RESOLUTION

concerning

MODIFICATION OF THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

October 1, 1976

WHEREAS, New England Regional Student Program was developed to provide students with a New England-wide opportunity to take courses outside of their home state at home state tuition provided such a course was not available at the home state university, the home state college system, or the home state two-year college, and

WHEREAS, On the excuse that university students could not be expected to take a course offered by a four-year state college or by a two-year state college, some university students have refused to take a course offered by a state four-year college or a state two-year college in their home state and instead have taken it at an out-of-state university, and

WHEREAS, Using a similar excuse, college students have refused to take a course offered by their home state university or by their home state two-year college system and, instead, have insisted upon taking the course at an out-of-state college, and

WHEREAS, Using a similar excuse, two-year college students have refused to take a course offered by their home state university or home state college and, instead, have insisted upon taking such a course at an out-of-state two-year college, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the State Colleges of Connecticut has no objection to a proposed modification of the New England Regional Student Program whose effect would be to limit the availability of degree programs to those for which no equivalent offering is available at any publicly supported institution in the state of which the student is a resident.

A Certified True Copy:

James A. Frost
Executive Secretary
October 13, 1976

Mr. Rodney J. Hinkle
Program Director
Regional Liaison and Exchange
New England Board of Higher Education
40 Grove Street
Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181

Dear Mr. Hinkle:

I am happy to convey to you the action of the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State Colleges on the modification of the New England Regional Student Program as requested in your letter to F. Don James, President of Central Connecticut State College on June 4, 1976.

I have attached a copy of the resolution which they passed and of the explanatory material developed for their consideration of the resolution.

We shall look forward to continuing cooperation among the public colleges and universities of New England in this very important program.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Wickware
Acting Executive Officer for Academic Affairs

RKW/psa
encl. (2)
cc: A.P.C.
TO: Council of Presidents

FROM: Clinton M. Ritchie, Executive Officer
Student, Faculty and Staff Relations

RE: Trustee Action requested by NEBHE

Attached is proposed resolution by which the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut plans to support the modification recommended by NEBHE. The Academic Planning Committee has reviewed the original proposal and is in support of it.

Your review and specific recommendation for consideration by the Planning Committee is needed.

cc: Academic Planning Committee
Dr. Thomas Jenkins
At present, under the New England Regional Student Program, residents of a state whose University does not offer a particular degree program are eligible at in-state rates to take the program at another New England State University which offers it. The same rule applies separately to State College programs and to Community College programs.

It is proposed to eliminate the artificial distinction imposed by this separation according to type of institution, and to restate the rule in terms of the programs alone. The New England Board of Higher Education requests a statement of approval from the various institutional Boards of Trustees.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the University of Connecticut has no objection to a proposed modification of the New England Regional Student Program whose effect would be to limit the availability of degree programs to those for which no equivalent is available at any publicly supported institution in the state of which the student is a resident.
July 13, 1976

Mr. Clinton M. Ritchie  
Executive Officer for Academic Affairs  
Board of Trustees for State Colleges  
P.O. Box 2008  
New Britain, Connecticut 06050  

Dear Clint:  

The Board's agenda was unusually full on Friday, and the enclosed item did not come to their attention. Presumably, it will be acted upon at a future meeting.

Sincerely,

Bill  
William C. Orr  
Associate Vice President  

WCO: ggb  
cc: W.G. Wilson  
Enclosure
At present, under the New England Regional Student Program, residents of a state whose University does not offer a particular degree program are eligible at in-state rates to take the program at another New England State University which offers it. The same rule applies separately to State College programs and to Community College programs.

It is proposed to eliminate the artificial distinction imposed by this separation according to type of institution, and to restate the rule in terms of the programs alone. The New England Board of Higher Education requests a statement of approval from the various institutional Boards of Trustees.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the University of Connecticut has no objection to a proposed modification of the New England Regional Student Program whose effect would be to limit the availability of degree programs to those for which no equivalent is available at any publicly supported institution in the state of which the student is a resident.
MEMORANDUM

TO: President F. Don James

FROM: H. B. Jestin, Vice President for Academic Affairs
       Dr. Joseph R. Dunn, Jr., Director of Research

SUBJECT: Proposed Change in the New England Regional Student Program
          (see attached, June 4, 1976, letter from Mr. Hinkle of NEBHE Staff)

The New England Regional Student Program has resulted in increased educational opportunities for the youth of New England. Central Connecticut State College's participation in this program has been beneficial despite the limited number of individual students affected. It is our belief that we should support any move which might help to keep the program operative.

We recommend that CCSC support the adoption of this new policy (option of removing sectoral differentiation as a criteria for determining regional program eligibility) for the following reasons:

1. Since two states (Maine and New Hampshire) have adopted the university system of organization there is some danger that they might withdraw from the program if the option of removing sectoral differentiation throughout New England is not adopted.

2. Program differences between state universities and state colleges have declined as the state colleges have diversified academic program offerings and the other aspects of separation between these two sectors of public higher education have also diminished. In many cases the similarities far outweigh the differences.

3. In Connecticut, the efforts of our Board of Trustees to work more cooperatively with the University of Connecticut through the recently established "coordinating council" would be enhanced by this new option policy.

4. Since there has been considerable discussion of the changing role of state colleges and in Connecticut, of the governing structure of public higher education, such a new policy would tend to identify state colleges with university status—at least in regard to program offerings and student exchange.
5. Finally, the new optional policy, will maintain for each institution the right to offer any regionally unique or distinctive degree program, while providing to each state the right to deny eligibility if any university or state college within the state offers a comparable program. In a period of declining enrollments these rights are a protection.

It is hoped that these reactions are helpful. If further discussion be desired, please contact us.

H. E. Jertin
Vice President,
Academic Affairs

Joseph R. Dunn, Jr.
Director of Research

HBJ-JRD/sl
Attachment
June 4, 1976

F. Don James
President
Central Connecticut State College
New Britain, Connecticut 06053

Dear President James:

Since its beginning about twenty years ago, the New England Regional Student Program has maintained the principle of sectoral differentiation. The uniqueness or distinctiveness of a program and thus its eligibility for inclusion in the Regional Student Program was determined by comparing it only with programs offered by institutions of the same sector in the other New England states.

The first departure from the maintenance of sectoral differentiation in the Regional Student Program occurred when Maine adopted a University System, which, in a sense, eliminated sectoral differentiation among the public university and the four-year degree granting institutions in that state. A second similar departure from past practice has been requested by the University System of New Hampshire and approved (effective September, 1978) by the New England Board of Higher Education's Standing Committee on Current Activities at its April 23, 1976 meeting.

The Committee further moved that if the participating universities and state colleges in any other state commonly agree, they too should have the option of removing sectoral differentiation as a criteria for determining regional program eligibility. The Board requires only that such a decision be made or approved by all respective governing boards of trustees and comply with the two year advance notice requirements set by the New England Governors' in November, 1974.

Institutions will, under this new optional policy, continue to maintain the right of offering any regionally unique or distinctive degree program for regional exchange. However, in determining whether the residents of a state will be eligible to enroll in the offered program, a state will have the right to deny eligibility if any university or state college within the state offers a comparable program.

If your institution wishes to adopt this new policy, we would appreciate being so informed of official trustee action by September 1, 1976. The new policy will be implemented no sooner than the 1978/79 academic year since the Regional Student Program catalogues for the 1977/78 academic year are now in final stages of completion.

Sincerely,

Rodney J. Hinkle
Program Director,
Regional Liaison and Exchange

40 GROVE STREET, WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 02181 (617) 235-8071