

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
January 17, 2007

Department of Higher Education  
Hartford, CT

Members Present: D. Brennan, W. Bevacqua, J. Gatling, R. Hollander, H. Penner, J. Reynolds, F. Ridley, A. Vertefeuille

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, B. Flaherty

Members of the Public: B. Auclair, St. Joseph College; E. Barton, Teacher for America; P. Cocchiola, BOTCTC; J. Ferraiolo, CSU; Z. Kremens, CCSU; G. Ragosta, CCIC; M. Sakofs, CCSU; D. Williams, QVCC

1. Call to Order

H. Penner called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2. Approval of the Board Minutes of the December 20, 2006 Meeting

A. Vertefeuille moved and J. Gatling seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2006 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Report of Board Chairman

H. Penner stated that Board members are committed to working with the Commissioner and Department staff to achieve legislative goals on behalf of the agency and system.

5. Report of the Commissioner

V. Lewis informed the Board of her participation in an invitational session titled *A Thought Leaders Day* in Washington, D.C. which focused on college preparedness. At the meeting, foundation and government leaders discussed many issues relevant to Connecticut such as closing achievement gaps, strengthening students' work ethic and informing students and families about all aspects of attending college.

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V. Lewis noted that the Department received 15 applications from public and independent colleges in response to its 2007 Request for Proposals for the Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program which supports teacher professional development projects. Most were in math and science with a fewer number in the arts and humanities.

6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

W. Bevacqua requested that item c. Mitchell College be removed from the Commissioner's Consent Calendar and be reviewed as an action item.

- a. Central Connecticut State University – accreditation of a program in Computer Engineering Technology, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree, and approval of a program curricular modifications
- b. Goodwin College – accreditation of a Histotechnician Certificate
- c. Mitchell College – licensure of a program in Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Business Administration, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree
- d. Mitchell College – licensure of a program in Hospitality and Tourism Management, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree
- e. Mitchell College – modification of the accredited Bachelor of Science program in Business Administration, to include a concentration in Accounting Management
- f. University of New Haven – modification of the accredited Bachelor of Science programs in Industrial Engineering

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by J. Reynolds, 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. Central Connecticut State University – Licensure of a Master of Teaching (MAT) program, leading to Certification in Mathematics, Science, Spanish, English, and Technology Education

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Zdzislaw Kremens, Dean of the School of Technology, and Mitchell Sakofs, Interim Dean, who represented the University.

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After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a Master of Teaching (MAT) program, leading to Certification in Mathematics, Science, Spanish, English, and Technology Education, to be offered by Central Connecticut State University, for a period of three years, until January 31, 2010. W. Bevacqua seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) – Approval to offer an Advanced Alternate Route to Certification program, leading to a cross endorsement in Special Education

This item has been temporarily withdrawn.

- c. Quinebaug Valley Community College – Reaccreditation of the College

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced President Dianne Williams, who represented the College.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the NEASC assessment and grant accreditation to Quinebaug Valley Community College until June 30, 2012. Ms. Reynolds also moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education require the College to submit to the Department of Higher Education a copy of its Fall 2007 report on the new facility; that the College send the Department of Higher Education a copy of the NEASC review of and response to the College's distance education report; and that the Department of Higher Education participate in the NEASC comprehensive evaluation visit in Fall 2011. W. Bevacqua seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- d. Rensselaer at Hartford – Reaccreditation of the Institute

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Rebecca Danchek, Acting Associate Dean of Student Services, who represented the Institute.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the Middle States Commission's assessment of the Institute as a result of the decennial visit and grant accreditation to Rensselaer at Hartford until December 31, 2011. Ms. Reynolds also moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education require Rensselaer at Hartford to submit a copy of the Institute's Periodic Review Report to the Connecticut Department of Higher Education in June 2011 as well as a copy of the letter from the Middle States Commission to the Institute indicating the action the Commission takes in response to that Periodic Review Report. That letter, together with the Periodic Review Report, will serve as the basis for the decision by the Board of Governors for Higher Education concerning the reaccreditation of Rensselaer at Hartford in 2011. W. Bevacqua seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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- e. Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island – Authorization to place students enrolled in the University’s teacher preparation programs for required field experience and clinical practice in Connecticut Schools

There being no representative of the University present, Dr. Zdanys requested that the item be tabled until the February meeting.

- f. St. Joseph College – Extension of the accreditation of the College

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The College was represented by Billye Auclair, Interim President.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education extend accreditation of St. Joseph College until April 30, 2008. The granting of this extension is contingent upon the College providing to the Department of Higher Education a copy of the accreditation letter from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges concerning St. Joseph College after the NEASC evaluation team visit to the College in November 2007. J. Gatling seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- g. Teach for America, Inc. – Approval to offer an Alternate Route to Certification Program, leading to certification in the following areas: Elementary Education, Secondary Mathematics, Secondary Science, Secondary English, Secondary Social Studies, and World Languages.

J. Zdanys presented the staff report and introduced Emily Barton, Executive Director of Teach for America – Connecticut.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve Teach for America’s request to offer an Alternate Route to Certification Program in Connecticut leading to certification in the following areas: Elementary Education, Secondary Mathematics, Secondary Science, Secondary English, Secondary Social Studies, and World Languages, until October 31, 2009. Ms. Reynolds additionally moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education affirm that the Director of the Alternate Route to Certification program, which is offered under the auspices of the Department of Higher Education, serve on the committee that will provide oversight for the Teach for America program. Finally, Ms. Reynolds moved that the recommendation be adjusted to include that placements of Teach for America teachers will be limited to designated urban priority school districts as defined by the State Department of Education. F. Ridley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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- h. Mitchell College – Licensure of a program in Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Business Administration, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The Board discussed concerns regarding the curriculum and the name of the program. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a program in Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Business Administration, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree, to be offered by Mitchell College, until January 31, 2010 and that the Board's comments be passed along for review and response by the College. W. Bevacqua seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

- a. Monthly Update

J. Zdanys reviewed the monthly update.

8. Report on the Standing Advisory Committee

G. Ragosta indicated that the Standing Advisory Committee's articulation subcommittee has made steady progress. Subcommittee members are reviewing their campus websites to assess user-friendliness. SAC members propose that their spring meeting with the Board focus on financial aid.

9. Adjournment

W. Bevacqua moved and D. Brennan seconded the motion to adjourn at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary