



CSCU Student Advisory Committee (SAC) Board of Regents for Higher Education

Fall 2018 Session • Regular Meeting

Student Advisory Committee (SAC)

9:30 am, November 30th, 2018

CSCU System Office

Board Room, Ground Floor

Present

J. Burke (NVCC), L. Coleman (Charter Oak), T. Cruz (NVCC), S. Gager (NVCC), A. King (CCSU),
K. Kroycik (SCSU), S. Maier (TCC), M. Maldonado (GCC), B. Mercaldi (SCSU), S. Montescaros
(GCC), S. Moore (ACC), S. Paquette (ACC), E. Ruiz (ECSU), J. Silveno (CCC), V. Snow (WCSU),
T. Wang (COSC), A. Zhitomi (SCSU)

Advisor

A. Simoni (Executive Director for Student Relations and Compliance)

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:43 am by Angelo Simoni
- II. **Roll Call:** Everyone proceeds to introduce themselves: school and position
- III. **Distribution List Set Up of SAC Members**
- IV. **Adoption of the Agenda**
- V. **Elections:** Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary

- VI. **Remarks from Angelo Simoni**
 - A. Simoni commends everyone for being at the meeting and being the voice of the students from across all the Connecticut Systems of Schools. He introduces Sage Maier the new Chair and Elena Ruiz the new Vice Chair.
 - A. Simoni reminds everyone the primordial task is amending the bylaws to continue having student representation at the meetings as students graduate and there is a vacancy in representation.

- VII. **White Paper**
 - The White Paper is an initiative to make the new Governor and Legislature aware of the roll the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities play in Connecticut and the lives of its residents by educating the future generations. It is the goal of CSCU for the new administration to invest in the students and institutions.
 - J. Burke asked about the procedures that were taken to write the White Paper.
 - A. Simoni expressed that the general procedure was left up to the community colleges and universities themselves but that every White Paper collected would be synthesized into one.

- VIII. **Role of Mark Ojakian and the New Administration**
 - A. Simoni cleared up the rumor that Mark Ojakian would leave his position upon the new administration settling into position. "Ojakian will not leave and is willing to work with Ned Lamont and his cabinet.

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"CSCU provides affordable, innovative and rigorous programs in settings that permit an ever increasing number of students to achieve their personal and career goals as well as contribute to the economic growth of the state of Connecticut."



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IX. ***Next Meeting: 12/7/2018?***

- A. Simoni asked SAC if everyone wanted to meet before the end of the semester or meet after coming back from Winter break.
- S. Moore expressed the meeting day was a delicate time as students are getting ready for finals.
- V. Snow would like to meet before the ending of the semester to take advantage of the break in getting things done.
 - *** Other members proceeded to give their input
- There was a consensus that SAC will be meeting on Friday, December 7th at 10 am in the system office.
- V. Snow brought forth issues of diversity that was being experienced at WCSU, she mentioned that the SAC should further discuss the matter and how diversity or lack thereof can affect students across the system.
- Concerns about safety and weapons on campus were also brought up. The SAC discussed ways we can discuss safety as a system.

X. ***Q/A with Mark Ojakian***

- President M. Ojakian expresses he is excited for SAC to add a new set of ideas and aspirations of the future of CSCU.
- Vice Chair E. Ruiz wanted to know from President Ojakian if there was anything specific that the wanted SAC to talk about or tackle.
- President M. Ojakian expressed SAC should think about who we serve and brainstorm:
 - i. New innovative ways to educate Connecticut
 - ii. Continue the discussion of tuition & keeping it within a limit
 - iii. Dealing with decreasing enrollment
 - iv. New Ways to have more enrollment

XI. ***Open Education Resources***

- Open Education Resources are free and openly licensed materials that can be used for learning and teaching purposes giving professor a legal way to share content.
- There are librarians at each of the 17 universities and community college with that can help students with OER materials.
- Students do better with content they can afford and have access to them.

No Cost Low Cost

- Starting 2019 school year there will be an option for students to search to enroll into No Cost Low Cost courses.
- OER depends on the efficiency of the university or community college to adopt this initiative. Its success depends on the various majors and their departments to implement this.
- Generally, professor what the success of their students so using OER is beneficial.

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*** A. Simoni will shared more information about the initiative and where each university and community college stands on implanting it.

XII. ***Meeting Adjourned:*** 11:37 am by Angelo Simoni

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