment suggested a video recorded lesson to be used and accessible by all

\*\*comment refer to CGA website to find state representative because a lot of people do not know who the representative is.

#### VIII. Important dates:

A flyer was passed out with the Craig comprehensive transit services analysis for Greater Hartford area open houses scheduled. Student Advisory Committee bylaws passed out.

**Continuation of Minutes: (finished by Linda Larkin)**

#### XIII. By Laws Review

Minor revisions to the By Laws were proposed at a previous meeting. Prior to a vote on such changes, they must be included on the agenda and be available for open discussion. The revisions were voted on today and passed unanimously.

#### IX. Transportation

Gordon asked members to bring back information to their campus communities concerning CT Transit opportunities for reduced fare for students. Some but not all campuses are currently taking advantage of this program now which is partially funded by student's activity fees. This makes sense for campuses located in close proximity to mass transit.

#### X. Upcoming Dates

Following, are the dates for the remainder of the 1516 SAC meetings:

March 4<sup>th</sup> at 61 Woodland Street

April 1<sup>st</sup> at NVCC

April 29<sup>th</sup> 61 Woodland Street

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 61 Woodland Street

Following, are the remaining 1516 BOR meetings:

January 21<sup>st</sup> at 61 Woodland

March 15<sup>h</sup> at CCSU

April 7<sup>th</sup> at MxCC

May 10<sup>th</sup> at 61 Woodland

There are two events at CCSU to which students from other campuses are invited. For more information, please contact-----(CCSU SAC rep)

Motion to adjourn at 12:25 – rep from CCSU seconded by rep from NVCC.