



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#2000-71



RESOLUTION

establishing

THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND PRACTICAL
POLITICS

at

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

and

designating it

as a

CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF
EXCELLENCE

July 14, 2000

WHEREAS, The Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics will incorporate innovative and excellent academic, research, teaching and public service programs which will gain regional and national prominence, and

WHEREAS, The Center will establish archives that will serve as a repository for the papers of Connecticut's former governors, principal legislators and general Assembly Committees that have made important contributions to state and national policy, and

WHEREAS, The archiving shall be performed by a professional archivist in conjunction with the Connecticut State Library, and

WHEREAS, As an aspect of its archives, the Center will engage in an active program of Oral History, recording from state leaders the many experiences, individual perceptions and personal motivations that often do not reach the written record of their official activities, and

WHEREAS, Archival collections are used by students and scholars to conduct historical research leading to the writing of books, articles, term papers and dissertations, and also serve as a major conduit through which learning and public service are furthered, and

WHEREAS, The Center will coordinate and direct the annual Critical Issues Symposium that CCSU sponsors for state legislators and executive branch commissioners, agency heads and policy-makers, to identify, analyze and develop solutions for the major issue the General Assembly is likely to face in its forthcoming session, and

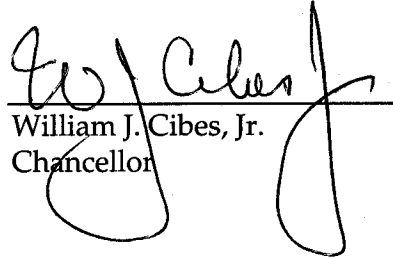
- WHEREAS, To assure the full utilization of knowledge generated at the Center, an outreach program of informational and training assistance will be offered to Connecticut towns and non-profit organizations, with student internships and faculty expertise and services actively incorporated into the services rendered, and
- WHEREAS, Students, faculty and administrators will provide instruction on a wide variety of topics including but not limited to waste management, the environment, taxation, personnel practices, public safety, social welfare, education reform and public health, and
- WHEREAS, This program is predicated on the conviction that public service is the core of good citizenship, civic responsibility and community life, and
- WHEREAS, The Center will offer a Connecticut Curriculum consisting of a cluster of courses, each of which draws on the Connecticut experience, to provide an in-depth understanding of the economic, social, cultural or political environments respectively, in which our students will live and work following graduation, and
- WHEREAS, With a deeper and broader understanding of Connecticut, CCSU graduates will be inclined to approach community involvement with a far greater degree of enthusiasm and confidence, and
- WHEREAS, Section 10a-25h(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System is "hereby authorized to establish and administer" centers to be known as Connecticut higher education centers of excellence, and
- WHEREAS, The educational, research and public service programs of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics, as described above, meet the criteria necessary establish it as a center of excellence, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System hereby authorizes the establishment of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics at Central Connecticut State University, and so designates the aforementioned Center as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence, and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics may seek and receive contracts and grants from public and private organizations and may charge fees for services related to the purposes stated above provided that all applicable state and University regulations are observed, and be it further

RESOLVED, That all funds received by the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics shall be deposited in the Operating Fund at Central Connecticut State University in accounts established for this Center. Such funds shall be used for the purposes of this Center and appropriate University support functions rendered to the Center, and be it

RESOLVED, That the President of Central Connecticut State University is directed to periodically evaluate the functioning of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics in terms of its effectiveness, and shall no later than September 1, 2005 report the results of the evaluation with a recommendation to the Chancellor of the CSU System who in turn shall share this information with the Board of Trustees, and be it

RESOLVED, That the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics shall go out of existence on December 31, 2005, unless action to the contrary is taken by the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System.

A Certified True Copy:



William J. Cibes, Jr.
Chancellor

ITEM

Establishment of The Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics at Central Connecticut State University

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Board policy and precedent, the request by a university for the establishment of centers, institutes or special programs must be accompanied by programmatic and budgetary justifications with provision for a sunset date of five years unless the president of the university recommends its continuation.

Designation of a center, institute or special program as a "Connecticut higher education center of excellence" must adhere to the requirements of Section 10a-25h of the Connecticut General Statutes which provides that boards of trustees of the constituent units of the state system of higher education are authorized to establish and administer such centers.

ANALYSIS

The President of Central Connecticut State University has requested the establishment of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics and its designation as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence. The Center is predicated on the conviction that public service is the core of good citizenship, civic responsibility and community life, and will incorporate innovative and excellent academic, research, teaching and public service programs which will gain regional and national prominence. The Center will coordinate and direct the annual Critical Issues Symposium that CCSU sponsors for state legislators and executive branch commissioners, agency heads and policy-makers. Faculty and administrators will provide instruction on a wide variety of topics including but not limited to waste management, the environment, taxation, personnel practices, public safety, social welfare, education reform and public health.

