

**Student Advisory Committee to the
Board of Regents for Higher Education
March 4, 20q6
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Ground Floor Boardroom
61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT**

Minutes – Regular Meeting

- I. Call to Order – TRCC
- II. Roll Call 10:09
 - i. SCSU
 - ii. QVCC
 - iii. CCC
 - iv. ACC
 - v. NCC
 - vi. COSC
 - vii. TXCC
 - viii. WCSU
 - ix. MCC
 - x. CCSU
 - xi. NWCC
- III. Adoption of Agenda
Motion to adopt, adopted
- IV. Approval of Previous Minutes
November of January, CCSU, ACC
approved
- V. Remarks from the Chair
 - a. Election issues
 - b. We should be looking ahead to next year and find out who is taking your place for next year. Please do that at your campus.
 - c. CSU day, April 19th. We need a good strong showing
 - d. Mike Koslowski at the BOR is taking student success stories or name and contact info of students you wish to nominate.
- VI. Vice Chair Nominations
 - a. CCSU and COSC
 - b. Next meeting will be on April 1st at NCC
- VII. Budget
 - a. Erica Steiner, CFO
 - i. Timing of deliberations, normally we would take our recommendations to the finance committee on March 10th meeting, however, it's way too soon. We are

tentatively scheduling a meeting on March 28th then a board meeting on March 29th. We would normally bring it to the SAC before we bring it to the board. However there is no time. The Chair will be briefed.

- ii. Costs are largely wages and salaries. Revenue is from the state and fees and tuition. The state is in a poor way so the budget proposal was not kind to our schools. Wages and salaries are going up because the bargaining is up.
- iii. There is no intention to balance the budget on the backs of the students.
- iv. The BOR is advocating at the legislature, so there's a lot happening on the students behalf.
- v. We firmly believe in transparency. Our fiscal records are open. I will share with you any information you would like.
- vi. We can't speculate on an increase at this point.
- vii. This year the decisions are hard for the legislature so don't expect some sudden good news at this point. The legislature is wondering where the students are if this issue is so important.
- viii. Does the tuition increase get approved before the budget gets passed? Typically tuition and fees have been a cost containment vehicle. We are working hard to create a more early warning process so students can plan for their education. Because we don't have a bargaining unit in place for the next year, we don't have that this year. Normally we have good estimate from the legislature, we don't have that this year either. So this year is really unknown but we still need to come up with something so schools can do their financial aid packages. We are trying to come up with a policy and stick to it and live within it.
- ix. Student advocacy is critical. We need to take these conversations back to our colleges and get students involved.

VIII. Advocacy

- a. Presidential Election – Southern's President is resigning and we are in the initial stage of finding a new President. The SAC nominates someone to be on the committee to site on the Presidential search committee. It's the chairs opinion that the SCSU rep appoints the person to sit on the committee. It's important that we have someone from Southern sit on this committee. We are all in agreement on that.
- b. Voter Registration – it's important that we get everyone registered to vote.
- c. There's an event next Tuesday at 8:30 am in the old appropriations office (310) the capital and it's a good time to have face to face conversations with the legislature.
- d. President paid a visit to North Western last week but there were a lot of people who showed up even though it was during class time.

IX. MCC Unites

- a. A student initiative addressing social injustice. There are 12 events that week. Working with students about refugee matters, black lives matter, a workshop on stereotypes. If anyone wants to be involved you should contact the chair and the chair will share with the board a schedule when it becomes available. April 4-8 MCC.

- X. Transfer and articulation website demo of the beta website. We are helping students find out how to manage a degree across community college and CSU's. They would like feedback on how easy it is to use. Send feedback to Jason. We want to get to a place where you can click on links and see the courses offered at your school. The second page lists the courses in general and the final step shows the 60 credits you will have to take at a specific CSU. The URL is www.ct.edu/tap. It will go live on April 4th. We are trying not to make it too busy, so it's limited in its ability to tell you how you can switch majors and apply credits. The goal is

to keep it simple for students coming into the college setting. We are keeping major changes in mind as they make this process. The email address is on the contact link on the site.

XI. Adjourn