

**State of Connecticut**  
**Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents**  
**April 24, 2015**  
**Tunxis Community College**  
**Farmington, Conn.**

Present: Stephen Adair, Vice-Chair, Member, CCSU; T.J. Barber, Member, MCC; Bob Brown, Chair, Member, TxCC; Del Cummings, Member, NVCC; Greg DeSantis, Alternate, HCC; Ann Marie Gagnon, Alternate, COSC; Myrna Garcia-Bowen, Alternate, CCSU; Steven Moore, Member, MCC; Patty O'Neill, Member, WCSU; Barbara Richards, Alternate, HCC; Mike Shea, Alternate, SCSU; Judy Wallace, Alternate, MxCC.

Guests: Bryan Bonina, Tunxis Community College; Liz Caswell, Board of Regents.

1. Meeting convened at 11:06 AM.
2. Approval of minutes of April 2, 2015 meeting. Tabled.
3. Transform CSCU update (Transform Steering Committee members). Barbara Richards described the April 17 meeting of the Transform Steering Committee (TSC).
  - a. The TSC elected Steve Cohen, Senate President at CCSU, as co-chair of the committee.
  - b. The committee then debated the proposal submitted by the faculty (teaching and administrative) members of the TSC. This proposal was developed in response to a request from President Gray that the faculty members develop an alternative to the original charge to the TSC, a charge that was unacceptable to faculty members. The original proposal contained language stating that the committee would "create and oversee a process of implantation" (of Transform). After discussion, this was amended to the committee would "preview, review and endorse the implementation of the initiatives with recognition of the authority of the administration, faculty and staff of the campuses."
  - c. The original proposal contained language stating "A moratorium will be placed on all Transform CSCU 2020 "initiatives" until they have been evaluated and approved by the Steering Committee". This was amended to "A moratorium will be placed on all Transform CSCU 2020 initiatives except those exempted by the Transform Steering Committee".
  - d. The amended proposal was then approved by the TSC. The proposal places a moratorium on all initiatives. The TSC, after discussion, voted to remove the "Go Back to Get Ahead", "Seemless System-wide Transfer", "Revenue Management" and "It Organizational Structure" initiatives from the moratorium.

- e. President Gray, in an e-mail dated April 23, 2015, said, of the TSC meeting: "I understand a lengthy and healthy discussion pursued with a great deal of progress being made. I support all the agreements made during the meeting, including the process and charter adopted and reflected in the minutes of the meeting. Thank you for your efforts and commitment and I fully endorse the outcomes from the meeting".
4. Report to the Board of Regents, May 21, 2015. The committee discussed possible items to present to the Board. These include, but are not limited to:
  - a. A description of the work of the Steering Committee, along with an expression of support from the FAC for that work, and a conveyance of the fact that the FAC is cautiously optimistic at this turn of events.
  - b. A description of the "Hurdles on the Horizon" conference and its success.
  - c. A description of the "No Confidence" in Transform votes that have occurred.
5. Legislative updates. Liz Donohue, Directory of Policy for Governor Malloy, expressed concerns about HB 6812 *AN ACT CONCERNING FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION*, an act that would allow faculty representation on Board committees and subcommittees. Her concerns centered on the belief that such representation of faculty on the Board committees and subcommittees was highly unorthodox and might make it difficult to attract qualified candidates for \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Election process update. The CSUs are in the process, or have already completed the process, of electing FAC representatives. The election process for the CCS occurs in two stages. The first stage will be held this spring, and each campus will nominate someone to serve. Stage two will take place in September 2015. The "large" CCs will select a representative, the "medium" CCs will elect a representative, and the "small" CCs will elect a representative. Two alternates will additionally be elected.
7. Budget issues. A number of legislators and news outlets have expressed concerns with how the BOR is spending money. Questions have been raised about the cost of redecorating the President's Office, the raises that will be distributed to staff, the practice of seeking outside consultants while ignoring the expertise already in the System, the closing and then re-opening of the Meriden campus of Middlesex, etc.
8. Conference debrief. "Hurdles on the Horizon" had over 240 attendees, including high school faculty from around the state. It is the sentiment of the FAC that this conference become an annual event.

9. Other business. One of the issues raised at the “Hurdles” conference focused on communication. The FAC discussed ways in which to improve our communication with our more than 5000 colleagues across the System. Greg DeSantis and T.J. Barber agreed to handle the FAC e-mail account.
10. New business. Barbara Richards suggested that FAC members consider speaking during the open forum phase of the BOR meetings, and bringing students with us, in an effort to educate the BOR about the realities confronting the students, faculty and staff of the CSCU institutions.
11. Meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patty O’Neill