



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#02-26



RESOLUTION

establishing

THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY INSTITUTE FOR
MEDIA EDUCATION

at

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

May 3, 2002

- WHEREAS, Central Connecticut State University recognizes the importance of the uses of the media symbols that dominate our cultural landscape, and
- WHEREAS, The proposed Connecticut River Valley Institute for Media Education will provide comprehensive training and support in media literacy for K-12 teachers and community-based educators, develop materials that may integrate media literacy into existing curricula, and demonstrate Central's continued leadership in teacher preparation, and
- WHEREAS, A permanent Institute could establish Central Connecticut State University as a leader in our region and compete in providing instruction and/or summer institutes in media literacy, and
- WHEREAS, The objectives and strategies of the Institute support the major goals for Central Connecticut State University, and
- WHEREAS, The Institute will have sufficient staffing, physical space and budgetary support to carry out its objectives, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System hereby authorizes the establishment of the Connecticut River Valley Institute for Media Education at Central Connecticut State University, and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Institute may seek and receive contracts and grants from public and private organizations and may charge fees for services related to the purposes stated above provided that all applicable state and University regulations are observed, and be it further

ITEM

Establishment of the Connecticut River Valley Institute for Media Education at Central Connecticut State University

BACKGROUND

A pilot institute in media literacy was established by CCSU faculty from the Communications and Teacher Education departments. A partnership with DiLoretto elementary school allowed faculty to work with school teachers in theoretical and practical skills, emphasize the development of a curriculum in media literacy and integrate media literacy into the existing curriculum. The evaluation of this program was unanimously positive and strongly recommended the need for further and regular instruction in media literacy.

ANALYSIS

The proposal describes three major objectives for the Institute: education and outreach, development of curricular materials and support for scholars and educators. Under this rubric, the Institute will undertake three activities: a summer institute, on-site training and the establishment of a speakers' bureau. This bureau could be the key piece of information dissemination and education in the public sector and the community. Key objectives described in the proposal are germane to the purpose of the Institute and the mission and goals of the Center and the University.

With a two-year grant to cover start-up costs, the Institute will provide a focus for teachers and community-based educators for training in media education and in integrating the media into the school curriculum. Summer institutes affiliated with a permanent institute will make CCSU competitive with Babson and Wheelock Colleges, the only other institutions in the region offering such instruction. A permanent institute will further enhance CCSU's academic reputation, with faculty and scholars in media literacy available to provide background on media-related issues. This Institute could become a vital resource and increase regional visibility for the Institute and the university.

In accordance with Board policy the proposal provides for programmatic justification as well as appropriate staff, physical space and fiscal support by the university to supplement external grants and contracts after the conclusion of the grant period. The proposal also provides for assessment and evaluation of the institute on a regular basis, with the provision of a sunset date in five years, unless the president of the university recommends its continuation. An advisory board, with members approved by the university president, will be established at a later date.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the establishment of the Connecticut River Valley Institute for Media Education at Central Connecticut State University with a sunset date of December 31, 2007, if the Institute is not recommended for continuation.