



## State of Connecticut

### The Connecticut General Assembly

#### The Planning Commission for Higher Education

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 1800  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591  
PHONE: (860) 240-0271 / FAX: (860) 240-8833

**Judith K. Resnick, Chairperson**

#### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 17, 2015

3:00 p.m. Room 1E

The meeting was called to order by Judy Resnick at 3:06 p.m.

The following commission members/designees/guests were present: Vagos Hadjimichael, Booker DeVaughn, David Walsh, James Maroney, Lois Schneider. Judith Resnick, Judith Goldfarb, Christopher Bruhl (via phone), Sarah Barzee, Lindy Lee Gold, Estela Lopez, Sally Reis, Jen Widness, Roberta Willis, Whit Betts and Kerry Kelley

Judy Resnick welcomed the members back and members introduced themselves.

The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Judy Resnick discussed the ambitious agenda for the day.

Roberta Willis discussed legislation that came from the Planning Commission's work that was passed during the prior legislative session and signed into law.

Judy Resnick thanked Roberta for her tireless work.

Kerry Kelley, Section Director for Education and Workforce Programs, Office of Policy and Management gave her presentation on metrics as reported by the Higher Education Coordinating Council.

Judy Resnick thanked Kerry for her presentation and stated that she hopes it's part of the positive energy going forward when looking at the work we've done and the work that is already out there.

Booker DeVaughn asked if Kerry would repeat the date of the next meeting of the Higher Education Coordinating Council.

Kerry Kelley replied that it will be Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in room 1E of the Legislative Office Building.

Judy Resnick turned the meeting over to Dennis Jones from National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

Dennis Jones gave NCHEMS' presentation.

Lindy Lee Gold asked if the community colleges are prevented from retaining students for two years if they can't get through the remedial classes in one year.

Roberta Willis replied that currently Connecticut has a three tiered remediation program based on how students tested. She continued that students who test the highest have remediation embedded course so they receive remediation along with their course. Roberta indicated that about 10% of the population are in the lowest level of remediation go into a transitional course.

Dennis Jones continued NCHEMS' presentation.

Lindy Lee Gold suggested checking with the Department of Labor or the Workforce Investment Board to see who issued vouchers to accredited trade training providers and demand that they result in nationally recognized credentials.

Dennis Jones responded that NCHEMS can get data on certification that way, but they won't get service learning or community engagement with students that way.

Jen Widness asked if the Corporation for Community Service has designations about colleges that are active in the community.

Sally Reis said that UConn is one of them.

Dennis Jones said that is something they keep discussing and that it is the equivalent of an accreditation report.

Sally Reis shared that there are a little over 100 institutions nationally that have it.

Vagos Hadjimichael asked how one measures trends in new business activity resulting from research.

Sally Reis that what UConn did for Next Generation was to look at partnerships, business partnerships, research enterprise partnerships, opportunities for pharmaceutical companies to work with faculty, faculty grants, faculty contracts, new startups, new patents - are some of what they gathered for Next Gen Connecticut, as well as overall research and the benefits of some of that research.

Dennis Jones continued NCHEMS' presentation.

Vagos Hadjimichael asked with regard to net import/export of individuals, do we intend to place a cap on age.

Dennis Jones replied that they are talking about the working age population, 25-64.

Judy Goldfarb said that she heard this morning in a demographic report that the only growth in children right now is in cities and not in the suburbs and also there will be a major recruitment to bring

professional people in from out of state to fill jobs that Connecticut has people retiring from, and that the biggest growth industry will be funeral homes.

Dennis Jones shared that part of the question of importing people with Baccalaureate or higher degrees is what the metric being discussed captures.

Judy Goldfarb commented that the pieces on innovations and patent jobs are going to be critical because the creative economy tells us it's not just creating new things, but creating new jobs.

Dennis Jones asked if licensure revenue is in that metric.

Sally Reis replied that UConn's projections are based on hiring new faculty and engineering and looking at departments that have been successful.

Dennis Jones said that patents are one thing, does anyone want to take advantage of them is another thing, so filing a patent doesn't necessarily turn into job creation, but if someone is willing to pay for licensure, it's a better indicator of whether these engender economic activity and that the problem is you can't confine it to Connecticut, you may be receiving licensure revenue from another state.

Whit Betts asked Dennis to define "living wage."

Dennis Jones responded that his definition is that it is a wage that pays twice the poverty level.

Whit Betts asked for clarification – as opposed to the amount of money you might actually need to live and pay the actual costs where you live.

Dennis Jones replied this is poverty as defined for the particular region, not necessarily for the whole country.

Aims McGuinness shared that one of the reasons they put in the information about import/export issue was the impact of the public and independent institutions in this state and the quality of life in the regions in which they are located.

Dennis Jones continued NCHEMS' presentation.

Lindy Lee Gold asked how they can get that metric from private colleges and institutions because their scholarships are very different and they aren't about state aid and Pell Grants, in most cases it's about the area of study whether there is a policy of blind admission.

Dennis Jones commented that for all institutions we can get for freshmen a statement that shows the cost and sources of funds.

Jen Widness indicated that CCIC is collecting unit record data for undergraduate students at private colleges that have agreed to participate in the project.

Dennis Jones said that it's not additional data as much as it is additional students who are covered by the data.

Roberta Willis asked Kerry Kelley – how do we mesh together the metrics of the Coordinating Council with the Planning Commission.

Kerry Kelley responded that once their report is public and available it will be a little clearer, but the HECC is only focused on the public institutions and some of the data is more demographic about statewide issues and not institution specific. She continued that they will need to work with the help of NCHEMS to align and see where they can enhance each other.

Aims McGuinness commented to Roberta that the institutions were already working on the report that Kerry gave, so the change had not been made in statute.

Kerry Kelley said that they are working from the metrics that were embraced by the HECC at their last meeting in 2012.

Dennis Jones continued NCHEMS' presentation.

Sally Reis said that as they discussed last year, it is difficult for us to have a sense of what to charge for tuition because they don't know what state appropriations are.

Judy Resnick said that progress has been made in terms of being able to measure what we do.

Roberta Willis discussed the Task Force Concerning Outcomes Based Funding.

Dennis Jones commented that the plan of work for the task force is open for modification.

Roberta Willis discussed the subcommittee regarding student financial aid.

Judy Resnick announced that the next meeting will be Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in room 1D.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.