



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#04-46

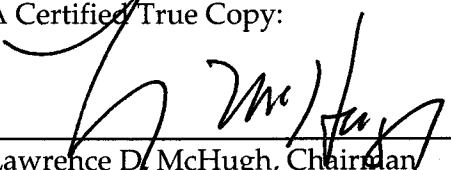


RESOLUTION  
 concerning  
 LICENSURE AND ACCREDITATION  
 of a program in  
 BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES  
 leading to a  
 BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE  
 at  
 CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY  
 July 23, 2004

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System approves Central Connecticut State University's proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science degree program in Biomolecular Sciences, and be it further

RESOLVED, That under the authority granted to the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University System in Chapter 185b, Section 10a-87 and 10a-149 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System is authorized to seek licensure and accreditation for this program from the Connecticut Board of Governors for Higher Education.

A Certified True Copy:




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Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman

**ITEM**

Licensure and Accreditation of a Bachelor of Science degree program, a Minor and a Master of Arts degree program (modification) in Biomolecular Sciences at Central Connecticut State University.

**BACKGROUND**

Bioscience-based industries represent an important and growing sector of Connecticut's economy. Advances in molecular biology have a profound impact on all aspects of our lives; and the ties of everyday life to this field has expanded from the medical, agricultural and life sciences to law enforcement, computer science and public policy. In May, 2004, the President of Central Connecticut State University, with advisement from the Faculty Senate, created a new Department of Biomolecular Sciences in the School of Technology to facilitate the development of new programs and strengthen existing offerings to better serve the needs of the university's students and the State's economy.

**ANALYSIS**

These programs together represent an integrated academic program ladder in an area of projected workforce need and growth potential for the State. Central will provide the opportunity to complete a baccalaureate degree, attach a minor to other fields of study and/or pursue graduate-level offerings in the same program. Articulation will be developed with designated community college programs to ease transfer and strengthen the College of Technology Pathway. Each of the three proposals is well developed and all are interrelated and aligned with current programs for maximum resource efficiency. CCSU's Biotechnology Institute, established by the Board in 2003, will support teaching, research and professional development initiatives. Institute board members, many of whom are CCSU Alumni working in the industry, also will provide advisement to the faculty regarding curricular and research needs.

The Bachelors degree program contains a 'General Concentration' to prepare students for training in medicine or for graduate study in such fields as genetics or molecular biology. There is also a 'Biotechnology Concentration' designed to prepare students for careers that use the techniques of cellular and molecular biology. The program integrates an internship and capstone course and uses a student portfolio as a means of assessment, requiring at least five interviews with faculty to review progress.

The Minor is designed for students who wish to learn techniques and principles of cell and molecular biology to complement their program. Like the degree programs, the minor contains an independent research course and capstone course for assessment and evaluation.

The Master of Arts program is a modification from the current specialization in Molecular and Cell Biology in the Master of Arts program in Biological Sciences that was approved in 2002. Based on assessment and evaluation of the specialization and the rapid increase in the number of declared majors, a fully supported degree program would better serve student and workforce needs.

At the present time, faculty, facilities, laboratories, classrooms, and equipment currently utilized by the existing programs will effectively serve the needs of the two degree programs and minor. Library holdings are also adequate to meet program needs. As the program grows, additional resources may be required.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the proposals from Central Connecticut State University to offer a Bachelor of Science degree program, a Minor and a Master of Arts degree program in Biomolecular Sciences.