



Student Success Committee

CCSNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting of September 17, 2021

Attending: Trustee Steve Rothenberg (Chair), Trustee John Calhoun, Trustee Sharon Harris (*teleconference*), Trustee Jeff Cozzens, Trustee Kelly Pilotte, Trustee Robert Baines RVCC President Alfred Williams, NCC President Lucille Jordan (*teleconference*), CCSNH Chancellor Mark Rubinstein, CCSNH COO Scott Fields, CCSNH Executive Director of Government Affairs and Communications Shannon Reid, LRCC President Larissa Baia (*teleconference*), WMCC President Chuck Lloyd (*teleconference*), NHTI President Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki (*teleconference*), CCSNH Chief Advancement Officer Tim Allison, CCSNH Interim CHRO Monica Bradley (*teleconference*), CCSNH Director of DOE and College Access Programs Beth Doiron (*teleconference*)

Regrets: Trustee Bryant Abbott, Trustee Loretta Blackwell, Commissioner Frank Edelblut, Commissioner Taylor Caswell

Other Attendees: Representative Oliver Ford, Senator Ruth Ward (*teleconference*), Senator Jay Kahn (*teleconference*), Representative Mel Myler (*teleconference*), Representative Mary Heath (*teleconference*),

Committee Chair Rothenberg called the meeting to order at 8:05 am in 301 Grappone Hall, NHTI, Concord, NH and welcomed new student trustee Kelly Pilotte to the committee.

Approval of June 17, 2021 and August 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

VOTE: The Committee, on motion of Mr. Calhoun and seconded by President Williams, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2021 and August 10, 2021 meetings as written.

Committee Purpose

Mr. Rothenberg reviewed the purpose of the student success committee, as outlined by the committee's charter. The Student Success Committee has responsibility to review and make recommendations to the Board on matters relating to coordination of policy and planning for delivery on the System's core mission – academics and student support – including academic quality, program planning and review; business training and workforce development; academic and student support services; enrollment management and marketing; and affordability.

Baccalaureate Degree Proposal

Mr. Rothenberg thanked Representatives Ford, Myler, and Heath and Senators Ward and Kahn for joining the committee meeting to discuss Representative Ford's proposal for CCSNH to offer baccalaureate degrees.

Representative Ford expressed his appreciation for the mission and values of the state's community colleges and presented his proposal for the community colleges to offer four-year degrees that will enhance opportunity and access to students across the state.



Discussion followed regarding the committee's concerns about limited resources and staffing, losing focus on the majority of students who are adult learners, the cost to the system, and mission creep. It would be more efficient for students to pivot to institutions of higher education through satellite operations of the four-year institutions at the community college campuses. Trustee Pilotte expressed support for the proposal, as a current NHTI student who would value the opportunity to continue at NHTI for her bachelor's degree.

At White Mountains CC, about 10% of students are interested in continuing to a four-year program. When students express interest in four-year degrees, it is the responsibility of CCSNH to build those pathways—for example, Plymouth State College offering bachelor's degrees at the Berlin campus. There is an opportunity to grow additional pathways, but a workforce and student need must be present. The automotive industry in the region does not have significant demand for 4-year degrees, but there is demand for certificates and 2-year degrees the college is already offering.

MCC President Bicknell reviewed the criteria that should be met for community colleges to consider developing four-year degrees: unmet needs in the workforce; disinterest by traditional 4-year colleges; capacity of the college; support from industry, student interest; budget implications; curriculum design challenges; and a marketplace need that would only be addressed by CCSNH. It is important to use or amend existing systems to achieve goals of access and social mobility.

Chancellor Rubinstein discussed the need for CCSNH to develop a more robust system for understanding occupational demands and skills and build more focused programs. Most CCSNH students are adults who are already in the workplace, and structures need to be created that accommodate their needs. Interested in understanding the need more and partnering more closely with colleges in the University System—more efficient.

Senator Kahn voiced his support for increased partnership with K-12, collaboration between the community colleges and 4-year institutions, and pathways that tie to workforce needs.

Other Business

No further business was stated. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Eckner
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees