



MEMORANDUM

January 12, 2016

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Community College Councils

Action Requested

The proposed resolution approves the adoption of guidelines relating to the composition and operation of community college councils.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas Chapter 50 of the Laws of New York of 2015 (“Chapter 50”) authorizes the creation of community college councils (the “councils”), in consultation with the Chancellor, in order to align the operations of community colleges located outside of the city of New York; and

Whereas Chapter 50 provides that the geographical boundaries of the regions shall be defined in consultation with the Chancellor and that the Chancellor shall appoint the members of each council; and

Whereas Chapter 50 provides that the chair of each council shall be a president of one of the constituent community colleges, or his or her designee, and that such councils shall operate under the oversight of the Chancellor; and

Whereas Chapter 50 provides that each council may (i) set program development, enrollment, and transfer goals on a regional basis; (ii) coordinate education and training program offerings within each defined region; and (iii) establish goals to improve student outcomes; and

Whereas Chapter 50 provides that when coordinating education and training offerings, community colleges shall ensure that the needs of the residents of the local community and host county are met by such local community college, and that the needs of the residents of such community and county remain the community colleges' primary concern; and

Whereas in consultation with the various community college constituent groups, guidelines were developed to provide an operational framework for the councils; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts the guidelines set forth below to govern the composition and operation of the councils; and be it further

Resolved that the Board of Trustees delegates its authority for any future amendments of these guidelines to the Chancellor, or designee.

Background

Chapter 50 of the Laws of 2015 authorized the creation of community college councils to align the operations of community colleges located outside the city of New York. Community college councils will be established within designated geographic regions so that the colleges located within each region can further collaborate on issues such as enrollment, transfer, program development, and education and training program offerings to maximize student success.

The Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges has worked closely with the New York Community College Presidents ("NYCCAP"), the New York Community College Trustees ("NYCCT"), the Faculty Council of Community College ("FCCC"), and the Community College Committee of the SUNY Student Assembly to garner each group's input and recommendations concerning the councils. Each of the groups provided extensive feedback with respect to flexibility, geography, membership representation and local governance.

A draft of the "SUNY Community College Council Charge" was vetted with all of the constituent organizations and reviewed by the Chancellor. These guidelines are a restatement of the "Charge."

GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCILS

A. Geographic Regions

1. The geographical boundaries for each region shall coincide with the nine Regional Economic Development Council regions operating outside of the City of New York or any other configuration approved by the Chancellor.

B. Council Chairs

1. The council chair shall be one of the constituent community college presidents, or his or her designee.
2. On behalf of the Chancellor, the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges will accept nominations for council chairs from the community college presidents and trustees located in each region.
3. It is recommended that that the council chairs rotate among the constituent community college presidents. The term of the council chair's appointment shall be determined by the Chancellor, in consultation with council members in the region.
4. Council chairs shall be responsible for communicating with the Regional Economic Development Council chairs in their respective regions.

C. Council Membership

1. Each council will include a community college president or designee, a community college trustee, a community college faculty member, and a community college student from each community college in the region and may also include business and community leaders within the region. Members will be appointed by the Chancellor based on recommendations as set forth above, or at the Chancellor's discretion.
2. Names of prospective trustee members, based on the recommendations of local boards of trustees, and nominees from business, community-based organizations and workforce agencies, shall be forwarded by the community college presidents within the region to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, for consideration and appointment by the Chancellor.
3. The names of prospective faculty member representatives shall be submitted by the Faculty Council of Community Colleges to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, for consideration

and appointment by the Chancellor. The Faculty Council may accept recommendations from campus faculty executive committees or campus governance leaders.

4. The names of prospective student representatives shall be submitted by the Community College Committee of the SUNY Student Assembly to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, for consideration and appointment by the Chancellor.
5. Council members shall serve a term set by the Chancellor.

D. Scope of Work

1. Pursuant to the Chancellor's oversight, the work of each council may include any of the following topics: (i) the establishment of program development, enrollment, and transfer goals for the region; (ii) the coordination of education and training program offerings within the region; and (iii) the establishment of goals to improve student outcomes.
2. The councils' focus shall be centered on what is in the best interest of community college students and student success.
3. In determining the "scope of work" to be undertaken by the council, each council chair shall, on an annual basis, consult with the Chancellor and council members to establish the council's focus.
4. The Chancellor and/or Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, or their designees, will be present at each regional council meeting.
5. The SUNY Office for Community Colleges will assist in providing administrative support, and in the scheduling of council meetings.
6. Council chairs shall share an annual report updating the council's work with the Community College Committee of the Board of Trustees.
7. Council presidents or their designees, member trustees, faculty representatives and student members shall be responsible for reporting to and sharing relevant information with their respective constituent groups (i.e. NYCCAP, NYCCT, local boards of trustees, FCCC, and student government).
8. The councils will focus on communication and collaboration within each region.
9. The community college councils are not substitutes for the local community college boards of trustees and have no legal authority to usurp, supersede or hinder the governance authority bestowed upon community college boards of trustees under New York State Education Law.

E. Coordination of Education and Training Programs

1. When coordinating educational and training offerings or programs, the community colleges located within the region shall ensure that the needs of the residents of their local communities and the host county are met and that these needs remain the community colleges' primary focus.