



# OLR RESEARCH REPORT

April 1, 2013

2013-R-0202

## QUESTIONS FOR UCONN BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOMINEES

By: Terrance Adams, Legislative Analyst II

### UCONN BOARD OF TRUSTEES (CGS § [10A-103](#) AND [-104](#))

- The board consists of 21 members.
- The governor appoints 12 members who serve staggered, six-year terms. Students elect two members, one undergraduate and one graduate, who serve staggered, two-year terms. Alumni elect two members to staggered, four-year terms.
- The governor; agriculture, economic and community development, and education commissioners; and the chairman of the UConn Health Center Board of Trustees are ex-officio members.
- One chamber confirms.
- The board makes rules for governing the university and develops a mission statement for it, including the role and scope of each branch campus. It establishes schools, colleges, divisions, and departments within the university and coordinates branch and institutional services and programs. It oversees the financing and construction of UConn 2000, sets tuition and fees, promotes fund raising, and establishes gift policies for its foundation.

## QUESTIONS

1. SB 840 authorizes more than \$1.5 billion in new bonding under UConn 2000. What will these new funds enable UConn to accomplish? How will the state pay for this investment, given its fiscal situation?
2. Faculty in the Connecticut State University System and the community-technical colleges have criticized SB 840 because it does not include any investment in their institutions. What is your response to this argument?
3. How will UConn pay for the increased operating expenses associated with new capital projects and increasing enrollments?
4. Demographic projections indicate that Connecticut will have a decreasing number of high school graduates in the next decade. How will this affect UConn's plan to increase enrollment?
5. Some public universities have sought to increase their out-of-state and international student enrollments as a means of raising additional revenue. Do you feel that this strategy would be appropriate for UConn?
6. UConn has proposed diverting water from the Farmington River watershed to meet campus needs. What are your thoughts on this proposal? Are there alternative strategies the university could use?
7. In the long run, what steps can UConn take to minimize tuition increases?
8. UConn was recently the subject of a Freedom of Information Act complaint regarding an athletics marketing agreement with Webster Bank. Do you feel that such agreements should be exempt from public disclosure?
9. What are your thoughts on university administrators' compensation amounts? How should UConn go about developing effective executive compensation guidelines?
10. What steps could UConn take to encourage more of its students to remain in Connecticut after graduating?

11. What effect do you think conference realignment will have on UConn athletics? Do you have any concerns about the realignment?
12. What effects will the federal budget sequestration have on UConn?

TA:tjo