

State of Connecticut
Board of Regents Faculty Advisory Committee
January 17, 2014
39 Woodland St.
Hartford, Conn.

Present: Stephen Adair, Member, CCSU; T.J. Barber, Member, MCC; Bob Brown, Member TxCC; Ilene Crawford, Member, SCSU; Daniel Facchinetti, Member, COSC; Marcia Garcia-Bowen, Alternate (Barrett), SCSU (SUOAF); Kris Larsen, Alternate (Hoyser), COSC; William Lugo, Alternate, ECSU; Catherine Hoyser, Member, COSC, William Lugo, Alternate, ECSU; Steven Moore, Member, MCC; Patty O'Neill, Member, WCSU; Erin Pagano, Member, QVCC; Barbara Richards, Alternate, HCC; Kim Shea, Alternate, GWCC, Member, CCC; Judy Wallace, Alternate, MxCC.

Guests: Dr. Aynsley Diamond, TAP Program Manager; Dr. Greg Gray, President, ConnSCU

1. Call to Order. Meeting was convened at 2:06 PM.
2. Update on Excel CT and discussion with President Gray. At the January 16, 2014 Board of Regents meeting, President Gray discussed Excel CT with the Board. No vote was taken on Excel CT. The Board focused on the long-term budgetary impact of Excel CT. Budget challenges confronting ConnSCU are probably not temporary in nature, and thus, a long-term approach to meeting these challenges is necessary. President Gray offered a multi-pronged approach that involves investment by the State of Connecticut, faculty grants, appeals to philanthropic organizations, a greater use of on-line technologies, and the attainment of efficiencies. President Gray clarified previous remarks about on-line education, indicating that expansion of on-line offerings would mean expansion at all institutes, and not solely at COSC. President Gray pointed out that increasing tuition is not a viable approach as a solution to these permanent budget challenges, and that the Board was reluctant to pursue tuition increases, particularly after the March 2013 Board of Regents meeting. President Gray explained that a top priority going forward will be to fund information technology infrastructure and deferred maintenance projects. With respect to the 104 full-time faculty positions that will be available this year and next, Gray did not anticipate such an initiative with faculty positions occurring again in the foreseeable future. President Gray asked the FAC what the FAC would like to see in any system-wide academic plan. The group agreed that, going forward, there must be less reliance on adjunct faculty. The discussion turned to the idea of requiring every student in ConnSCU to take two on-line courses. The FAC questioned the educational soundness of this, and pointed out that while on-line courses work particularly well for returning non-traditional students, they (on-line courses) are a particularly bad match for academically challenged and first generation college students. These students are a significant part of our enrollment. President Gray emphasized that "We are a system", and we need to, going forward, always consider, with any proposal, "How will this improve the system?" Suggestions for strengthening our identity as a system included a system-wide athletic league, collaboration among community colleges and Central's International Studies program, a system-level grants office, and system-wide advertising. Whatever the outcome of the budget process for this year, Gray does not anticipate much impact on ConnSCU for Fall 2014. Barbara Richards emphasized that

developmental education needed to be an integral part of future plans, pointing out that the current legislation concerning developmental education (PA 12-40) may be inadvertently shutting out the people in our state who would benefit the most from attending a ConnSCU institution. We do not know how many students will remain unready for college after remediation, and while this is a societal issue, it remains an important focus for the FAC. Stephen Adair, a member of the PA 12-40 steering committee pointed the necessity of having a policy and research analyst from the System office on that committee. There are 75 pilot programs addressing remediation that need to be assessed.

3. Review of minutes from January 10, 2014 meeting. Motion to accept (O'Neill/Barber) approved unanimously.
4. Discussion of TAP and introduction of Aynsley Diamond, TAP Program Manager. Dr. Diamond's priorities for the immediate future include the finalization of articulation pathways for 20 programs in the ConnSCU system. A second priority is the development of a web site for students and advisors to use to determine which courses fit with which programs at which institutions. Stephen Adair raised the issue of:
5. FAC representation on committee
 - a. TAP Coordinating Council. Motion (Pagano/Barber) to approve Stephen Adair, Bob Brown, Patty O'Neill, Stephen Moore, Catherine Hoyser and Myrna Garcia-Bowen as FAC representatives to the TAP Coordinating Council approved unanimously.
 - b. Common Calendar Committee. Motion (Garcia-Bowen/Pagano) to approved T.J. Barber and Patty O'Neill to the Common Calendar Committee approved unanimously.
 - c. BOR subcommittees
 - i. Stephen Adair attends meetings of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee
 - ii. Motion to approve (Brown/Garcia-Bowen) Dan Facchinetti as FAC representative to the Information Technology Committee, Erin Pagano as FAC representative to the Finance Committee, Bob Brown and T.J. Barber as FAC representatives to the HR-Administration Committee, approved unanimously.
 - iii. Motion to approve (Hoyser/Garcia-Bowen) Stephen Adair and Erin Pagano as FAC representatives to the PA 12-40 committee approved unanimously.
6. Discussion and preparation for the FAC's report to the Higher Education Committee.
7. Change in FAC bylaws. No action taken.
8. Consideration of agenda items for February meeting.
9. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.