

Student Advisory Committee
October 10, 2014
Minutes

Attendance:

- CCs: Asnuntuck, Gateway, Capital, Naugatuck, Three Rivers, Tunxis, Manchester, Northwestern, Naugatuck (9)
CSUs: Southern, Central, Western (3)

Meeting called to order at 10:12 am.

I. Updates on Legislative Priorities with Senators Cassano and Bye, of the Higher Education Committee

- Sen. Cassano requested feedback on the sexual assault bill. Reps from ECSU and ACC reported on ways student governments are helping to introduce students to the bill. The committee also discussed transgender rights in the sexual assault policy and gender neutral restrooms on the campuses.
- Sen. Cassano announced that one of his funding priorities is the development of a program between the BOR and UConn for automatic admission.
- Sen. Bye emphasized the importance of seamless transfer and keeping fees low for students. The committee discussed raising the Student Activity fee, particularly at the community colleges.
- Sen. Bye raised concerns about increased funding for campus security without making significant improvements to education.
- The committee discussed remedial education with the senators, including the workload of Math 198 and the importance of advising.
- Provost Gargano announced that the BOR is considering a policy to normalize associate degrees to 60 credits and bachelor's degrees to 120 credits.
- Both senators would like to be invited to the campuses to discuss the implementation of the sexual assault policy and remedial education in December or January. The Chair suggested inviting the senators back to speak to SAC in February once bills have been drafted.

II. Minutes from June and August approved 12-0-0. Minutes from September approved 11-0-1 (WCSU).

III. CT Students for a DREAM Resolution approved 10-0-2 (WCSU, ECSU).

IV. Legislative Changes Resolution

- MCC rep suggested dropping staggering of terms from resolution, due the vague language in the resolution. Chair explained that language around staggering of terms needs to be worked out in conjunction with Provost Gargano and the BOR legislative staff, and the rep from WCSU volunteered to work with them to clarify the language.

V. Student Activity Fee Resolution

- MCC and WCSU reps, and MCC advisor, raised concerns about approval process and comptroller guidelines associated with changes to student activity fees.

- The committee discussed messaging around increases in fees while also advocating flat tuition. Rep from WCSU suggested that the resolution should emphasize campuses autonomy over fees without proscribing increases.
- Chair asked each rep to work with their respective SGAs to hold a vote regarding the resolution and acquire documentation to the results. The prospective date for a vote on the resolution, as well as the Legislative Changes resolution, is the December meeting.

VI. Discussion of Subcommittee Structure

- Chair asked for ideas about structuring and maintaining subcommittees. Reps from ECSU and CCSU advocated for ad-hoc committees. Rep from NWCC requested video conferencing to make participation in subcommittees possible. MCC rep suggested permanent position for rep to work with Higher Education Committee and the addition of this position to the executive committee.
- Rep from WCSU moved to extend mtg. Approved 12-0-0.
- CCSU agreed to work on by-laws amendment to remove standing committees and allow for the creation of ad hoc committees.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:03 pm.