RESOLUTION

concerning

AWARD OF THE TITLE

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

March 30, 1990

WHEREAS, The faculty at Eastern Connecticut State University has recommended Professor Thomas P. Anderson for the title of Connecticut State University Professor, and

WHEREAS, The President of Eastern Connecticut State University, David G. Carter Sr., has recommended award of the title to Professor Anderson, Connecticut State University President, Dallas K. Beal concurring, and

WHEREAS, Professor Anderson, scholar in Latin American history, has served Eastern Connecticut State University as a member and chair of the History Department and assisted in building the University's history curriculum while attaining the highest levels of achievement in teaching, scholarship, and public service, and

WHEREAS, Professor Anderson has rendered excellent service on behalf of his colleagues at Eastern Connecticut State University by serving as President of the Eastern Chapter of AAUP from 1978 to 1980, and

WHEREAS, Professor Anderson has built a reputation as a prolific scholarly writer, having published numerous books and articles in academic journals throughout his career and been recognized by his colleagues in the field of history for professional excellence, and

WHEREAS, Professor Anderson has earned a national reputation as an expert on Central America and, in this capacity, has lectured extensively, delivered expert testimony before the U.S. Congress, and served on key national committees, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the title, Connecticut State University Professor, is herewith awarded by the Board of Trustees to Thomas P. Anderson of Eastern Connecticut State University, effective March 30, 1990, pursuant to the BOT/AAUP Agreement, and be it further

RESOLVED, That Professor Anderson be entitled to all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities pertaining to this honor.

A Certified True Copy:

L. J. Davidson
Chairperson

Dallas K. Beal
President

An Equal Opportunity Employer
THOMAS P. ANDERSON

Thomas P. Anderson, Ph.D. is a professor of history at Eastern Connecticut State University. Prior to arriving at Eastern he was assistant professor at Wheeling College and before that an assistant dean at Loyola University, Chicago, where he received his Ph.D. in 1964. While at Eastern he has also taught one semester each at Yale and the University of Connecticut.

Professor Anderson has been chair of his department for a number of years and active on the curriculum committee, the promotion and tenure committee, the honors committee, and, earlier, on the university senate.

His special field is Central America, and he began research in El Salvador in 1969 which led to his book _Matanza, El Salvador’s Communist Revolt of 1932_. His subsequent researches in Central America produced two more books: _The War of the Dispossessed_ and _Politics in Central America_. He has also written many articles, booklets and reviews.

Professor Anderson is also known for his work in the field of human rights. Under the auspices of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee he conducted three congressional investigational trips to Central America, and with Survival International USA investigated the human rights abuses by the Guatemalan government against Maya Indians, and personally presented his findings before the Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States.

He was an official observer at the Salvadoran elections of 1982 and has served as a consultant to the State Department. He has lectured at the Foreign Service Institute and testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He has been a member of the Fulbright fellowship committee.

Professor Anderson is married to Celia C. Anderson, Ph.D. director of the writing program at Eastern.
CURRICULUM VITAE

THOMAS P. ANDERSON

Home Address: Box 248
Windham, CT 06280
Tel: (203) 456-0596

Office: Eastern Connecticut State University
Willimantic, CT 06226
Tel: (203) 456-5444

EDUCATION

1960-1964 Loyola University, Chicago

1953-1957 Saint Louis University (B.A. in English Literature)

1949-1953 Creighton Prep

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 1984 Exchange Professor, University of Connecticut
Fall 1981 Visiting Lecturer, Yale University
1973 to present Professor, Eastern Connecticut State University
Sept 1969 - Sept 1973 Associate Professor, Eastern Connecticut State University
Sept 1964 - June 1969 Assistant Professor, Wheeling Jesuit College, W. VA.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

1985-present Chairman, Department of History, ECSU
1978-1980 Contract Administrator and AAUP President, ECSU
1978-1980 Chairman, Department of History, ESCU
1970-1974 Chairman, Department of History, ECSU
1966-1968 Director of Summer Programs, Wheeling Jesuit College
1961-1964 Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Lewis Towers Campus, Loyola University
1957-1960 Officer, United States Navy, Communications Specialist
HONORS, MEMBERSHIPS AND GRANTS

