



Executive Committee

CCSNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting of June 25, 2020

Present (teleconference): Trustee Jeremy Hitchcock, Trustee Kathy Bogle Shields, Trustee Paul Holloway, Trustee Edwin Smith, Trustee Alison Stebbins, Trustee Tricia Lucas, Trustee Robert Baines, Interim Chancellor Susan Huard

Regrets: Trustee Richard Killion, Trustee Steve Rothenberg

Others Attending (teleconference): Trustee Hollie Noveletsky, Trustee Richard Heath, Trustee Jeff Cozzens, Trustee Cheryl Kahn, GBCC Interim President Cathryn Addy, LRCC CFO Marsha Bourdon, CCSNH Executive Director of Government Affairs and Communications Shannon Reid, CCSNH Legal Counsel Jeanne Herrick, CCSNH Chief Advancement Officer Tim Allison, CCSNH COO Charles Ansell, Alex Boudreau (LRCC Advisory Board), Peter McNamara (LRCC Advisory Board), Karen Welch (NHTI Advisory Board), Helmut Koch (NHTI Advisory Board), Pamela LaFlamme (WMCC Advisory Board), David Backler (WMCC Advisory Board), Mark Galvin (GBCC Advisory Board), Darci Knowles (GBCC Advisory Board), Kris Irwin (MCC Advisory Board), Jennifer Landon (MCC Advisory Board), Reggie Greene (RVCC Advisory Board), Catherine Bardier (RVCC Advisory Board), Gail Casey (NCC Advisory Board)

Chair Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 10:02 am by videoconference and called the roll. Regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location, the Chair declared an emergency meeting in order to follow social distancing guidelines related to the current public health crisis, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 2 (III)(b).

Welcome

Chair Hitchcock welcomed CCSNH advisory board members.

CCSNH Update from the Interim Chancellor

Chancellor Huard provided an update on the colleges' plans for reopening campuses. In March, the colleges successfully transitioned to an entirely online/ remote model through May. CCSNH is working closely with the state, Governor's Office, and the Public Health Department to develop plans for returning to the campus in the fall in a way that is as safe as possible. No campus will operate the same way as it was operating before the pandemic. Online classes will continue to the extent that is possible so that students in technical and science programs can complete needed in-person classes while following social distancing protocols. The colleges will hire temporary workers to help keep spaces clean. Many staff will return to campus in the fall, following staggered schedules, safety measures and protocols currently in place, including social distancing and plexiglass shields. Staff who cannot return to campus will be accommodated as is possible following ADA guidelines. The foundation granted colleges \$30,000 to help students successfully complete the semester, and currently retention rates remain stable. Fall enrollment is down significantly, although summer enrollment is strong, indicating that fall enrollment may improve. Additional information on the Governor's plan for higher education will likely be announced later this week.



Chancellor Huard reported that the NECHE visit at Lakes Region CC went very well, and she thanked all participants for their efforts.

Regarding the system's work on diversity, equity, and inclusion, the Chancellor has reached out to a group to facilitate conversations on campus for staff, faculty, and students.

CCSNH and USNH have engaged in discussions surrounding collaboration and the identification of additional synergies between the two systems. The priorities of these efforts include meeting the needs of the COVID response in reopening and related procurement activity, and the topic of governance is not included in these discussions. Discussion followed regarding CCSNH baccalaureate programs that are industry-driven and serve the population in a way that does not compete with current USNH offerings, as well as how USNH colleges can better accommodate and welcome CCSNH students. The committee agreed to continuing the conversation on baccalaureate programs at a future meeting.

The Child & Family Development Center at NHTI has been closed. The college is actively soliciting an external entity to run the center with a RFP deadline on Friday, and a walk-through last week produced four interested companies. By August, will be a child development operating at NHTI that is connected to the early childhood program on campus. Chancellor Huard noted that this situation has been very painful for families, with whom she and Jeremy recently met. The NHTI operating budget supplemented the childcare center, which was an auxiliary service that the board asked colleges to look into trimming and an expense that NHTI could not maintain during a time of enrollment decline. Trustees thanked Interim Chancellor Huard and NHTI President Mullin-Sawicki for their hard work on this very difficult decision and step forward.

Legislative Update

Mr. Ansell reported that one of CCSNH's primary focuses from March through May of this year has been keeping students focused, motivated, and healthy. Due to CCSNH's commitment to keeping tuition flat over the last ten years, and a focus on making textbooks open source/ low-cost, there has been only a slight enrollment decline in the spring semester, and most students registered for summer classes are also registered for the fall. CCSNH is working with the Department of Employment Security to target displaced workers. Expenses for reopening are high, as additional instructional hours are needed to deliver smaller classes. CCSNH received \$6 million dollars from the federal government, half of which will be used for emergency aid for students and the other will be used for institutional support that does not cover tuition assistance. CCSNH was given \$5 million in additional CARES funding that went to and were distributed by the state (GOFERR-provisioned funds), with a report due to the state on how the GOFERR funds met reopening costs. CCSNH's role in solving structural unemployment for the state is key, and in this way assistance for CCSNH allows the state to help every sector.

Ms. Reid reported that CCSNH is working closely with the Governor's Office and GOFERR on funding for tuition assistance for the fall. Federal funds must be spent by the end of year, and there is hope for another stimulus bill that would include funds for higher education and funds that would allow the state and local governments to fill in shortfalls in the budget. CCSNH is also watching for provisions that might address or limit liability of organizations that reopen like CCSNH.

HR Updates

Chair Hitchcock reported that the final CHRO candidate did not accept CCSNH's offer, opting instead for an opportunity in his home state. Chancellor Huard has contacted a company that employs interim leaders and expect position to be filled by an interim in the next month.



Co-Chairs for the GBCC president search have been identified, and more information on the search will be provided in the summer.

Other Business

Mr. Killion will soon re-locate to Florida for a new job, and the Governance Committee will now be chaired by Mr. Baines.

Lakes Region CC will host a drive-in graduation this Saturday.

No further business was brought forward. The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 am.

Respectively Submitted,

Meghan Eckner
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees