



RESOLUTION

concerning

OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAM APPROVAL

FOR

ONLINE DELIVERY OF MASTER IN LIBRARY SCIENCE DEGREE

BY

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

October 7, 1999

WHEREAS, Southern Connecticut State University currently offers the degree Master of Library Science (MLS) degree at its New Haven campus under license and accreditation by the Department of Higher Education as well as the accreditation of the American Library Association and within SCSU's accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees authorized the funding and delivery of online instruction under the coordination of the System Office via *OnlineCSU* in May 1998 as formalized in BR 98-55, BR 99-1 and BR 99-14, and

WHEREAS, The offering of the Master of Library Science degree online is an alternative method of delivery only and not an alteration in content, and

WHEREAS, The Department of Higher Education has determined the provisions of the off-campus approval process of the Board of Governors for Higher Education to be applicable in this instance, now be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University approves Southern Connecticut State University's application to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for the approval of delivery of SCSU's MLS by *OnlineCSU* as an off-campus program.

A Certified True Copy:

William J. Cibes, Jr.
Chancellor

ITEM

Online Delivery of Master of Library Science Degree by Southern Connecticut State University

BACKGROUND

Southern Connecticut State University proposes to offer its graduate degree in Library Science (MLS) entirely by the Internet through *OnlineCSU*. Approval for this delivery is sought under the provisions for approval of off-campus programs of the Board of Governors for the Department of Higher Education (DHE) as advised by DHE. SCSU offers the MLS under license and accreditation of DHE and the accreditation of the American Library Association and will offer the identical content in its online version of the MLS. The CSU Board of Trustees authorized the funding and delivery of online instruction under the coordination of the System Office by *OnlineCSU* in May 1998 which has been formalized in subsequent Board Resolutions.

ANALYSIS

In actuality, SCSU's proposal to extend its MLS through online delivery is an alteration in instructional method only and is not analogous to off-campus delivery although DHE is using this process to examine the initial online proposals coming to its attention. SCSU intends its online MLS to offer the identical roster of courses by its regular faculty and to support students in similar ways to the support provided to students on campus. The faculty providing the MLS are committed strongly to the extension of the MLS online. Utilization of delivery by *OnlineCSU* will assure consistency in the quality of instructional and support services provided to students.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve SCSU's application for DHE approval of online delivery of the MLS through *OnlineCSU* as an off-campus program.