



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#2000-47



RESOLUTION

revising

POLICIES AND PRODECURES
FOR THE GRANTING OF HONORARY DOCTORATES
in the
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

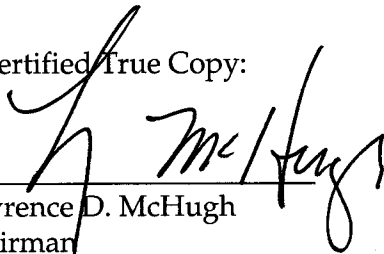
May 5, 2000

WHEREAS, Current policies and procedures for the granting of honorary doctorates within the Connecticut State University System have been reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees and recommendations or changes have been formulated therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Board of Trustees resolution # 98-28 is hereby repealed, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the attached document, entitled "Policies and Procedures for Granting Honorary Doctorates in the Connecticut State University System," is hereby adopted.

A Certified True Copy:



Lawrence D. McHugh
Chairman

Policies and Procedures for the Granting of Honorary Doctoral Degrees
in the Connecticut State University

May 5, 2000

The granting of honorary doctoral degrees to individuals of distinguished merit is a common practice at the Connecticut State University System. The purpose of granting honorary doctoral degrees is to honor a person and to advance the work and reputation of the Connecticut State University System.

No person during his or her term as a member of the Board of Trustees and no person during his or her employment by the Connecticut State University System shall be granted an honorary degree. No Connecticut resident holding elective office from a Connecticut constituency and no Connecticut resident holding appointive office in the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of state government shall be considered for an honorary degree during the term of his/her election or appointment and for one year, thereafter.

Honorary degrees shall be granted only when circumstances warrant such action. It is possible that in some years no honorary degree will be awarded.

Identification of potential recipients of honorary doctoral degrees will be made under the supervision of the university president. The president shall be responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of the name of the potential recipient until the process has been concluded and the prospective recipient has agreed to accept the honorary degree.

The university president himself/herself shall forward to the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System the name of a potential recipient with an explanation as to why the individual merits the honor, a thorough discussion of the potential recipient's background and an assessment of the benefits and possible criticism or controversy which may result from the potential recipient's being granted an honorary doctorate.

The Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System after consultation with the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, and in concurrence with the recommendation, shall authorize the university president to approach the potential recipient regarding his/her interest and availability.

Upon receipt of such authorization by the Chancellor, the university president will ask the prospective recipient to communicate privately in writing his or her

commitment to accept the honorary degree at a specific place, at a specific time, and at a specific ceremony, and, if requested, the commitment to deliver an address.

When a prospective honorary degree recipient confirms in writing his or her commitment to accept the offered degree at the specified time, place, and ceremony, and if requested, his or her commitment to deliver an address, the nomination will be presented to the Academic Affairs Committee and, if it is approved, to the full Board of Trustees for confirmation.

All honorary degrees will be conferred by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees or by a Trustee designated by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. Following is the wording to be used when conferring the honorary degree: *"BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME, THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CONCURRING, I CONFER UPON YOU THE DEGREE, DOCTOR OF _____ HONORIS CAUSA, AND INVEST YOU WITH ALL THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES PERTAINING THEREUNTO. IN TOKEN THEREOF I HAND TO YOU THE DIPLOMA AND DIRECT THAT YOU BE VESTED WITH THE HOOD APPROPRIATE TO YOUR DEGREE."*

The format of the diploma presented to the recipients of honorary degrees shall be approved by the Trustees. The hood to be worn by the recipients of honorary degrees shall be a design approved by the Trustees.

ITEM

Revising the policies and procedures establishing and governing the granting of honorary doctorate degrees by CSU Universities.

BACKGROUND

Current policies and procedures for the granting of honorary doctorates within the Connecticut State University were adopted May 8, 1998. The Academic Affairs Committee has requested an examination of the policies and procedures toward the end of streamlining the process and the Committee's involvement therein while protecting the confidentiality and integrity of the selection and notification processes.

ANALYSIS

Current procedures require that the names of potential nominees for the honorary doctorate come to the Academic Affairs Committee prior to Presidential contact with the nominee. Once initial approval has been given and the nominee has agreed to accept the honorary degree, the Committee then makes its recommendation to the Board to grant the degree. This normally occurs over a 2 or 3 month period.

The suggested revisions reflect a simplification allowing Presidential contact following the Chancellor's concurrence. Once acceptance by the nominee is assured by Presidential contact, the recommendation then would be reviewed by the Committee prior to consideration by the full Board as is the case with other titles and awards.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve revisions to the Policies and Procedures for the Granting of Honorary Doctoral Degrees at Connecticut State University.