

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting
June 18, 2008

Department of Higher Education
Hartford, CT

Members Present: W. Aniskovich, D. Brennan, B. Flaherty, J. Gatling, J. LaVecchia,
J. Reynolds, F. Ridley, M. Villani

Members Absent: H. Penner, R. Robins, A. Vertefeuille

Members of the Public: S. Braverman, CCSU; A. Levin Becker, Hartford Courant; D. Cassiday, COSC; P. Cocchiola, BOT-CTC; E. Durnin, WCSU; K. Hartmann, Quinnipiac; S. Jarvi, UConn; P. Kedderis, CSU; M. Levvis, CCSU; C. Lovitt, CCSU; E. O'Connor, Quinnipiac; B. Rabe, WCSU; G. Ragosta, CCIC; L. Rinker, WCSU; M. Sakofs, CCSU; T. Thorington, CSU; L. Vaden-Goad, WCSU

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of the Board Minutes

B. Flaherty moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley provided an update on his activities on behalf of the Board, including the presentation of the 2007 Medal of Science, and a breakfast honoring Dr. Peter Frankenberg, Minister of Science, Research and the Arts in Baden-Württemberg, Germany where the Department of Higher Education conducts a student-exchange program.

Ridley reported that he and Commissioner Meotti met with David Carter, Chancellor, and Larry McHugh, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Connecticut State University. Ridley also met with Patricia Sanders, President of Post University, and participated in commencement exercises

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at Southern Connecticut State University, Manchester Community College and Middlesex Community College.

He noted a recent visit by Board members and Commissioner Meotti with Jeffrey von Arx, President of Fairfield University, and other campus administrators. He indicated the Board's campus visits would resume in the fall.

5. Report of the Commissioner

M. Meotti stated that the Department's new "Facts" publications are intended to distill issues, based on the Department's research, that merit broader conversation as matters of possible public policy concern without providing conclusive data. The "Facts" are distributed to state, community and academic leaders.

Commissioner Meotti introduced Mary Johnson, Associate Commissioner, and Mark French, Associate Director for Student Financial Aid, who summarized the June "Facts" titled, "Growing Need for College Financial Aid in Connecticut." Using Pell Grant recipients as a proxy for low-income students, the publication contains several findings, among them:

- Low-income students at Connecticut colleges make up a larger share of undergraduates than five years ago.
- The number of Pell Grant recipients has grown by more than 13 percent, outpacing the national average.
- Much of the growth in the number of low-income students is found at the community colleges.
- The number of FAFSA applications is rising faster than enrollment, outpacing the national rate.
- The number of eligible applicants for financial aid and the severity of need are growing.
- The number found eligible for Pell Grants has grown by 50 percent since 2001.

Board members suggested that the Department obtain more information by surveying Connecticut's higher education institutions, and prepare a companion piece for this fall addressing the sources and availability of student financial aid. W. Aniskovich requested information on the average income level of Pell Grant recipients, and whether Connecticut has more community colleges per capita than other states.

Commissioner Meotti reported that M. French met with Connecticut student aid officers to discuss issues surrounding the student loan industry. At this time, there appears to be no capacity problems in the student lending market.

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6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

J. LaVecchia requested that item a., Alternate Route to Certification, be removed from the Commissioner's Consent Calendar and be reviewed as an action item.

- a. Alternate Route to Certification – Program Tuition
- b. University of Bridgeport - Accreditation of a program in Computer Science and Engineering, leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) degree
- c. Clemens College - Accreditation of a program in Culinary Arts Management, leading to an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree
- d. University of Connecticut - Licensure of a program in African American Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- e. University of Connecticut - Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Athletic Training, leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Kinesiology
- f. University of Connecticut - Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Exercise Science, leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Kinesiology
- g. University of Connecticut - Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Social Science of Sport, leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Kinesiology
- h. University of Connecticut - Renaming of the Master's Degrees in the Neag School of Education
- i. Connecticut College - Reaccreditation of the College
- j. Eastern Connecticut State University - Approval to offer an Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) program in Early Childhood Education
- k. Fairfield University - Reaccreditation of the University
- l. Fairfield University - Licensure of a Program in Creative Writing, leading to the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree
- m. Gateway Community College - Licensure and Accreditation of a Program in General Automotive Technology, leading to a Certificate
- n. The Graduate Institute - Accreditation of a program in Irenic Studies, leading to the Master of Arts degree