Member of the Fulbright Committee on Fellowships and Senior Fellowships to Latin America, 1984
Grantee Hoover Institution Research Grant, 1984
Gift Fund Lecturer, Connecticut College, 1984
Member of the Council on US-Central America Relations, Institute for Policy Development
Board Member, Survival International USA, 1982-1985
Senior Research Fellow, Council on Hemispheric Affairs, 1982-1983
Guest Fellow of Trumbull College, Yale, Fall 1981
Lilly Fellow, Yale University, Summer 1975
Grantee, Social Science Research Council, 1969
Member, Alpha Sigma Nu - National Jesuit College Honor Society

PUBLICATIONS

Short Books written in collaboration with John McAward:


Books:


Major Articles:


Other Writings:


"Crisis in Central America: (review essay) accepted *Latin American Research Review*.

*Articles in Newspapers are solicited op-ed pieces.*


"Moving Deeper into War in Nicaragua", Hartford Courant, 6 April, 1986.


"In Central America: A Need for No Strings Aid and Understanding", Los Angeles Times, 3 February, 1980.


"The Inquisition as a Modern Business Enterprise", (feature review article), Commonweal, 16 September, 1966.

Plus: Reviews and short pieces for: Internationale Dialog Zeitschrift; Revista Inter-Americana; Records of the American Catholic Historical Society; Commonweal; Continuum; The Hispanic American Historical Review; SAIS Review; The New York Times, American Historical Review; Caribbean Review; Pacific Historical Review; Conflict Quarterly.

PAPERS AND MAJOR TALKS PRESENTED

"Background to the Crisis in El Salvador," Conference on El Salvador, Sonoma State University, California, March 1990.


"Implications of the Papal Visit to Central America", Wilson Center, Smithsonian Institution, April, 1983.

"Central America: Problems and Solutions", Yale University, March 1983.

"Historical Roots of the Central American Revolution", Harvard University, Central America Study Group, October 1982.
"Inter-Related Revolutions in Central America", Latin American Studies Center Colloquium, University of Connecticut, September 1982.


"The Current Crisis in Central America", Yale University, Latin American Studies Center Colloquium, April 1980.

"El Salvador Crisis", Inter-American Council Workshop, Georgetown University, March 1980.


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Member

Latin American Studies Association
American Historical Association
Conference of Latin American Historians
New England Council for Latin American Studies
American Civil Liberties Union (former Board Member, N. E. Connecticut Chapter)
Amnesty International
Survival International, U.S.A. (Board Member) 1981-1984

Latin American Countries Traveled In

Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Peru.

Other Countries Visited

Japan, Taiwan, Philippines, Hong Kong, British Isles.

Recent Activities

Member of Panel to Evaluate Fulbright and Senior Fulbright applicants, in Latin American fields, Washington, D. C. December 1984.

Consultant to the Department of State on Nicaragua, February 1983.

Interviewed Guatemalan Indian Refugees in Chiapas, Mexico for Survival International, August 1982, and presented findings to the Human Rights Commission of the OAS.


Courses Recently Taught

Latin American Culture and Society
History of Mexico
Central America
History of South America
Latin American Politics

Service to the Institution

University Senate - 4 years
Curriculum Committee - 2 years
Promotion and Tenure Committee - currently serving
Search Committees for:
Dean of Continuing Education
Vice President for Administrative Affairs (chaired)
Honors Committee - 4 years

Community Service

Extensive talks to high school students, church and civic groups and occasional interviews on local radio and T.V.

Review Work

Reviewed book manuscripts for a number of university presses, including Princeton, Wisconsin, and North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Also reviewed articles for publication in journals such as The Latin American Research Review.
During my college years, I pursued a degree in English Literature and was for two years a member of the Writers' Institute at Saint Louis University, along with such people as the distinguished poet Nell Altizer, and my future wife Celia Catlett, now Director of Writing at Eastern. After graduation for SLU, I went to Navy OCS at Newport, R.I., and subsequently served three years as an officer in the Pacific Fleet, 1957-1960.

Although I have been an English major, I was not keen on pursuing scholarship in that field, and decided to go to graduate school in history. Loyola University in Chicago offered me a graduate assistantship, and I moved, with Celia and our two children, to Chicago. I fell under the spell of Dr. Edward Gargan (later professor of history at Wesleyan and then at the University of Wisconsin) and did both my master's thesis: The Social Debate in the French Constituent Assembly, 1848 and my doctoral dissertation, The French Intelligentsia and the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939, under his direction. My graduate field was, therefore, French Intellectual History, though I was much attracted to Latin American Studies.

By the time I had finished my first year of graduate study, we had a third child, and the money saved while in the navy was exhausted. Loyola wanted to keep me so they gave me a full-time job, as Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Lewis Towers Campus. This was ideal, in that the graduate school, whose courses were in the evening, was also at Lewis Towers. I volunteered to teach one course each semester on European or American history on a released time basis, and, of course took two or three courses each semester during the three years I held that post. Father Hugh Rodman, the dean, was in delicate health, and would have to be absent for periods of up to two months, leaving me with the task of running the College of Arts and Sciences, which enrolled some fifteen-hundred students.

Even though I was still finishing up my dissertation, I resolved to leave administration and seek a teaching job for fall, 1964. I was offered a post at Wheeling College (now called Wheeling Jesuit College) and taught there for five years. I was very active on the campus, helping to organize the first faculty governance structure in that school's brief history, and was subsequently elected to the seven member College Council, which met weekly with the president and dean to chart the direction of the college. I also served on the college welfare committee and as president of the AAUP.
In November, 1966, Father Frank Haig, the president of Wheeling, asked me to organize a summer school for the institution, which had not had one until then, and so, while continuing to teach full time, I became additionally, Director of Summer Programs.

The summer school turned out to be a great success, and I held the post until my decision was made to leave Wheeling. That decision was for personal reasons. I felt a deep affection for the school and its students, and felt, in turn, appreciated when Father Haig and others several times urged me to change my mind.

I had received my doctorate in January, 1965, and began to pursue my researches. In my studies of French history, I had come upon the fascinating, though sinister, figure of Edouard Drumont, an anti-Semite who had played a pivotal role in both the Panama scandal of 1892 and the Dreyfus affair. I wrote an article on him which appeared in the Catholic Historical Review and another for Continuum, a journal of ideas, whose editor, Justus George Lawler, I had come to know in Chicago. Intrigued by my ideas on the subject, he asked me to edit an edition of the journal (of which I was listed as an associate editor) entirely devoted to the theme of anti-Semitism. This appeared in Autumn, 1966.

However, by 1967 my researches had taken a different turn. I had long been interested both in revolutionary movements and in Latin America, and ran across, I can no longer remember how, a little-known revolt in El Salvador in 1932 of Marxist-led peasants against the witch-doctor dictator, General Martinez. When I sought books or scholarly articles on the subject, I found that none existed, and so I resolved that I would write on the subject. Efforts made in the United States proved discouraging, and I soon discovered the depths of my ignorance on El Salvador and Latin America in general. Nevertheless, about the same time that I made my resolution to leave Wheeling College, in the fall of 1968, I applied to the Social Science Research Council for a summer grant to go to El Salvador. To my surprise, I was awarded the grant.

Thus, by the time I was interviewed in New York for the position at Eastern Connecticut State University, I already had my plans for travel to El Salvador in the summer of 1969 made. My formal training in Spanish consisted of two years at Creighton Prep, but I persuaded Professor Ortega at Wheeling to give me intensive lessons.
Thus equipped, I arrived in San Salvador at the end of May, 1969, while Celia and our four children prepared to move into the house we had bought in rural Windham, Connecticut. She subsequently joined me in San Salvador for a brief tropical vacation as I took a break from my studies. I had been unprepared for the depth of misery I encountered in El Salvador, and for the level of repression by the military and the elite. None-the-less I found people more than willing to speak about the Matanza, the massacre of 1932 which claimed between ten and thirty thousand lives. The government had long since destroyed all written records, down to copies of the daily newspapers in the National Library. However, by fortunate chance, into my pension one day walked a man who was to play a large part in my life, Leonel Gómez, a young coffee planter and member of the elite, but a man sharply aware of the injustices in his country. He became interested in my work and introduced me to his uncle, a former head of state, and the man who had been Martínez' chief of police in 1932, Col. Osmin Aguirre. The colonel, who would be assassinated some years later, was so kind as to give me copies of his own personal papers on the uprising, which, while not extensive, cleared up a number of crucial points and greatly aided me in writing my book.

But no sooner had I got Celia safely on a plane back to the United States, than the tensions over migration between El Salvador and Honduras erupted into bloody warfare. I was then approached by Leonel Gómez, who had close ties to the military in those days, with an offer from the high command that he and I should be sent to Honduras with the army as observers, since charges, largely true as it turned, of Salvadoran atrocities were filling the foreign press. We went to the military headquarters for a briefing and I was subsequently given papers listing me as "a UPI correspondent." Armed with that, and Leonel's automatic rifle, we drove to Nueva Ocotepeque in Honduras, where I put up at the house of American Missionary, Father Roderick Brennan. The next morning Leonel Gómez and I drove further, until we came briefly under fire from the Hondurans. I returned to the town, however, just in time to see Father Brennan being led away by the Salvadoran army, which accused him of being a spy. I hurriedly drove back to San Salvador and contacted the embassy, which characteristically did nothing, but Leonel had better luck and within a week we saw the priest freed.

Out of these experiences in El Salvador two books grew. The one I had intended to write Matanza, and the one I had stumbled on, The War of the Dispossessed, which told the story
of the 1969 conflict. In addition, as the situation in El Salvador deteriorated during the 1970's, I found myself in demand as one of the few people who knew anything about the country. Thus, in 1974 I began a ten year association with the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, writing the article on El Salvador (and subsequently Honduras and Nicaragua as well) for the Yearbook on International Communist Affairs, published by them. It was the Hoover Institution that first proposed that I write the book Politics in Central America, to be co-published with Praeger, New York. I protested that was not a political scientist (having never taken a course on the subject in my life), but I agreed, and the book had a modest success especially in paperback. I subsequently wrote a much enlarged second edition for Praeger alone, as Hoover and I had reached an ideological parting of the ways.

During my first years at Eastern Connecticut State College, as it was in those days, I emersed myself in the institution. I became president of the AAUP, and would be so again later when it was our bargaining agent. I was elected department chair, and have subsequently served in that capacity about half the years I have been at Eastern. I was on search committees for the administrative dean the the dean of continuing education (chaired). I also served several years on the faculty senate, being secretary and then vice president. In later years, as our governance structure has become more formalized, I have been on both the curriculum committee and the promotion and tenure committee, as well as chairing two planning committees for the institution. I was also on the committee that revived the Honors Programs in 1985.

In late 1977, I was contacted by John McAward of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee who proposed that I accompany himself and Boston congressman and Jesuit priest Robert Drinan on a human rights investigation in El Salvador. I had been to the country the previous summer and knew how savage the situation had become, so I agreed and we flew down in January, 1978. We experienced little difficulty, though our investigation included a midnight meeting with clandestine peasant activists in the countryside far from the capital. Out of this came our brief book Human Rights in El Salvador. Knowing Congressman Drinan subsequently caused me to be heard in Washington. I testified twice before the House Foreign Affairs Committee and once before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. This last was over the strong protest of Senator Jessie Helms, but I contacted Leonel Gómez, by then in exile, and Bianca Jaeger, whom I had gone with to an International Conference on El Salvador in Peru, and it was the latter who persuaded Jack Anderson to write a column about my being
"disinvited" and thus I was able to testify. I also on two occasions lectured to foreign service officers in training at the Foreign Service Institute.

In 1979, I was back in El Salvador researching The War of the Dispossessed, and I told Leonel Gómez that I felt a need to go to Managua, Nicaragua, where General Somoza and his forces were under siege by a large Sandinista force. Characteristically, Leonel agreed to go with me, but getting there was an almost impossible task. We camped at the San Salvador airport two days before an empty airliner touched down for fuel on its way to bring refugees out. With papers from the Archbishop of El Salvador and the Salvadoran Red Cross, we flew into the deserted airport with only forty minutes before the curfew, after which anything moving was shot. Luckily, we managed to find Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo (later Cardinal), to whom our credentials were addressed, just at curfew time. The next day he took us to the house of the Capuchin fathers, near Somoa's "bunker," where we stayed during the siege. We obtained some interesting interviews, and made contact with the Nicaraguan Red Cross. Through Karen de Young of the Washington Post we had scheduled an interview with dictator, but when he suddenly canceled, we knew he was about to flee, and Leonel and I made our way to the airport, though chaos and gun fire, and managed, on the strength of our Red Cross connections, to get seats on a refugee flight to San Salvador.

John McAward and I took two more congressional trips, in 1980 with Father Drinan, and in 1981 with three persons from congress; Barbara Mikulsky, Robert Edgar and Gerry Studds. On the first one went to Guatemala, where we had a stormy interview about human rights with the interior minister, and a clandestine meeting with a group of politically persecuted priest at Chichicastenango. We also visited El Salvador and Costa Rica, meeting with representatives of the Salvadoran rebels in San José. The next delegation went to Nicaragua and then Hódnicas. In the latter country we flew by small plane to the Salvadoran border area to talk with some of the several thousand refugees from El Salvador. Out of these trips McAward and myself produced our reports Central America, 1980 and 1981.

In 1982 myself and Enrique Baloyra were asked by the Latin American Studies Association to go to El Salvador at their expense to observe the elections for a constituent assembly. Once in the country we went to the U. S. Embassy and were given official observer status. When election day arrived, we teamed up with Stephen Kinzer of the Boston Globe (later with
the NYT) to visit some country polling places in his car. At Apopa we were caught in army-rebel cross fire and pinned down for over an hour, but we did cover a number of locals and wrote a published report on the elections.

In 1981, I was asked to join the board of directors of Survival International USA, a group devoted to helping indigenous peoples. Shortly after the El Salvador election trip, myself and a colleague went to the Mexican state of Chiapas, which borders Guatemala to interview some of the thousands of Maya crossing into Mexico during the genocide against them by the Guatemalan government. We came within two kilometers of the border to interview those just arrived and could here the shooting and see the helicopters on the other side. I subsequently reported our findings in person before the Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States.

I had by then become fairly well know in the field, and in 1980 Al Stephan, then director of Latin American Studies at Yale, arranged for me to teach a senior seminar there while I was on sabbatical and doing research at Yale. The subsequent year the University of Connecticut Latin American center arranged an exchange of one course with Eastern so that I might teach a Central America course there.

However, my chief commitment all along has been to Eastern. I have taught a variety of course, including Western and World Civilizations, the American Frontier, France, Russia, and, of course Central America and Mexico. I also have taught international relations and Latin American politics for political science. I enjoy team teaching and taught a course on Latin American culture with Philomene Ducas of the English Department. Jim Lacey of that same department worked with me in establishing our American Studies program at Eastern and we have team taught such courses as "The American Dream," "Education in American Life" and "Religion in America." I also taught the first honors colloquium of the revived program with Rhona Free of the economics department on the theme "Capitalism and Freedom." I have also guest lectured in many courses, including "Math for Poets."

I still have managed to get to Central America on occasion. In 1984 I observed joint Honduran, Salvadoran and U. S. military maneuvers a few kilometers outside Nicaragua in Honduras. I agreed three years ago to undertake a second edition of Politics in Central America for Praeger, not realizing the tremendous amount of new material I would have to incorporate. That finished, I have been working on a
project on Honduras, and find myself asked to write many reviews and review articles, such as the one recently accepted by the Latin American Research Review.

I have done my administrative activities as well, having been chair of the department continuously since 1985, and several other years before that. Our department, which covers History, Philosophy and Political Science is broad and diverse, with eleven or twelve full-time members and sometimes as many as eight part-time teachers. With all this, and committee work, I have managed a busy, though rewarding, career at Eastern.