

Regular Meeting of the State of Connecticut
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents for Higher Education
February 19, 2016
39 Woodland St.
Hartford, CT

Present:

Stephen Adair, Chair, Member, CCSU
Barbara Richards, Vice-Chair, Member, HCC
Greg DeSantis, Secretary, Alternate, HCC
William Lugo, Member, ECSU
Patrice Farquharson, Member, COSC
Judy Wallace, Member, MXCC
T.J. Barber, Member, MCC
Mike Shea, Member, SCSU
Del Cummings, Member, NVCC
Linda Wilder, Member, COSC
Bob Brown, Alternate, TXCC
Jay Brower, Alternate, WCSU

Guests:

Estela Lopez, Provost, BOR
Erika Steiner, CFO, BOR
Vincent Tong, GCC
Jonah Cohen, GCC

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:12 PM.
2. Discussion ensued regarding updates to the FAC contact list and membership questions, including potentially inactive members
3. FAC Membership Review
 - a. New COSC alternate faculty member, Krystyna Gorniak-Kocikowska
4. Update on legislative budget
 - a. Erika Steiner reported regarding the Governor's Proposed Budget for FY17 as it is currently understood. The budget proposal is complicated but the proposed budget is roughly \$26 million below the proposed biennium amount, which was already flat. The original appropriation, deficit mitigation, lapses, and other options for adjustments were discussed including the reallocation of the line item known as Transform CSCU. Further discussion regarded the Outcomes Based Financing line item, which is currently a placeholder, and not yet clearly defined. The line item Workers' Compensation Claims was discussed and the concerns about the shift of responsibility for the related funds to the CSCU. The across the board cuts are proposed to be 5.75% for all items. In sum, the \$26 million dollar reduction proposal would be a 7% overall reduction of

the appropriations to the CSCU. The proposal to reallocate fringe was also discussed and that this may be problematic if fringe costs rise but the CSCU are expected to manage those costs. A discussion ensued on the topic of the POTS and the restricted reserve of the set-aside. The process and purposes of setting tuition was discussed.

5. Review and approval of January minutes
 - a. 1/22/16 minutes approved (Barber/Brown), unanimous with corrections as updated
6. Announcements
 - a. FAC/BOR meeting
 - i. Stephen Adair reported on efforts to schedule a meeting between the FAC and BOR. Continued discussion on whether this would automatically be a public meeting. Various meeting possibilities were discussed, including inviting BOR members to meetings and the conference were discussed.
 - b. BOR committee assignments and orientation
 - i. Barbara Richards reported briefly about her assignment to and the first meeting of the Finance and Infrastructure Committee of the BOR.
 - c. Meeting with Higher Ed Committee
 - i. Stephen Adair reported and indicated that we should have a plan about speaking to the Higher Ed Committee. Discussion ensued about what should be reported.
 - ii. Discussion and agreement that Ernestine Weaver should be invited to the next meeting regarding some of these questions.
 - d. Motion made (DeSantis/Barber) that the FAC will create a standing subcommittee regarding the annual reports to the CT Legislature, unanimous
 - i. Motion made (Brown/DeSantis) that the FAC Vice Chair will serve as chair of the standing subcommittee regarding the annual reports to the CT Legislature, unanimous
 - ii. Stephen Adair, William Lugo, T.J. Barber, Del Cummings, and Linda Wilder volunteered to serve on the subcommittee
 - e. Motion made (DeSantis/Shea) that the FAC will create a standing subcommittee regarding the annual reports to the Board of Regents, unanimous
 - i. Motion made (Brown/DeSantis) that the FAC Chair will serve as chair of the standing subcommittee regarding the annual reports to the Board of Regents, unanimous
 - ii. Barbara Richards, Mike Shea, Patrice Farquharson, Judy Wallace, and Jay Brower volunteered to serve on the subcommittee
 - f. Motion made (Barber/Shea) that the FAC will create a standing subcommittee regarding the annual FAC Conference, unanimous

- i. Motion made (Adair/Richards) that Bob Brown and Greg DeSantis continue as chairs of the standing subcommittee regarding the annual FAC Conference, unanimous
 - g. Meeting with Community College Presidents
 - i. Barbara Richards reported that the meeting is rescheduled.
 - h. Update on IT Policy and Research on Human Subjects
 - i. Stephen Adair met with Sean Bradbury. Discussion will continue regarding a possible change in BOR policy or a Legislative change on this topic.
 - i. Progress on Shared Governance Award
 - i. Estela Lopez reported that she has discussed this with Regent Merle Harris and that a response should be forthcoming.
 - j. Presidential resignations and searches
 - i. Mike Shea raised a question about how those searches might proceed. Brief discussion occurred especially regarding the urgent need for permanent leadership on campuses with presidential resignations and the perspective that there is general awareness of this need on the BOR.
 - k. Motion made (Adair/DeSantis) that the Faculty Advisory Committee expresses its sincere gratitude and appreciation for the esteemed service of Bob Brown for his service as Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee, and for his ongoing contributions as a highly valued colleague and member of the Faculty Advisory Committee. Approved unanimously.
 - 7. Changes in financial aid: SAP and Governor's Scholarship
 - a. Greg DeSantis reported on proposed legislation regarding the Governor's Scholarship. The proposed language is now available.
 - 8. Request for FAC section of BOR website
 - a. Alice Pritchard requested that the FAC send a written request on this matter if the FAC would like to pursue this. Discussion ensued, and there was agreement that bylaws, founding documents, notable resolutions, reports to the BOR and the Legislature, membership information, and conference videos/documents would be part of the request regarding what might be hosted on this proposed section of the BOR website. There was further agreement that a contact person at the BOR (for example in IT) was needed that the FAC Chair could email when new materials need to be added.
 - 9. Conference planning
 - a. Greg DeSantis presented about conference planning developments. Brief discussion followed. Many breakout session proposals have been received. Conference registration will begin in a week or two.
 - 10. Other business
 - a. Discussion about the upcoming report to the BOR. The subcommittee can convene. Agreement that the FAC will request to report to the BOR at the May BOR meeting.

- b. Discussion about search committees and hiring for campus presidential searches
 - i. Motion was made (DeSantis/Shea) to create a Task Force to explore the process by which the BOR conducts its campus presidential searches, unanimous
 - ii. Motion was made (DeSantis/Barber) that Mike Shea and Barbara Richards would co-chair the Task Force, unanimous

11. Meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM