Preparing Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s Workforce
WHO WE ARE

By the Numbers

• 17 Institutions
  12 Community Colleges, 4 State Universities, Charter Oak State College (online)
• 96,000 Students
• 14,000 Graduates per year
• 1,200 Degree (Associate, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral) and certificate programs

Covering Connecticut

• 41% of students enrolled in college in CT attend a ConnSCU institution
• 25% of CT high school graduates attend a ConnSCU institution; 8% attend UConn; 8% attend private institutions.
STATEWIDE REACH
ConnSCU FACT

ConnSCU

Conferred nearly

260,000 degrees since 1983
(28 years)

UConn

Conferred nearly

260,000 degrees since 1881
(130 years)
If state policymakers want to improve their state’s economic performance, then they should concentrate on effective ways of boosting their stock of knowledge*

Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
Study of differences in state income levels

*Stock of knowledge is defined as the number of high school graduates, college graduates and patents.
Our stock of knowledge is in competitive decline

Connecticut once led the nation in the educational level of its workforce.

States passing or gaining ground
MA, NY, NJ, NH, MD, MN
GOVERNOR MALLOY’S CHARGE

Why Change?

- ConnSCU students are most in need of a student-friendly pathway to graduate.
- Lack of college readiness demands stronger partnerships with local high schools.
- Mobility of students calls for efficient credit transfer.
- Interest in career-oriented programs requires responsiveness to employers.

Challenging the Status Quo

- Revamping higher education will not be easy, and many believe the status quo is fine.
- An overhaul will allow more money for teaching, and less toward central office and board hierarchy.
- A new system will help us adapt to Connecticut’s broad and changing economy.
CHALLENGES

- **Changing the culture in the central offices**
  Moving from “we’ve always done it this way” toward “what way benefits students”

- **Changing the culture on campuses**
  Creating a more collaborative relationship between community college/university leadership, faculty and staff and connecting that to workforce needs and partnerships.

- **Doing more with less**
  In light of fewer federal and state dollars available.
YEAR ONE GOALS

1. Draft, Approve, Begin to Implement a Seamless Transfer Policy
2. Draft, Approve, Begin to Implement a Workable Remediation Policy
3. Launch Three Manufacturing Centers
4. Respond to Workforce Needs; Build Collaboration/Partnership
5. Encourage Degree Completion
6. Reorganize Central Office and Move Savings to Faculty/Student Support Services on Campus
GOAL 1: Seamless Transfer Policy

On March 15, the Board of Regents approved a plan to implement a seamless transfer agreement between all 17 ConnSCU institutions.

The 30 credit common core will be completed by September 30, 2012, and the major-by-major articulation will be completed by July 2013.
GOAL 2: Workable Remediation Policy

The Board of Regents is working with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to develop a bill which effectively addresses the issue of remediation.

This is an issue with which we need to partner with our State Department of Education colleagues to ensure more students are coming to college prepared, and for those who aren’t, we need to figure out a way to better prepare them that doesn’t utilize federal financial aid eligibility.
GOAL 3: Launch Manufacturing Centers

Last month, the Board of Regents announced that Housatonic (Bridgeport), Naugatuck Valley (Waterbury) and Quinebaug Valley (Danielson) were selected as the three sites.

Working to enroll our first class in Fall 2012.
GOAL 4: Respond to Workforce Needs

Working with our partners at the Departments of Labor and Economic and Community Development, the BOR is connecting with local employers/workforce drivers to find out what it is that they need in future employees to ensure we’re training our students for that skill/competency level.
GOAL 5: Encourage Degree Completion

If we’re going to increase the percentage of adults with degrees in our state, we need to launch a program to attract those students who have started college, but never finished.

One of the ways we can do this is to utilize Charter Oak State College’s accessibility and reach across ConnSCU campuses.
GOAL 6: Money for Faculty/Student Support

Achieving Savings

• 24 administrative positions eliminated in the central offices

• Evaluate inherited contracts (ex: $100,000/year on federal lobbying; IT savings throughout the system;)

• Consolidated purchasing; Energy Conservation/Procurement

Identify Where Help is Needed

• Work with campuses to allocate these positions

• Build niches for campuses

• Leverage cross-campus resources in support of programs of excellence
Workforce demands mean...

We cannot afford to maintain the status quo

• Break away from a “we’ve always done it this way” attitude
• Achieve cost savings to channel more money back to the classroom/direct student support services
• Set higher goals to make Connecticut competitive as a state and our students prepared for tomorrow’s workforce

“Faith is taking the first step, even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.