

REGULAR SESSION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
at
SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
March 10, 2008
10:00 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman
Karl J. Krapek, Vice Chairman
John A. Doyle
Elizabeth Gagne
Angelo J. Messina
John H. Motley
Mark Parrott

Ronald J. Pugliese
John R. Sholtis, Jr.
Brian P. Sullivan (teleconference)
Fr. John P. Sullivan
Andrew R. Wetmore
Gail H. Williams

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Richard J. Balducci
Theresa J. Eberhard-Asch, Secretary
L. David Panciera

Peter M. Rosa
Andrew Russo

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

David G. Carter, Chancellor, Connecticut State University System (CSUS)
Jack W. Miller, President, Central Connecticut State University (CCSU)
Elsa Nuñez, President, Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU)
Cheryl J. Norton, President, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU)
James W. Schmotter, President, Western Connecticut State University (WCSU)

STAFF TO THE BOARD

Erin A. Fitzgerald, Associate for Board Affairs

CALL TO ORDER

Following roll call and an announcement regarding emergency exit locations, Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., declaring a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman McHugh requested a **motion to adopt the March 10, 2008 agenda as presented; Father Sullivan so moved; Trustee Sholtis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman McHugh requested a **motion to accept the Minutes of the January 17, 2008 Regular Session. Trustee Williams so moved; Trustee Motley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHANCELLOR REPORT

Chancellor Carter remarked upon his recent meeting with the Commissioner of Higher Education, Michael Meotti, the upcoming town meetings and preliminary plans for CSUS Day on April 17. In addition to brochures regarding the town meeting series, the Chancellor pointed out the following items in the trustees' Board folders: Winter 2008 issue of Universe, copies of all legislative testimony provided to date in the current legislative session, AASCU TOP 10 Public Policy Issues 2008; and February 2008 issue of CBIA News.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Committee Chairman John Doyle reported that the Academic Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at Central Connecticut State University and recommended the following:

A resolution to authorize the establishment of Church Farm Center for Arts & Sciences at Eastern Connecticut State University. Trustee Doyle noted that the resolution also designates the Center as a Connecticut Higher Education Center of Excellence. The property was donated by Dorothy Church Zaring and Joseph Zaring to the ECSU Foundation, Inc. He pointed out photographs in the trustees' folders of the setting that evidenced its beauty and inspiring potential of the location for all who will be involved in the activities house at the Center. The mission of the Church Farm Center is to integrate the arts and humanities, environmental sciences and ecology into the University and local community life by providing a common site for student and faculty research and study. A wide range of formal learning opportunities for Eastern students and members of the broader community will be offered. The Center will also serve as the locus of a variety of cultural activities and events in support of its mission. A newly created Endowed Chair in Biology will be formally affiliated with this Center. Faculty from academic departments in the Schools of Arts and Sciences and Education and Professional Studies will be involved in the activities of this new Center. An initial year budget and narrative for revenue and expenditures for the first three years of the Center have been reviewed by the Committee. The Committee commends the University for their efforts in creating this initiative which is fully in concert with its mission and strategic plan.

Trustee Doyle moved the resolution; Father Sullivan seconded and the following resolution establishing the Church Farm Center for the Arts & Sciences at ECSU and

designating it as a Connecticut Higher Education Center of Excellence was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University has obtained recognition for the excellence of its faculty and programs in the arts and sciences, and

WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University is committed to providing resources to support exceptional research and creative activity of its faculty and students, and

WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University is committed to extending the impact of its programming in the arts and sciences beyond the main campus in Willimantic, and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Church Zaring and Joseph Zaring have donated the Church Farm in Ashford, Connecticut to the ECSU Foundation, Inc., and

WHEREAS, The President of Eastern Connecticut State University has expressed the desire to establish the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences to further its mission as Connecticut's public liberal arts university, and

WHEREAS, The objectives of the Center are compatible with the mission of Eastern Connecticut State University and the Connecticut State University system, and

WHEREAS, Such a Center will facilitate the attainment of these objectives and contribute substantially to university leadership in promoting understanding of the arts and sciences and benefit Eastern students, field practitioners and the society, and

WHEREAS, Section 10a-25h(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System is "hereby authorized to establish and administer" centers to be known as Connecticut higher education centers of excellence, and

WHEREAS, The educational, research and public service programs of the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences, as described above, meet the criteria necessary to establish it as a center of excellence, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System hereby authorizes the establishment of the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences at Eastern Connecticut State University, and so designates the aforementioned Center as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences may seek and receive contracts and grants from public and private organizations and may charge fees for services related to the purposes stated above provided that all applicable state and University regulations are observed, and be it further

