

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting
December 19, 2007

Department of Higher Education
Hartford, CT

Members Present: D. Brennan, B. Flaherty, R. Hollander, J. Reynolds, F. Ridley, R. Robins, A. Vertefeulle, M. Villani

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, J. Gatling, H. Penner

Members of the Public: A. Barker, Sacred Heart; S. Berger, Talmudic Institute; K. Blake, UHart; J. Howarth, CSU; J. Klein, Talmudic Institute; P. Nicholls; UConn; S. Singha, UConn; C. Thompson, SCSU; J. Voelker, UHart

1. Call to Order

F. Ridley called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

2. Approval of the Board Minutes of the November 21, 2007 Meeting

R. Hollander moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley wished everyone peace, happiness and goodwill for the holiday season.

5. Report of the Commissioner

V. Lewis reported on the issue of preferential treatment of military recruiters on Connecticut college campuses, in response to a Board request for information and student presentation. She indicated that she had asked the system's Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) to look into military recruitment practices and that they have informed her that campuses give military recruiters the same consideration as they do other student recruiters. Based on the evidence presented to her, she finds no evidence of preferential treatment.

V. Lewis indicated that Jay Voss, member of the State Board of Education and co-chair of the High School Reform Ad Hoc Committee, recently updated the constituent unit CEOs of the committee's work. She noted that the coming joint meeting of the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors will address three topics: 1) the new Alternate Route programs in Early

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Childhood Education at Charter Oak State College; 2) the results of the Next Steps study; and 3) the American Diploma Project, presented by the staff of Achieve, Inc. Following this presentation, both Boards will consider working together on this project.

J. Pothier reported that Connecticut colleges and universities awarded 36,045 degrees and certificates in 2006-07, up one percent over 2005-06 for the sixth consecutive year of growth. He reviewed degree production in industry clusters, health and nursing professions and teacher preparation, in addition to the number of degrees awarded to minority students and women.

6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Endowed Chair Investment Fund Annual Expenditure Reports
- b. Providence College, Providence, RI – authorization to place students enrolled in the Music Education program for the required field experience and clinical practice in Connecticut schools
- c. Quinnipiac University – licensure and accreditation of a Health Care Compliance Certificate

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

7. Finance and Administration

Chairman Ridley announced that B. Flaherty has been elected to chair the Finance and Administration portion of the Board of Governors meetings.

Information Items

- a. Alternate Route to Certification

M. Johnson reported that the Alternate Route to Certification is requesting a \$125 increase in the tuition rate charge to students, effective with the Alternate Route to Certification ARC II – 2008-09 weekend program. This increase would establish the program's tuition at \$3,750. The increase is needed to cover the increasing costs of the ARC program and for costs associated with coaching for first-year ARC-prepared teachers.

On a motion made by D. Brennan, seconded by R. Hollander, the Board unanimously voted to approve a 3.44 percent tuition increase for the Alternate Route to Certification program to \$3,750 effective with the ARC II – 2008-2009 weekend cohort.

8. Academic Affairs and Planning Items

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Action Items

a. University of Connecticut – Reaccreditation of the University

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Provost Peter Nicholls, and Suman Singha, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, who represented the University.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors accept the NEASC assessment and grant accreditation to the University of Connecticut until November 30, 2012. Ms. Reynolds also recommended that the Board of Governors for Higher Education stipulate that the University submit to the Department of Higher Education a copy of the fifth year interim report the University prepares for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and that the Department of Higher Education provide a summary to the Board of Governors of that report and of the action of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges once it receives and reviews the University's submission. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

b. University of Hartford – Reaccreditation of the University

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by President Walter Harrison, and Kathryn Black, Assistant Provost.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accept the NEASC assessment and grant reaccreditation to the University of Hartford until December 31, 2012. R. Hollander seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

c. Sacred Heart University – Approval of a program in Clinical Nurse Leader Track, within the accredited Master of Science degree program

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Anne Barker, Acting Chair.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve a program modification adding Clinical Nurse Leader as a track in the accredited Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program offered by Sacred Heart University for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. F. Ridley seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

d. Southern Connecticut State University – Program Modification of the accredited Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) to include a Clinical Nurse Leader track

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The University was represented by Cesarina Thompson, Chair of the Nursing Department.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the modification of the accredited Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program at Southern

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Connecticut State University, to include a Clinical Nurse Leader Track, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Hollander seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- e. Talmudic Institute of Connecticut [Yeshiva Gedola of Bridgeport] – Licensure of an Institution of Higher Education to offer a Certificate in Talmudic Studies

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report. The Institute was represented by Rabbi Simcha Berger and Jonathan Klein, Board Member.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license the Talmudic Institute of Connecticut to operate as an institution of higher education in Connecticut for a period of two years, until December 31, 2009. Ms. Reynolds also recommended that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a Certificate program in Talmudic Studies to be offered by the Talmudic Institute of Connecticut for a period of two years, until December 31, 2009. Ms. Reynolds additionally recommended that the Board of Governors for Higher Education require the Talmudic Institute of Connecticut to provide the Department of Higher Education with a progress report, by December 1, 2008, on the implementation of the Institute's Strategic Plan, including progress made on plans for facility improvements, an increase in faculty appropriate to student numbers and projected changes to the curriculum, increase in library materials, and a projected budget. Ms. Reynolds further stipulated that the Institute submit an application for institutional and programmatic accreditation to the Department of Higher Education by July 1, 2009. R. Robins seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

- a. Update on the Alternate Route to Certification

J. Zdanys introduced Leroy Hay, Director of the Alternate Route to Certification program. Dr. Hay gave a brief presentation about the program and its achievements over the past several years.

- b. Monthly Update

J. Zdanys presented the monthly update.

9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee

G. Ragosta noted that she was unable to attend the last meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) but was asked to provide a report on behalf of SAC Chairman Jim Sherrard. SAC has created three ad hoc committees on faculty preparation, articulation and student preparation for college. In addition, SAC has formed a nomination committee which will report in January and will hold elections in March.

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At its last meeting, SAC discussed the placement of their committee's report at the end the Board of Governors' meeting agenda and raised questions about Board attendance at that time. G. Ragosta stated that as the individual who delivers this report, she has not witnessed any drop-off in Board attendance and will revisit this issue at the next SAC meeting on January 10, 2008.

SAC also welcomed all Board members to attend future SAC meetings.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Adjournment

J. Reynolds moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to adjourn at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser
Secretary