Trustees Present: David Panciera, Chair, Kenneth Barone (via teleconference), Andrew Chu, Elizabeth Gagne (via teleconference), Gail Williams, Andrew Wetmore

Trustees Absent: Kolby Williams

Provosts & VPs: Laura Tordenti (CCSU), Ken Bedini (ECSU), Ron Herron (SCSU), Walter Bernstein (WCSU)

CSUS Staff: Louise Feroe, Judy Nosal

Trustee Panciera called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Action Items**
   
   A. The minutes of the December 5, 2008 Student Life meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee G. Williams and seconded by Trustee Wetmore.
   
   B. The minutes of the January 6, 2009 joint Academic and Student Life meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee G. Williams and seconded by Trustee Wetmore.
   
   C. Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Awards
      Trustee Panciera noted that it was great to acknowledge the best and brightest CSU students, aside from our student trustees and asked Dr. Feroe to read the names of the Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award recipients into the record. The recipients are:
      
      **Central Connecticut State University**
      Lianne DiFabbio
      Steven Edwards
      Ryan W. Hewey
      Amanda E. Johnson
      
      **Eastern Connecticut State University**
      Sara Hanrahan
      Tristan Hobbes
      
      **Southern Connecticut State University**
      Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.
      Megan Rudne
      Catherine Shortell
      Walter J. Stutzman
      
      **Western Connecticut State University**
      Meredith Ann Liberto
      Laura Telman
      
      The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Wetmore and a second by Trustee Williams.
D. On-Campus Solicitation by Credit Card Vendors
Dr. Feroe presented the information on credit card vendors. This is a hot topic in Connecticut and in the Legislature. The Legislature has asked the Board of Governors to regulate credit card vendors on campus. The documentation provided for the Board’s approval reflects current practice. Trustee G. Williams if this documentation was based on limiting or getting rid of credit card vendors and is it what the legislature wants. Dr. Feroe noted the documentation was consistent with the legislature. Trustee Barone agreed that more control was needed on the campuses and how it has enticed students into taking out credit cards. Trustee G. Williams was concerned that the board resolution was not detailed enough. Dr. Feroe indicated that both board resolution and staff report was written by Attorney General Holly Bray and reiterated its consistency with legislature.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposal on a motion by Trustee Chu and a second by Trustee Wetmore.

2. Discussion Items
No discussion items.

3. Informational Items
A. VAWO Grant
Dr. Herron spoke on the VAWO grant. The grant was submitted in collaboration with the four CSU universities, Quinnipiac, Trinity, UCONN and the University of Bridgeport. The grant is for $500,000 grant will be used to meet the four goals outlined in the data summary that was provided by Dr. Herron.

As to the discussion on veterans, Dr. Feroe indicated that a meeting was scheduled with the SAVP’s, Veteran’s Affairs Directors, Bursars to discuss the changes in veterans/GI benefits with regard to the new ACE/Walmart funding opportunity offered to institutions who serve veterans. Trustee Panciera asked if the campuses were aware of the number of students this may affect. He asked if at their meeting this they could try and get a number from each of the universities. Dr. Bernstein noted that the numbers at Western were going up as was the need for additional assistance with mental health issues. Following a lengthy discussion, Trustee Panciera asked the SAVP’s at the next meeting to present a model regarding health services.

Trustee Panciera excused himself from the meeting.

4. Other
Trustee Wetmore introduced SGA Vice President Ethan Breitling. Trustee Wetmore had three items to discuss. 1.) Lobby Day – Trustee Wetmore thanked the faculty, students and trustees who attended it meant a great deal. The SGA president and vice president along with 24 WCSU students attended via bus trip. The students met in a group and behind closed doors with legislatures. Trustee Wetmore agreed that meeting with them did send a message but felt more was needed. Students have concerns over their programs and whether classes will be offered. The rumor to close the WCU was of great concern to students. Trustee G. Williams noted that Chairman McHugh stated at the March 4th BOT meeting that there would be no closures of CSU campuses. Dr. Feroe added that it is an awkward time for student and faculty. Universities are beginning to put together their budgets for the upcoming year. A lot is done on assumption because we don’t really know what we are getting in terms of budgets. The governor’s figures are a starting point. Trustee Barone asked if a tuition increase was likely what percentage of increase are we looking at. Dr. Feroe indicated high but below double digits. SGA VP Breitling said that many students have made it clear that they do not want an increase higher than UCONN’s. Dr. Feroe noted that UCONN does affect some of the limits of what we can do, tuition increases in particular. She also noted that both CCSU and SCSU have closed freshmen admission and are now putting students on a waiting list. 2.) Trustee Wetmore said he is working with the SGA to help resolve underage drinking at the campuses. Currently they are working with the vendors in the town of Danbury. Coupons and discounts at local restaurants are offered to students. City Center in Danbury is offering coupons and discounts to WCSU’s students. Trustee Barone
indicated the importance of getting involved in the local community. Dr. Bernstein added that there are some areas the public universities can’t get into as opposed to a private institution. 3.) Green Initiative – Trustee Wetmore brought this issue back to the table. He had previously done a presentation to the BOT. Dr. Feroe noted that there are several sustainability programs throughout the four universities. There are several publications on the programs as well as information on the CSUS website.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee G. Williams moved to adjourn; Trustee Wetmore seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

The next BOTSL meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain beginning at 10:00 a.m.