RESOLVED, That all funds received by the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences shall be deposited in a fund of the Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation established for this Center. Such funds shall be used for the purposes of this Center and appropriate University support functions rendered to the Center, and be it

RESOLVED, That the President of Eastern Connecticut State University is directed to periodically evaluate the functioning of the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences in terms of its effectiveness, and shall no later than September 1, 2013 report the results of the

evaluation with a recommendation to the Chancellor of the CSU System who in turn shall share this information with the Board of Trustees, and be it

RESOLVED, That the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences shall go out of existence on December 31, 2013, unless action to the contrary is taken by the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System.

A resolution to authorize Eastern Connecticut State University to seek approval by the Board of Governors of Higher Education of the John C. Hicks Endowed Chair in Biology in the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences. Trustee Doyle reported that the university has received matching non-state contribution of \$500,000 from the John C. Hicks Estate to support the Endowed Chair within the newly created Center of Excellence. The Chair in Biology will ensure the advancement and development of the Center's mission and enhance its visibility and service to the University and the broader community.

Trustee Doyle moved the resolution; Trustee Sholtis seconded and the following resolution was approved unanimously.

WHEREAS, Under the provisions of Section 10a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Governors of Higher Education may establish and administer an Endowed Chair Investment Fund, and

WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University has achieved \$500,000 in subscriptions to support an endowed chair in Biology, and

WHEREAS, The statutory deadline date for submission of applications to the Board of Governors of Higher Education is April 1, and

WHEREAS, By separate action the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System has approved the establishment of the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences at Eastern Connecticut State University and designated it as a "Connecticut higher education center of excellence," therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees requests that the Board of Governors of Higher Education affirm the above designation, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby notifies the Board of Governors of Higher Education that Eastern Connecticut State University, a university within the CSU System, hereby applies for the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Biology in the Church Farm Center for the Arts and Sciences.

A resolution to approve the provisional appointment of Dr. Jeffrey Trawick-Smith to fill the Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education at Eastern Connecticut State University, effective March 10, 2008 for a period not to exceed one year. Dr. Trawick-Smith, Professor of Education at Eastern Connecticut State University, will bring to the Center a wealth of experience

and credentials in the areas of teaching, research, grant writing and administration that will be of the highest valuable to the position.

Trustee Doyle moved the resolution; Trustee Motley seconded and the following resolution was approved unanimously.

- WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University has received \$500,000 in donations to support the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education, and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System has approved the establishment of the Center for Early Childhood Education and so designated it as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence, and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System has approved an application to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for the establishment of the Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education, and
- WHEREAS, Section 10a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System shall “select candidates to fill the endowed chair and shall develop a budget for expenditures associated with the chair,” and
- WHEREAS, The President of Eastern Connecticut State University has recommended that the endowed chair be filled by Dr. Jeffrey Trawick-Smith, and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Jeffrey Trawick-Smith is a Full Professor in the Department of Education at Eastern Connecticut State University and has been a faculty member at Eastern since 1982 as a member of the Education Department, and
- WHEREAS Professor Trawick-Smith has written, edited and contributed to numerous books and articles, and presented dozens of professional papers at local, regional, national, and international conferences, and
- WHEREAS Professor Trawick-Smith is a widely recognized and respected authority in the field of Early Childhood Education as evidenced by membership on national and local boards and committees and as a local and national consultant on issues of early childhood education, and is recognized by his colleagues for professional excellence, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System approves the provisional appointment of Dr. Jeffrey Trawick-Smith to fill the Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education at Eastern Connecticut State University, effective March 10, 2008 for a period not to exceed one year.

Trustee Doyle added that the Committee approved the nomination of M. Farooq Kathwari to receive an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters submitted by Western Connecticut State University. Mr. Kathwari is the president of a nationally recognized furniture retailer located in Danbury who has been deeply involved in diplomacy, foreign relations and the way in which higher education plays a role in resolving challenges in these areas. He has received numerous awards and wide recognition in this regard. He is one of the most respected business leaders in the nation, for the breadth of his intellectual interests and for the strengths of his

convictions. **Trustee Doyle moved the nomination; Trustee Sholtis seconded and the nomination was approved unanimously.**

The Academic Affairs Committee also accepted a new strategic plan for Eastern Connecticut State University (a copy of the plan was provided to trustees), which is centered on furthering the distinctiveness and excellence of the University's academic programs. The Committee noted the clarity and organization of the plan in setting the direction for the university. The Committee commended the University for the process utilized for the creation of the plan and its final product. Trustee Doyle commended President Núñez for her excellent contributions in this regard.

Trustee Doyle also reported that the Committee had received notes of the three latest BOGHE meetings and discussed key points of a presentation of a study tracking 170,000 high school graduates in terms of college attendance, degree attainment and participation in the workforce.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman McHugh reported that the Executive Committee met on Thursday, February 28 and had one action item: the ratification of the long-range facilities plan in connection with the CSUS 2020 program.

The Chairman remarked that in November Governor Rell, under Public Act 07-7 of the June Special Session, established the capital budget for the FY 2008 and FY 2009 biennium, as well as CSUS 2020 which authorizes up to \$950 million in general obligation bonds over ten years for CSUS capital improvement projects. The bond issuance required the one-time approval of the program by the State Bond Commission and annual approval of lump sum allocations by the Governor. The legislation also required that on or before March 1 of each year, CSUS must submit to the Governor, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the most recently approved facilities plan and the amount of bonds required for the CSUS 2020 program for the fiscal year beginning on July first of that year.

Given that the last long-range facilities plan approved by the Board was the Five-Year Facilities Plan adopted in Fall 2006, the Chairman stated it was necessary for the Executive Committee to approve the ten-year facilities plan for CSUS 2020 so that it could be submitted by March 1 as required by statute. **The Chairman requested a motion to ratify the February 28 action of the Executive Committee approving the long-range facilities plan established for the CSUS 2020 program; on a motion by Trustee Sholtis, seconded by Trustee Williams, the following resolution was unanimously approved:**

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees under its statutory authority - CGS Sec. 10a-89 (b) - shall "... (2) propose facility planning and capital expenditure budget priorities for the institutions under its jurisdiction," and

WHEREAS, Public Act 07-7 of the June Special Session provides for "The Connecticut State University System Infrastructure Act" and establishes CSUS 2020 by authorizing up to \$950 million in general obligation bonds over ten years, beginning Fiscal Year 2009 and ending Fiscal Year 2018, for the purpose of renewing, modernizing, enhancing, expanding, acquiring and maintaining the infrastructure of the Connecticut State University System, and

WHEREAS, The legislation requires that on or before March 1 of each year, the Board of Trustees shall submit to the Governor, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the most recently approved facilities plan and the amount of bonds required for the CSUS 2020 program for the fiscal year beginning on July 1 of that year, and

WHEREAS, The recommended long-range facilities plan establishes a ten-year schedule of allocations for Connecticut State University System capital projects and identifies the need for \$95 million annually in general obligation bonds, and

WHEREAS, The recommended long-range facilities plan is based upon the Five-Year Facilities Plan adopted by the Board of Trustees in Fall 2006 (BR #06-59), which established the priority of projects to be initiated for design and/or construction through Fiscal Year 2012, and was developed in consultation with the universities, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approves the long-range facilities plan, including the capital projects and the annual funding amounts as set forth in Attachment A to this resolution, and be it further

RESOLVED, That Board Resolution #06-59 is rescinded.

REPORT FROM SCSU PRESIDENT NORTON

President Norton expressed her gratitude to the Trustees and the Chancellor for their continued support of Southern Connecticut State University. Prior to running a student-produced video, she provided an overview of events and initiatives which occurred since the last time the Board met at Southern:

- finalization of strategic plan, setting forth the focus and direction of the university
- adoption of the university mission statement (asking Board members to sign the large placard containing the mission statement)
- hiring of over 60 new faculty (half of which were new, fully funded positions) to increase the number of full-time faculty serving Southern's students
- redesign of student orientation, breaking it down into smaller group and including a first-year experience
- institution of freshman day of service

- extension of outreach into the community
- CT Women's Hall of Fame sited at the university
- Establishment of IT Assessment Committees (users can ensure technology meets their needs)

President Norton noted the common focus and driver of all that is done at SCSU is the success of the students, both while at Southern and after they leave.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman McHugh remarked on CSUS day at the Capitol and asked Board members to notify Erin Fitzgerald if they were able to participate in any of the remaining Board dinners (April 21 with SUOAF and April 30 with AAUP/Southern).

Prior to calling for adjournment, the Chairman advised the Board that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at Western Connecticut State University.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Sholtis moved to adjourn; Trustee Williams seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa J. Eberhard-Asch, Secretary