

RESOLUTION

concerning

THE USE OF DESIGNATED FUND BALANCES TO FUND  
THE RENOVATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY'S PHYSICAL ASSETS  
AT  
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

January 24, 2003

WHEREAS, Lack of sufficient electrical service, non-existent air-conditioning, large exterior windows, and inadequate physical security hampers CCSU's ability to provide an appropriate and secure environment for sensitive technology data and equipment, and

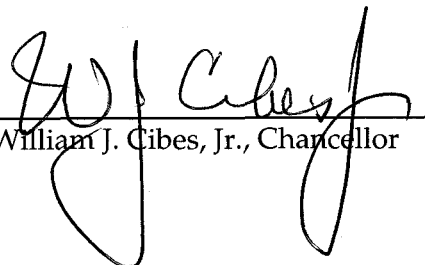
WHEREAS, The administration at CCSU has committed to consolidate into a secure environment individual servers distributed throughout campus to the fullest extent possible, and

WHEREAS, The campus master plan recommends the consolidation of Information Technology and Media Services into Burritt Library, and

WHEREAS, Construction of permanent space to meet the needs of Information Technology is not estimated to occur any sooner than Fiscal Year 2007-08, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That CCSU is authorized to utilize up to \$1,200,000 from their Plant Fund to fund the renovation of the Information Technology's physical assets in Barnard Hall.

A Certified True Copy:

  
William J. Cibes, Jr., Chancellor

**ITEM**

The use of designated fund balances to fund the renovation of Information Technology's physical assets at Central Connecticut State University.

**BACKGROUND**

Information Technology Services (ITS) is currently located in Barnard Hall, which was constructed in 1953 and houses the School of Education. As the ITS department has increased in size, space has been provided piecemeal throughout the facility; however, the majority of ITS staff are located in the basement and the computer center is located in what was formerly classroom space on the first floor.

A fourteen member Information Technology Services Improvement Team (ITSIT) was established by President Judd in the fall of 2001 to develop a strategic plan for ITS. This committee was tasked with development of a strategic planning process and a set of priorities for improvement in the delivery of IT services at CCSU. In addition, since FY2000, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) has been recommending in its Management Letter that the ITS physical space be remediated to improve its environmental condition.

**ANALYSIS**

The university initiated an ITS Renovation project and on behalf of CCSU, DPW retained the services of a design consultant who developed renovation strategies for Barnard Hall. The consultants have developed a phased construction project for CCSU to implement over the next two years. The first phase is estimated to cost \$550,000 and includes selective demolition, installation of a new electrical service to the entire building and a new emergency generator and purchase of a UPS system. The second phase includes the renovation and reconfiguration of staff offices, creation of a server room with appropriate security, installation of the new UPS system and a new FMS 200 fire suppression system. Other improvements include the installation of air-conditioning and ventilation systems and final finishes in all areas. This phase is estimated to cost approximately \$650,000.

The 1999 Campus Master Plan recommends the consolidation of ITS, Media Services and Academic Computing into a renovated and expanded Burritt Library. In July 2002, the Board of Trustees endorsed a new five-year Facilities Plan for Connecticut State University which includes the expansion and renovation of Burritt Library. However, the project is not scheduled to begin construction any sooner than fiscal year 2007-08. Given the repeated PWC recommendation, and the timing of the renovation and expansion of Burritt Library, CCSU requests permission to make renovations to improve the physical environment and security of ITS operations in Barnard Hall. It is currently intended that after ITS vacates the Barnard Hall space and relocates to Burritt Library, the School of Education will occupy the vacated Barnard Hall space. However, it is possible that this assumption may change in the future, and that another area may occupy the vacated space rather than the School of Education.

The designation of unrestricted fund balances for specific projects at a university is authorized by Board policy. Expenditure of these funds requires Board approval. Of particular note is that CCSU's undesignated fund balance meets the requirements of the Board's fund balance guidelines.

#### CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

CCSU continues to do responsible planning to address issues raised by ITSIT, such as business resumption planning and shared resource allocation, which may ultimately result in the construction of another facility, possibly offsite, to provide adequate backup and controls of data and equipment. However, at this juncture, it appears to be impossible to complete such planning in a timeframe that would alleviate the current environmental issues in a timely fashion without danger of system failure. Under these circumstances, it is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the utilization of up to \$1,200,000 in designated fund balances to fund the renovation of Information Technology's physical assets in Barnard Hall at Central Connecticut State University.