

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting  
June 17, 2009

Department of Higher Education  
Hartford, CT

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

Members Absent: B. Flaherty, J. Gatling, J. LaVecchia

Executive Committee SAC: G. Bermudez, CSUS; S. Braverman, CCSU; D. Cassiday, COSC; G. Ragosta, CCIC; R. Zabek, BOTCTC

Members of the Public: C. Andersen, CCSU; N. Birch-Wagner, CCSU; W. Brown, NVCC; M. Duffy, LPRIC; L. Feroe, CSUS; A. Gates, CCSU; W. Jassey, University of Bridgeport; M. Kirk, IIE; M. Kluger, LPRIC; Z. Kremens, CCSU; J. Lopez, University of Phoenix; C. Lovitt, CCSU; E. Mahan, UConn; R. Mahave, Murtha Cullina; J. Miller, CCSU; T. O'Donnell, Gibbs; D. Pacchis, ECSU; K. Peterson, Gibbs; M. Powers, University of Phoenix; S. Raman, Saint Joseph; C. Russell, University of Phoenix; B. Sammis, University of Bridgeport; L. Wilson, U. of Phoenix

## 1. Call to Order

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

## 2. Approval of the Board Minutes

A. Vertefeuille moved and R. Robins seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Participation

None.

## 4. Report of the Board Chairman

Chairman Ridley congratulated Louise Berry, chair of the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges, on receiving the Outstanding School Superintendent Award; and Astrid Hanzalek on completing her term as chair of the Board for State Academic Awards. He summarized the Board of Governors' participation in college graduation ceremonies across the state, and his desire for greater Board participation next spring.

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## 5. Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Meotti asked the Board to defer its scheduled consideration of staff updates on the P20 Council and the Department's System Trends Report due to the length of other agenda items.

M. Meotti reviewed the status of the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF). The CSLF will cease offering new federal loans; those with outstanding loans will not be impacted. The CSLF has advised financial aid officers, students and families that it will no longer act as a lender. The CSLF is being governed by a new board consisting of three statutorily-appointed individuals including M. Meotti who is serving as Chair.

J. Ciarleglio, Deputy Commissioner, reported that the legislature had adjourned but is expected to return to session on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. She reviewed the Department's bills that passed.

## 6. Commissioner's Consent Calendar

- a. Housatonic Community College – Licensure of a Pathway to Teaching Careers program, leading to an Associate of Arts degree
- b. Naugatuck Valley Community College – Modification of a program in Human Services, leading to the Associate of Science degree
- c. Paier College of Art – reaccreditation of the institution
- d. St. Thomas Seminary – extension of institutional accreditation
- e. University of Connecticut – Licensure and Accreditation of a concentration in Music Education, leading to the Master of Arts degree in Curriculum and Instruction
- f. University of New Haven – Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Network Systems, leading to the Master of Science degree
- g. University of New Haven – Licensure of a program in Theatre Arts, leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree

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.

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7. Academic Affairs

Action Items

- a. Central Connecticut State University – Licensure of a program in Civil Engineering, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree

C. Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the staff report and introduced John Miller, President; Carl Lovitt, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Zdzislaw Kremens, Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology; and Alfred Gates, Department Chair; who represented the University.

President Miller summarized the program's development and the accreditation team's findings, including the growing state demand for civil engineers. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors license a program in civil engineering, leading to the Bachelor of Science degree, offered by Central Connecticut State University, for a period of three years, until June 30, 2012. M. Werle seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- b. University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ – relicensure of the Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology and Master of Business Administration/Technology Management to be offered by the University of Phoenix in Norwalk, Connecticut

C. Thatcher reviewed the staff report and introduced Lynda Wilson, Connecticut Director of Academic Affairs; John Lopez, Vice President of Government Affairs; and Mark Powers, Government Relations; who represented the University.

Ms. Wilson spoke about the University's programs and projected enrollments. M. Werle asked if enrollment had been adversely impacted by reduced employer tuition reimbursements. Ms. Wilson replied there has been no impact on enrollment. F. Ridley thanked the University for following-up on the Board of Governors' recommendation to review the viability of its Norwalk programs. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the Board of Governors for Higher Education relicense the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and the Master of Business Administration/Technology Management programs for a period of one year, until June 30, 2010. W. Aniskovich seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Gibbs College – Quarterly Progress Report

C. Thatcher reviewed the progress report and introduced Kurtis Peterson, President; and Tom O'Donnell, Vice President of Operations; who represented the College.

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C. Thatcher distributed a staff report on the College's decision to reverse its planned closure. President Peterson described the history of the College's main campus in Norwalk and branch campus in Farmington, and its rationale for keeping open only the Farmington campus. Thatcher noted the College will evaluate program viability and course offerings before presenting a more comprehensive plan to the Board this fall. After discussion, J. Reynolds moved that the College continue to provide the Department of Higher Education with quarterly progress reports that will include the following information: student enrollments and progress toward degree by program, faculty and administrative employment by program, general administrative employment, financial aid disbursements, transfer arrangements and student transfers by institution, and program "phase-outs" as students complete their studies. W. Aniskovich seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

## Information Items

### d. Report by the International Education Policy Advisory Council

R. Robins reviewed the report and introduced the Council's sub-committee chairs Elizabeth Mahan, Director of International Affairs, University of Connecticut; Dimitrios Pachis, Professor of Economics, Eastern Connecticut State University; and Nancy Birch Wagner, Director of the Center for International Education, Central Connecticut State University.

R. Robins summarized the Council's recommendations and thanked Council members for their contributions. Commissioner Meotti commented on the importance of infusing greater global awareness and understanding across college campuses. F. Ridley asked Department staff to review the Council's recommendations so that the Board may revisit the proposals in the fall.

### e. Monthly Update

C. Thatcher summarized the monthly update and stated that she plans to reformat the report for Board consideration this fall.

## 8. Other Business

None.

## 9. Report of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

S. Braverman reported that SAC did not meet in June and will not meet until September. SAC's Transfer and Articulation Committee, however, plans to meet in August to examine transfer websites and faculty meetings. Bob Zabek is planning the fall's joint Board/SAC meeting which will focus on college costs in light of economic pressures.

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10. Executive Session

a. Executive Session – Personnel Matters

On a motion made by M. Villani, seconded by W. Aniskovich, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 2:58 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to public session at 4:11 p.m.

11. Adjournment

A. Vertefeuille moved and J. Reynolds seconded the motion to adjourn at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance Fraser  
Secretary