



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#06-77



RESOLUTION

concerning

CONTINUATION OF THE  
CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

at

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

November 2, 2006

WHEREAS, The Center for the Environment was established at Southern Connecticut State University by Board Resolution 89-8 and reauthorized by Board Resolution 97-29 and BR01-76, and

WHEREAS, The President of Southern Connecticut State University has evaluated the work of the Center for the Environment and has recommended its continuation, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System authorizes the continuation of the Center for the Environment at Southern Connecticut State University and requires that the President of Southern submit a report to the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System evaluating the performance of the Center and recommending continuance or discontinuance by September 1, 2011, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Center for the Environment at Southern Connecticut State University shall go out of existence on December 31, 2011, unless the Board of Trustees acts to the contrary.

A Certified True Copy:

David G. Carter, Sr.  
Chancellor

**ITEM**

Continuation of the Center for the Environment at Southern Connecticut State University

**BACKGROUND**

The Center for the Environment at Southern was established in 1989 to house instructional and research events and opportunities in marine and environmental studies as well as science education. It was designated as a Center by the Board of Trustees in 1989 and continued in 1994, 1997 and again in 2001. The work of the Center helped develop the Department of Science Education and Environmental Studies, which now houses all academic programs; the Center itself is responsible for research initiatives, field sites and community projects.

**ANALYSIS**

Via SCSU's Center for the Environment, Connecticut State University has exclusive control of educational programs and projects on Outer Island. Since its inception, faculty from the Center have worked with schools, community members and nonprofit organizations to provide science and environmental curricula, develop K-16 collaborative learning events and develop and expand educational programs. Since 1998, more than 2,000 individuals visited Outer Island for educational purposes. The Center sponsors conferences, symposia and community events.

While the Center operates on a modest budget, it recently received a \$250,000 matching grant from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection to create an endowment to expand education and research activities.

Plans for the future include development and maintenance of the field sites and the expansion of community activities, symposia and seminars. There are plans for funding initiatives to support research and educational activities and to refine and enhance curriculum for Outer Island.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Accept the report of the President of SCSU to continue the Center for the Environment and require an evaluation of the continuing operation of the Center, including a financial report, by September 1, 2011. A sunset date of December 31, 2011 will be in force if the Center is not recommended for continuance.