



State of Connecticut

The Connecticut General Assembly

The Planning Commission for Higher Education

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Judith K. Resnick, Chairperson

Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 20, 2015

3:00 P.M. in Room 1E of the LOB

The meeting was called to order by Judy Resnick at 3:13 p.m.

The following commission members/designees/guests were present: Vagos Hadjimichael, Hedley Freake, Judy Resnick, Lindy Lee Gold, Estela Lopez, Sally Reis, Jen Widness, Roberta Willis and Kerry Kelley.

Members introduced themselves.

Dennis Jones, President Emeritus, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems ([NCHEMS](#)) gave their presentation: [Baseline Year Accountability Report to be Produced by Planning Commission](#), which include a goals statement, interpretation and targets that accompany those goals, and suggested metrics.

Dennis Jones stated the first goal of the accountability report was education attainment in the adult population and the increase thereof. To accomplish this, he proposed metrics for accountability and for monitoring progress towards these goals.

There was a discussion comparing and contrasting the metrics Connecticut measures with those of other states.

Questions and clarifications followed this portion of the presentation.

Dennis Jones presented the second goal of the accountability report, which was to ensure a competitive workforce and competitive regions and communities within the state.

Dennis Jones laid out metrics that could be taken to measure the progress towards this goal. Those metrics include trends in numbers of degrees and certificates in fields that the taskforce determines are a priority (measured at both public and private institutions), trends in per capita income relative to the

statewide income, and numbers of people leaving versus number of people moving to regions, especially from out of state.

Dennis Jones also stressed the importance of keeping Connecticut students in Connecticut.

The third goal was affordability in higher education. As a part of this broad goal, there are more specific goals to ensure the net costs of attendance relative to the incomes of low income families will be no more than the national average by the year 2025 and to increase recent high school graduates attending Connecticut institutions by 5%.

Metrics to measure progress towards these goals include trends in instate tuition and fees, trends in funding for both need and non-need based student financial aid, and trends in the average size of student loans.

Sally Reis of the University of Connecticut suggested that the task force determine 10 to 11 indicators of quality for the accountability report, and a discussion on this followed.

There was a discussion on the plans to produce and publish the baseline accountability report.

There was a conversation around establishing a strategic master plan for higher education in Connecticut.

Roberta Willis stressed the importance of a timely reception of materials for the report from each institution so that the accountability report could be published with the most up to date information.

There was a discussion on the frequency of publication, with the merits of annual versus biannual publication raised.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.