



RESOLUTION

revising

THE MISSION STATEMENT
of

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

November 2, 2000

WHEREAS, Section 10a-89 of the Connecticut General Statutes requires the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System to develop the Mission Statements of the University System, and

WHEREAS, The existing Mission Statement of Central Connecticut State University System was adopted by the Board of Trustees in its Resolution No. 99-2 on February 5, 1999, and

WHEREAS, The Department of Higher Education has indicated that missions statements for the CSU System should more clearly articulate that offering applied doctoral degrees is part of this mission, if the CSU universities intend to seek the authority to offer Ed.D. degrees, and

WHEREAS, A proposal for an Ed.D. program at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) was approved by the Board July 14, 2000, and

WHEREAS, The System Mission was revised by Board action on October 5, 2000 to create the following language which prescribes the array of doctoral degrees that are appropriate within the CSU System for its constituent universities:

A CSU education leads to baccalaureate, graduate and professional degrees, including applied doctoral degree programs consistent with its historical missions of teacher education and career advancement.

WHEREAS, Central Connecticut has come forward with a revision to its mission which is congruent with and limited by the October 5, 2000 revision in the System Mission, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System hereby repeals Board Resolution No. 99-2 pertaining to Central Connecticut State University, and adopts the attached revised Mission Statement for CCSU, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That pursuant to Section 10a-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System is directed to submit the revised Mission Statement of the Central Connecticut State University to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for its review and appropriate action.

A Certified True Copy:


Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

Central Connecticut State University is a community of learners dedicated to teaching and to scholarship. We encourage the development and application of knowledge and ideas through research and outreach activities. We prepare students to be thoughtful, responsible and successful citizens.

Fulfilling the Mission

Central Connecticut State University is, above all else, about teaching students at the baccalaureate, master and doctoral levels consistent with our historical mission. Our research endeavors improve us as teachers and expose our students to methods of inquiry. The public service expected of all members of our community benefits our society—local and global—and builds our sense of citizenship.

We value the development of knowledge and its application in an environment of intellectual integrity and open discourse. We expect that members of the university will engage in activities ranging from basic research and the creation of original works, to helping individuals and organizations achieve success in purely practical endeavors. All these activities enrich our community of learners.

As a public university, we receive support from the state of Connecticut. We have two designated Centers of Excellence and many nationally accredited programs. We take very seriously our commitment to provide access to higher education for all citizens in this State who can benefit from our offerings. Our high expectations for ourselves contribute to the fine quality and continuous improvement of our undergraduate and graduate programs. We believe that quality and access are compatible and simultaneously achievable; our objective is to provide the support needed for our students to reach their full potential.

We also believe that higher education should promote the personal and social growth of our students, as well as their intellectual achievement and professional competence. We provide various opportunities for students to engage in activities or to join organizations and clubs where they develop leadership and other social skills. We foster a welcoming environment in which all members of our diverse community receive encouragement, feel safe, and acquire self-confidence.

Vision Statement

Central Connecticut State University aspires to:

- be the premier public comprehensive university in Connecticut, with teaching as its primary focus, enhanced by the dynamic scholarship of its faculty;
- be highly regarded by its many constituents;
- be a significant resource contributing to the cultural and economic development of Connecticut;
- be global in its perspective and outreach; and
- be widely respected as a university dedicated to innovative, activity-based, life-long, and learner-centered higher education.

ITEM

Revisions to Mission Statement for the Central Connecticut State University

BACKGROUND

The statutes charge the Board of Trustees, in part, to develop the mission statements for the Connecticut State University System. (CGS Sect. 10a-89) Pursuant to this authority, the Board adopted a mission statement in 1984, amended it in 1986, and completed two substantial revisions, the first in 1992 and the second in December 1997.

As part of the strategic planning effort undertaken by the system in 1996, each of the CSU universities developed its own individual mission statement defining the universities by their distinguishing characteristics. These mission statements were completed and approved for Eastern, Southern and Western in late Fall 1998 and for Central in February 1999.

In 1998 CSU also launched its first online initiative offering ten courses over the Internet. At the same time the CSU universities were exploring and have now implemented several synchronous and asynchronous alternative methods of course delivery using new technologies. The CSU System mission statement was approved by the Board in 1997 and since it had not been formally accepted by the Board of Governors for Higher Education was revised in February 1999 in the following manner:

- The phrase "technologically accessible" was added to emphasize that courses offered by CSU are made available to learners in a variety of ways including the Internet and other new technologies.
- The CSU system mission was clarified by stating that it is realized through the "focused mission of its universities" and a summary of these missions was incorporated as part of the system mission statement.

The revised System and University mission statements were submitted to the Board of Governors for Higher Education in February 1999.

ANALYSIS

In July 2000, the Board approved a proposal put forth by Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) to offer a doctorate in education (Ed.D.) and a similar proposal by Southern Connecticut State University is awaiting Board Action. The Board's action reflected its view that the Ed.D. is a logical extension of CSU's historical focus on teacher preparation.

Following consultation with the universities, the System mission statement has been revised to indicate that the graduate and professional degrees offered in the CSU system may include: ". . . applied doctoral degree programs consistent with the historical missions of teacher education" and career advancement. A mission revision from CCSU has come forward which is congruent with and limited by the aforementioned System revision. Board of Governors approval of these mission revisions will provide clearer authority for the CSU System to grant such doctoral degrees.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the revised Central Connecticut State University System Mission Statement.