

State of Connecticut
Board of Regents Faculty Advisory Committee
August 29, 2014
39 Woodland St.
Hartford, Conn.

Present: Stephen Adair, Chair, Member, CCSU; T.J. Barber, Member, MCC; Bob Brown, Vice-Chair, Member, TxCC; Del Cummings, Member, NVCC; Dan Facchinetti, Alternate, COSC; Myrna Garcia-Bowen, Alternate-SUOAF, CCSU; William Lugo, Alternate, ECSU; Patty O'Neill, Member, WCSU; Barbara Richards, Alternate, HCC; Mike Shea, Member, SCSU; CCC; Judy Wallace, Alternate, MCC.

Guests: Mike Gargano, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, ConnSCU; Shirley Jackson, Member, Executive Steering Committee

1. Call to order. Meeting was convened at 2:26 PM.
2. Review of minutes from June 3 2014 meeting. Tabled.
3. Chair and Co-chair reports.
 - a. Conference planning. Bob Brown, chair of a conference planning subcommittee, reported that the committee had met in July, and tentatively developed plans for a conference that will feature a plenary session on shared governance and break-out sessions on TAP, student success, and retention. The conference is tentatively titled "Hurdles on the Horizon" and will be held April 10, 2015 at Manchester Community College.
 - b. Compensation. Stephen Adair reported on the status of the FAC's request to President Gray that the chair and co-chair of the FAC receive compensation for significant additional responsibilities each takes on in this position. President Gray and Chairman Donofrio are opposed to such compensation. The FAC will pursue this issue.
 - c. Privacy, research with human participants, and the Board of Regents Information Technology Policies. Stephen Adair continues to explore this, having already contacted the Office of Research on Human Participants in Washington, DC, and the Freedom of Information Office in Connecticut.
 - d. Connecticut Students for a Dream. The Connecticut Students for a Dream approached the FAC in March, requesting that the FAC consider supporting the CT Dreamers in their quest for equity in financial aid. Patty O'Neill presented a resolution for the FAC to vote. After a brief discussion, the vote was tabled in order to make some revisions to the resolution, and the resolution will be considered at the next FAC meeting.

- e. Go Back to Get Ahead data report.
4. FAC coverage of Transform town halls. FAC members agreed to attend the Transform town hall at home institution, and to arrange for FAC members to attend town halls at institutions without an FAC representative. Our observations will be used for our report to the Board of Regents in October 2014.
5. Cuts in Governor's Scholarships. Tabled.
6. Review and comments on value proposition presented by BCG.
7. Review and comments on metrics. Mike Gargano urged the FAC to review the common metrics currently under consideration, and make sure that what needs to be measured is in fact measured, and that we need to be careful that these metrics are not used to pit one institution against another. FAC members expressed deep concern that these proposed metrics will be used to do precisely that. Mike Gargano pointed out that the system is not currently collecting data on the previously Board approved metrics. It was emphasized that graduate rate or degree completion are inadequate metrics that neglect the reality that students may attend to re-tool for mid-career changes, and not to obtain a degree or certificate. It was suggested that prospective students be asked, on the on-line application form "What is your purpose of entering a community college?" Gargano mentioned that Jan Kiehne in the system office is beginning to track students longitudinally.
8. The Academic Imperative for Transform. Mike Gargano pointed out that Transform CSCU 2020 has many initiatives that are not tied together in a coherent plan. He encouraged the FAC to develop a two page summary of concerns of faculty about what should be included in any academic imperative and to share that with the Board. He also explained that recommendations from the Initiatives leaders would go to the Executive Steering Committee and then to the Board of Regents. He acknowledged the need for appropriate consultation with the governance bodies of the individual institutions and that the existing process is flawed in the absence of such consultation.
9. Faculty Development Initiatives. Mike Gargano would like to establish a faculty innovation fund that would support new innovations in instruction in class or outside of class, that would support travel to conferences, that would support faculty research. He reported that he had created an office of sponsored research at the system level, to be headed by Shelly Jewel. One of the projects

that she will undertake is an examination of all the existing grants throughout the system in order to create an inventory of grants. Gargano would also like to develop faculty awards for senior faculty, because as of now, there is now mechanism to recognize our outstanding senior faculty. He would also like the FAC to be involved in the interview process for candidates for the associate vice-president of academic affairs of the system. When asked whether he envisioned the system as a K-14 with the final two years at a university system, Gargano expressed concern about the potential blurring of lines between the community colleges and high schools. The FAC strongly agrees these concerns. When asked how the FAC might work to help him, Gargano answered that the FAC should be involved in legislative hearings and engage with local political officials.

10. Preparation for meeting with the Board of Regents in October 2015.
11. FAC meeting schedule for Fall 2014: September 12, October 3, November 14 and December 12.
12. Other items.
 - a. Shirley Jackson, professor from SCSU, has joined the Executive Steering Committee. Dr. Jackson shared her observations.
 - b. TJ Barber expressed deep reservations about the goal candidates consistently identified by CHRO, which takes into account the demographics of the surrounding community, but not the demographics of the students attending a particular institution.
13. Meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty O'Neill