

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
April 18, 2007

Department of Higher Education  
Hartford, CT

Members Present: D. Brennan, B. Flaherty, J. Gatling, R. Hollander,  
J. Reynolds, R. Robins, F. Ridley

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, W. Bevacqua, H. Penner, A. Vertefeuille

Members of the Public: A. Adolfson, TxCC; R. Aebersold, CSU; P. Austin, UConn; P. Cocchiola, BOTCTC; B. DeTora, UConn; B. Euler, URI; D. Evanovich, UConn; B. Felchman, UConn; J. Felix Ortega, Legion of Christ; B. Frahm, Hartford Courant; V. Hadjimichael, Fairfield; M. Harris, COSC; S. Huard, QvCC; P. Kedderis, CSU; J. Kovel, CCSU; Z. Kremens, CCSU; A. Rodriguez, Legion of Christ

## 1. Call to Order

F. Ridley called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. and requested a moment of silence in observance of the Virginia Tech tragedy which occurred on Monday, April 16, 2007.

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

J. Gatling moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Participation

None.

## 4. Report of the Board Chairman

In the absence of Chairman Penner, Vice Chairman Ridley gave the Chairman's report. Ridley noted that he attended the first meeting of the state's PK-16 Council. He stated that a substantive discussion took place with strong direction given to the Council's subcommittees which already are in place.

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## 5. Report of the Commissioner

V. Lewis updated the Board on two new alternate route programs in early childhood education to begin this summer at Eastern Connecticut State University.

She noted that the PK-16 Council has received a grant from the National Governors Association to align secondary school curriculum with the first-year college curriculum as well as to examine the alignment between mastery tests and SATs and college placement tests. The project also will study how to connect databases employed in elementary through higher education for better tracking of student progress.

V. Lewis called attention to Jonas Zdanys for his work with a statewide group to develop a grant proposal in nanotechnology.

She informed the Board that the Commission on Community Service held its student and faculty awards ceremony on April 10 and thanked Board members D. Brennan and R. Robins for attending on behalf of the Board.

## 6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

R. Robins requested that items d. Goodwin College and e. Quinebaug Valley Community College, be removed from the Commissioner's Consent Calendar and be reviewed as action items.

- a. Fairfield University – Accreditation of a program called the Individually Designed Major, leading to a Bachelor of Arts or to a Bachelor of Science degree
- b. Fairfield University – Modification of the University's accredited Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degree completion program, to add an online option
- c. Fairfield University – Accreditation of a program in Taxation, leading to a Master of Science program
- d. Goodwin College – Accreditation of a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to the Associate in Science degree and a Certificate in Early Childhood Education
- e. Quinebaug Valley Community College – Accreditation of a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to an Associate in Science degree, or an Early Childhood Education Certificate

On a motion made by B. Flaherty, seconded by J. Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Commissioner's Consent Calendar with the exception of items d. and e.

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7. Academic Affairs and Planning Items

Action Items

- a. Goodwin College – Accreditation of a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to the Associate in Science degree and a Certificate in Early Childhood Education

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The Board discussed concerns regarding the number of fulltime faculty and the programs ability to align with the new Early Childhood Education standards which are effective in 2012. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to the Associate in Science degree and Certificate, to be offered by Goodwin College, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Robins seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Quinebaug Valley Community College – Accreditation of a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to an Associate in Science degree, or an Early Childhood Education Certificate

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The Board discussed concerns regarding the number of fulltime faculty and the programs ability to align with the new Early Childhood Education standards which are effective in 2012. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to the Associate in Science (A.S.) degree and to a Certificate, offered by Quinebaug Valley Community College, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Robins seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Central Connecticut State University – Licensure and accreditation of a Master of Science degree program in Construction Management

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Zdzislaw Kremens, Dean of the School of Technology, and Professor Jacob Kovel, who represented the University.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license and accredit a program in Construction Management, leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree offered by Central Connecticut State University for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Hollander seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- d. Fairfield University – Modification of programs in Software Engineering, to establish a dual degree course of study, leading to an award of the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Vagos Hadjimichael, Dean of the School of Engineering.

