1. ACTION ITEMS

A. The regular meeting minutes of the July 14, 2010 Academic Affairs Committee meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and seconded by Trustee Caron.

B. Mission & Vision Statements: ECSU, SCSU and WCSU
Dr. Feroe reminded the committee of the previous committee meeting discussion on approval of the mission and vision statements when they approved CCSU’s. The remaining CSU university mission and vision statements were approved but did not have resolutions attached. The four CSUS university mission and vision statements will go forward to the full Board at their September 23rd meeting for approval and then to the BOG.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Caron and a second by Trustee Eberhard Asch.

C. CSUS Admission Standards
Dr. Feroe explained that the State of Connecticut has implemented new graduation requirements for all high school graduates commencing with the graduating class of 2018. The CSU System in 2009 put into place more defined high school requirements (BR# 09-64) with an effective date of 2015. Following the stipulated guidelines by the State of Connecticut, CSUS decided to align our standards with theirs. Dr. Feroe reviewed the changes with the committee noting the math requirements for the State of Connecticut did not include Algebra 2. Dr. Feroe noted that most high school students aiming at college are already taking this curriculum. This fall, we will be communicating the new standards by visiting middle and high schools.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.
D. Discontinuance Reports for Centers and Institutions

WCSU Center for Collaboration:
Dr. Rinker presented Western’s proposal for discontinuance of the Center for Collaboration. The Center was established in 1992 and provided services to both public and private organizations. The Center has been inactive since 2006 due to the accreditation responsibilities of the School of Business and the circumstances of technology and competitive programs.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

E. Renewal of Centers

CCSU Center for Africana Studies
Dr. Lovitt presented Central’s proposal for continuation of the Center for Africana Studies. The Center serves as a source of academic, social and professional support for CCSU students, faculty and staff. The Center hosts a mentoring program where students go out to the community schools. They also hold the distinctive role of hosting the Archaeology Laboratory for African and African Diaspora Studies.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

CCSU Center for Education & Research in Outer Island
Dr. Lovitt presented Central’s proposal for continuation of the Center for Education and Research in Outer Island. The Center was established in 1995 and is coordinately jointly by CCSU and SCSU. The Center was recently renovated and host many island visits by school children groups. The Center is supported through grants and endowments.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

CCSU George Muirhead Center for International Education
Dr. Lovitt presented Central’s proposal for continuation of the George Muirhead Center for International Education noting this is really a crown jewel at CCSU. The Center, for the second year, was voted one of the top twenty study abroad programs in the nation. The Center has developed a website that contains all international programs within the CSUS and the Hartford Consortium. The website links to resources (faculty contacts, calendar of events, student contacts, etc.).

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

CCSU Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Center
Dr. Lovitt presented Central’s proposal for continuation of the Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Center. The Center was established in 1995, and has a tutoring and mentoring program including a training program for mentors, faculty and staff; travel to conferences; outreach activities aimed towards the Latino and Caribbean cultures.

Fr. Sullivan asked if there was any discussion about a Muslim Center (Studies). Chairman Doyle noted that he is aware of a faculty member at CCSU that actively participates at a Berlin Center. Fr. Sullivan didn’t know if we should take a lead on this.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.
CCSU Center for Public Policy and Social Research
Dr. Lovitt presented Central’s proposal for continuation of the Center for Public Policy and Social Research. The Center was established in 2000 and houses the William O’Neill Endowed Chair in Public Policy and practical Politics. The Center conducts research for state and municipalities, most recently conducted research with veterans on the Veterans History Project. The Center collected archival and oral stories from veterans.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

ECSU Energy Institute
Dr. Free presented Eastern’s proposal for continuation of the Energy Institute. The Institute was established in 2000 and is funded through external grant money. The Institute provides educational outreach, supporting energy solutions and maintaining information resources on energy and sustainability.

ECSU Center for Sustainable Energy Studies
Dr. Free presented Eastern’s proposal for continuation of the Center for Sustainable Energy Studies (CSES). The Center was established in 2000 and houses the endowed chair for sustainable energy. The Center with the endowed chair developed a curriculum in Sustainable Energy Studies. Faculty and staff participate in a range of campus activities promoting education on energy issues. Activities include training for entering students on recycling, conserving energy and Earth Day.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Eberhard Asch and a second by Trustee Sullivan.

SCSU Louis and Joan M. Sirico Center for Elders and Families
Dr. Williams presented Southern’s proposal for continuation of the Louis and Joan M. Sirico Center for Elders and Families. The Center is very active with numerous workshops, professional conferences, lecture series, informational fairs and community partnerships. The Center was awarded a grant to participate with the Department of Social Services on recommendation of a new structure for the State of Connecticut Department of Aging. The Center is recommended for a one year review.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

WCSU Center for Holistic Studies
Dr. Rinker presented Western’s proposal for continuation of the Center for Holistic Studies. The Center was established in 2000 and sponsors educational activities, health fairs and programs. The Center has an active part-time faculty, students and community. One of the Center’s goals is to develop an 18 credit certification program. This will assist teachers in health and wellness programs.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.

WCSU Westside Nature Center
Dr. Rinker presented Western’s proposal for continuation of the Westside Nature Center. The Center was established in 1993 and is a living lab for courses offered by the biology department and is open to the public. The Center has received many individual contributions and manages an endowment established through a grant from CL&P.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Caron.
D. Approval of Endowed Chair Reports

CCSU American Savings Foundation Endowed Chair in Banking and Finance
Dr. Lovitt presented the American Savings Foundation Endowed Chair in Banking and Finance. At this time the chair remains vacant, however, the Department of Finance has continued to offer programs related to the mission of the chair. The criterion for the position of Endowed Chair in Banking and Finance has been redefined. Dr. Lovitt indicated that the Dean of the School of Business is actively recruiting for chair position.

CCSU Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies
Dr. Lovitt presented the Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies. Dr. Biskupski continues to be very active in organizing public events, scholarly activities as well as teaching.

CCSU William A. O’Neill Endowed Chair for Public Policy & Practical Politics
Dr. Lovitt presented the William A. O’Neill Endowed Chair for Public Policy & Practical Politics. In 2009 Mr. William Dyson was appointed by the Board as Endowed Chair. Dr. Lovitt noted that Mr. Dyson has revitalized the chair position. He is very active in community engagement activities, campus activities and collaborations. The Endowed Chair is housed in the Center for Public Policy and Social Research at CCSU.

CCSU Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism & Mass Communication
Dr. Lovitt presented the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair in Journalism & Mass Communication. Mr. John Dankosky, News Director of WNPR was recently appointed to a one-year Endowed Chair appointment. Dr. Lovitt noted that Mr. Dankosky is active in currently teaching a course at CCSU, active in campus functions, film series and workshops.

Chairman Doyle noted he hoped that among Mr. Dankosky’s assignments would be to work with the CCSU publication “The Recorder” to expose students to the characteristics of responsible journalism. Dr. Lovitt assured the Chairman he would follow-up on his request.

ECSU Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education
Dr. Free presented the Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education. Dr. Free noted that Endowed Chair Dr.Jeffery Trawick-Smith is remarkable successful in straddling research and publishing textbooks. In 2010, Dr. Trawick-Smith published four research articles and five chapters in new book manuscripts. A grant of $40,000 from the Spencer Foundation was received for research in early childhood. The Endowed Chair is housed within the Early Childhood Center at ECSU.

ECSU Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies
Dr. Free presented the Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies. Dr. Fred Loxsom, Endowed Chair continues in his primary role to develop curriculum in sustainable energy. Dr. Loxson continues to be active with community outreach and with students traveling to Jamaica to put up wind turbine as a Service Learning Project.

SCSU Dorothy W. Goodwin Endowed Chair in Special Education
Dr. Williams presented the Dorothy W. Goodwin Endowed Chair in Special Education. The Endowed Chair position is currently vacant. Dr. Williams indicated because this is such a narrow field, he may revisit the criteria for editing but hopes to have someone in place by the fall 2011. The Endowed Chair is linked to the Center for Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders that is currently directed by Ruth Eren.
WCSU Constantine S. & Marie C. Macricostas Endowed Chair in Hellenic & Modern Greek Studies

Dr. Rinker presented the Constantine S. & Marie C. Macricostas Endowed Chair in Hellenic & Modern Greek Studies. Dr. Rinker noted that the Endowed Chair position is currently vacant but will begin the search process again. The director of the Center for the Study of Culture and Values (Dr. Galina Bakhtiarova) operated within the endowed chair responsibilities, has continued with activities for the community such as bus trip to New York, Greek play open to faculty, staff and students, and the Macricostas Lecture Series.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Sholtis and a second by Trustee Eberhard-Asch.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Reauthorization of BR# 08-02: Trustees Scholarship Reports

Dr. Feroe reminded the Committee that the Board Resolution for the reporting of the Trustees Scholarships was coming up for reauthorization in January 2011. She asked the Committee members to review both the current board resolution and the 2009-2010 Trustees Scholarship Reports for any changes or additions they would like to make to the resolution.

3. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Trustees Scholarship Reports

As noted above the reports are attached for the committee’s review.

B. ECSU 2010-2011 Distinguished Business Executive in Residence

The information is attached for the committee’s review and information.

C. CCSU BA in Journalism Enrollment Report (as stated in BR# 08-66)

Provost Lovitt included the BA in Journalism Enrollment Report as required in BR# 08-66 for the committee’s review and information.

4. OTHER

A. CT Mirror Article: Reading Exam Still an Obstacle for Would-Be Teachers

Dr. Feroe asked Mitch Sakofs, CCSU Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies to speak on the article. Dean Sakofs reviewed what CCSU has done to prepare students for the reading exam. CCSU holds a series of workshops, test taking strategies, content review sessions (refresher). They have re-sequenced the content of specific courses so that the content area is taught closer to the time of test taking. They also focus on phonics which is a large part of the reading test. Dean Sakofs noted that CCSU ensures the continuity across the section – all teachers are covering the content of material as prescribed by the department. Dean Sakofs noted that even though the reading test focuses on phonics it does not compromise the teaching subject. In addition, all four universities participated in a curriculum review process including all faculty who teach reading in teacher training programs, and all of the universities have seen an increase in pass rates on this exam.

Trustee Eberhard Asch inquired about WCSU’s test results asked if there were insufficient numbers because they were not listed. Dr. Rinker explained that WCSU only has about 4 to 6 people taking the test.
B. Amendment to the 2004 Comprehensive Campus Master Plan for SCSU

Pam Kedderis joined the committee meeting via conference – Ms. Kedderis explained that this was an information item for the Academic Affairs Committee and the Finance and Administration Committee would vote on this at their September meeting. The proposed modification to the SCSU Master Plan at SCSU concerns the Buley Library project. The project is current incomplete due to funding shortfalls. A DPW estimated figure of an additional $32 million is needed to complete the projection. Chairman Doyle asked what the total cost of the project would be. Ms. Kedderis will email that information to the members. The Chairman thanked Ms. Kedderis for providing the information.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Caron moved to adjourn; Trustee Eberhard Asch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.