

Developing a State of Minds

Connecticut State University System

BR#06-39



RESOLUTION
establishing
A CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
at
EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
and designating it as a
CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

May 18, 2006

- WHEREAS, Providing quality child care is a statewide and national priority, and
- WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University has a long history of preparing student teachers in the critical occupational field of early childhood education, and
- WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University's academic plan has designated the early childhood education program as a priority program for the university, and
- WHEREAS, Eastern Connecticut State University strives to attain excellence in the field of early childhood education and play a leading role as a statewide resource in the field of pre-service and in-service training, and
- WHEREAS, The President of Eastern Connecticut State University has expressed the desire to establish a Center for Early Childhood Education to further its teaching, training and research goals in the field of early childhood education, and
- WHEREAS, The objectives of the Center are compatible with the mission of Eastern Connecticut State University and the Connecticut State University system, and
- WHEREAS, Such a Center will facilitate the attainment of these objectives and contribute substantially to university leadership in the field of early childhood education and benefit Eastern students, field practitioners and the society, 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 Early Childhood Education, as described above, meet the criteria necessary to 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 Early Childhood Education at Eastern Connecticut State University, and so designates the aforementioned Center as a Connecticut higher education center of excellence, and be it further

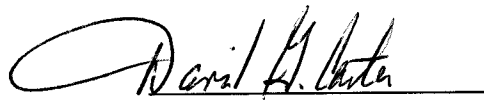
RESOLVED, That the Center for Early Childhood Education may seek and receive contracts and grants from public and private organizations and may charge fees for services related to the purposes stated above provided that all applicable state and University regulations are observed, and be it further

RESOLVED, That all funds received by the Center for Early Childhood Education shall be deposited in a fund of the Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation 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 Eastern Connecticut State University is directed to periodically evaluate the functioning of the Center for Early Childhood Education in terms of its effectiveness, and shall no later than September 1, 2011 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 Early Childhood Education shall go out of existence on December 31, 2011, unless action to the contrary is taken by the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System.

A Certified True Copy:


David G. Carter
Chancellor

ITEM

Establishment of a Center for Early Childhood Education at Eastern 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.

ANALYSIS

The President of Eastern Connecticut State University has expressed the desire to establish a Center for Early Childhood Education as an organized unit within the university and further designate this center as a Connecticut higher education Center of Excellence. Until an incumbent is selected to fill the proposed endowed chair, an interim director may be appointed by the President; after the endowed chair is appointed, an advisory board with membership approved by the President will be selected. The university has received an anonymous donation of \$500,000 to establish the endowed chair and a \$975,000 grant from the US Navy for the development of a technology-based professional development for early childhood providers at the US Navy submarine Base in New London, CT.

The mission of the Center is to promote the positive development of young children. The Center will serve as a hub for innovation where new approaches to improving the lives of children and families can be designed and studied. The Center will also provide opportunities for faculty and students to develop best practices and provide research outcomes that will be shared with early childhood providers, social services and government agencies dealing with children and family issues. The objectives of the Center are compatible with the mission of Eastern Connecticut State University and the Connecticut State University System and with the current strategic plan of ECSU. The Center will interact with the new Child and Family Development Resources Center. The Center will also be affiliated with the Early Childhood Education program and its activities primarily are teaching and research oriented.

An initial year budget and narrative for revenue and expenditures for the first three years is included. The Center will be evaluated each year in a report to the president.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the establishment of a Center for Early Childhood Education at Eastern Connecticut State University with a sunset date of December 31, 2011, if the Center is not recommended for continuation.