

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
May 20, 2009

Eastern Connecticut State University  
Willimantic, CT

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

Members Absent: W. Aniskovich, J. Gatling

Executive Committee SAC: G. Bermúdez, CSUS; D. Cassiday, COSC; J. Sherrard, TRCC

Members of the Public: J. Beauchamp, ECSU; D. Benoit, Mitchell; L. Boyd, ECSU; A. Clark, Goodwin; K. DeLisa, ECSU; P. Farquharson, Post; R. Free, ECSU; D. Gozemba, Mitchell; M. Jukoski, Mitchell; V. Martin, CCSU; D. Mroz, Post; F. Mulgrew, Post; E. Nuñez, ESCU; S. Pease, CCSU; M. Pernal, ECSU; D. Snell, ECSU

## 1. Call to Order

Chairman Ridley called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

## 2. Approval of the Board Minutes

J. Reynolds moved and R. Robins seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Participation

None.

## 4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley noted that he and Commissioner Meotti attended the inauguration of President Gena Glickman of Manchester Community College. F. Ridley indicated that he has represented the Board of Governors at commencements at Briarwood College and the University of Hartford, and will attend several more in the coming weeks.

Following today's Board meeting, F. Ridley will present the 2009 Medal of Science to Dr. Robert Birge of the Chemistry Department at the University of Connecticut at the annual meeting of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

May 20, 2009

Page 2

Chairman Ridley also attended the first meeting of the Commission on the Advancement of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and Careers, known also as the P20 Council, which is chaired by Commissioner Meotti and State Education Commissioner Mark McQuillan.

F. Ridley swore in Michael Werle of West Hartford as a member of the Board of Governors. Werle, president of TEaMS LLC Consulting Company and a former executive with the United Technologies Corporation, was appointed in April to the Board of Governors by Governor M. Jodi Rell.

D. Brennan informed the Board that she attended Fairfield University's commencement.

F. Ridley thanked President Elsa Nuñez and the staff at Eastern Connecticut State University for hosting the Board meeting.

## 5. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Meotti noted that the P20 Council will meet next on June 10 and is expected to create working groups which may include individuals who are not on the Council. The P20 Commission's membership includes representatives from early childhood, K-12, higher education and the workforce system, as well as state agencies, businesses, and philanthropic and community-based organizations.

## 6. ECSU Presentation

F. Ridley introduced Dr. Elsa Nuñez, President of Eastern Connecticut State University. Dr. Nuñez welcomed the Board to Eastern's campus. She noted that she is at the end of her third year as president and called attention to three facts of which she is particularly proud: 1) for the seventh year in a row, Eastern students ranked first in the pass rates on the certified public accounting exam on the first try; 2) Yale University's world-class molecular biology department accepts more students from Eastern's biology department than any other institution; and 3) Eastern is second, after UConn, in producing math majors, half of whom go on to become math teachers in Connecticut.

President Nuñez reviewed the University's mission, noting that Eastern is the state's only designated public liberal arts college and is predominantly an undergraduate institution although it does offer a master's degree in education.

Dr. Nuñez described an experimental arrangement this past year between Eastern, Quinebaug Valley Community College and Hartford Public High School in which 10 of the high school's graduates enrolled in courses at Quinebaug Valley while living on campus at Eastern, enabling them to experience college life and benefit from academic support services. At the end of the first semester, all but one had passed all of their classes at Quinebaug and, upon passing

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

May 20, 2009

Page 3

placement tests, were admitted to Eastern. A private donor is covering their residency fees, and federal aid is helping with educational costs. Eastern has applied for a \$600,000 grant to continue this initiative.

Dr. Nuñez turned to Eastern's strategic plan for 2008-2013 and invited two students to speak to its impact. Luke Boyd, a political science major, described his support of the plan and its focus on the liberal arts. Jenae Beauchamp, a math and Spanish major, talked about her work as a tutor in Eastern's Student Success Center. President Nuñez then showed a student-produced video portraying a holiday meal for the homeless organized by Eastern students as one of the many community service activities conducted by students during the school year.

President Nuñez concluded by noting that Connecticut is one of 25 states that has a dedicated public liberal arts college and explained Eastern's work with the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC).

### 7. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers

A. Vertefeuille gave the report of the Nominating Committee on which he serves with Dorothea Brennan and Robert Robins. A. Vertefeuille moved and D. Brennan seconded the motion to name Frank Ridley to a second two-year term as Board Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Vertefeuille moved and D. Brennan seconded the motion to name Brian Flaherty to a second two-year term as Board Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

### 8. Academic Affairs

#### Action Items

- a. Central Connecticut State University – Licensure of a program in Journalism, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree

C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the staff report and introduced Susan Pease, Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Vivian Martin, Program Coordinator, who represented the University.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a program in Journalism, leading to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree, to be offered by Central Connecticut State University, for a period of three years, until May 31, 2012. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Goodwin College – Licensure and Accreditation of a program Criminal Justice, leading to the Associate of Science degree

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

May 20, 2009

Page 4

C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the staff report and introduced Ann Clark, Vice President, who represented the College.

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

- c. Mitchell College – Accreditation of a program Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Business Administration, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree

C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the staff report and introduced President Mary Ellen Jukoski, Diane Gozemba, Education Department Chair, and Professor Donald Benoit, who represented the College.

After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education accredit a program in Early Childhood Education, leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree, offered by Mitchell College, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Robins seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

### Information Items

- a. Monthly Update

C. Thatcher summarized the monthly update.

### 9. Finance and Administration

- a. System Trends 2009

B. Flaherty commended the Department's annual System Trends report, stating it is a very useful reference. F. Ridley requested that future editions include a comparison between growth in tuition and fees and the Consumer Price Index (CPI). A. Vertefeuille requested that the report be placed on the June meeting agenda to allow for more discussion.

M. Meotti informed the Board that the state legislature has adopted the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) agreement, part of which creates several furlough days for state employees. These are days without pay and are scheduled (not floating) days in which most state agencies and facilities will be closed. The first furlough day will be Friday, May 22, preceding the Memorial Day holiday. Most furlough days will coincide with major holidays.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

May 20, 2009

Page 5

10. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Graduate Institute – Extension of institutional accreditation
- b. Mitchell College – Accreditation of a program in Environmental Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- c. Post University – Licensure of a program in Child Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree
- d. Post University – Accreditation of a program in Business Administration with tracks in Entrepreneurship and Corporate Innovation, leading to the Master of Business Administration degree, offered on-ground and online
- e. Quinnipiac University – Licensure and Accreditation of online Master of Business Administration, Master of Business Administration in Health Care Management, and Health Care Compliance Certificate programs
- f. Quinnipiac University – Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Public Relations, leading to the Master of Science degree
- g. Saint Joseph College – Accreditation of a program in Biochemistry, leading to the Master of Science degree, offered online
- h. Saint Joseph College – Accreditation of a program in Latino Community Practice, leading to a Graduate Certificate
- i. Saint Joseph College – Accreditation of a program in Nutrition, leading to the Master of Science degree, offered online
- j. Saint Joseph College – Accreditation of a program in Women's Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree
- k. University of Connecticut – Modification of a program in Educational Leadership, leading to the Doctor of Education degree
- l. Tuition and Fee Schedules for Connecticut Public Colleges and Universities for the 2009-10 Academic Year
- m. Constituent Units Operating Fund Reports for the Nine-Month Period Ending March 31, 2009

On a motion made by A. Vertefeulle, and seconded by R. Robins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Commissioner's Consent Calendar.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting

May 20, 2009

Page 6

11. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

J. Sherrard reported at the May SAC meeting, Mark French, Associate Director of Student Financial Aid from the Department of Higher Education, provided a very informative tutorial on financial aid.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Adjournment

A. Vertefeuille moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to adjourn at 2:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary