MEETING MINUTES

Trustees Present: John Doyle, Chair, Theresa Eberhard-Asch, John Motley, John Sholtis, Fr. John P. Sullivan

Trustees Absent:

Provosts & VPs: Carl Lovitt (CCSU), Rhona Free (ECSU), Selase Williams (SCSU), Linda Rinker (WCSU)

CSUS Staff: Louise Feroe, Germán Bermúdez, Pat Frost, Judy Nosal

Guests: Dr. Pam Brucker (SCSU), James Granfield (SCSU), Dr. Carol Hawkins (WCSU), Asst. Professor Pam McDaniel (WCSU), Professor Sal Trapani (WCSU), Dr. Chris Villani (SCSU)

Trustee Doyle called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Trustee Doyle thanked Dr. Lovitt, Dr. Miller and the CCSU staff and faculty for their hospitality.

1. Action Items
   A. The minutes of the January 6, 2009 joint Academic Affairs and Student Life meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee Eberhard-Asch and seconded by Trustee Motley.

   Trustee Doyle asked the committee to move the agenda items for Executive Session to the end of the regular meeting agenda and to include the Honorary Degrees in the Executive Session discussion. The Committee agreed.

   B. Trustees Research Awards
   Dr. Bermúdez explained that the award information was distributed to campuses a month earlier this year. The CSU Professors met on January 23rd to nominate faculty for the Trustees Research and Teaching Awards. Chairman Doyle offered the Committee’s congratulations to the nominees and thanked the faculty for their interest in continuing to award faculty leadership. The awards will be presented at the March 12th Board of Trustees meeting.

   University-Level nominees are:

   **RESEARCH AWARDS**
   - CCSU: Dr. Ravi Shankar
   - ECSU: Dr. Dennis C. Canterbury
   - SCSU: Dr. C. Michele Thompson
   - WCSU: Dr. Karen Burke

   **TEACHING AWARDS**
   - Dr. John Day Tully
   - Dr. Wendi J. Everton
   - Dr. Kristin Anthis
   - Dr. Daniel W. Barrett
The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Motley and a second by Trustee Eberhard-Asch.

C. CCSU Establishment of a Confucius Institute Program

Trustee Doyle asked that the motion to approve the Confucius Institute Program be tabled to the March 4, 2009 BOTAA Committee.

As a follow up to the January BOTAA meeting, Dr. Lovitt indicated that the Confucius Institute proposal was brought to all components of the faculty and departments, Curriculum Committee, Faculty Senate President and members. All support the proposal. The Faculty Senate affirmed their commitment of faculty exchanges, travel to China, cultural event and non-credit courses on Chinese cultural and language. Dr. Lovitt noted the governor of Shandong is scheduled to meet with Governor Rell and has said this is likely the last Confucius Institute. Chairman Doyle reviewed the letter from the CCSU Faculty Senate President, Candace Barrington that was shared with the BOTAA committee members, which requests certain language be included in the agreement and contract. Chairman Doyle suggested that the last sentence of the requested language be deleted and insert the language from section II of the agreement concerning Trustees’ authority. Chairman Doyle motioned to adopt with amendment of language of the memo from the CCSU Faculty Senate president. Language noted below will be included in the Board resolution:

“Nothing in this agreement shall override the Connecticut State University System Trustees’ authority to set policy with respect to the programs and instructional activities of the universities in the System. Under the shared governance observed by CCSU faculty, staff and administration, the CCSU Faculty Senate is authorized to make decisions concerning curriculum policy and curricular structure, as well as requirements for degrees.”

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

D. CCSU Discontinuance of MS and Graduate Certificate in Business Education Program

Dr. Lovitt presented CCSU’s request for Board approval to discontinue the MS and Graduate Certificate in Business Education Program. The program has consistently attracted fewer students; resources have shifted away from the program because of this. There is currently on faculty member dedicated to the program. Dr. Lovitt provided information tables that track the decline. The Department of Higher Education’s concern over discontinuance of the program was CCSU is the only public institute to offer such a program. Currently, the University of Bridgeport (Waterbury campus) and the University of New Haven offer the program. Albertus Magnus was just approved to offer both an undergraduate and graduate degree in Business Education. All current CCSU students have been notified the program will be phased out.

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

E. SCSU Proposed 6th Year Educational Coach Program

Dr. Williams presented the proposed 6th Year Educational Coach Program for consideration of the BOTAA Committee members. The proposed program is an interdisciplinary program developed collaboratively with the Special Education and Elementary Education departments at SCSU. The program has been in development for about two years. Dr. Brucker, Special Education Department Chair described the proposed program along with Dr. Villani, Elementary Education Department Chair also described some of the curriculum that will be offered. The program will include a unique interdisciplinary blend with the intent that any educator can enroll in. The students will be well trained to understand the special needs student, develop appropriate instruction and skills assessment, school law, classroom management, observation and co-teaching. A pre-requisite has been added for students who have not taken a multicultural/diversity course. The proposed program includes the possible 2014 State Department of Education changes in certifications with endorsements. Trustee Sullivan questioned the use of “coach” in the title. Dr. Brucker informed the committee that several titles were suggested but
because the word “coach” is used often in an educational setting. Trustee Eberhard-Asch thought the program was excellent. Trustee Motley was thrilled when reading through the material noting the leading role being taken by Southern. Chairman Doyle asked if they had attended a social activity by the SDE with Mike Hardman, Dean of Education at Utah. Dr. Granfield, Dean of Education at SCSU noted conversations had taken place with Dr. Hardman.

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

F. WCSU Proposed Bachelor of Arts in Musical Theater Proposed Program
Dr. Rinker presented the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Musical Theater Program for consideration of the BOTAA Committee members and introduced her faculty members attending the meeting. The proposed program has been in the works for four years. With only the University of Hartford offering a related degree (BFA), this proposal will allow an affordable, quality program to current and prospective WCSU students. Chairman Doyle asked why a BA versus a BFA degree. Mr. Trapani and Ms. McDaniel explained that they preferred the BA because of the academic component, a well rounded student. For accreditation purposes the faculty felt they would prefer to go with a Bachelor of Arts. Trustee Eberhard-Asch noted that she was pleased that they went with the BA rather than the BFA because of the academic components.

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

G. New CSUS Minimum Admission Requirements
The proposed minimum admission requirements will align with SDE new high school requirements set to take effect the 2016-17 school year. The proposed minimum admissions requirements will be effective fall 2017. Students entering into the CSU System should be prepared to take math and English courses that are credit bearing and meet the general education requirements. Chairman Doyle indicated that the Committee has been petitioning both the former and current chancellor, SDE and selected Superintendents for these changes.

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

2. Discussion Items
A. Proficiency:
Dr. Feroe distributed materials to the BOTAA committee members for their review.

3. Informational Items
A. Annual Report on International Agreements
Dr. Feroe provided a written summary report provided by the campus academic affairs offices. Each Provost provided an update:

CCSU
Dr. Lovitt noted that CCSU has identified the Center for International Education as one of their four areas of distinctiveness. The Center has a new director, Dr. Nancy Wagner from Trinity College. Dr. Wagner has brought a level of professionalism to the university and has increased the coordination of the Center. Dr. Wagner has established several policies and protocol for traveling abroad. At this time she is exploring a suggestion made by the Chancellor to coordinate with the System Office ways in which we can provide services. CCSU is working on a VISA Hotline. CCSU has 300 students going abroad their goal is to increase that number to 1000.
ECSU
Dr. Free noted that Eastern is offering short study abroad courses during the winter and summer sessions most recently offered a study tour to Ghana. Short study abroad courses will allow more students to take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad. Student exchange programs are available to France, England and Thailand. The New Horizons Program will offer more experiences.

SCSU
Dr. Williams noted that they are also working towards their Strategic Plan goal of providing students and faculty with international curriculums. Programs sponsored by the campus are offered to study in Spain, France and England. Southern offers many faculty/student research endeavors recently to Ethiopia, Australia and Peru. Programs also offered through Public Health where students and faculty travel abroad to Guatemala.

WCSU
Dr. Rinker indicated that students at WCSU are given the opportunity to study abroad living in homes with families – experiencing the language, culture and sometimes research. Faculty exchanges are also available at WCSU. Every other year a trip abroad to study in Edinburgh is offered. The International Education director at WCSU coordinates all programs abroad as well as putting together a policy and procedures manual for traveling abroad. Recently, WCSU has put into place an agreement to do business in India with the Staples Company.

Chairman Doyle asked if there was AG’s office was still continuing the backlog regarding applications. There are a lot of obstacles that cause the lapse in timeliness for approvals. Dr. Williams indicated that the sheer volume that is received by the AG’s office adds to the backlog even with affiliation agreements. Dr. Feroe noted that the System Office continues to work on this issue.

Chairman Doyle extended the Committee’s thanks to all the AVP’s for their information.

B. BOGHE Summary – January 22, 2009 and February 26, 2009 meetings
Dr. Bermúdez provided a brief report on the meeting.

C. BOGHE Summary – February 25, 3009
Dr. Bermúdez provided a brief report on the meeting; however, the CSUS did not have any programs on the February meeting agenda. Chairman Doyle inquired on the status of the CCSU Civil Engineering Proposal. Dr. Feroe indicated she has sent a letter to the person leading the review process regarding the proposal. Chairman Doyle asked that until this is approved he would like the BOTAA Committee to receive updates on the status.

D. 2008 Faculty Tenure Report
Chairman Doyle noted that this report was referred to the Committee by the Finance Committee. Chairman Doyle asked that a report be given after January 1, 2010 so that it would reflect the retirements. Discussion on non-tenured instructors.

E. WCSU NEASC Report
Dr. Rinker noted that WCSU’s NEASC Report addressed all recommendations from their previous visit and received no new recommendations. Chairman Doyle offered the Committee’s congratulations and noted the increase in WCSU’s graduation rate.

Executive Session
Chairman Doyle requested a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss recommendations received from Eastern, Southern and Western regarding honorary doctorates and the recommendations received for the System Level Trustees Teaching and Research Awards. He directed Trustees Eberhard-Asch, Motley, Sholtis and Sullivan, Louise Feroe, German Bermúdez, Pat Frost, Judy Nosal and Provosts and Vice Presidents Lovitt, Free, Williams and Rinker to remain in attendance during the executive session.
Trustee Eberhard-Asch moved to go into Executive Session; Trustee Motley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION
Chairman Doyle declared the Committee meeting to be in Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT
Trustee Eberhard-Asch moved to adjourn; Trustee Motley seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

The next BOTAA meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at the Connecticut State University System Office, Room 123 beginning at 9:00 a.m.