

**Student Advisory Committee to the
Board of Regents for Higher Education
January 30, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Board of Regents Board Room
61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT**

Minutes – Regular Meeting

- I. Call to Order – 10:00 am
 - a. Roll Call
 - i. COSC
 - ii. SCSU
 - iii. WCSU
 - iv. HCC
 - v. NWCC
 - vi. MXCC
 - vii. NCC
 - viii. TRCC
 - ix. TCC
 - x. NVCC
 - xi. CCC
 - xii. MCC
 - xiii. ACC

- II. Approval of Minutes (November, December)

Motion to approve minutes – The bus transportation was struck from the resolution concerning activity fees added to the November minutes. Unanimously approved.

- III. Updates: Legislative Priorities
 - a. Kyle Thomas has worked with us to create the statutory changes we need in order to function better. This includes adding Charter Oak as a member to be considered for Chair or Vice Chair and the staggering of committee terms. In order to do this, we need to change the statute.
 - b. Sent in the package was the proposal. Kyle does not believe these changes will be an issue. However, we will have to revise the bylaws. We have to write the bylaws and then we make the change if the statute passes.
 - c. Charter Oak would be elected along with the CSU's and the community colleges will serve the other position.
 - d. With this change we will also have to change voting for positions to every year with the change from chair to vice chair coming every year.
 - e. The bill revision should be before the higher ed committee soon if it hasn't been put there already.
 - f. The draft of the bylaws revision will have to include how we are going to stagger the committee dates. Also, we should be abiding by the July 1st term start date

and not October 1st. This information will be communicated to all schools by the Chair.

- g. We need to form an ad-hoc committee to revisit the bylaws. We need two months to discuss the bylaws so it's imperative we get this written for discussion for the next months. We would pass it as a conditional change. However, we cannot make the change without approval from the legislature. If not this year, it won't happen until 2017. Please send an email to Sarah if you would like to be on the ad-hoc committee.
- IV. Other Items:
- a. In late Feb or early March there will be a hearing about the budget. We will want to get a student presence at that meeting as well as contacting their legislators in advance of the hearing.
 - b. Typically events come up at late notice but it's critical that we get students at these hearings to voice our concerns.
 - c. Is there any way student governments can fund buses to bring students to these events? There might be a conflict of interest in using state money to lobby the state. We are getting the question answered by the state Attorney General. Apparently Western has previously done this for budget hearings but we will be checking because what we are talking about is on a larger scale.
 - d. April 29th is a designated day for student lobbying and there's a reception planned from 1-3 pm. At that reception will be legislators and it's important that we get students there. There will also be time before that to talk to individual legislators.
 - e. Prior to those events we will be working to set up some regional training sessions to teach students about how to communicate with the legislators. To teach us how we can reach out regarding issues that concern us. We should have some formats and possibly dates by the end of the week next week. Look for more information in your email.
 - f. The legislative session will begin to move rather quickly. Please have patience with the process.
 - g. Students thanked Sarah for her leadership at the summit last week. Sarah thanked everyone who attended the meetings for the productive discussion.
 - h. Are we going to rank the initiatives? Yes, at the next meeting. We have some notes from the meeting so we should be able to discuss next month. Notes will go out prior to meeting.
 - i. TCC asked when we can see the result of the student activity fee increase? We should not expect it before fiscal year 2017.
- V. Adjournment – 10:40 am,