BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Connecticut State University System Office

9:00 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Trustees Present: John Doyle, Chair, Kenneth Barone, Theresa Eberhard-Asch, John Motley, John Sholtis, Gail Williams (via conference), Andrew Wetmore

Trustees Absent: Andrew Chu, Elizabeth Gagne, David Panciera, Fr. John P. Sullivan

Provosts & VPs: Carl Lovitt (CCSU), Laura Tordenti (CCSU), Rhona Free (ECSU), Ken Bedini (ECSU), Selase Williams (SCSU), Ron Herron (SCSU), Linda Rinker (WCSU), Walter Bernstein (WCSU)

CSUS Staff: Louise Feroe, Germán Bermúdez, Pat Frost, Bill Gammell, Bernard Kavaler, Yvette Meléndez, Judy Nosal

Guests: Emanuel Emenyonu (SCSU), Ed Rybczyk (CCSU)

Trustee Doyle called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. **Action Items**
   A. The minutes of the December 3, 2008 Academic Affairs meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee Eberhard-Asch and seconded by Trustee Motley

   B. CCSU Establishment of a Confucius Institute Program
      Trustee Doyle asked that the motion to approve the Confucius Institute Program be tabled to the BOTAA Committee meeting on March 4, 2009.

      Dr. Lovitt presented the material that is currently being reviewed. Dr. Lovitt noted that there are several Confucius Institutes at campuses across the United States. Courses offered through the Confucius Center would be offered as non-credit.

      Trustee Doyle asked Dr. Lovitt to bring this to the University Senate to review and provide a formal agreement with faculty. The proposal will be reviewed again at the March 4th BOTAA Committee Meeting. Dr. Feroe added that there should be some form of faculty governance language inserted into the contract that emphasizes the role of faculty governance. A brief discussion ensued, and it was agreed that the proposal would come back to the committee after consideration by the University Senate at Central, and the committee encouraged CCSU to continue their work with the AG’s office.

2. **Discussion Items**
   Enrollment: Dr. Feroe distributed and reviewed the enrollment documents prepared by Mr. Gammell’s Office. Each Provost reported on their campus activities:

   **CCSU:** Goal: a 48% six year graduation rate for students graduating by AY 2013 (incoming freshmen class of 2007)
The University has undertaken several initiatives including a redesigned First Year Experience program, the initiation of a Center for Academic Success one stop student services center, and a new Early Academic Warning System. These initiatives have resulted in increased year to year retention of students, and the achievement of the goal.

**ECSU: Goal: 48% six year graduation rate for students graduating by AY 2011** (incoming freshmen class of 2005)
Dr. Free indicated that ECSU has begun several initiatives, although they are very close to this six-year rate. They are working on an advising model that considers both the academic and financial requirements for each student to graduate in four years. Mr. Bedini gave a report on the student orientation that is provided to new freshmen.

**SCSU: Goal: 52% six year graduation rate for students graduating by AY 2014-15** (incoming freshmen class of 2008)
Dr. Williams noted that the pilot program for First Year Experience students was very successful last year, and has been expanded to include all freshmen students. New Student Orientation is held for two days in June. The June orientation is centered on registration and identifying with their learning community. An Academic Support Services area has been put into place.

**WCSU: Goal: 51% six year graduation rate for students graduating by AY 2013** (incoming freshmen class of 2007)
Dr. Rinker indicated that WCSU freshmen students receive their fall schedule for 5 courses and an advisor assigned to them in June. The two-day orientation held in June is focused on registration, course selection changes, and meetings with both professors and students. The Enrollment Committee continues to work with the freshmen class selecting their spring course load of fifteen credits. Block scheduling is in the discussion process.

Trustee Barone added that registering for 15 credits a semester is a key to graduating on time.

3. **Informational Items**
**BOGHE Summary – November 19, 2008 – December 17, 2008 meetings**
Dr. Bermúdez provided a brief report on two items of interest from the November 19th meeting – Transfer & Articulation – President Norton from SCSU and President Douglass from Northwestern Community College gave an update on the MOU Oversight Committee and their work on transfer & articulation; - HS Reform was also presented to the BOGHE by Commissioner McQuillan – That proposal was accepted by the State Board of Education, but was not funded.

At the December 17th meeting each of the constituent units presented to the BOGHE the impact on possible reductions with a unified emphasis on increasing financial aid.

**ADJOURNMENT**
Trustee Motley moved to adjourn; Trustee Eberhard-Asch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

The next BOTAA meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, March 4, 2009** at the Central Connecticut State University in New Britain beginning at **10:00 a.m.**