

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
March 19, 2008

Department of Higher Education  
Hartford, CT

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

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, D. Brennan

Members of the Public: G. Bermúdez, CSUS; P. Bouffard, NVCC; S. Braverman, CCSU; S. Brown, NVCC; M. Delcourt, WCSU; E. Durnin, V. Hadjimichael, Fairfield U.; E. Klonoski, COSC; A. Levin Becker, Hartford Courant; L. Manzione, UHART; WCSU; M. Powers, U. of Phoenix; L. Rinker, WCSU; M. Rooke, MCC; A. Savage, MCC; J. Schmotter, WCSU; P. Susen, BOT-CTC, T. Thorington, CSUS; L. Wilson, U. of Phoenix

## 1. Call to Order

F. Ridley called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

## 2. Approval of the Board Minutes

A. Vertefeuille moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Reynolds moved and J. Gatling seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 11, 2008, via a teleconference. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Participation

None.

## 4. Report of the Board Chairman

F. Ridley welcomed Commissioner Michael Meotti to the Board. F. Ridley noted that Manchester Community College has named Gena Glickman as the new President of the college to succeed President Jonathan Daube. He also congratulated President Daube for receiving, from the New England Board of Higher Education, the Connecticut State Merit Award for his work as president of Manchester Community College. F. Ridley also announced Edward Klonoski as the new President of Charter Oak State College and welcomed him.

Chairman Ridley informed the Board that he had attended several events during the last two months, including a meeting with ConnCAN, a group which is currently working with education

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 2

systems across the state. He also attended retirement celebrations for both Merle Harris and Valerie Lewis. F. Ridley attended a meeting of arts and education advocates who are trying to get the arts back into the high schools..

He stated to the Board of an interesting DVD which he currently viewed entitled, *2 Million Minutes*. This video compares two high school students in the United States to two high school students in India and two more in China. The DVD will be available to Board members as requested.

Chairman Ridley noted that the Connecticut State University will be holding town meetings at its various campuses. These town meetings are open to the public and hope to raise awareness of the connections between education and the state economy.

Chairman Ridley announced the resignation of Board member Ross Hollander. Senator Donald Williams has also received notification of this resignation.

### 5. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Meotti noted that he has met or has meetings set individually with all the Board members as an introductory opportunity to talk about various issues. M. Meotti noted his plan to work with Chairman Ridley on restructuring the approach to agenda development over the long term. There are two challenges that are almost always present, they are routine formal actions which can crowd out the time for consideration of strategic issues and the second is the involvement of the Board only at the end of a decision making process. This deprives the board of the opportunity to deliberate and to become more involved in the issue and learn more about it. By restructuring our board meetings, this would maximize the value of Board members' role and time in the decision making process. The new structure would be an opportunity to do some information sharing and engage in conversations so that the Board and the staff can reach a consensus over time as to identify the strategic priorities that we would like to work on.

Commissioner Meotti provided an update on the study abroad investigation which was commenced by the Office of the Attorney General. He also noted that the Department has online an update of the legislative activity so Board members can use this as a reference.

Commissioner Meotti introduced new staff member, Patrick Fox, who will serve as a Consultant in Academic Affairs working in the school program approval unit. Patrick brings with him a long career and expertise in the private occupational school system.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 3

6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Constituent Unit Operating Fund Reports for the Six-Month Period Ending December 31, 2007
- b. Albertus Magnus College – licensure and accreditation of an Associate of Science and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management, offered by the College, through its New Dimensions program, at Whelen Engineering in Chester, Connecticut

On a motion made by J. Reynolds, seconded by A. Vertefeuille, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Commissioner's Consent Calendar.

7. Academic Affairs and Planning Items

Action Items

- a. Connecticut Nanotechnology Minor approval

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Vagos Hadjimichael, Dean of the School of Engineering, Fairfield University, and Lou Manzione, Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, University of Hartford.

Vagos Hadjimichael and Lou Manzione reviewed presentations that were given at the Association of American Colleges and Universities Conference in Washington, D.C., on January 24, 2008. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the work of the Connecticut Nanotechnology Education Consortium and its Curriculum Committee, and thereby authorize the creation of the Connecticut Nanotechnology Minor. Ms. Reynolds also moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education authorize the award of the Certificate in Nanotechnology, which will be earned at the completion of the Connecticut Nanotechnology Minor, by the State of Connecticut, through the action of the Board of Governors for Higher Education. Ms. Reynolds additionally moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education express its official appreciation to the Connecticut Nanotechnology Education Consortium and to the Curriculum Committee for their work creating and implementing the Connecticut Nanotechnology Minor and the Nanotechnology Applications Course. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Manchester Community College – Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Management Information Systems, leading to the Associate of Science (AS) degree

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Alice Savage, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Michael Rooke, Division Director.

