

State of Connecticut
Board of Regents Faculty Advisory Committee
February 14, 2014
39 Woodland St.
Hartford, Conn.

Present: Stephen Adair, Member, CCSU; Bob Brown, Member TxCC; Ilene Crawford, Member, SCSU; Del Cummings, Member, NVCC; Kris Larsen, Alternate, COSC; Catherine Hoyser, Member, COSC, Steven Moore, Member, MCC; Patty O’Neill, Member, WCSU; Erin Pagano, Member, QVCC; Barbara Richards, Alternate, HCC; Kim Shea, Alternate, GWCC, Member, CCC

Guests: Kyle Thomas, Legislative Program Manager, Board of Regents

1. Call to order. Meeting was convened at 2:04 PM
2. Review of minutes from January 17, 2014 meeting. Stephen Adair will add comments to the discussion of the TAP implementation. Motion to accept as amended (Hoyser/Moore) approved unanimously.
3. Meeting with Kyle Thomas to discuss legislative agenda of the Board of Regents.
 - a. Mr. Thomas discussed CSCU 2020, the plan to improve the 17 colleges and universities of the ConnSCU system, unveiled in early February. Legislation has been proposed that bears on this plan. SB 30, *An Act Concerning The Board Of Regents For Higher Education Infrastructure Act*, replaces The Connecticut State University System Infrastructure Act (formerly known as CSU 2020) with the Board of Regents of Higher Education Infrastructure Act and proposes funding for improvements in infrastructure at the 17 institutions of ConnSCU. HB 5050, *An Act Improving College Completions* addresses the “Go Back To Get Ahead” initiative announced by Governor Malloy. This program provides incentives for students who have started college, but who have since been out of college for at least 18 months, to return to college. Charter Oak staff will make initial contact with students who take advantage of this program. It was pointed out that many of these students may be at risk of maxing out financial aid eligibility, and steps need to be taken that these students are able to complete their degree before running out of financial aid. Altogether, a total of \$134 million in new funding for the ConnSCU system has been requested by Governor Malloy. A major focus for the

new funding will be on IT infrastructure, and the BOR plans an audit of the IT capabilities of the ConnSCU institutions. It is envisioned that it will be possible, in the future, for “1 click” enrollment at any institution. This means that if a student wishes to take a course not offered at the “home institution”, that student will be able to enroll in that course at any other institution with a click of the button.

- b. Another focus going forward will be the updating of system wide academic and facilities plans, ensuring that every institution has a Master Plan, and that the Master Plans of the institutions interact appropriately. An academic plan for the entire system will be the responsibility of the new Provost. Any such plan will, in all likelihood, retain the proposals from the original Excel CT calling for career cluster for the community colleges and Centers of Excellence for the Universities.
- c. In response to a question about revenue sharing between community colleges to address financial needs, Mr. Thomas indicated that while it would still occur for now, the goal for the future was reduced reliance on cross-institutional transfers.
- d. Another priority for the System will be to increase early college efforts. A task force with stakeholders from K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and Dr. Gray and Dr. Carmen Sid has been formed to address these early college efforts. Programs modeled after the PTECH program are being developed at some of the community colleges.
- e. Implementation of the Transfer and Articulation Policy continues. There will be funding for faculty stipends to complete this implementation.
- f. Discussion of PA 1240 focused on whether there is a need for a delay in the implementation of the law. Data on student performance collected thus far focuses on the performance of students in pilot developmental programs. The FAC pointed out that what was critically needed was data on the performance of these same students in credit-bearing courses. When asked whether the Board of Regents feels that a delay is necessary, Mr. Thomas deferred to Ted Yungclas, BOR-Academic Affairs and Dr. Elsa Nunez.
- g. The need for increasing the number of full-time faculty was raised. Mr. Thomas pointed out that it’s difficult to argue for more faculty in a time of decreasing enrollment but recognized that this was an important issue going forward.
- h. HB 5029, *An Act Concerning Sexual Assault And Intimate Partner Violence On Campus* is supported by the Board of Regents. It may pose particular challenges for community colleges, however, because they are treated as residential colleges under this bill, which they are not.

- i. Consolidation of Purchasing, IT management, and Financial Aid services is being considered, and it is expected that during the March meeting, the Board will announce the structure for this consolidation.
4. Bylaw changes. Motion to approve the deletion of the word “physically” from V1.C (Brown/Shea) approved unanimously.
5. Complete committee assignments including academic calendar. At the last FAC meeting, the committee informally agreed to add Ilene Crawford and Bob Brown to the Common Calendar Committee. Motion to formally elect Bob Brown and Ilene Crawford to the Common Calendar Committee (Hoyser/O’Neill) approved, unanimously.
6. Communication across campuses. For the CSU representatives, communication with colleagues is straightforward: each CSU representative to the FAC reports, monthly, to the respective Senates. Barbara Richards has been working to solve the challenge faced by FAC representatives from community colleges, who must be able to communicate with multiple campuses. These suggestions include the following:
 - a. The campus liaison report to the largest possible group (e.g., communicate activity of the FAC at, for instance, a beginning of the semester opening meeting).
 - b. Once a semester, the co-chairs of the FAC send a blast e-mail to all faculty of the ConnSCU system, summarizing the activities of the FAC.
 - c. When FAC minutes are distributed, the co-chairs send a brief e-mail notifying members, and provide a link to the minutes.
 - d. Each FAC representative communicate with own school, each alternate with own school, and someone agrees to communicate with the fourth school from the grouping of large, medium, and small community colleges.
7. Common academic calendar. Ilene Crawford reported on the first meeting of the Common Calendar Committee, chaired by Michael Rooke, Dean of Academic Affairs at Tunxis, and Marianne Kennedy, Interim Provost at Southern. The goal is to devise a common calendar that can be implemented by Fall 2015. The move to a common calendar may be more difficult for the community colleges, which must have at least 15 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in a semester. The Common Calendar Committee would like the support and endorsement of the FAC for any final common calendar.
8. Report on meeting with Willis and Cassano. Stephen Adair reported on the meeting with Representative Roberta Willis and Senator Steve Cassano, co-chairs of the Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee. The FAC is mandated by the legislation to make an annual report to this committee. No date has yet been scheduled for this year’s presentation.
9. Discussion of “Transform CSCU 2020”.

10. Preparing for presentation to Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee. Issues that will probably be addressed in this presentation include, but are not limited to, PA 1240, the strategic planning process, the need for tuition relief for our students, the importance of the role of Vice Presidents separately representing the Universities and the Colleges, respectively.
11. Other Business. None.
12. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty O'Neill