

Draft minutes 4/13/12; rev 4/16/12; rev. 4/17/12

(Comments from: Stephen, Mary Jean, Kristen, Patty, Ilene, Peter, Nick, Barbara, Joe)

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Board of Regents (BOR) Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)

Meeting convened at Board of Regents Offices, 39 Woodland St. Hartford, Conn. at 1:15 p.m. and adjourned 4:15 p.m.

Next regular meetings scheduled for 1:15 p.m. May 11, 2012 at Board of Regents Office; A schedule for future meetings will be discussed at the May 11 meeting.

Present: Chair Stephen Adair, Member CCSU; Peter Bachiochi, Member, ESCU; Ilene Crawford, Member, SCSU; Tom Failla, Member, NCC; Joseph Fairchild, Alternate, MCC; Nick Lefakis, Member, ACC; Patty O'Neill, Alternate WCSU; Barbara Richards, Alternate, HCC; Mary Jean Thornton, Member, CCC.

Guest: Dr. Louise Feroe, BOR; Dr. David Levinson, BOR

Draft minutes for the March 2 meeting were approved unanimously.

Discussion for the first 90 minutes focused on SB40 An Act Concerning College Readiness and Completion. The FAC were given comments from CCC faculty collected and summarized by Barbara Richards. Testimony and statements from CSU faculty and administrators on the proposed legislation were circulated earlier in the week via e-mail to the FAC by Stephen Adair. Among the major concerns were that the legislation may be flawed in that it did not consider the many different groups served by developmental (remedial) education and difficulties and complexities with embedding remedial support within entry level courses. In response to a question about the BOR's position on legislation, Dr. Feroe said the bill surfaced publicly without prior notice and so there was no time to engage the BOR in its complexities and develop a cohesive position. Dr. Levinson said he had met with Sen. Bye recently to discuss possible changes and indicated she may be receptive to hearing from the FAC. The student advisory committee to the BOR had raised its concerns previously. The discussion ended with a motion by Nick Lefakis, seconded by Tom Failla, to 1. authorize the Stephen Adair, Ilene Crawford and Barbara Richards to develop recommendations for review by the committee via e-mail for changing the legislation and/or aligning it with HB 5028 An Act Concerning the Alignment of Common Core State Standards with College Curriculum and HB 5029 An Act Concerning College Readiness Assessments; 2. to meet with the bill's sponsor, Sen. Bye and chair of the legislature's Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement along with the House Chair of the Committee, Roberta Willis, within the next week; and, 3. if necessary, carry the matter forward to the leadership of the General Assembly before any vote in Appropriations or the floor. In discussion it was noted that the recommendations were to be circulated via e-mail for committee members to review and comment by April 17. In the discussion, it was noted that the legislative session is ending in early May and time was of the essence in meeting with lawmakers. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion then turned for most of the remaining meeting time to the implementation plan for the transfer and articulation policy. The plan was developed following a meeting called by Dr. Feroe at the

system office on March 30 in which members of the FAC met with academic deans and provosts. Some FAC members expressed reservations that the policy was finalized after the meeting without the benefit of circulating a draft to participants in the March 30 meeting for comment. Others indicated that the plan was responsive to the recommendations regarding implementation details that the FAC made to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee at a March 9 public hearing in Hartford on the proposed policy and again at the BOR monthly meeting March 15 before the BOR voted. Discussion ended with a motion by Ilene Crawford, seconded by Peter Bachiochi, that the FAC endorses the plan subject to the with the following recommendations that the BOR/system management: 1. appoint a full-time project manager and full-time assistant to guide the implementation, pull together the necessary paperwork, other administrative details, meeting spaces and schedules and provide overall coordination, organization and communications support and to assure that adequate funds, resources and actions are allocated so that the implementation plan is carried out effectively and faculty achieve success in their efforts; 2. Assign dedicated information technology technicians with the appropriate expertise to the project to assure that faculty working on the project have ready capabilities and capacity to conduct web-based meetings, forums and exchanges , to develop web-based tools, services and applications to pilot roll out the policy implementation; to provide overall ICT and AV support for execution of TAP implementation ; 3. That a common approach be adopted by management across all institutions that faculty working on the implementation plan be given adequate compensation and/or accommodations to make the work on the implementation plan a top priority and allow subordination, delay or reassignment of other priorities as necessary and appropriate until the TAP implementation plan is completed . The motion also authorized the chair to send a communications requesting action on the recommendations to the system President and chair of the BOR's Academic and Student Affairs Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on mission statement was deferred as the committee is operating based on guidance found in the legislation establishing the committee and new legislation (SB 42 regarding the committee composition) is pending before the current General Assembly session.

On a motion by Ilene Crawford, seconded by Nick Lefakis, Tom Failla was nominated as vice chair. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee members briefly discussed adopting a rotation for minute taking at the next meeting. The committee also briefly reviewed how FAC communications take place. Presently the FAC agenda and minutes are posted on the BOR web site with assistance from system staff, primarily Maureen Clay, assistant to Dr. Feroe and back up from Erin Fitzgerald, associate director board affairs for the BOR. Tom Failla reported that he contacted Colleen Flanagan, Chief of Staff and Director of Public Affairs and Marketing, about setting up a routine institutional way so that the FAC can communicate directly with faculty and receive input as needed and appropriate. She sent an e-mail stating that she would review the request with President Kennedy and Dr. Feroe. The FAC authorized Stephen Adair and Tom Failla to speak after the meeting with Dr. Feroe to advance the request.

Respectfully, Tom Failla 4/14/12