SCR#74-66



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE STATE COLLEGES 1280 Asylum Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06105

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RESOLUTION

concerning

the

Processing of Personnel Decisions

September 16, 1974

- WHEREAS, The General Statutes of Connecticut Chapter 164, Title 10, Sections 10-109b, 10-110, 10-113, 10-114, 10-115, and Chapter 178, Title 10, Sections 10-326 and 10-329a assigns the responsibility and the authority, subject to certain reviews and controls by the Commission for Higher Education, to the Board of Trustees for determining which positions in the Executive Staff and at each of the Connecticut State Colleges are in the unclassified service, for determining the salaries of persons employed in such positions, and for the hiring, promoting and granting of tenure to such persons subject to the limitations imposed by legislative appropriations and to the number of positions approved for the Executive Staff and State Colleges by legislative actions; and
- WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Finance and Control and the Commissioner of Personnel and Administration cite the Governor's Executive Order Number Nine, issued in February, 1972, as a directive requiring them to review and approve personnel decisions made by the Board; and
- WHEREAS, The Trustees believe that Executive Order Number Nine was not intended to abrogate their responsibilities as defined by law and, indeed, cannot abrogate the legal authority of the Board; and
- WHEREAS, The Trustees in letters dated July 18, 1974 and August 2, 1974 and signed by the Board's Chairman have asked the Governor to remove from them restrictions resulting from the misinterpretation and misapplication of the Executive Order; the Executive Secretary has met with the Executive Aide to the Governor, who is also the Governor's Legal Counsel, to explain the Board's position and its method of establishing management controls; and, at the direction of the Board, the Executive Secretary has written to the Governor on September 9, 1974, requesting a response to the earlier letters; and
- WHEREAS, In all its communications the Board has said that it will consult with the Commissioner of Finance and Control concerning problems resulting from revenues that are inadequate to meet expenses and,

if necessary, will reduce expenditures below the appropriated levels; that it will consult with the Commissioner of Personnel and Administration concerning the personnel policies and practices of the Board; and that it will strengthen its centralized review for the State Colleges to insure that expenditures do not exceed the levels imposed by the Board and to insure that the Trustees' policies in regard to personnel are carried out; and

- WHEREAS, There has been no response to the letters written by the Board's Chairman and by the Executive Secretary; and
- WHEREAS, The efficient and effective functioning of the Colleges has been hampered by the refusal of the Commissioners to approve certain of the Board's decisions concerning personnel; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board reaffirms its willingness to reassess expenditures at such a time as the Governor informs the Board of Trustees and all other State agencies that reductions are necessary because revenues are inadequate to support the budget at the appropriated level; its willingness to discuss with the Commissioners its policies and controls relating to personnel management; and its decision to strengthen its centralized review to insure that its policies are carried out; and be it
- RESOLVED, That the Executive Secretary and the Presidents are hereby directed to strengthen the centralized review of financial and personnel matters; and be it
- RESOLVED, That, since decisions concerning unclassified personnel made within budgeted appropriations are the legal and moral responsibility of this Board, final decisions henceforth shall and must be made by the Board without submission for review or approval to any separate State agency of finance or personnel.

A Certified True Copy:

James A. Frost Executive Secretary

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE STATE COLLEGES 1280 ASYLUM AVENUE HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105

September 17, 1974

The Honorable Thomas J. Meskill Governor of Connecticut Executive Chambers State Capitol Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Governor Meskill:

At their meeting on September 16, 1974, the Trustees for the Connecticut State Colleges passed Resolution Number SCR 74-66, a copy of which is enclosed. The Trustees have directed me to send a copy of this Resolution to you. They have also asked me to remind you that in Mrs. Niejadlik's letter of July 18 they expressed a willingness to consult with the Commissioners concerning certain Board policies and practices. Members of the Board's Executive Staff are ready for such consultation. It is hoped that discussions can be arranged.

Yours very truly, James A. Frost Executive Secretary

JAF/eh enc.

cc: Commissioner Carlson Leuc: Commissioner Simpson Mr. Leuba Mr. Goodrich

> 4 College Pres. 12 Board members