

**Student Advisory Committee to the  
Board of Regents for Higher Education  
June 13, 2014  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Third Floor Boardroom  
61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT**

Minutes – Regular Meeting

- I. Call to Order – 10:05 am
  
- II. Roll Call – 11:04
  - a. COSC
  - b. CCSU
  - c. CCC
  - d. SCSU
  - e. GCC
  - f. WCSU
  - g. ACC
  - h. HCC
  - i. ECSU
  - j. MCC
  - k. NCC
  - l. NVCC
  - m. NWCC
  - n. TRCC
  
- III. Approval of Minutes (January, March, April, May) – 11:05
  - a. January minutes approved unanimously
  - b. March 7 minutes approved unanimously
  - c. April 11<sup>th</sup> minutes approved unanimously
  - d. May 9<sup>th</sup> minutes approved unanimously
  
- IV. Remarks from Dr. Michael Gargano, System Provost and Senior VP for Academic and Student Affairs – 10:06
  - a. Transform CSCU 2020
    - i. There is an ongoing project to evaluate student services, advising, and career services at the CSCUs.
    - ii. We expect students to give input in the fall.
  - b. Undocumented Students and Financial Aid
    - i. The SAC should prepare a presentation for the board for the September meeting. We should have documentation prepared for the meeting.
  - c. Discussed questions from the student members

- i. What are the finances associated with the Go Back to Get Ahead program and are we too dependent on making our quotas in that area? We need to realize that we have to recruit students to our colleges and universities. We have to be able to clearly articulate why we are the best choice. We need to focus ourselves on branding in the college marketplace including the quality of the faculty and the quality of the student programs.
- ii. We need to take a good look at honors courses and honors colleges in our two- and four-year colleges.
- iii. To develop an effective management plan it needs to be done by major. Increased enrollment may or may not lead to increased faculty based upon enrollment by major. This is part of our ongoing project to evaluate student services.
- iv. We have candidates for the director of the three-year grant position to do an analysis of student success centers. First Year Experience programs are a key focus. There's a glaring weakness in the programs - does it help a student select a major? All the data indicates that the sooner a student selects a major the higher the retention rate.
- v. There's a huge deficit at Gateway for the start of the year. What can be done to help Gateway? Dr. Gargano has provided a document to schools including Gateway about how to prioritize within its budget. We should be looking at non-academic cuts first and foremost. Gateway has a parking garage problem that it needs help from the state to address. We also need to stop being all things to all people. And we need to look at whether the community colleges are being funded properly to begin with. Tuition and fees are not enough to cover any of our colleges and universities. Budgets are extremely complicated. We have to be willing to discuss it.
- vi. Regarding funding community colleges, there's a lot of funds tied up in staff (about 75%). There's an IT audit going on that could increase efficiencies. We have a lot of old buildings that cost a lot to maintain so we are doing a deferred maintenance audit as well. We absolutely need to make a special request at the next legislative session but we need to know what we are requesting.
- vii. We need permanent adjustments to the allocations for our community colleges and state universities.
- viii. Community colleges have been judged by the graduation rates. But it's more complicated than that. Looking at performance metrics we need to look at the role and scope of the institution. It's not appropriate to look at incoming freshman finishing a degree. There are several other ways to measure the success of the institution.
- ix. We have to separate line item funding from general funding. There's a huge difference. We need more general funds, but we also have to keep up our credibility by keeping our promises.
- x. We need to work on marketing especially the websites. We need to more effectively position the institutions.

V. Subcommittee Reports

a. By-Laws

- i. We need to fix the election process and that's what we are working on. We eliminated whose terms being on or after Oct 1. We eliminated the subjective terms for office. We changed it from a BOR staff member to a chairman pro tem from the committee to run the meeting. Changed the process for holding the election and how we select a winner. Voting should be done by roll call instead of secret ballots.
- ii. Discussion took place regarding the pro tem position
- iii. Discussed total time that the candidate can speak
- iv. Discussed roll call vs secret ballot
- v. Discussed majority vs highest number.

b. Legislative Affairs

- i. Eastern – do we have to do anything formally to have CCC take the place of the prior leader in the committee? Yes, we will discuss at the end of the meeting.

c. Student Affairs

Met with Carolina about CT for a Dream and she sent a document for consideration of the committee. Chair will send the document to the executive committee for review prior to the August meeting. Student affairs should move forward with forming a document.

VI. Remarks from the Vice Chair 11:46

- a. Vice Chair welcomed the new members and encouraged everyone to work on Robert's Rules of Order. You can speak freely in this committee. Everyone is here to speak for their students. What do each of us want from being in this committee? We expect members to attend BOR meetings. It makes a huge statement when we show up.
- b. CCSU requests that we ask the BOR to please take into consideration students' schedules when coming up with the 2015 schedule.

VII. Board of Regents Updates 11:42

a. Community College Presidential Searches

- i. HCC will begin looking for a President, the other colleges have already hired.

b. CSCU Campus Tour

- i. The Chair is scheduling visits to all the campuses. There are 4 scheduled at this time. The hope is to visit all the campuses by the end of the summer.

VIII. Announcements and Concerns 11:45, 11:53

We have opening on all the subcommittees. Please keep an eye out for an email looking for nominations.

MCC rep introduced himself.

CCC moved to extend the meeting for additional comments and announcements. Seconded by WSU for an undetermined length of time. MCC moved to amend the motion to extend for 15 minutes only. Amendment accepted. Several people discussed their schedule concerns. Vote: Favor 9, opposed 3. Motion passed.

CCC – addressed the Vice Chair’s attendance at the BOR meetings for the second month. Discussion continued without resolution or motion until 12:15.

IX. Adjournment 12:15