



Connecticut State University System

*Developing a State of Minds*

BR#02-32



RESOLUTION  
concerning a  
MODIFICATION

for a

SPECIALIZATION FOR STUDENTS WITH CERTIFICATION IN  
OTHER AREAS OF EDUCATION IN THE  
THE MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM IN SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

at

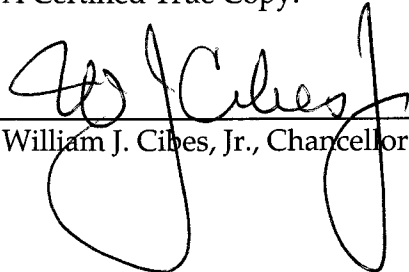
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

June 14, 2002

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System approves Central Connecticut State University's proposal to offer a specialization for students with certification in other areas of Education in the Master of Science Degree program in Special Education, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the president of Central Connecticut State University provide appropriate documentation to the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

A Certified True Copy:

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

**ITEM**

Modification of the Master of Science degree program in Special Education to include a specialization for students with certification in other areas of Education at Central Connecticut State University

**BACKGROUND**

This program is being modified in response to changes in the regulations for teacher certification in Special Education promulgated by the State Department of Education six years ago. The current stand-alone certificate for Special Education teachers will not exist after June 30, 2003. The faculty will discontinue the undergraduate program in special education and focus on a graduate level specialization in special education for teachers who are already certified.

**ANALYSIS**

The modified program contains two tracks or strands, allowing for both coursework for teachers wishing to gain knowledge about students with special needs and for teachers seeking a cross-endorsement in special education to accompany their elementary or secondary specialty certification. This change will benefit all students currently in the program as well as new students who will be entering in fall 2002. Further, program requirements will be in compliance with the new SDE regulations for special education certification. The change will not affect NCATE accreditation.

All undergraduate courses have been upgraded for the graduate specialization. Learning outcomes are aligned with the content standards of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Faculty are appropriately certified special education teachers; teaching loads will be shifted from the undergraduate to the graduate courses and no new faculty will be required. All currently enrolled students are expected to complete their degree requirements by the end of the spring 2003 semester. An enrollment increase of 25 students per year is planned. Current library holdings and physical space will support the new program configuration; fiscal support provided to the current program will continue.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the proposal from Central Connecticut State University to modify the Master of Science degree program in Special Education to include a specialization for students with certification in other areas of Education.