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- o. Holy Apostles College and Seminary - Modification of the Bachelor of Arts Programs in Humanities, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Social Science
- p. Quinnipiac University - Licensure of a program in Occupational Therapy, leading to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) and Post-Master's Certificate of Advanced Study offered on-line
- q. Wesleyan University - Reaccreditation of the University
- r. Western Connecticut State University - Licensure of a program in Media Arts, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree with options in Media Studies and Media Production

On a motion made by J. LaVecchia, seconded by Jean Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Commissioner's Consent Calendar with the exception of item a.

7. Academic Affairs

- a. Central Connecticut State University – Licensure of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Carl Lovitt, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Linda Wagner, Associate Professor, who represented the University.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a program in Nursing, leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree, to be offered by Central Connecticut State University, for a period of three years, until June 30, 2011.

Reynolds further recommended that licensure of the program be contingent upon the approval of the program by the Board of Nursing Examiners of the Department of Public Health. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Western Connecticut State University – Licensure of a Master of Teaching program, leading to Certification in Elementary Education (K-6) and Certification in Secondary (6-12) with options in Mathematics, Spanish, and Biology

J. Zdanys reviewed the staff report and introduced Linda Rinker, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Ellen Durnin, Dean of Graduate Studies and External Programs, Linda Vaden-Goad, Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Bonnie Rabe, Assistant Professor, who represented the University.

Zdanys noted that the University has withdrawn the Elementary Education (K-6) portion of the proposal from consideration. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program, leading to Certification in Secondary Education (6-12) with options in Mathematics, Spanish, and Biology,

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to be offered by Western Connecticut State University, until September 30, 2009, which is the timeframe of approval granted by the Connecticut State Department of Education. J. Gatling seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Update

In response to a request from F. Ridley to highlight areas of concern in the Monthly Update, J. Zdanys noted that three out-of-state teacher preparation programs were requesting Board approval to place students into student teaching positions and other internships. Zdanys stated that Connecticut teacher preparation programs are concerned about the growing number of such out-of-state placements – which will include more than a dozen colleges and universities – especially given the difficulties many of them experience in securing placements for their own students. Zdanys added that he would continue to keep the Board informed.

8. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee

S. Braverman stated that SAC held its last meeting of the academic year in May. She noted that SAC requested that representatives of its three task forces on teacher preparation, student preparation, and transfer and articulation, meet with the Board prior to the fall to discuss ways they can work together. F. Ridley asked that Ms. Braverman work with Commissioner's Office to schedule a meeting.

F. Ridley commented on the composition of the SAC Executive Committee which will join the Board at its meetings beginning in September. He indicated that state statute permits members of the SAC Executive Committee – not their alternates – to participate in Board meeting discussions.

9. Finance and Administration

a. Action Item

Alternate Route to Certification – Program Tuition

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

b. Executive Session – Personnel Matters

On a motion made by J. Reynolds, seconded by J. Gatling, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:41 a.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 11:07 a.m.

On a motion made by J. Reynolds, seconded by B. Flaherty, the Board unanimously voted to approve the promotion listed in Exhibit A; compensation adjustments based on substantive

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changes in work assignments or growth within the classification range as listed in Exhibit B; continuing contracts for agency employees classified as “confidential” for FY 2008 as listed in Exhibit C; three percent increase to compensation ranges for departmental professional job classifications to reflect cost-of-living changes as listed in Exhibit D; three percent increase to compensation ranges for management for FY 2008 as listed in Exhibit E, with all personnel actions to be effective with the pay period including July 1, 2008; and adjustments to the job descriptions for management as listed in Exhibit F. Exhibits are on file.

10. Adjournment

B. Flaherty moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser
Secretary