ITEM
Report from Strategic Planning Committee

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR FULL BOARD

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents for Higher Education approves the following components (Vision for Connecticut; Vision for ConnSCU; ConnSCU Mission and Goals) of a Strategic Plan for the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (ConnSCU) as developed by the Strategic Planning Committee:

A Vision for Connecticut: A continually increasing share of Connecticut’s population will have the high quality post-secondary education that enables them to achieve their life and career goals and makes Connecticut a place of engaged, globally competitive communities

A Vision for ConnSCU: Connecticut State Colleges and Universities will continually increase the number of students completing personally and professionally rewarding academic programs.

ConnSCU’s Mission: Connecticut State Colleges and Universities provide affordable, innovative and rigorous programs in a setting that permits an ever increasing number of students to achieve their personal and career goals as well as contribute to the economic growth of the state of Connecticut.

ConnSCU’s Goals
1. A Successful First Year – Increase the number of students who successfully complete a first year of college.
2. Student Success – Graduate more students with the knowledge and skills to achieve their life and career goals.
3. Affordability and Sustainability – Maximize access to higher education by making attendance affordable and our institutions financially sustainable.
4. Innovation and Economic Growth – Create educational environments that cultivate innovation and prepare students for successful careers in a fast changing world.
5. Equity – Eliminate achievement disparities among different ethnic/racial, economic, and gender groups.

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents for Higher Education hereby directs BOR President Kennedy to:

1. Discuss the vision, mission and goals (VMG) with the Faculty Advisory Committee, the Student Advisory Committee, the Council of Presidents and other stakeholders; and
2. Form a working group to develop strategic indicators for each of the five goals; and
3. Form five working groups (one for each of the above ConnSCU goal areas) to identify the high level strategies that drive success on that goal.

09/25/2012 – Board of Regents
The Components of the Strategic Plan

- Vision for the state as a whole
- Vision and Mission for ConnSCU
- Five Goals
A Vision for Connecticut

- A continually increasing share of Connecticut’s population will have the high quality post-secondary education that enables them to achieve their life and career goals and makes Connecticut a place of engaged, globally competitive communities
A Vision for ConnSCU

- Connecticut State Colleges and Universities will continually increase the number of students completing personally and professionally rewarding academic programs.
ConnSCU’s Mission

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities provide affordable, innovative and rigorous programs in a setting that permits an ever increasing number of students to achieve their personal and career goals as well as contribute to the economic growth of the state of Connecticut.
Why this Vision and Mission?

- ConnSCU institutions have long been the affordable provider of high quality post-secondary education for the largest segment of college-going Connecticut residents.
- ConnSCU has the mission, resources and scale to meet the increasing demand for post-secondary education.
- Almost all ConnSCU students come from Connecticut and stay here after graduation.
- Life and career challenges are continually increasing the demands on Connecticut residents for rigorous and relevant knowledge and skills. Completion alone is not enough; continual improvement in the quality and relevance of education programs must go hand-in-hand.
- Increasing the number of our graduates will have an economic multiplier effect that creates a significant benefit to our state as a whole.
ConnSCU Mission and Goals

MISSION
Provide affordable, innovative and rigorous programs in a setting that both permits students to achieve their personal and career goals as well as contribute to economic growth of the state of CT

A Successful First Year
Increase the number of students who successfully complete a first year of college

Student Success
Graduate more students with the knowledge and skills to achieve their life and career goals

Affordability and Sustainability
Maximize access to higher education by making attendance affordable and our institutions financially sustainable

Innovation and Economic Growth
Create educational environments that cultivate innovation and prepare students for successful careers in a fast changing world

Equity
Eliminate achievement disparities among different ethnic/racial, economic, and gender groups
Goal #1: A Successful First Year

- Increase the number of students who successfully complete a first year of college
- Why?
  - Students are more likely to succeed if they complete the broad curriculum of a first year of college in a timely fashion.
  - We are much more efficient in educating students who have completed a first year of courses distributed across core disciplines.
  - At risk students will be more likely to succeed in an integrated educational pathway from K-12 to college that maintains educational momentum through the transition to college.
  - The college readiness of incoming students and our low success rates in remedial education impose a major limit on our ability to increase rigor, relevance and completions.
  - Our role as the primary educator of new K-12 teachers binds us to a role of shared responsibility for the readiness of high school graduates.
Goal #2: Student Success

- Graduate more students with the knowledge and skills to achieve their life and career goals
- Why?
  - Same purpose that underlies the vision statement: the unrivaled benefits to successful students and to the entire community/region/state.
  - We need to be explicit about completion given the longstanding emphasis on access (enrollment) over success (completion).
  - Research shows that limited credit accumulation (< 30 credits) does not improve economic benefits to students.
Goal #3: Affordability and Sustainability

- Maximize access to higher education by making attendance affordable and our institutions financially sustainable
- Why?
  - Increasing total enrollment and completions will require significant growth in success measures for students from lower income households.
  - Household income in Connecticut has not kept pace with inflation for the past decade and that trend is likely to continue.
  - Primary revenue sources (federal aid, state support, and household income of our students) will not keep pace with inflation and may decrease.
Goal #4: Innovation and Economic Growth

- Create educational environments that cultivate innovation and prepare students for successful careers in a fast changing world
- Why?
  - Education that prepares graduates for increasingly competitive environments is the only strategy that lifts individuals and communities out of a subsistence career or economy.
  - ConnSCU graduates who complete rigorous and innovative professional and occupational programs do very well in employment and earnings.
  - The demand for innovation penetrates all levels of organizations and is not confined to specific units or leadership levels.
  - Participation in faculty research and external internships provide students with exposure to innovative thinking.
Goal #5: Equity

- Eliminate achievement disparities among different ethnic/racial, economic, and gender groups
- Why?
  - CT’s population is growing increasingly diverse
  - Educational success measures are lower for African-American and Latino students
  - Males have significantly lower rates of college enrollment and completion