

CTNext Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee

Minutes – Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 27, 2020

A regular meeting of the CTNext Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) was held on February 27, 2020 at CTNext, 865 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

1. **Welcome and Roll Call:**

In the absence of the Chairperson, Radenka Maric, Ms. Thames opened the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

Ms. Thames welcomed the committee members and provided a brief overview of the agenda for this meeting.

Ms. Thames introduced to the committee Mr. David Steuber, Senior Program Manager of CTNext. Mr. Steuber provided the committee with an overview of his background and his new position with CTNext. He thanked the committee members for helping entrepreneurs and “opening a lot of doors” and he is looking forward to be a part of the team.

Ms. Zangari introduced Ms. Jessica McBride, Manager of Communications at UConn, who will be attending meetings going forward.

Committee Members Participating: Elena Cahill; Rebecca DelValle; Chris Hamer; Jeffrey Godley (by phone); Makeala Kingsley; Vince Murphy and Michael Nicastro

Absent: Radenka Maric, Chairperson and Colleen L. Bielitz, Ph.D.

Staff Attending: Jessica Dodge; David Steuber; Glendowlyn Thames; Amy Walsh and Lisa Day

Other Guests: Jessica McBride and Rita Zangari

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Thames asked the Advisory Committee members to consider the minutes from the November 18, 2019 special meeting.

Mr. Murphy made a motion and Ms. Cahill seconded and the Advisory Committee members voted in favor of adopting the minutes from the November 19, 2019, special meeting as presented.

Chris Hamer was not present for the vote.

Rebecca DelValle abstained from the vote.

3. Discussion of Advisory Committee membership, procedures and by-laws:

Ms. Dodge gave an overview of the vacant committee seats as well as the committee procedures. Ms. Dodge provided the advisory committee with a copy of the CTNext Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee by-laws that were voted on at the January 21, 2020 CTNext Board of Directors' meeting. \

A discussion ensued.

4. Future strategy discussion:

Ms. Dodge provided the advisory committee with CTNext core program offerings for the Higher Education Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fund key facts and stats, fiscal year 2018, 2019 and midyear 2020 funding, measures of success and grant themes by funding allocations.

A discussion ensued.

5. Next steps and reflexions:

Based on the discussion ensued by the advisory committee, CTNext will consolidate the comments in a draft strategy revision and it will be distributed to the advisory committee upon completion.

The next scheduled CTNext Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee meeting is on May 12, 2020.

6. Adjournment:

Upon a motion made by Mr. Nicastro and seconded by Ms. Cahill, the Advisory Committee voted unanimously in favor of adjourning the February 27, 2020 meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glendowlyn Thames, Acting Chairperson