



## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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## RESOLUTION

## CONCERNING

MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE  
IN  
OCEANOGRAPHY AND LIMNOLOGY  
AT  
WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

July 16, 1976

RESOLVED, Under the authority granted the Board of Trustees in Chapter 164, Section 109 and 10-326 of the General Statutes, Western Connecticut State College is hereby authorized to implement and seek licensure for a program leading to a Master of Arts degree in Oceanography and Limnology effective September 1976, or as soon thereafter as is feasible, subject to licensure approval by the Commission for Higher Education.

A Certified True Copy:

  
James A. Frost  
Executive Director



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE  
181 WHITE STREET • DANBURY CONNECTICUT 06810



TEL. 792-1400

May 28, 1976

Dr. Robert M. Bersi, President  
Western Connecticut State College  
181 White Street  
Danbury, Connecticut 06810

Dear Dr. Bersi:

We herewith transmit the report of our evaluation of your proposed M.A. degree program in Oceanography and Limnology.

We have had the opportunity to discuss the details of the program with the faculty and administration who are concerned with initiating the program, and we have received excellent cooperation and strong assurance that our recommendations will be followed.

Sincerely yours,

*Joe Webb Peoples*

Joe Webb Peoples, Ph.D.  
George I. Seney, Professor  
of Geology, Emeritus  
Wesleyan University

*John J. Donohue*

John J. Donohue, Ph.D.  
Professor of Physical Sciences  
Director, Kettering Science Center  
Bennett College  
Millbrook, New York

*F. K. Szucs*

F. K. Szucs, Sc.D., Ph.D.  
Professor of Geochemistry  
Slippery Rock State College  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Lake Erie Marine Science Center  
Pennsylvania

1. We have examined, analyzed, and evaluated the validity of the proposal for a Master of Arts degree program in Oceanography and Limnology at Western Connecticut State College and have met with appropriate faculty, senior administrators, and students to review it. We are, therefore, pleased to submit the following report.

2. A careful analysis of local and regional situations in the State of Connecticut leads us to believe that there exists an immediate need for an integrated, applied graduate program in Oceanography and Limnology, tailored towards studying the lacustrine and coastal, shallow water marine environments; areas that most strongly feel the pressures of expanding domestic, recreational, and industrial activities. The immediate area of Danbury, as well as the whole western part of Connecticut, is undergoing a rapid development that involves heavy use of water resources in both the terrestrial and marine environments. Lake Candlewood and other smaller lakes have not been adequately studied in terms of their hydrological regime and water quality. In addition, these inland water bodies are being subjected to increasing use as resources, as well as receiving wastes from plating and metallurgical industries. The movement of these waters to Long Island Sound has an impact on the coastal marine environment. The proposal for the M.A. degree in Oceanography and Limnology deals with the problems previously described.

3. The activation of this proposal with its provisions for educational opportunities is bound to improve the understanding of environmental resources in the region served by

Western Connecticut State College.

4. The Western Connecticut State College physical facilities and basic library resources, along with the indicated resources of the cooperating institutions (Southern Connecticut State College, Candlewood Lake Authority, Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, and Salisbury State College) are adequate to support the initiation of this program.

5. The full time and adjunct faculty of the Department of Earth, Space, and Environmental Sciences has indicated strong mutual agreement that the concept and educational goals of the program would be best accomplished according to the Oceanography and Limnology curriculum proposal submitted. Furthermore, there is ample evidence of administrative support for initiating and pursuing this program. Faculty personnel now on the college staff is currently involved with the presentation of formal courses that are expected to be part of the proposed curriculum. It is our opinion that the Western Connecticut State College faculty designated to participate in the proposed program is highly qualified for initiating the development of the program curriculum.

6. It is apparent that greater strength of staff in the following fields is needed: Hydrology-Sedimentology, Geochemistry, and Aquatic Biology.

7. The Committee recognizes the necessity for, and strongly supports, the intent of the proposed program to examine carefully the undergraduate background of entering students, particularly in the mathematical and appropriate

basic sciences, and to require the student, when necessary, to strengthen his or her background.

8. Further, we recommend the creation of an on-going Visiting Committee to evaluate the development and progress of the new program on a regular basis through a transition period of at least three (3) years.

9. In summary, we recommend that the program be approved for initiation at the earliest time.

Joe Webb Peoples, Ph.D.  
George I. Seney, Professor  
of Geology, Emeritus  
Wesleyan University

John J. Donohue, Ph.D.  
Professor of Physical Sciences  
Director, Kettering Science Center  
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May 28, 1976

## APPENDIX

### PHYSICAL RESOURCES IN ADDITION TO THOSE PRESENTED IN ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

At the request of the Committee, the following list of existing facilities, to be used in support of this program, was made. This amends those already shown in the original proposal.

- I. Microscopes:
  - a. Binocular
    - Campus-----12
    - Maryland Station-----30
  - b. Electron (scanning)
    - Maryland Station----- 1
  - c. Petrographic,
    - Campus----- 9
  - d. Phase Contrast
    - Campus----- 1
  
- II. Computer Facilities
  - a. P.D.P. 8 Computer
    - Campus, terminal in  
Earth Science Dept. 1
  - b. Burroughs #1700
    - Campus----- 1
  
- III. Ocean-going Boat: 47 feet  
Ketch-rig motor-sailer  
Twin diesel engine 130 hp (total)  
Equipment
  - a. Piston corer
  - b. Power winch
  - c. Shipek sampler
  - d. Biological dredge
  - e. Plankton nets
  - f. Beckman in-situ induction salinometer
  - g. Floating pH meter
  - h. Transmissometer
  - i. Van Dorn Sampling Bottles
  - j. Secchi discs
  - k. Loran A & C navigation
  - l. Depth recorder
  - m. Depth sounder
  - n. Bathythermograph
  - o. Nansen bottles
  - p. Oxygen meters
  - q. Underwater cameras
  - r. Y.S.I. salinometer
  - s. Sextants