

Recommendations to CT State Executive Leadership Team

CT State Senate Finance Committee

Friday, May 23, 2025

Committee Members:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Mark Milewski (Chair) | Business Professor, Tunxis |
| 2. Peter Bennett | Director of Career Services, Quinebaug Valley |
| 3. Joseph Cullen | Director of Program Review & Assessment, College Office |
| 4. Asantewa Dawson | Math Professor, Housatonic |
| 5. Luz Londono Diaz | Economics Associate Professor, Manchester |
| 6. Seth Freeman | Business & Technology Professor, Capital |
| 7. Bonnie Goulet | Campus Advising Lead, Naugatuck Valley |
| 8. Mia Samsel | Physics Assistant Professor, Gateway |
| 9. Joe Selvaggio | English Professor, Chair, Arts & Humanities, Three Rivers |
| 10. Thayre Trzepacz | Lab Associate, Asnuntuck |
| 11. Ex-Oficio: Elle Van Dermark | Senate President, History & Poly Sci Professor, Asnuntuck |

We have three recommendations that we hope the CT State executive leadership team will focus on in the upcoming academic year.

1. Revenue Generation Be the Main Focus Rather Than Cost-Cutting
 - a. Recommendations for revenue generation include but are not limited to:
 - i. Hire a Chief Development Officer who is a sales professional charged solely with increasing revenue for CT State
 - ii. Obtain more grants
 - iii. Charge a nominal fee for dual enrollment
 - iv. Offer more non-credit credentials
 - v. Rent facilities to non-CT State stakeholders
 - vi. Increase merchandising
 - vii. Increase unrestricted charitable contributions
 - Consider starting an “Annual Fund” for an endowment
 - viii. Sell naming rights – offer to businesses and organizations local to specific campuses the right for limited-time contracts (maybe 5 or 10 years) to name a building, a room, a seat in an auditorium, an endowed chair, etc. For example:
 - Capital:
 - Aetna Hall
 - Travelers Hall
 - The Hartford Room
 - Gateway
 - The Yale Room
 - Norwalk
 - Xerox, Frontier Communications, Eversource Energy
 - Three Rivers:
 - Electric Boat
 - Tunxis:
 - Raytheon, Otis Elevator, Stanley Black & Decker

2. Campus Budgeting Process be Streamlined

- a. Implemented this year, the new campus budgeting process (with new templates) for submission to CT State was cumbersome. Additionally, maybe some spending categories can be inflation-adjusted. We recommend streamlining the process for next year

3. The Food Restriction Rule at Statewide Gatherings Be Revised

- a. Since this recommendation was ignored in 2024-2025 after repeated requests for an update, we are resubmitting it. Food & Beverage Guidance Letter No 8 currently prohibits food at statewide gatherings unless a speaker is invited. This requirement is a burden and inhibits the organization of beneficial professional development, staff, and faculty meetings. It is understood that there must be some rules around providing food at such meetings, but the current policy is too restrictive. Food is a strong incentive for bringing people together and these meetings build community as well as furthering the goals of CT State and its employees. We recommend that the speaker requirement be eliminated and the food & beverage rules at statewide meetings be revised.