



THIS WEEK'S FACEBOOK QUESTION: What do you think of the new acronym ConnSCU?

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ConnSCU Updates

What is ConnSCU?

ConnSCU stands for Connecticut State Colleges & Universities and is the newly-created acronym for the system that resulted from the merger of the central offices of CSU, the Community/Technical Colleges, and Charter Oak State College.

BOR's Plan to Preserve the Distinct Missions of the State Colleges and Universities

At its December 20 meeting, the Board of Regents (BOR) unanimously approved a plan to maintain the distinct missions of its constituent units: CSU, the Community/Technical Colleges, and Charter Oak.

The first stage of the plan approved by the BOR directs staff to “share a compilation of existing mission statements and a matrix of common issues raised across statements with the Councils of Presidents, the Student Advisory Committee and the Faculty Advisory Committee.” Over the next few months, CSU, the Community/Technical Colleges, and Charter Oak will draft its own mission statement with a deadline of June 1, 2012.

The second stage of the process involves the Board of Regents, Councils of Presidents, Student Advisory Committee and Faculty Advisory Committee meeting in September to seek consensus on the three mission statements with the goal of approving the mission statements by October 2012.

You can see the plan in the BOR agenda [here](#) beginning on page 120.

WCSU and SCSU Receive Permission to Offer Graduate Programs to Out-of-State Students at In-state Tuition

At its January 19 meeting, the BOR approved an “experiment” to offer the online Master of Library Science graduate program at SCSU and several masters of education programs at WCSU to out-of-state students at in-state tuition prices. “The decision will halve tuition for out-of-state students and will not take seats away from in-state students, officials said.” Read more [here](#).

BOR recommends Dr. Kennedy for Permanent Appointment

Also at its meeting on January 19, the BOR recommended Dr. Robert A. Kennedy to Governor Malloy for a permanent appointment as BOR President.

CT Ranks 7th in State Funding Cuts to Higher Ed

According to an [annual report](#) from the Center for the Study of Education Policy, Connecticut ranked seventh in cuts to public higher education from last year to this year. Read the full report [here](#).

Malloy Pledges to Increase State Pension Funding

On January 23, Governor Malloy held a press conference announcing his proposal to increase state funding of its pension system. A report in early January showed that the pension fund holds enough assets to cover approximately 48% of its obligations as of June 2011.

Malloy's proposal would increase the State's pension contribution by about \$119 million in fiscal year 2013 and make additional, although declining contributions in succeeding years. If approved, this proposal would achieve 80% funding by 2025 and 100% funding by the year 2032.

Malloy's announcement received a strong endorsement from SEBAC leaders.

Read more [here](#).