

Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#2000-22



RESOLUTION

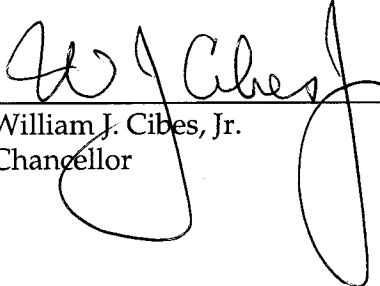
concerning

THE USE OF DESIGNATED FUND BALANCES TO FUND  
THE INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL TURF AT ARUTE FIELD  
AT  
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

April 6, 2000

- WHEREAS, It has been determined that artificial turf should be installed at Arute Field at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), and
- WHEREAS, The installation of artificial turf will increase the existing project and therefore requires additional funding, and
- WHEREAS, Intercollegiate athletics can play an important role in the visibility, vitality, and viability of an academic institution, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That CCSU is authorized to use up to \$1,172,534 from their Plant Reserve Fund for the installation of artificial turf at Arute Field at CCSU.

A Certified True Copy:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 William J. Cibes, Jr.  
 Chancellor

**ITEM**

The use of designated fund balances to fund the installation of artificial turf at Arute Field at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU).

**BACKGROUND**

In March 1995, CCSU entered into a Title IX Compliance Agreement with the Federal Office of Civil Rights (OCR) to reach substantial male to female proportionality in CCSU intercollegiate athletic programs by the year 2000. In the Spring of 1998, CCSU requested the Board of Trustees to authorize spending \$2.7 million from operating funds to upgrade their athletic facilities, primarily for the purpose of complying with these Title IX requirements. In the spring of 1999, CCSU again requested the Board of Trustees to authorize the additional spending of \$1.6 million to complete the Arute Field project. The various projects then proposed as part of that authorization included a new softball field for women, the reconstruction of the soccer field, site improvements to the football field, improvements to the existing baseball field, and a service building containing bathroom facilities so that players at practice or in intercollegiate games would have cover and privacy for half-time breaks. Now, due to the lack of available fields at CCSU, they are requesting the installation of artificial turf, which will allow them to support more than one sport on Arute Field.

**ANALYSIS**

To continue to be competitive in the recruitment process, not just for football but for women's field sports, CCSU believes that it should install artificial turf over the existing natural grass field at Arute Field. Scheduling the usage of playfields for athletic events has become an impossible task. In many instances, games and practices are played on the same natural grass field with little opportunity for field rotation. If the field becomes unusable during continuous play, athletic games are cancelled. It is anticipated that the artificial turf field will be primarily used by Women's Lacrosse and Football.

Phases I and II of the Athletic Field Improvements project are budgeted for \$4,300,000. The installation of a new artificial surface is estimated to cost approximately \$1,172,534. This cost includes the design consultant fees and the installation of new turf, bringing the total project cost to \$5,472,534.

The designation of unrestricted fund balances for specific projects at a university is authorized by Board policy. Expenditure of these funds requires Board approval. Of particular note is that CCSU's undesignated fund balance meets the requirements of the Board's fund balance guidelines.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

To approve the utilization of up to \$1,172,534 in designated fund balances to fund the installation of artificial turf at Arute Field at Central Connecticut State University.