CCSU has provided the required programmatic and budgetary justifications for the establishment of the Center, and it seems clear that the educational, research and public service programs of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics, as described above, meet the criteria necessary establish it as a center of excellence in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 10a-25h(b),

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the establishment of the Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics with a sunset date of December 31, 2005, if the Center is not recommended for continuation, and its designation as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence.



CENTRAL
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

1615 Stanley Street P.O. Box 4010 New Britain, CT 06050 - 4010 www.ccsu.edu



Honoring Our History
Celebrating Our Future

Center For Public Policy and Practical Politics The William A. O'Neill Endowed Chair

The Center for Public Policy and Practical Politics at Central Connecticut State University will be a dynamic research, teaching and community outreach organization to improve the quality of public policy in Connecticut. The goals of the Center's programs are: to teach about public affairs; to promote a greater understanding of Connecticut history, contemporary politics and the important role of our state's contribution to the national policy; and to encourage active participation in our local and state affairs through thoughtful citizenship and full or part-time public service. The programs are based on a commitment to serving individuals and institutions in Connecticut and a willingness to undertake creative projects to achieve our common educational goals.

Each of the components of the Center has a unique educational mission:

- **The William A. O'Neill Endowed Chair**

The Center will house an Endowed Chair in Public Policy and Practical Politics to honor Governor William A. O'Neill, one of Connecticut's longest-serving governors (1980-1991). Governor O'Neill, an **Honorary Professor** in the Political Science Department at CCSU, and a former CCSU student himself, is actively engaging students at special lectures and discussion groups to explore various aspects of the policy developments in which he participated. The Governor's personal experiences in politics bring an academic dimension to the classroom that cannot be found in textbooks.

Prominent state, local and federal leaders from Connecticut will later be invited to occupy the O'Neill Chair on a durational basis. The University will provide office space, clerical help, travel stipend, and other amenities, but not salary, to entice those leaders to spend at least a year on the University campus making themselves available to students and academics. This experience will stimulate our students and faculty and bring added recognition to the importance the Center places on practical politics and public policy.

- **Archiving and Oral Histories**

Simultaneously, the Center will begin establishing archives that will serve as a repository for the papers of Connecticut's former governors, principal legislators, and General Assembly Committees that have made an important contribution to state and national policy. The papers of Governor William A. O'Neill will be the first of the CCSU public policy collection. This work will continue with the archiving of the papers of outstanding leaders of the State Senate and House of Representatives, as well as other governors and noted appointed officials. The archiving will be performed by a professional archivist in conjunction with the Connecticut State Library, which has collaborated fully on this project from its inception. As an aspect of its archives, the Center will engage in an active program of **Oral History**, recording from the State's leaders the many experiences, individual perceptions and personal motivations that often do not reach the written record of their official activities.

Archival collections are used by students and scholars to conduct historical research leading to the writing of books, articles, term papers and dissertations, and also serve as a major conduit through which learning and public service are furthered.

- **Critical Issues Symposium**

The Center will coordinate and direct this annual symposium that CCSU sponsors for state legislators and executive branch commissioners, agency heads and policy-makers. The symposium identifies, analyzes and attempts to develop solutions for the major issue that the General Assembly is likely to face in its forthcoming session.

- **Outreach- Service to Towns and Non-Profit Organizations**

To assure the full utilization of the knowledge generated at the Center, an outreach-program of informational and training assistance will be offered to Connecticut's towns and non-profit organizations. While student internships will remain the core of the Center's outreach-program, faculty expertise and services will be actively incorporated into the services rendered. Students, faculty and administrators will provide instruction on a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to waste management, the environment, personnel practices, taxation, public safety, social welfare, education reform and public health. This activity is predicated on the conviction that volunteerism is intertwined with self-help, and is the core of community life.

- **The Connecticut Curriculum**

This program will consist of a cluster of courses, each of which draws on Connecticut experience, to provide an in-depth understanding of the economic, social, cultural, or political environments respectively, in which our students will live and work following graduation. This is a valuable educational feature since almost 80 percent of CCSU graduates remain in the state. With a deeper and broader understanding of Connecticut, our graduates will be inclined to approach community involvement with a far greater degree of enthusiasm and confidence.

- **Non-Partisanship**

Educational programs at the Center will be as free of partisanship as is possible. We recognize the need, in dealing with contemporary public problems, to present all sides of issues and avoid excessive advocacy. The goals of neutrality and openness are very high priorities.

- **Fostering the Private/Public Partnership in Our Fundraising**

The Center's support will come from endowments, the University budget, individual donors, corporations and foundations that support our purposes and services to students, scholars and our local communities.

**Central Connecticut State University
The Center for the Study of Public Policy
and Practical Politics
Budget: 2000-2001**

Connecticut Curriculum development	15,000
Critical Issues Symposium	7,500
Data collection and related suveys	6,500
Equipment (computer and printer)	5,000
Miscellaneous office expenses	2,000
Support Staff (UA)	7,500
Total	\$ 43,500