



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOR THE STATE COLLEGES

P. O. Box 2008

NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT 06050

TEL. NEW BRITAIN: 203-229-1607

TEL. HARTFORD: 203-566-7373

### RESOLUTION

concerning

BACHELORS PROGRAM

in

PHOTOGRAPHY, FILM, AND TV

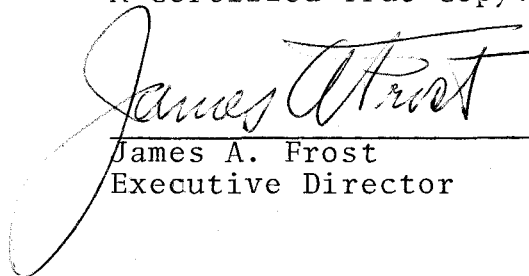
at

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

June 12, 1981

- WHEREAS, The President of Western Connecticut State College has consulted with the appropriate faculty bodies in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Connecticut State College American Association of University Professors and the Board of Trustees, and
- WHEREAS, The President of Western Connecticut State College has recommended discontinuance of the Bachelors program in Photography, Film, and TV, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Bachelors program in Photography, Film, and TV at Western Connecticut State College be discontinued upon approval of this resolution except for students currently enrolled in the program who as of the date of this resolution have senior status in the major and can complete their baccalaureate program by August 1982, and be it
- RESOLVED, That as the final stage of the discontinuance of this program a request be directed to the Board of Higher Education to permit Western Connecticut State College to award the Bachelors degree in this program to the students who as of the date of this resolution have senior status in the major and can complete their baccalaureate program by August 1982.

A Certified True Copy:



James A. Frost  
Executive Director

My Admitts &  
Porter,  
For appropriate  
action  
22 July 81



WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1981

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOR THE STATE COLLEGES

Office of the President

To: Dr. James Frost, Executive Director, B.O.T.

From: Dr. Gertrude Braun *GB* Acting President

Date: July 15, 1981

I request that the attached addendum to President Bersi's recommendation concerning discontinuance of the Photography, Film and TV program be incorporated into the Board of Trustees documentation of its action in discontinuing the program.

While financial and personnel staffing difficulties exist and are part of the institution's concern regarding the future of the Photography, Film and TV program as presently structured, such issues do not initiate procedures in Article 5.15. The bona fide educational considerations which precipitated the recommendation to the Board of Trustees pursuant to Article 5.15 are attached. These considerations were part of all deliberations related to the College-Wide Curriculum Committee and College Senate's consideration of program discontinuance. The administrative decision to recommend program discontinuance to the B.O.T. was based on these considerations.



## WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Addendum to President Bersi's statement recommending discontinuance of Photography Film and TV undergraduate BS program.

In July, 1977, the program, then titled Technological Media for the Arts, was granted licensure based on an evaluation report and college response submitted to the SCA and favorable action on that report by the Commission on Higher Education.

The recommendations made in the evaluators report provided the basis for college planning to make the program accreditable. Licensure was granted by CHE within the college's stated framework that additional space dedicated solely to specialized studio facilities for this program would come with the opening of the Westside campus.

Commitments were made to the SCA on other specific recommendations of the evaluating team re: curriculum and staffing. Concerning curriculum, the college agreed to incorporate Persuasion and Propaganda in the Media as a required course and to make internships available (not required) to students in the program. Concerning staffing, the college committed itself to use part-time professionals, to add to the full-time staff, and to hire a technician. The first two commitments were kept. The third was deemed to be counter productive since no one technician was competent to deal with all the AV/TV equipment owned by the college and we would still have had to maintain all existing service contracts. We opted instead to increase the frequency of service calls.

In September, 1979, the required progress report was submitted to the Board of Higher Education through the SCA with the request that the program be accredited. In March, 1980, we were informed that we would be required to have an accreditation evaluation. The only indication of concern then identified was "... there is concern about facilities and equipment for this program."

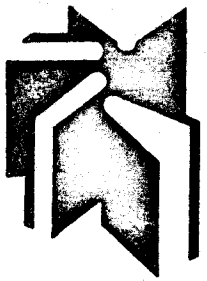
A newly constituted accreditation evaluation team came to campus in October, 1980, leaving us with the following educational problems:

1. Students then in the junior year of the program were placed in jeopardy.
2. The requirement of the first evaluators for use of part-time professionals was set aside in favor of full-time.

Qualified full-time faculty in the college working part-time in this major were denigrated.

3. The inefficient recommendation for a technician became a requirement (equally inefficient) for an engineer.
4. The prerogative of the college faculty to determine common core requirements was denied by the requirement that a course be required of all students in the college.
5. The judgment of the department faculty (which had already conformed to the original evaluators recommendations re: curriculum modification) was set aside to require substantial additions to the program thus forcing faculty to forego their proper advisement role, denying students a right to a proper proportion of free electives in their individual programs, and forcing an internship which completely ignored the fact that a large proportion of those enrolled were non-traditional students already employed in the industry.
6. Ironically, the facilities provisions undertaken by the college (a darkroom and a TV studio to replace the loss of our studio to Channel 6) were found commendable.

In sum, the second evaluation report set aside all the ground rules agreed to in 1977 with the CHE and substituted for them a set which intruded on faculty judgment, college curriculum policy and wise staffing procedures. An appeal to the SCA pointing up these changes and infringements of college prerogatives proved fruitless. The BHE support of the SCA necessitates the act of program discontinuance since, according to BHE staff, only if the program is discontinued can we protect the rights of those students ready now for senior standing.



THE  
CONNECTICUT  
STATE  
COLLEGES

FOUNDED 1849

Office of the  
Executive Director

P.O. BOX 2008 NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT 06050

Telephone : (203) 827-7700

June 16, 1981

Dr. Michael D. Usdan  
Commissioner  
Board of Higher Education  
61 Woodland Street  
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Mike:

On Friday, June 12, 1981, the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State Colleges voted to discontinue the Bachelor's program in Photography, Film, and TV at Western. This is a program which received planning approval and licensure from the Commission for Higher Education. Last February it was denied accreditation by the Board of Higher Education due to lack of adequate personnel and equipment. Since we concluded that the program could not be staffed or equipped at levels recommended by the accreditation team, the most responsible course of action was to discontinue the program. Since then we have been involved in the rather lengthy consultation process for program discontinuation required by our collective bargaining agreement. A copy of the Trustees resolution which followed the culmination of this process is enclosed.

The campus has accepted no new students into this program for next year. All those students currently in the major who have yet to attain senior status will be redirected to other majors or other institutions. They should be able to complete their baccalaureates without loss of time. However, we are most concerned about and feel a great responsibility toward the eleven students who have attained senior status in the major. If they are required to change majors or to transfer to other institutions, they may well be forced to delay their graduation.

We propose that these eleven students be permitted to continue to graduation in Photography, Film, and TV at Western. The campus will be able to focus its resources on this limited number of students, and they should all be ready to graduate by May 1982 or August 1982 at the latest.

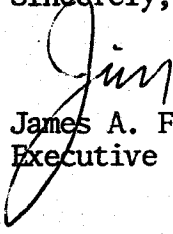
I believe that since Western is fully accredited as an institution by both the Board of Higher Education and by the New England Association, the campus should be seen as having the authority to graduate these students as part of the phase-out of the program. The program was begun in all good faith both on the part of the institution and on the part of the students.

My hope would be that you could write me a letter saying that you concur in this approach. If, on the other hand, you feel that some formal action by the Board of Higher Education is required, we will cooperate in every way and make available whatever information is needed. We do hope that if this matter has to be presented to the Board of Higher Education, it could go to the July meeting at the latest so we could inform the students as soon as possible of their options for the Fall semester.

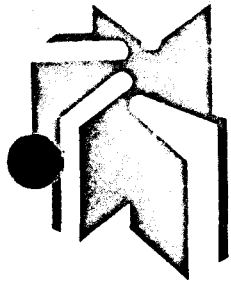
You will find that Don Winandy is familiar with the background of this case. Both Tom Porter and Trudy Braun have discussed it with him.

Thanks, Mike, for whatever you can do to help the students involved. I'm sure you share my feeling that their interests must be given every consideration.

Sincerely,

  
James A. Frost  
Executive Director

jf  
Enc.  
cc: President Braun  
Dr. Porter



**THE  
CONNECTICUT  
STATE  
COLLEGES**

FOUNDED 1849

Executive Officer for  
Academic and Student Affairs

P.O. BOX 2008 NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT 06050

Telephone : (203) 827-7700

May 29, 1981

TO: Naomi Stonberg  
FROM: Thomas A. Porter  
RE: Discontinuance of the Photography, Film, and TV Major  
At Western Connecticut State College

Enclosed for your information are the drafts of:

1. The Board Resolution, and
2. Dr. Braun's letter recommending discontinuance.

Dr. Bersi's letter recommending discontinuance is also enclosed.

T.A.P.

jf

Enc.

cc: Dr. Braun



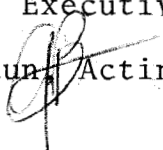
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JUN 3 1981

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOR THE STATE COLLEGES

**WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE**

Office of the President

To: Dr. James Frost, Executive Director, B.O.T.  
From: Dr. Gertrude Braun  Acting President, W.C.S.C.  
Date: June 1, 1981  
Re: Baccalaureate Program in Photography, Film, and TV

After considering all of the factors involved, I recommend the discontinuance of the bachelor's program in Photography, Film, and TV at Western, provided that all appropriate efforts be made to obtain permission to award the bachelor's degree in this program to the students who now have senior status in the major and who can complete their baccalaureate program by August, 1982.





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MAY 22 1981

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOR THE STATE COLLEGES

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

Office of the President

May 17, 1981

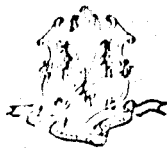
To: Dr. James A. Frost  
From: Robert M. Bersoff   
Re: Photography, Film and TV Program

Attached is (1) a copy of my request to the WCSC Curriculum Committee to begin the review procedures established by the College Senate for program discontinuance, and (2) a copy of the College Senate's advice to me at the conclusion of the review procedure.

I have discussed with Dr. Braun the context of the Senate recommendations and understand that their recommendation is based on the conviction that this is a valuable program, consistent with the mission of the State College system, and highly responsive to the realities of the 80's in the western Connecticut region. I concur with the Senate's judgment on the value and appropriateness of the program. I do not concur, however, that there is not a bona fide educational problem. Failure to receive accreditation during this academic year clearly constitutes, in my judgment, a bona fide educational consideration.

Therefore, unless the Board of Trustees can provide additional faculty and equipment support designated specifically for this program for the 1981-82 academic year, I recommend that the Photography, Film and TV program be discontinued now and that all possible steps be taken with the BHE to ensure that Western be permitted to award degrees to those students who can graduate in 1982 from the major.

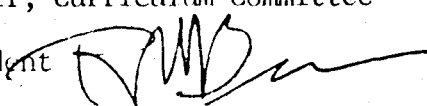
jpb  
cc: Dr. Braun  
Mr. Baubles



WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

Office of the President

March 13, 1981

To: Dr. Leonard Dente, Chair, Curriculum Committee  
From: Robert M. Bersi, President   
Re: Future Status of Photography, Film and TV Program

The BHE has voted to continue licensure of the present Photography, Film & TV program until December 1981, and has identified conditions for its accreditation which are not within the expected resources of WCSC for the start of the 1981-82 academic year. These conditions include the addition of three (3) full time faculty members and an instructional equipment expenditure conservatively estimated at \$50,000. I am, therefore, forced to recommend the discontinuance of the present major.

I have authorized Vice President Braun to request of the BHE a special authorization for those students who now have junior standing in the program to award their B.S. degrees in 1982. We have certified that we can do this with complete academic integrity. We await the decision of the BHE on this matter.

I request that, as the various committees involved complete their recommendations on program discontinuance, their major concern be the development of an appropriate concentration in an accredited program leading to the B.A. degree in order that we may retain as many components of the program as our present full time staff and available facilities will permit.

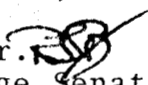
cc: Vice President Braun  
Dr. J. Fleckenstein, Chr., Photography, Film & TV Dept.  
Dean O'Neill, School of Professional Studies  
Dr. J. O'Neill, Chr., Academic Planning Committee  
Mr. Baubles, President, College Senate  
Dean Brunell, School of Arts & Sciences



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE  
181 WHITE STREET • DANBURY CONNECTICUT 06810



May 7, 1981

To: Dr. Robert M. Bersi, President  
From: R. L. Baubles, Jr.   
President, College Senate  
Re: Recommendation concerning Photography, Film  
and TV Program

At its 5 May 1981 meeting, the College Senate passed the following motion:

That the College Senate recommend to the President that the Photography, Film and TV program be continued.

After careful, intense consideration and discussion of the Curriculum Committee's report, the Senators felt that, although the program was faced with financial constraints, bona fide educational problems in the program were not evident. The Senate, therefore, could not recommend discontinuance since "such program discontinuance shall be based upon bona fide educational consideration." (Article 5.15: CSC-AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement)

However, the College Senate, taking into account those financial problems (which are similar to those faced by other institutional programs), passed the following recommendations:

That the Photography, Film and TV Department examine its program with the intent of making modifications which will decrease the cost to the institution of continuing the program.

That the normal curriculum approval procedure be suspended to allow the department to work directly with the College Administration until the first Senate meeting in September to implement curriculum changes.

In accordance with the approved procedures on Program Discontinuation, the College Senate submits to you its recommendation along with the Curriculum Committee report and additional documents presented on the Senate floor.

cc: Dr. S. Norton, President, WCSC-AAUP  
Dr. J. Fleckenstein, Chairperson, Photography, Film & TV  
College Senators