TRUSTEES PRESENT
Richard J. Balducci, Vice Chairman   John H. Motley
Theresa Eberhard Asch, Secretary (via teleconference)   Scott A. Nolan
Michael A. Caron   Peter M. Rosa
Andrew Chu   Ronald J. Pugliese
Mercedes DeMasi   Ryan C. Sheehan
John A. Doyle   John R. Sholtis, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Gagne   John P. Sullivan
Angelo J. Messina   Gail Hill Williams

TRUSTEES ABSENT
L. David Panciera

OTHER OFFICIALS
David G. Carter, Chancellor, Connecticut State University System (CSUS)
Jack W. Miller, President, Central Connecticut State University (CCSU)
Elsa Nuñez, President, Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU)
Stanley F. Battle, Interim President, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU)
James W. Schmotter, President, Western Connecticut State University (WCSU)

STAFF TO THE BOARD
Erin A. Fitzgerald, Associate for Board Affairs

CALL TO ORDER
Vice Chairman Balducci called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and, following roll call and announcing emergency exit locations, declared a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice Chairman Balducci requested a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. **Trustee Doyle moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of an item under NEW BUSINESS for a discussion to move forward a legislative proposal that would revise state statutes concerning the structure of the CSUS Board of Trustees requiring the Governor to appoint**
a faculty member to serve as a member of the Board. Discussion ensued on the merits of the proposal (with secondary amending motions regarding addition of the item to the agenda made by both Trustee Pugliese and DeMasi) related to Trustee Doyle’s motion to amend the agenda, as well as Vice Chairman Balducci’s comment that if the matter was to be acted upon during the current legislative session, it would likely be at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees in the near future, possibly within one week. Trustee Doyle withdrew his motion to amend the agenda. On a motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Pugliese, the agenda as presented was adopted.

Vice Chair Balducci indicated that he wished to extend, on behalf of Board members, the Chancellor and University Presidents, deepest sympathies to the Central community on the tragic loss of two of their students: Rich Royster and Brittany Mariani.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Balducci requested a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 10, 2010 Regular Meeting and the January 29, 2011 Special Meeting; On a motion by Trustee Motley, seconded by Trustee Pugliese, the minutes were unanimously approved.

CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENTS’ REPORT

Chancellor Carter echoed the comments of Vice Chairman Balducci expressing his sincere condolences upon the loss of Rich Royster and Brittany Mariani.

Dr. Carter shared the following comments regarding his retirement from state service effective March 1, 2011:

“As you know, I announced last week that I will retire from state service effective March 1, 2011. Permit me this morning, if you will, to revisit some of that which I recently shared with you in my letter of resignation.

To say that serving the students and our State of Connecticut has been the joy of my life is to understate the depth of affection that I have for the transformative impact of higher education; for my years at the University of Connecticut, at Eastern Connecticut
State University and at CSUS; and for the remarkable and inspiring individuals with whom I have worked and learned for nearly a half-century.

I am profoundly grateful to have worked in this system since 1988, first as Eastern’s president for nearly 18 years, and then as chancellor since 2006.

I never envisioned being either a university president, or a system chancellor. It was difficult enough while growing up to envision completing high school, but, as do many of our students, I persevered. And I am so fortunate that perseverance enabled me to encourage our students as I was encouraged, to challenge them to succeed as I was challenged, and to watch them thrive as their God-given talents blossomed through their own hard work, seriousness of purpose and unrelenting drive.

There is much that I will miss in retirement. First and most of all, I will miss the students. There is nothing more incredible, inspirational, insightful or just plain fun than spending time with students and being witness to their growth and achievement.

I also will miss the interactions with faculty and staff, from tenured professors renowned in their fields to the maintainers and skilled craftsmen who help keep our campuses running smoothly. The vibrancy of a university campus is deepened and enriched because every individual, regardless of their station, has something of value to offer. Each of us is better for their unique and special contributions.

I will also miss my work with public policy makers and elected officials, from Governors to legislators to community leaders, whose vision and diligence have been instrumental to the successes that we have realized. Their support and their constructive criticism, which we always have taken seriously and tried to address, has made each institution stronger.

A great many individuals and institutions profoundly influenced my life’s journey, and I am deeply grateful to each of them. I am particularly indebted to the Board of Trustees of CSUS, for its many hours spent providing direction for our universities, to the late chairman Lawrence Davidson, who led the Board when I was hired as Eastern’s President, and to Searle Pinney, who succeeded him.

I am extremely honored and privileged beyond words to have served under former Chairman Lawrence McHugh and his successor Chairman Karl Krapek. I spent the majority of my years in higher education working under their stewardship. Their sage advice, wise counsel and unwavering commitment to students have earned my enduring
respect and admiration. Their leadership also ensured that the Connecticut State University System provides accessible, affordable, high quality education to thousands upon thousands of Connecticut students. Many of these students would not have had the opportunity for a college education if not for these institutions.

I am also grateful to Bill Cibes, with whom I worked closely throughout his time as Chancellor, and whose leadership laid the groundwork for considerable progress in both academic programs and what eventually became the CSUS2020 capital investment program. The university presidents and administrators with whom I worked in Connecticut, first at UConn, and then at CSUS, have demonstrated that great leadership with solid teamwork brings remarkable results. It has been an honor to have worked with them on behalf of our students.

We have weathered cutbacks without sacrificing the caliber of education we provide time and again, as economic winds shifted through the years. We have kept tuition in check despite diminishing resources, and maintained student success as our first priority. We reached out to our communities in unprecedented ways, and we brought Connecticut’s communities to our universities as never before.

I am fully confident that Connecticut’s best times remain ahead, and that CSUS can and will continue to be an effective and energizing catalyst for Connecticut. Our universities ensure intellectual development, enhance economic competitiveness, provide cultural enrichment, and encourage civic engagement. In doing so, we make a better Connecticut.

For me, the time has come to leave and enter upon my personal transition on March 1. In doing so, I am humbled by having had the chance to be a part of making a difference in the lives of four decades of students in Connecticut and beyond. I am eternally grateful to those whose support, camaraderie and friendship have made every moment of the journey thoroughly enjoyable.

Though I will not physically be present, my thoughts, enduring commitment and innermost being will very much remain with the Connecticut State University System and all of those working for the benefit of students. I wish the trustees, presidents and entire CSUS community the very best.”

Following Chancellor Carter’s remarks, Senior Vice Chancellor Louise Feroe updated the Board on the progress of the strategic focus working groups. Dr. Feroe reported that the working groups all
completed their tasks regarding the planning priorities assigned by the Board and the reports are now being reviewed with an eye towards identifying overlapping issues, consolidating recommendations where appropriate and preparing an executive summary to facilitate the Board’s review of the material. Dr. Feroe noted that in addition to an Executive Summary, the Board would receive a full set of all the working groups’ reports for their review and consideration at the April Board meeting.

President Miller shared remarks on the loss of Rich Royster and Brittany Mariani, noting that Central was hosting a memorial for both students later that afternoon.

President Miller advised that Central’s annual report was available online and shared results of the employee satisfaction survey, noting significant gains in several areas between 2006 and 2008. In addition to areas concerning increased employee satisfaction, impressive gains were realized in employee recognition and awareness of the mission of the university.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Doyle expressed his appreciation to Trustee Eberhard Asch for serving as Committee Chair at the Academic Affairs Committee meeting on January 25, 2011 and added that the Committee recommended approval of the following items.

A resolution Reauthorizing the Trustees Scholarship Program in the Connecticut State University System. Trustee Doyle noted that the Trustees Scholarship Program was established through Board Resolution #97-49 and had been amended and reauthorized over time, ending with a three year reauthorization through Board Resolution #08-02. The purpose of the scholarship program is to recruit and retain full-time entering freshmen and full-time entering transfer students of exceptional talent who might not otherwise consider attending a CSUS university. Students must complete a minimum of 24 credits annually and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0. A composite three-year analysis of the university reports to the Academic Affairs Committee reveals that over the last authorization period, the program distributed a total of $1,208,087 through 511 scholarships. Average scholarship award is $2,364. Distribution by student status has been fairly even, with 30% of the awards given to freshmen, 20% to sophomores, 26% to juniors, and 24% to seniors. Eleven percent of the scholarships have been awarded to students who are also Pell Grant recipients. Eighty-seven percent of the awards have been to students who have transferred to a CSUS university. Retention in the 90% range and graduation in the 80% range are well above students not in the program. Universities report that scholarship recipients make significant contributions to the quality of the academic environment and University life. Trustee Doyle reported that the proposed resolution reauthorizes the program for an
additional period of three years. On a motion by Trustee Doyle, seconded by Trustee Messina, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

WHEREAS, The Trustees Scholarship program, established through Board Resolution #97-49, as amended and continued through Board Resolutions #98-68, 01-58, 05-01 and 08-02, authorizes each university to award scholarships for the specific purpose of recruiting and retaining full-time entering freshmen and full-time entering transfer students of exceptional talent who might not otherwise consider attending a CSUS university, and

WHEREAS, Standard university reports have provided evidence for the positive impact of the scholarship program in the present authorization cycle, ending in January 2011, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Trustees Scholarships program is hereby reauthorized under the same stipulations in Board Resolution 08-02, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Trustees Scholarship Program shall be reviewed for continuing authorization by the Board of Trustees in January, 2014.

A resolution approving Modifications of the Master of Science and Graduate Certificate programs in Data Mining at Central Connecticut State University. Trustee Doyle stated that the Master of Science program modification reduces the required number of credits from 36 to 33, streamlines prerequisites, at the same time that expands course credits in the applied areas of statistics, introducing cutting edge techniques. The Graduate Certificate modification similarly adds options for applied statistic courses in the form of electives. On a motion by Trustee Doyle, seconded by Trustee DeMasi, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

WHEREAS, The Master of Science program in Data Mining at Central Connecticut State University was approved through Board Resolution #01-46, as modified by Board Resolutions #07-01, and

WHEREAS, The Graduate Certificate program in Data Mining at Central Connecticut State University was approved through Board Resolution #07-02, and

WHEREAS, The university has provided rationale for the proposed changes in the program in benefit current and prospective students, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Central Connecticut State University provide appropriate documentation to the Board of Governors for Higher Education to seek authorization for the proposed program modifications.

Nomination of Chief Judge Anthony J. Brandenburg of the Intertribal Court of Southern California to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Eastern Connecticut State University. Trustee Doyle advised that Judge Brandenburg is a graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University and earned his J.D. from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego. Before his Chief
Judge appointment, he served in the Municipal Court Bench in San Diego County as a Commissioner. He is an expert in Indian Child Welfare issues, has taught and trained over 300 Pro Term Judges, has testified before the US Senate Sub Committee on Indian Affairs, and has received several distinguished awards in his field. President Núñez has indicated that Chief Judge Brandenburg has confirmed his attendance to the university's Commencement Ceremony on May 22, 2011.  

On a motion by Trustee Doyle, seconded by Trustee Pugliese, the nomination was unanimously approved.

Trustee Doyle shared that the Committee also reviewed the Sabbatical Leave Recommendations from Central Connecticut State University for the 2011-12 academic year.

Trustee Doyle reminded members of the Board about the upcoming dinner with CSU Professors and holders of Endowed Chairs.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Messina reported that the Finance and Administration Committee met on Thursday, February 3, via teleconference due to weather-related concerns. While no action items resulted from the meeting, Trustee Messina reported that the Committee reviewed sabbatic leave recommendations for fiscal 2011-12 submitted by Presidents Miller and Battle; and heard an update on the status of CSUS 2020 Projects. While there was essentially no change in the status of these projects since the last update, Trustee Messina noted that the agenda for the next Bond Commission meeting contains four CSUS items, including partial funding for the renovations to Southern’s former Student Center to house the new School of Business, (a CSUS 2020 project). Upon Bond Commission approval, the project should be able to proceed.

Trustee Messina noted that the Committee also reviewed the mid-year progress reports on this fiscal year’s approved spending plans, together with requests for three changes to authorized spending caps - at Western, to cover the earlier-than-expected appointment of two interim Deans; at the System Office, primarily as a result of projected expenses related to the Chancellor search; and in System wide Direct, resulting from the unplanned retirement payout for a long-time employee.

FY10 ended the year with an addition to funds of over $13 million, versus a projection of a $1 million addition to funds, a reflection of rigorous control over expenses, both in hiring and spending. Trustee Messina noted that it was important to remember that the additional funds would all be necessary to meet increasing obligations in coming years (including, for example, salary increases for employees paid from the General Fund this year, the 27th payroll next year, and pre-funding for debt service) as well as to weather the budget constraints the State will be experiencing in the next biennium.
FY11 is now projected to end the year with a $1.3 million addition to funds, versus a budgeted use of funds of $6.1 million, a positive outcome which, again, was driven by rigorous control of hiring and expenses.

FY11 Revenue is projected to be down from budget by over $4 million, driven by decreases in Tuition and Fees. Overall, both full-time and part-time average enrollment are lower than budgeted year over year but average full-time enrollment is higher than FY10 (1.28%). In addition, three universities have commented that their mix of students is more heavily in-state than originally assumed in the budget. While this results in lower than budgeted Tuition and Fees, it is consistent with CSUS’ overarching mission of advancing the educational needs of the citizens of the State of Connecticut.

In closing, Trustee Messina noted that each of the four universities and the System have been proactively dealing with the fiscal crisis facing the state for the past three years, and those efforts have borne fruit, as evidenced from the mid-year spending plan update. Going forward, he noted that it would be important to continue to take a conservative approach to spending and to explore other avenues to efficiency, including innovative ways to raise other revenues or consortial arrangements in providing non-core services, all while working to ensure so that CSUS can continue to offer first-class educational opportunities to Connecticut’s students while remaining affordable and accessible.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chairman Balducci requested a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion on the retirement of the CSUS Chancellor, the CSUS Chancellor Search and the issue of an Acting Chancellor. He noted that no vote would take place during Executive Session. He requested that Chancellor Carter, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources & Labor Relations David Trainor and Associate for Board Affairs Erin Fitzgerald remain. Trustee Pugliese so moved; Trustee Williams seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Vice Chairman Balducci declared the meeting to be in open session at 11:23 a.m. and indicated discussion was limited to the retirement of the CSUS Chancellor Search, and the matter of an Interim Chancellor, with no votes cast during Executive Session.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Vice Chairman Balducci noted that he wanted to thank two people with whom he had the opportunity to serve for many years.

He referenced that Karl Krapek had given his all as a member of the Board and as Chairman, adding that given his passion and commitment to the Connecticut State University System, it was hard to believe he wasn’t a CSUS graduate. Vice Chairman Balducci cited former Chairman Krapek’s love for the students, the programs offered, and for trying to make the CSU System accessible to any person in need was unparalleled. He noted that Chairman Krapek would not be forgotten for his work as an outstanding Board member, and as an outstanding Chair and that he, along with every member of the Board, offered their gratitude and wished him the best in the future.

Vice Chairman Balducci stated he first met Chancellor Carter when he was appointed president of ECSU in 1988. He noted that Dr. Carter’s love for students was legendary and that he was an individual who was unrelenting in his time, devotion and commitment to the students and the Board for whom he served, many days being at the office at 4:30 a.m. Vice Chair Balducci stated that Dr. Carter’s tireless efforts on behalf of the state’s young men and women will have a long-lasting impact on countless of individuals. He wished Dr. Carter and his wife, Dr. Holley, all the best as they move on the next exciting phase of their lives.

Quoting from Dickens’ Tale of Two Cities, Vice Chairman Balducci noted these were “the best of times, the worst of times” with the System facing challenging economic times, yet blessed to have the greatest student body, along with excellent faculty, staff and leadership operating the System. He noted that there were many parents and alumni who supported the universities of the System to the Nth degree, adding that he believed he spoke for the entire Board when he stated that, working together with all the CSUS community supporters, they would do everything they could to keep CSUS a cohesive unit down the road.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Balducci requested a motion to adjourn. Trustee Williams so moved; Trustee Pugliese seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Eberhard Asch, Secretary
EXECUTIVE SESSION - CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Balducci called the executive session to order at 10:50 a.m., reminding Trustees that the Executive Session was for discussion purposes only concerning the CSUS Chancellor Search and the matter of the appointment of an interim CSUS Chancellor and that no votes could be taken. Discussion ensued.

The Committee returned to open session at 11:23 a.m.