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After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the modification of programs in Software Engineering at Fairfield University to establish an accredited dual degree course of study leading to the award of the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and Master of Science (M.S.) degrees, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. J. Gatling seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- e. Legion of Christ College of Humanities – Accreditation of a College of Humanities offering an Associate in Arts degree program in Classical Humanities

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Fr. Antonio Rodriguez, Academic Dean, who represented the College.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit the Legion of Christ College of Humanities and the Associate of Arts (A.A.) program in Classical Humanities for a period of five years, until April 30, 2012. R. Hollander seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- f. The University of Rhode Island – Re-licensure of a program in Chemistry, leading to the Master of Science degree, to be offered by the University of Rhode Island at Pfizer Central Research in Groton, Connecticut

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Bill Euler, Chair of the Department of Chemistry.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a program in Chemistry, leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree, offered by the University of Rhode Island at Pfizer Central Research in Groton, Connecticut, for a period of three years, until June 30, 2010. J. Gatling seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- g. Tunxis Community College – Licensure and accreditation of a program in Honors Computer Science/Mathematics, leading to the Associate of Science degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Colleen Keyes, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Professor Art Adolphson, who represented the College.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license and accredit a program in Honors Computer Science, leading to the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree, offered by Tunxis Community College, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. J. Gatling seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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## 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

B. Flaherty moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to remove this item from the table. F. Ridley thanked the public sector representatives for joining the Board of Governors this month to discuss the 2007-08 tuition and fee schedules proposed for Connecticut public colleges and universities.

Philip Austin, President of the University of Connecticut, reported on UConn's proposed increases for next year. Currently, the in-state student pays 50 percent of UConn's cost of education. He noted that most students appear more concerned about whether they will be accepted for admission than the University's price tag. UConn is at full capacity due to record enrollments over the past several years and no longer has the space to accommodate more students nor the resources to expand. He spoke of the variety of reasons why it takes many students five years to graduate. Board members expressed the need to monitor this issue. In addition, Board members requested a breakdown of state funds supporting in-state vs. out-of-state students. There was a brief discussion concerning the issue of part-time faculty. The University's current student/faculty ratio is 17.5/1 with a goal of reaching 15/1. President Austin concluded by reporting on recent media coverage of funding sources for code repairs.

David Carter, Chancellor of the Connecticut State University, reported on factors contributing to increases in CSU tuition and fees which differentiate between full- and part-time students and may do so among campuses in the future. It was suggested another meeting be scheduled to focus on tuition equalization. He further reported on the need for more full-time faculty as 56 percent of CSU courses are now taught by part-time faculty.

Merle Harris, President of Charter Oak State College, reviewed the drivers for tuition and fee increases which include labor and utility costs, and strategic initiatives.

Marc Herzog, Chancellor of the Community-Technical College System, reviewed this system's mission and rationale for raising tuition and fees. He reported the CTC Board of Trustees always considers the impact of tuition increases on student access. He also reported on full and part-time faculty, stating that less than half of the system's teaching is by done by full-time faculty. He ended by explaining the rationale for the access credit fee.

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Board members suggested that discussions of proposed tuition and fee increases take place earlier in the year.

J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education, guided by the state's goals to ensure affordable access, encourage college attendance and support workforce development, endorse the 2007-08 tuition and fee adjustments as presented. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee

G. Ragosta reported that the Standing Advisory Committee wishes to move its joint meeting with the Board from next month to the fall. She noted that SAC has created a new subcommittee on teacher preparation/ education which will be chaired by Candace Barrington, Associate Professor, Central Connecticut State University.

10. Other Business

Commissioner Lewis summarized a report by the Department of Higher Education titled, "Highlights: FY 2007-09 Budget Adjustments for Higher Education – Appropriations Committee Recommendations."

F. Ridley reported that he and Board Chairman Penner have been invited to meet with State Rep. Denise Merrill, Appropriations Committee Co-Chair.

He also noted that the biennial election of Board officers will take place at next month's Board meeting. Chairman Penner will mail nomination forms to Board members in advance.

11. Adjournment

B. Flaherty moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to adjourn at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary