TRUSTEES PRESENT:
Mr. Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman
Mr. Karl J. Krapek, Vice Chairman
Mr. Richard J. Balducci
Mr. John A. Doyle
Mr. Angelo J. Messina
Mr. John H. Motley

TRUSTEES ABSENT:
Ms. Cerissa Arpaio
Ms. Theresa J. Eberhard-Asch, Secretary
Mr. M. Fernando Franco

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:
David G. Carter, Chancellor, Connecticut State University System (CSU)
Jack W. Miller, President, Central Connecticut State University (CCSU)
Michael Pernal, Interim President, Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU)
Cheryl J. Norton, President, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU)
James W. Schmotter, President, Western Connecticut State University (WCSU)

SYSTEM OFFICE BOARD STAFF:
Estela Lopez, Vice Chancellor; Pamela Kedderis, Chief Financial Officer; Yvette Melendez Thiesfield, Chief Administrative Officer; Anne Agee, Chief Information Officer; and Erin Fitzgerald, Associate for Board Affairs

GUESTS:
Leanne Lahey, PriceWaterhouseCoopers

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., declared a quorum present and requested a motion to accept the Regular Session Minutes of January 27, 2006. Mr. Pugliese so moved; Mr. Balducci seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
Chairman McHugh introduced Leanne Lahey from PriceWaterhouseCoopers to comment upon and respond to any questions concerning the annual audit report of the combined financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2005 and the letter to management.

Ms. Lahey reported that PWC had personally met with Chancellor Carter and each university president as well as System Office senior staff to review the findings in the management letter. She commented that bench strength from internal controls is in a better spot today than one year ago, noting that hiring in key positions and the depth underneath those recently hired key individuals have led to continued improvements into documentation and implementation of procedures. Concerning the information technology piece of the audit, Ms. Lahey noted that Southern and Eastern went through a very high level review of offices and departments. Ms. Lahey stated that the comments in relation to that review were more related to documentation vs. performance. The System Office IT practices, Ms. Lahey reported, are not up to par to where they should be, referencing that, as the “mother ship,” the System Office should be a role model and needed to focus on policies and procedures being well-documented and executed. Citing pockets of best practices at the universities, Ms. Lahey further remarked that the System Office should articulate policy and identifying the lowest common denominator as to what is expected of the universities concerning IT and then consider giving some latitude to the universities as to execution. Ms. Lahey also noted that PWC had spoken at length with the audit committee and that monitoring action plans that have been put in place as noted in the management letter is critical.

Mr. Messina, Audit Committee Chair, remarked that CSU expressed its appreciation to PWC for coming in on an emergency response basis and providing a comprehensive audit. Chairman McHugh concurred with Mr. Messina’s comments and expressed his personal appreciation.

CHANCELLOR/PRESIDENTS’ REPORTS

Chancellor Carter noted that he had been Chancellor for one month and a day and that the process has been rewarding, enlightening and very insightful. He called attention to the material in the trustees’ folder including a copy of his testimony to the Appropriations’ Bonding Subcommittee and the accompanying PowerPoint presentation. Additionally, the Chancellor noted that he had provided each Trustee with a copy of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ 2006 Public Policy Agenda. The Chancellor commented that each
month he will try to provide some material for the trustees’ edification. Chancellor Carter remarked that the monthly reports from the university presidents would focus on student life.

The presidents distributed written reports and highlighted the contents for the trustees.

President Schmotter reported that there is a dramatic increase in the number of students requiring assistance. President Schmotter advised that Western is utilizing both Student Affairs and Academic Affairs to engage students and explore avenues to foster a sense of community. He commented that today’s students are more complex, whereas, previously, student affairs was thought of as mainly providing entertainment to students, nowadays, student affairs professionals are also addressing developmental issues students bring to campus, some of which include serious mental and physical health problems, including suicide ideation, eating disorders, learning disabilities, and emotional and familial stress. President Schmotter noted that the priority going forward is to build a campus community and pointed out the challenges in doing so with two separate campuses. He added that the new Westside student center would provide exciting new space for student-centered activities and assist in fostering a sense of community.

President Norton reported that at Southern, Student Life is no longer just providing something for students to do, but lighting the way and showing students what they can become. President Norton noted that emphasis on student life is an opportunity to increase retention, provide leadership skills and to augment students’ educational atmosphere. President Norton announced that the recently opened Michael J. Adanti Student Center has already provided an exciting venue for students to meet, eat, think and become involved in campus life at a much higher level than previously allowed. President Norton walked the trustees through Southern’s report, pointing out photos of the new student center and outlining the goals of student affairs and the challenges and opportunities ahead.

President Pernal provided an update on the renovation status of Eastern’s Student Center, noting that there will be a small stage area which allow space for performances, poetry readings, debates, etc. President Pernal also spoke briefly regarding the naming and dedication of the Margaret Wilson Child & Family Resource Center Complex. Concerning student life and student engagement, President Pernal, shared some of the challenges with engaging today’s students: the average student watches 3 hours and 41 minutes of TV per day; new technologies allow students to participate in distant or virtual communities, rather than relying on immediate university environs; as many as 8 in 10 Eastern students work while enrolled, and, consequently, only about 40% participate in student clubs or groups. Eastern is aggressive in engaging students and meeting those challenges. Eastern students participate in a wide range of co-curricular activities,
university-wide intellectual and cultural events, service-learning projects and community service that contribute to the development of the whole person. President Pernal also provided an overview of the Nonprofit Leadership & Philanthropy Initiative, the Green Campus Initiative and the Peer Tutoring Program.

President Miller noted that Central’s report centers on data from an online student satisfaction survey, conducted with the assistance of Noel-Levitz through Central’s Office of Student Affairs. The survey was conducted in late 2004 and, in March 2005, an all day meeting was convened to learn survey results and to discuss next steps in implementing programs, policies, and procedures to respond to the key findings of the study. The top priorities that the university should develop and implement a plan of action in response to, as identified by the survey findings, included: identify where the administrative “run-around” exists through student focus groups; determine what the statement “tuition is a worthwhile investment” means to our students; identify ways billing, financial aid awards and registration can be improved; seek opportunities for the administration to enhance engagement with students or identify ways to communicate what is already occurring; create a course-sequencing guide (day and night); and to review advising sessions purpose and content: are they mainly course registration approval meetings or sessions to build relationships and discuss career options. President Miller noted that there would be an annual evaluation process established to assess progress made on identified priorities.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Doyle reported that the Academic Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at Central Connecticut State University and recommended the following:

*A resolution to authorize Southern Connecticut State University to modify a concentration in its Exercise Science program and seek licensure and accreditation for a new Bachelor of Science degree program in Athletic Training.* Mr. Doyle reported that the modification maintains the strengths of the current concentration while responding to national accreditation and certification standards and addressing state workforce needs. Pending legislation could require all interscholastic sports teams to have certified athletic trainers. Total enrollment is expected to increase without impacting the larger Exercise Science program and courses will continue to enroll students from other disciplines. The new curriculum is designed to include a strong assessment component, which includes required clinical internships in both the
junior and senior years. Because this is an evolved program, faculty, library holding, classroom facilities, and fiscal support will effectively serve the needs of the new program.

Mr. Doyle moved the following resolution; Mr. Pugliese seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System approves Southern Connecticut State University’s proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science degree program in Athletic Training, and be it further

RESOLVED, That under the authority granted to the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University System in Chapter 185b, Section 10a-87 and 10a-149 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System is authorized to seek licensure and accreditation for this program from the Connecticut Board of Governors for Higher Education.

Mr. Doyle further reported that at the January meeting, the committee approved President Norton’s request to confer honorary degrees at Southern’s spring 2006 commencement exercises. The first is Dr. Thomas Meredith, Commissioner of Higher Education for the Mississippi of State Institutions of Higher Learning. Dr. Meredith has spent his professional life advancing the cause of education. He has served as a teacher and school principal, as well as president of Western Kentucky University, chancellor of the Alabama University System and chancellor of the University System of Georgia. President Norton cites his leadership “not only as an innovative educator but also for his effectiveness in establishing economic partnerships between the academic and business communities. Dr. Meredith will present an address at the graduate commencement at which Southern’s first Ed.D. degrees will be conferred.

The second nominee is Dr. Blenda Wilson, president and CEO of the Nellie Mae Foundation. Her previous higher education experience included serving as president of the California State University at Northridge, chancellor of the University of Michigan, Dearborn, and executive director of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education associate dean at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She is past chair of the American Association of Higher Education. For the past sixteen years Dr. Wilson has advanced Nellie Mae’s mission to promote accessibility to, quality, and effectiveness of education and make the foundation a force for educational improvement and a vehicle to promote academic achievement for New England’s underserved communities. Mr. Doyle advised that Dr. Wilson would also present an address at the graduate commencement exercises.

At its February meeting the committee approved President Schmotter’s request to confer an honorary degrees at Western’s spring 2006 commencement exercises. President Schmotter
confirmed that Catherine Crier has accepted and will be present to receive her degree. Ms. Crier holds a law degree from Southern Methodist University and has served as an assistant district attorney, an attorney in private practice and the youngest elected judge in Texas history. Ms. Crier is a nationally known journalist and author on the law and society. She has worked at CNN as co-anchor of Inside Politics, and The World Today, as well as hosting her own Crier and Company program. She has served as a correspondent for ABC News and 20/20, winning an Emmy Award in 1996. She is currently the host of Catherine Crier Live, a legal news show on Court TV. In addition to broadcast journalism, she is the author of three books.

Mr. Doyle moved the aforementioned nominations; Fr. Sullivan seconded the motion and they nominations were approved unanimously.

Mr. Doyle noted that the committee discussed NCATE standards regarding disposition for all teacher candidates and was assured by the provosts that CSU universities take the utmost care in screening candidates to make sure that students who do not have the comportment and disposition to be teachers do not continue from our programs.

Mr. Doyle also noted that the committee discussed steps the universities are taking with regard to educating our students about financial literacy, the status of the Ed.D. programs and the implementation of the Trustees Research Awards that will be granted later this spring.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Pugliese reported that the Development Committee met on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at the CSU System Office and recommends the following:

The Committee approved two cash gifts from the ECSU Foundation to ECSU to support the Institute for Sustainable Energy. One gift is in the amount of $33,592, and the other is in the amount of $26,523.50.

Mr. Pugliese moved the following resolutions; Ms. Williams seconded the motion and the resolutions were approved unanimously.

Resolution #1

A Gift of $33,592 from the ECSU Foundation for The Institute For Sustainable Energy At Eastern Connecticut State University

WHEREAS, The Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation, Inc. has donated an installment gift of $33,592 to Eastern Connecticut State University, and

WHEREAS, This gift is made possible by the donation of a grant from the Energy Conservation Management Board as administered by The State Department of Public Utility Control
WHEREAS, originating from Connecticut Light and Power Company as an installment in support of the Institute for Sustainable Energy, and

WHEREAS, The gift will be used to support the services of the Institute in meeting its objectives, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System accepts the above gift from the ECSU Foundation, Inc., and be it further

RESOLVED, That President Michael Pernal convey the gratitude of the Board to the ECSU Foundation, Inc., DPUC, the Energy Conservation Management Board, and to the Connecticut Light and Power Company for its support of the Institute’s endeavors.

Resolution #2

A Gift of $27,523.50 from the ECSU Foundation for The Institute For Sustainable Energy At Eastern Connecticut State University

WHEREAS, The Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation, Inc. has donated an installment gift of $27,523.50 to Eastern Connecticut State University, and

WHEREAS, This gift is made possible by the donation of a grant from the Energy Conservation Management Board as administered by the State Department of Public Utility Control originating from United Illuminating as an installment in its support of the Institute for Sustainable Energy, and

WHEREAS, The gift will be used to support the services of the Institute in meeting its objectives, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System accepts the above gift from the ECSU Foundation, Inc., and be it further

RESOLVED, That President Michael Pernal convey the gratitude of the Board to the ECSU Foundation, Inc., DPUC, The Energy Conversation Management Board, and to United Illuminating for its support of the Institute’s endeavors.

Mr. Pugliese further reported that the Committee discussed a request brought forth by President Pernal to name the Child and Family Resource Center Complex at Eastern Connecticut State University as the Margaret S. Wilson Child and Family Development Resource Center Complex. The naming is in recognition of Ms. Wilson’s long-standing contributions to, and advocacy of, quality daycare programming. Ms. Wilson was the chief architect of the idea for the Center, and her vision, tireless efforts, and energy have played a major part in the Center becoming a reality. As the dedication ceremony for the Center was scheduled for February 28th, and the University wished to include the naming as part of the dedication, the Committee unanimously agreed to bring this matter to the Executive Committee for approval.
As part of its regular agenda, the quarterly gift income reports from the universities were reviewed. All four universities continue to realize success with the various fundraising events and annual campaigns.

In closing, Mr. Pugliese noted that the retirement party in honor of Dr. Cibes raised approximately $15,000 for scholarships.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Krapek reported that the Finance and Administration Committee met on Friday, February 24th, and had one action item to bring before the Board of Trustees.

Resolution granting tenure to Dr. Fred Loxsom, Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies, at Eastern Connecticut State University

The Center for Sustainable Energy Studies was established at Eastern Connecticut State University in July of 2000. The Board of Governors for Higher Education approved the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies at the Center and Dr. Fred Loxsom was designated to fill the Endowed Chair effective the beginning of the 2004-2005 academic year. Mr. Krapek stated that Dr. Loxsom brings a wealth of experience and credentials in the area of teaching, scientific research, grant writing and administration. In conclusion, Mr. Krapek advised that the tenure review process for Dr. Loxsom has been completed and President Pernal has recommended he be granted tenure.

Mr. Krapek moved the following resolution; Mr. Balducci seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, BR#2000-74 established the Center for Sustainable Energy Studies at Eastern Connecticut State University and designated it as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence and the Board of Governors for Higher Education approved for the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies in the Center for Sustainable Energy Studies at Eastern Connecticut State University; and

WHEREAS, BR#2004-53 designated Dr. Fred Loxsom to fill the Endowed Chair for Sustainable Energy Studies effective the beginning of the 2004-2005 academic year; and

WHEREAS, ECSU-AAUP and Eastern Connecticut State University reached an agreement on December 12, 2005, concerning an expedited tenure review process for the Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy Studies that differs from the tenure process in the collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, President Pernal has recommended tenure be granted to Dr. Fred Loxsom; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Dr. Fred Loxsom, Endowed Chair for Sustainable Energy Studies, be granted tenure at Eastern Connecticut State University.
Mr. Krapek reported that the Committee also reviewed a five-year cumulative Fund Transfer Report, the 2005 Information Technology Fee Reports, and heard a brief update on IT projects. Additionally, the Committee reviewed mid-year progress reports regarding the current year’s approved spending plans together with any requests for changes to authorized spending caps. On a consolidated basis, it is anticipated that the CSU System will end the year with a deficit of $680,513, a $1.7 million improvement over the originally budgeted deficit of $2,383,240.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman McHugh advised that the Executive Committee met on Friday, February 24, 2006 and had several items to report.

The Committee received and reviewed the controllable property internal audit reports for Eastern, Southern and the System Office.

Chancellor Carter provided a legislative update on state and federal issues and priorities as well as a status report on the Governmental Relations search.

The Chancellor provided the Committee with information regarding his general assessment of the system to date and his plans at this time. The Committee fully supports the Chancellor’s assessment and general plan.

The Committee reviewed the Chancellor’s $1 Billion 10-year plan; reinforcing the current project plan for year 2006-2007 and authorized the Chancellor’s project plan out to 2016, which is consistent with action previously taken by the Board.

The Committee authorized the Chancellor to retain the services of outside counsel.

The Committee approved a change in the July Board of Trustees meeting (from July 21) moving the meeting to July 28, 2006, at the CSU System Office.

Naming of the Child & Family Resource Center Complex at Eastern Connecticut State University. Chairman McHugh reiterated Trustee Pugliese’s statement that the Executive Committee had approved this naming opportunity at the February meeting. Further, Chairman McHugh referenced the previous laudatory comments by Trustee Pugliese and President Pernal, noting that the naming opportunity was a fitting tribute in honor of Margaret S. Wilson, a selfless and tireless advocate of quality daycare. The Chairman requested a motion to ratify the action of the Executive Committee approving the following Resolution.

Mr. Balducci moved to ratify the action taken by the Executive Committee approving the following resolution; Mr. Pugliese seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has the sole authority to provide for the naming of facilities and programs of the Connecticut State University System. A formal naming policy was approved and implemented in 2001 specifying the criteria to be met for consideration of recommendations for naming from the president of the university; and

WHEREAS, Section E of the naming policy allows for naming opportunities “for scholars and other distinguished individuals who are preeminent in their field of endeavor and/or have contributed meaningfully to the CSU System or to any of its constituent institutions;” and

WHEREAS, The tireless efforts of Ms. Margaret S. Wilson towards establishing the Child and Family Development Resource Center Complex has been an invaluable benefit to Eastern Connecticut State University, and

WHEREAS, While the Complex is proposed to be named in honor of Ms. Wilson, ample opportunity exists for several other major naming opportunities (the school, the academic wing and the playground) as well as several internal spaces; and

RESOLVED, That in recognition of Margaret S. Wilson’s long-standing contributions to and advocacy of quality daycare programming, the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System hereby designates the Child and Family Development Resource Center Complex at Eastern Connecticut State University as the Margaret S. Wilson Child and Family Development Resource Center Complex.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Chairman McHugh reported that the ECSU Presidential Search is proceeding on track, with the first joint meeting of the Trustees’ Search Committee and University Advisory Committee scheduled for Thursday, March 9, at the CSU System Office. The Chairman spoke briefly regarding the search for the Executive Officer for CSU Governmental Relations, noting that the large volume of interested applicants (approximately 150) spoke volumes about the high-quality reputation of the CSU system.

Chairman McHugh advised that Fernando Franco asked his fellow Trustees to forgive his absence as he is competing at the national level with the WCSU Debate Team.

Chairman McHugh reported that he, along with Fr. Sullivan, Peter Rosa, and John Doyle, appeared before the Legislature’s Legislative & Executive Nominations Committee for confirmation and reconfirmation hearings. The Chairman remarked that he was very pleased with the testimony given by his fellows trustees and stated that each member provided positive testimony making the case for equity in funding from the legislature, to ensure CSU’s funding is comparable to that of other constituent units of higher education. Noting the support received by the presidents of the CSU bargaining units, AAUP and SUOAF, the Chairman commented that he was very proud of the terrific relationship that has been developed between those groups and the Trustees. The Chairman commented that it is by working together that CSU will be successful in
obtaining more full-time teachers and support staff to address the needs of the students that we serve.

The Chairman reported that Southern recently had their student trustee election with the new Trustee expected to be present and receive the oath of office at the April 6 meeting at Southern Connecticut State University.

Mr. Doyle noted that he wanted to congratulate and thank President Miller for his responsiveness in the UTC/Pratt internships in materials management, stating that President Miller demonstrated excellent follow-up responsiveness and taking advantage of an opportunity.

Mr. Pugliese reported that he accepted an invitation from Western faculty to sit in on a class and urged the other Trustees to do so if they have the opportunity. He further commented that as the former Chairman of the Student Life Committee, he appreciated the emphasis on student life in the Presidents’ reports.

Ms. Williams stated that she wanted to both thank and congratulate President Schmotter regarding the involvement of the students in the women’s business studies event she recently participated in at Western.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Balducci moved to adjourn; Mr. Pugliese seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Eberhard-Asch, Secretary