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 4

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

c. Naugatuck Valley Community College – Reaccreditation of the College

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Patricia Bouffard, Executive Dean.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the NEASC assessment and grant reaccreditation to Naugatuck Valley Community College until April 30, 2013. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

d. University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ – Relicensure of the following programs: B.S. in Business/Administration, B.S. in Business/Management, B.S. in Business/Marketing, B.S. in Business/E-Business, B.S. in Information Technology, B.S. in Management, M.A. in Organizational Management, Master of Business Administration, Master of Business Administration in Technology Management, and M.S. in Computer Information Systems to be offered by the University of Phoenix in Norwalk, Connecticut

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Lynda Wilson, Campus Director, and Mark Power of Levin, Powers, Brennan, and Shea, LLC.

The Board expressed concerns regarding the quantity of programs with so few enrollments and the viability of those programs affecting the overall quality. After discussion, F. Ridley moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education relicense ten programs in business and information technology offered by the University of Phoenix at its campus in Norwalk, Connecticut: the B.S. in Business/Management and the Master of Business Administration program for a period of three years, until June 30, 2011, and the B.S. in Business/Administration, B.S. in Business/Marketing, B.S. in Business/E-Business, B.S. in Information Technology, B.S. in Management, M.A. in Organizational Management, Master of Business Administration in Technology Management, and M.S. in Computer Information Systems for a period of one year, until June 30, 2009. It is further resolved that the University of Phoenix will present a progress report to the Department of Higher Education, by April 1, 2009, for the eight programs licensed for one year, in that report demonstrating that the programs are active and including information on program applications, enrollments, faculty appointments, and related information. The progress report will serve as the University's application for the relicensure of each program which is demonstrated as being active and viable in Connecticut. H. Penner seconded; the motion passed with J. Gatling abstaining.

e. Western Connecticut State University – Accreditation of a program in Instructional Leadership, leading to the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 5

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Linda Rinker, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ellen Durnin, Dean of Graduate Studies and External Programs; and Professor Marcy Delcourt, Program Coordinator.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit a program in Instructional Leadership, leading to the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree, offered by Western Connecticut State University, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. F. Ridley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

### Progress Reports

- a. Clemens College – Progress report for the program in Culinary Arts Management, leading to the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree

J. Zdanys presented the progress report.

### Information Items

- a. Monthly Update

J. Zdanys presented the monthly update.

## 8. Finance and Administration

### Action Item

- a. 2008 Accountability Report for Higher Education

M. Johnson presented the annual accountability report on Connecticut's state system of higher education entitled, *Higher Education Counts: Achieving Results 2008 Report*. The report provides updated trend information and comparisons to performance improvement targets on six statutory goals. As directed by the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee this year, each constituent unit submitted its accountability data to the Department. The Department is now responsible for providing data analysis and writing the reports. M. Johnson reviewed the report highlights. She noted Connecticut colleges and universities have increased degree production by 22 percent since 2001. The state is slightly a head of the national average. The overall minority enrollment exceeds the share of minorities in the state population, however, Hispanics remain underrepresented. Graduation rates for African Americans and Hispanic students continue to lag that of white students.

Commissioner Meotti indicated that the report reflects an important strategic mission for the Department. Using the information from the report to drive change for the benefit of the state is the big challenge.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 6

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by J. Gatling, the Board unanimously voted to endorse Connecticut's 2008 accountability report for higher education and transmit it to both the Joint Standing Committees on Education and Higher Education and Employment Advancement

### Information Items

#### b. Highlights: Governor's Recommended Budget

The Governor's recommended General Fund budget provides \$720.8 million for FY 2009, an increase of \$1.1 million from the original appropriation and a decrease of 1.8 percent from estimated FY 2008 expenditures. It proposes \$300,000 for the Department of Higher Education to reinstate the Connecticut Engineering Loan Reimbursement Program and includes transfer of one-time funding of \$610,280 for equipment and infrastructure needs and new base funding of \$180,660 to expand the Nursing Program at the Community-Technical College System.

#### c. System Trends

M. Johnson presented the *Connecticut Public Higher Education: 2008 System Trends*, prepared annually with information on public system expenditures, enrollments, degrees conferred, tuition and fees, etc.

### 9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee

S. Braverman noted that the Committee at its March meeting held its elections. The Committee elected Jim Sherrard from Three Rivers Community College as Chair, Steve Jarvi from the University of Connecticut as Vice Chair, and Barbara Richard from Housatonic Community College as Secretary. She stated the committee is looking forward to its joint meeting scheduled for April. She indicated that the Committee has a five various taskforces/ad hoc committees. They are Transfer and Articulation; Teacher Preparation; Student Preparation; Textbook Costs; and Transportation Costs.

### 10. Other Business

On a motion made by J. Reynolds and seconded by A. Vertefeuille, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 12:40 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 12:57 p.m.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

March 19, 2008

Page 7

On a motion made by J. Reynolds, seconded by A. Vertefeuille, the Board subject to its responsibilities contained in Section 10a-5 of the Connecticut General Statutes, unanimously voted to approve a merit award to the Interim Commissioner who served from February 1, 2008 to February 29, 2008 as listed in Exhibit A, effective with the next pay period. Exhibit is on file.

11. Adjournment

J. Gatling moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to adjourn at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary