

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
March 21, 2007

Southern Connecticut State University  
New Haven, CT

Members Present: D. Brennan, B. Flaherty, J. Gatling, H. Penner, J. Reynolds,  
R. Robins, F. Ridley, A. Vertefeuille

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, W. Bevacqua, R. Hollander

Members of the Public: A. Barkley, Lyme Academy; P. Baumann, CCSU; J. Blake, SCSU;  
Sr. Brantl, Albertus Magnus; J. DaPonte, SCSU; J. Donahue, Albertus Magnus;  
M. Emery, Sacred Heart; B. Frahm, Hartford Courant; M. Geelan, SCSU; M.  
Smith-Glasper, SCSU; M. Houser, SCSU; J. Howarth, CSU; Z. Kremens, CCSU;  
C. Norton, SCSU; S. O'Connell, Albertus Magnus; M. Orcutt, Lyme Academy; F.  
Osborne, Lyme Academy; G. Ragosta, CCIC; M. Robins, Guest; M. Rock, SCSU;  
P. Susen, BOTCTC; C. Williams, COSC; S. Williams, SCSU

## 1. Call to Order

H. Penner called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. and thanked Cheryl Norton, President of Southern Connecticut State University, for hosting meeting of the Board of Governors for Higher Education. President Norton brought greetings and welcomed the Board members to campus. President Norton noted Southern's role in the upcoming signing of a transfer and articulation agreement between Connecticut community colleges and the Connecticut state universities.

## 2. Approval of the Board Minutes of the February 21, 2007 Meeting

A. Vertefeuille moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Participation

None.

## 4. Report of Board Chairman

Chairman Penner welcomed Robert Robins of Stamford as a new member of the Board. R. Robins was appointed by Governor Rell. H. Penner noted that R. Robins is a former political science professor and deputy provost of Tulane University in New Orleans. H. Penner swore in R. Robins.

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## 5. Report of the Commissioner

V. Lewis reported that the Department of Higher Education awarded \$597,231 to five projects under the federal Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program. The Department received 15 proposals for this year's grant competition. The five grants were awarded to Albertus Magnus College, Eastern Connecticut State University, Saint Joseph College, Sacred Heart University and the University of New Haven.

V. Lewis introduced a new staff member, Christine Thatcher, Associate Director for Academic Affairs, and welcomed her to the Department. She replaces Yuhang Rong.

V. Lewis announced that Renate Seitz, Associate Director of the German Exchange Program, was honored with a State Merit Award bestowed by the New England Board of Higher Education at a dinner ceremony in Boston for her work in directing the international exchange program.

## 6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

F. Ridley requested that item c., The University of Hull, be removed from the Commissioner's Consent Calendar and be reviewed as an action item.

- a. Quinnipiac University – Licensure of a program in Cardiovascular Perfusion, leading to the Master of Health Science degree
- b. Quinnipiac University – Licensure of a program in Theater, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- c. The University of Hull, Hull, England – Approval to supervise students in Connecticut pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education at the University of Hull

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by B. Flaherty, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Commissioner's Consent Calendar with the exception of item c.

## 7. Academic Affairs and Planning Items

### Action Items

- a. Albertus Magnus College – Licensure and accreditation of a Master of Business Administration degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced John Donahue, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Sr. Charles Marie Brantl, Director of Institutional Research, and Dean Sean O'Connell, who represented the College.

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After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license and accredit a program in Business, leading to the Master of Business Administration degree, offered by Albertus Magnus College, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

b. LymeAcademy College of Fine Arts – Reaccreditation of the College

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The College was represented by President Frederick Osborne, Mary Orcutt, Vice President of Finance, and Alan Barkley, Dean of the College.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education reaccredit LymeAcademy College of Fine Arts for a period of five years, until December 31, 2011. Ms. Reynolds also moved that the Board of Governors require the College to submit audited financial statements and the management letter for each of the next five years to the Department of Higher Education on or before December 15, and that the Department report annually to the Board of Governors on the financial position of the College. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

c. Sacred Heart University – Accreditation of a program in Physical Therapy, leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Professor Michael Emery, Physical Therapy Department Chair, who represented the University.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit a program in Physical Therapy, leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, to be offered by Sacred Heart University, concurrent with institutional accreditation. F. Ridley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

d. The University of Hull, Hull, England – Approval to supervise students in Connecticut pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education at the University of Hull

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The Board discussed concerns regarding the enrollment, curriculum, and program location. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education extend approval to the University of Hull for on-site supervision of students living in Connecticut who are pursuing the University's doctoral program in Education for a period of five years, from March 2007 to March 31, 2012. F. Ridley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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Progress Reports

- a. Central Connecticut State University – Progress Report for the Bachelor of Science program in Mechanical Engineering

J. Zdanys reviewed the report and noted that the University has taken positive steps to address the concerns raised by the evaluation team at the time the program was licensed.

Information Items

- a. Monthly Update

J. Zdanys reviewed the monthly update.

8. Finance and Administration

Action Item

- a. Tuition and Fee Schedules for Connecticut Public Colleges and Universities for the 2007-08 Academic Year

M. Johnson presented the tuition and fee schedules for Connecticut colleges and universities for the 2007-08 academic year. She reported on student costs, recent trends in tuition and fees and highlighted major adjustments. The planned 2008 increases are above the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) rate for 2006 of 5.0 percent and the corresponding Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate of 3.8 percent.

Following several questions from Board members concerning the proposed adjustments, B. Flaherty moved and D. Brennan seconded the motion that the Board of Governors table action on this item until next month to provide constituent unit representatives an opportunity to discuss the planned increases in more depth. The motion passed unanimously. It was further recommended that Board members be briefed of their statutory responsibility in regards to tuition and fees. Lastly, the Commissioner was asked to look into any implications for Connecticut arising from the New York student loan investigation.

- b. Alternate Route to Certification Program Tuition

M. Johnson reported that the Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) is requesting a \$175 increase in the tuition rate charged to students, effective with the Alternate Route to Certification

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II (ARC II) cohort admitted to the fall 2007 program. The tuition increase is needed to cover the growing costs of running the ARC program and would support greater coaching time for the first-year. Board members requested a comparison of other ARC program rates be done when requesting an increase in tuition in the future.

A. Vertefeuille moved and F. Ridley seconded the motion to approve a tuition increase of \$175 for the Alternate Route to Certification program to \$3,625 effective with the ARC II Fall 2007 cohort. The motion passed unanimously.

## Information Items

### c. Connecticut Public Higher Education: 2007 System Trends

M. Johnson presented the *Connecticut Public Higher Education: 2007 System Trends* report, a compilation of a variety of recent trends in public higher education. The report responds to many questions asked of the Department each year by the legislature and the Governor's office.

M. Johnson highlighted several sections of the report such as higher education in a statewide context, expenditure trends, funding indicators, student and state share of costs and student financial aid.

### d. Legislative Update

J. Ciarleglio distributed and reviewed the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee Bill Record Book. Board members expressed interest in supporting some of the higher education bills such as the Governor's proposed increase in student financial aid. J. Ciarleglio offered to email the Board a contact list for the Appropriations Committee along with suggested talking points.

## 9. Report on the Standing Advisory Committee

G. Ragosta indicated that the Standing Advisory Committee will meet jointly with the Board in May to discussion articulation.

## 10. Other Business

H. Penner moved and A. Vertefeuille seconded a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 11:45 a.m. The Board returned to public session at 12:01 p.m.

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11. Adjournment

F. Ridley moved and A. Vertefeuille seconded the motion to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary