

# Board of Governors for Higher Education

## Advisory Committee on Accreditation Minutes of the Meeting Thursday, April 21, 2011

The Advisory Committee on Accreditation met in the Board's Conference Room, Department of Higher Education, third floor, 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 21, 2011.

Members or alternates present: Shirley Adams, Ann Clark, David Dauwalder, John Donohue, Robert Madden, Barbara McCarthy, Leon Newman, William Pizzuto, Judith Resnick, Martha Shouldis, and Abbey Zink.

Staff present: Braden Hosch, Patricia Santoro, Christine Thatcher

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

William Pizzuto called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

### 2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES – Minutes of March 17, 2011

William Pizzuto called for approval of the minutes of March 17, 2011. Judith Resnick moved approval and Abbey Zink seconded; the motion passed with Ann Clark and John Donohue abstaining.

### 3. DISCUSSION

### 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### Licensure Applications

**Brown University, Providence, RI** - Relicensure of a program in Biology, leading to the Master of Arts (M.A.)

#### Accreditation Applications

**Manchester Community College** - Accreditation of a program in Music Studies, leading to the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree

**Manchester Community College** - Accreditation of a Pathway to Teaching Careers program, leading to the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree

**University of Connecticut** - Accreditation of a program in African American Studies, leading to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree

**Western Connecticut State University** - Accreditation of a program in Media Arts, leading to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree with options in Media Studies and Media Production

#### Simultaneous Licensure and Accreditation Applications - *None*

On a motion made by Martha Shouldis and seconded by Shirley Adams, the Committee voted to approve the Consent Calendar, with Abbey Zink abstaining.

## 5. ACTION AGENDA

### Licensure Applications

**a. Sacred Heart University** - Licensure of a program in Health Care Information Systems, leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree, to be offered on-ground and online

Braden Hosch, Director of Policy, Finance, and Academic Affairs, gave an overview of the application and introduced Pat Walker, Dean of the College of Education and Health Professions, who represented the University.

Pat Walker reviewed the enrollment projections and anticipated start date of the program. Martha Shouldis complimented the timely development of a program in this emerging field.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Martha Shouldis moved approval and David Dauwalder seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

**b. University of Bridgeport** - Licensure of a program in Design Management, leading to a Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.) degree

Christine Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the application and introduced Hans van der Giessen, Provost, and Richard Yelle, Director of the Shintaro Akatsu School of Design, who represented the University.

After a brief discussion regarding the hiring of new faculty, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Shirley Adams moved approval and Ann Clark seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

**c. University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ** - Relicensure of a program leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Business/Management, and a program leading to the Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree to be offered by the University of Phoenix in Norwalk, Connecticut

Braden Hosch gave an overview of the application and introduced William Beck, II, Regional Director of Academic Affairs and Acting Fairfield County Campus Director of Academic Affairs; Nancy Pluzdrak, Norwalk Campus Director; and Tamara Clark, Chairperson at the Norwalk Campus, who represented the University.

The Committee expressed concerns regarding the University's continued difficulty in meeting enrollment projections. Nancy Pluzdrak indicated that the University has changed their marketing strategies to more strongly focus on the campus programs as opposed to online learning. She further explained that the University has recently started a 3-week non-credit, no cost orientation workshop for all potential incoming students which the University believes will ultimately result in higher retention rates.

After a brief discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. David Dauwalder moved approval and John Donohue seconded; the motion passed with Martha Shouldis abstaining.

## Accreditation Applications

**a. Sacred Heart University** - Accreditation of a program in Exercise Science and Nutrition, leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree

Patricia Santoro, Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the application. The University was represented by Pat Walker, Dean of the College of Education and Health Professions; Michael Emery, Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science; and Wendy Bjerke, Clinical Assistant Professor of Exercise Science.

Martha Shouldis inquired about whether the University currently has potential graduates. Wendy Bjerke indicated that there may be twelve students ready to graduate in the fall.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Robert Madden moved approval and John Donohue seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

## Simultaneous Licensure and Accreditation Applications

**a. University of Bridgeport** - Licensure and Accreditation of a program in English, leading to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree

Christine Thatcher reviewed the application. The University was represented by Hans van der Giessen, Provost; Steve Healey, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; and Edward Geist, Chair and Professor of English.

Abbey Zink inquired about the required capstone project for the program. Edward Geist indicated that all students must complete a senior thesis as their capstone project.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Martha Shouldis moved approval and Abbey Zink seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. BOARD OF GOVERNORS RESOLUTIONS – March 16, 2011

9. NEXT ACA MEETING – May 19, 2011

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.