

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting
November 18, 2009

Department of Higher Education
Hartford, CT

Members Present: B. Flaherty, J. LaVecchia, J. Reynolds, F. Ridley, R. Robins,
A. Vertefeuille, M. Villani, M. Werle

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, D. Brennan, J. Gatling

Executive Committee SAC: G. Bermudez, CSUS; D. Cassiday, COSC; G. Ragosta, CCIC;
M. Rooke, TCC

Members of the Public: P. Bouffard, NCCC; L. Brooks, Briarwood; P. Cocchiola, BOTCTC;
M. Diffily, Briarwood; T. Graham-Handley, Clemens; J. King, Lincoln
Educational Services; S. Minkler, NCCC; P. McDaniel, WCSU;
L. Rinker, WCSU

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ridley called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

2. Approval of the Board Minutes

R. Robins moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley reported that he attended an event sponsored by the Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce featuring Dr. Jacqueline Jones, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Early Learning of the U.S. Department Education.

He also spoke with the Dean of Students at Purdue University regarding state systems of higher education.

F. Ridley directed Board members' attention to the schedule of 2010 commencements contained in their meeting materials, and asked to be informed of their interest in participating.

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5. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Meotti noted that he and agency staff met with officials from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) to learn more about their work and discuss issues of common interest.

M. Meotti reported he was invited by State Education Commissioner McQuillan to a meeting of New England education leaders on high school reform and college readiness. Connecticut was the only state at this meeting to have formal higher education participation.

M. Meotti introduced Nancy Brady, Director of Finance and Facilities Analysis who summarized 2009 fall enrollment. N. Brady reported that fall enrollment reached 191,227 for the highest total ever and 3.6 percent greater than last fall for the largest annual percentage increase in 20 years. She noted that enrollment at Connecticut's two-year colleges rose 8.2 percent or four times greater than the 1.8 percent growth at the four-year colleges. M. Meotti stated that Connecticut is nearing the end of a demographic peak in its supply of high school students, and that national studies project that the pool of traditional-aged students will shrink over the next five to ten years and become increasingly diverse, changing the make-up of future college graduates.

6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Constituent Unit Operating Fund Reports for the Three-Month Period Ending September 30, 2009
- b. Endowed Chair Investment Fund Annual Expenditures Reports
- c. Bais Binyomin Academy – extension of Institutional licensure
- d. Talmudic Institute of Connecticut – extension of Institutional licensure
- e. Long Island University Westchester Graduate Campus, Purchase, New York – extension of Authorization to place students in the educator preparation programs for the required field experience and clinical practice in Connecticut schools
- f. Manhattanville College, Purchase, New York – extension of Authorization to place students in the educator preparation programs for the required field experience and clinical practice in Connecticut schools
- g. The Graduate Institute – extension of Institutional accreditation
- h. St. Thomas Seminary – institutional reaccreditation
- i. Gateway Community College – licensure and accreditation of a program in Exercise Science and Wellness, leading to an Associate of Science degree

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- j. Norwalk Community College - licensure and accreditation of a program in Computer Science, leading to an Associate of Science degree
- k. University of Bridgeport – licensure of a program in Criminal Justice and Human Security, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- l. University of Bridgeport – licensure of a program in Medical Technology, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree
- m. Western Connecticut State University – licensure of a program in Musical Theatre, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- n. Saint Joseph College – licensure and accreditation of a program in Applied Behavior Analysis, leading to a Graduate Certificate
- o. Northwestern Connecticut Community College – modification of a program in Computer Systems Technology, leading to an Associate of Science degree
- p. University of Bridgeport – modification of a program in Business Administration, leading to a Master of Business Administration degree

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

7. Academic Affairs

Action Items

- a. Briarwood College and Clemens College – Approval of the Change of Ownership and Merger of Briarwood and Clemens Colleges to become Lincoln College of New England, Accreditation of Lincoln College of New England, and the approval of the addition of a Branch Campus in Hartford, CT

The institution was represented by Lynn Brooks, President of Briarwood College; Tad Graham-Handley, President of Clemens College; Michael Diffley, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Briarwood College; and John King, Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs at Lincoln Educational Services. P. Santoro, Director of Academic Affairs, gave an overview of the change of ownership, merger, and change in the name of the institution to Lincoln College of New England. C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs reviewed the staff report and evaluation visit and noted improved technology and resources and an increase in enrollments. J. King assured Board members that Lincoln Educational Services is committed to student success in Connecticut.

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After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors accredit Lincoln College of New England as presented through the merger of Briarwood and Clemens Colleges, with a branch campus in Hartford, CT, until November 30, 2012 and that this accreditation is contingent on the continuing conditions that: 1) the College will immediately forward to the Department of Higher Education a copy of all findings and recommendations of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and; 2) the College will provide copies of all correspondence related to the findings and recommendations upon request of the Department. Ms. Reynolds also moved that the College will provide progress reports upon the request of the Department of Higher Education's staff as focused visits are scheduled with the CIHE in regard to the new campus in Hartford, increased online presence, and any financial information requests that may come forward from any of these visits. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

b. Monthly Update

C. Thatcher summarized the monthly update.

8. Other Business

None.

9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

D. Cassidy, on behalf of J. Sherrard, noted that all student appointments to the Standing Advisory Committee have been made. The student representatives attended the November Standing Advisory Committee meeting. The Committee looks forward to its joint meeting with the Board in December on transfer and articulation.

10. Executive Session

a. Executive Session – Personnel Matters

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by M. Villani, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session at 2:18 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 2:25 p.m.

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by J. LaVecchia, the Board unanimously voted to approve the salary adjustment and the title changes as noted in the staff report on file.

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11. Adjournment

B. Flaherty moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to adjourn at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser
Secretary