

BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting
September 16, 2009

Department of Higher Education
Hartford, CT

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

Members Absent: J. Gatling, J. Reynolds

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

Members of the Public: J. Bailey, Post; K. Clark, Gibbs; P. Cocchiola, BOTCTC; J. Ferraiolo, CSUS; R. Free, ECSU; M. Kennedy, SCSU; W. McDonald, Post; F. Mulgrew, Gibbs; K. Peterson, Gibbs; C. Villani, SCSU

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ridley called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of the Board Minutes

R. Robins moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley reported that he and Commissioner Meotti attended several meetings during the summer regarding the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation. F. Ridley also met with the Connecticut State University System Chancellor and its new Board Chair, and the Charter Oak State College President and its new Board Chair. Ridley noted that Larry McHugh, former Chair of the Connecticut State University Board of Trustees, has been named to chair the Board of Trustees of the University of Connecticut.

5. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Meotti described the recent Achieve conference he attended in Washington, D.C. and his meetings with Martha Kanter, U.S. Under Secretary of Education, and staff to U.S. Senator Dodd.

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M. Meotti introduced Patricia Santoro and Carlota Schechter, members of the Department's Academic Affairs Division who work with Christine Thatcher on licensure and accreditation matters. P. Santoro manages the agency's oversight of Connecticut's private occupational schools and its responsibilities as the federally-designated State Approval Agency for veterans programs. C. Schechter has worked at the Department on early childhood education issues and brings experience on academic matters from her previous work at Saint Joseph College.

M. Meotti asked Deputy Commissioner Jane Ciarleglio to update the Board on legislative budget actions. J. Ciarleglio provided a budget summary and stated that further reductions are anticipated as are other changes resulting from legislative action implementer bills.

6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Appointments to the Advisory Committee on Accreditation
- b. Capital Community College – program modification of a Certificate, an Option, and Associate of Science degree in Fire Technology & Administration: Emergency Management
- c. Eastern Connecticut State University – licensure of a program in Labor Relations and Human Resource Management, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree
- d. Fairfield University – modification of a program in Fine Arts with concentrations in Art History; Music; New Media; Studio Arts and Theatre into individual majors, each leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree
- e. Hartford Seminary – program modification of a Graduate Certificate in Religious Studies to add an on-line option
- f. Hartford Seminary – reaccreditation of the Seminary
- g. Middlesex Community College – modification of a program in Communications, leading to an Associate of Arts degree
- h. Northwestern Connecticut Community College – modification of a program in Therapeutic Recreation, leading to an Associate of Science degree to be offered online and on campus
- i. Tunxis Community College – modification of a program in Human Services, leading to an Associate of Science degree and related Family Violence Intervention option and certificates
- j. Western Connecticut State University – reaccreditation of the University

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- k. Western Connecticut State University – one month extension of licensure for their Master of Arts in Teaching program, leading to Certification in Secondary Education (6-12) with options in Mathematics, Spanish, and Biology
- l. Operating Fund Quarterly Reports for the Twelve-Month Period Ending June 30, 2009
- m. Department of Higher Education 2009 Affirmative Action Plan

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

7. Academic Affairs

Action Items

- a. Gibbs College – Extension of Accreditation of the College until June 2010 and Quarterly Progress Report

C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the staff report and introduced Kurtis Peterson, President; and Kevin Clark, Director of Education, who represented the College.

President Peterson summarized the College's evaluation of program viability and course offerings, review of labor statistics and trends, student demographics and business strategy. Board members questioned the licensure of the Medical Assisting program, leading to the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree, at the Farmington campus as it was previously licensed and terminated at the Norwalk campus. After discussion, D. Brennan moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education extend the accreditation of Gibbs College, Farmington for a period of six months from December 31, 2009 until June 30, 2010 and that the extension be made with the understanding that Gibbs College will begin enrollments in the Business Office Administration and Fashion Design and Merchandising programs, each leading to the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree. Ms. Brennan also moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education relicense the Medical Assisting, Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program, as previously designated, to be offered at the Farmington campus, until June 30, 2010. Ms. Brennan additionally moved that the College will report on the progress of each of these programs in a full self-study as required by the Commissioner of Higher Education and that the Farmington location be recognized as the main campus due to the continued teach-out at the Norwalk campus through December 31, 2009. M. Werle seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Post University – Licensure of a Master of Education program with concentrations in Teaching & Learning and Instructional Design

C. Thatcher reviewed the staff report and introduced William McDonald, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Frank Mulgrew, Acting Dean of Graduate Programs; and Jane Bailey,

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Director of Masters Programs in Education and Academic Program Manager for the Masters of Education program, all of whom represented the University.

Mr. Mulgrew spoke about the program's faculty and advisory board. After discussion, R. Robins moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license a Master in Education (M.Ed.) program with concentrations in Teaching & Learning and Instructional Design, to be offered both on campus and online by Post University, for a period of three years, until September 30, 2012. B. Flaherty seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Southern Connecticut State University – Licensure and accreditation of a program in Education Coach, leading to a Sixth-Year Certificate

C. Thatcher reviewed the staff report and introduced Marianne Kennedy, Associate Vice President for Assessment, Planning, and Academic Programs; and Christine Villani, Interim Department Chair and Professor of Education, who represented the University.

R. Robins asked about the availability of similar programs in Connecticut and projected enrollments. C. Villani indicated that this would be the only program of its kind in the state and estimated it would start with approximately 25 students. After discussion, M. Villani (no relation to C. Villani) moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education license and accredit a program in Educational Coach, leading to a Sixth Year Certificate (SYC), offered by Southern Connecticut State University, for a period of time concurrent with institutional accreditation. R. Robins seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

- d. Mitchell College – Progress Report for a program in Global Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree

C. Thatcher summarized the progress report from Mitchell College.

- e. Monthly Update

C. Thatcher summarized the monthly update.

8. Finance and Administration

After a brief discussion, D. Brennan moved and A. Vertefeuille seconded the motion to approve a six percent tuition increase for the Alternate Route to Certification program to \$3,975 effective with the ARC I – 2010 Summer Program

9. Other Business

None.

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9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

J. Sherrard reported that SAC held its first meeting of the academic year and is preparing for the joint meeting with the Board of Governors schedule for November. Possible topics are SAC's role as an advisory body to the Board and enrollment management.

10. Executive Session

a. Executive Session – Personnel Matters

On a motion made by A. Vertefeuille, seconded by R. Robins, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 2:43 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 3:25 p.m.

11. Adjournment

M. Villani moved and B. Flaherty seconded the motion to adjourn at 3:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser
Secretary