RESOLUTION

concerning

INCREASE IN STUDENT UNION BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S FEE

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

May 6, 1977

WHEREAS, Section 10-116 of the General Statutes provides that the Board of Trustees for State Colleges shall fix fees for such purposes as the Board deems necessary, subject to the approval of the Commission for Higher Education, and

WHEREAS, On February 10, 1977 a referendum of the student body at Western Connecticut State College resulted in a vote to increase from $7.00 to $15.00 per year the Student Union Board of Governor's fee, an item included in the Student Activity Fund, effective in the Fall semester of 1977, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That, effective for the Fall semester 1977, the fee of $15.00 per year is established for the Student Union Board of Governors at Western Connecticut State College, provided the Commission on Higher Education approves such actions.

A Certified True Copy:

James A. Frost
Executive Director
June 9, 1977

Dr. James A. Frost
Board of Trustees for State Colleges
P.O. Box 2008
New Britain, Connecticut 06050

Dear Dr. Frost:

At the Commission for Higher Education meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 1977, a quorum being present and voting, the following resolutions were approved:

SC-15 To increase the Student Union Board of Governor's Fee at Western Connecticut State College from $7.00 to $15.00 per year effective in the fall semester, 1977.

SC-16 To increase the credit hour charge for courses offered in the Educational Extension Programs and Summer Sessions effective in the fall semester, 1977.

I hereby certify that these are true copies of the resolutions.

Sincerely yours,

W. Robert Bokelman
Director

WRB:ja
Enclosures
Sec. 10-103c(a) provides:

"...the board of trustees of the state technical colleges shall fix fees for tuition...and shall fix fees for such other purposes as the board deems necessary at the state technical colleges, subject to the approval of the commission for higher education...." (emphasis added).

Sec. 10-116(a) provides:

"...the board of trustees of the state colleges shall fix fees for tuition...and shall fix fees for such other purposes as the board deems necessary at the state colleges, subject to the approval of the commission for higher education...." (emphasis added).

Sec. 10-119a(a) provides:

"...the board of trustees of the University of Connecticut shall fix fees for tuition...and shall fix fees for such other purposes as the board deems necessary at the University of Connecticut, subject to the approval of the commission for higher education...." (emphasis added).

From the foregoing it is obvious that no student fee for any purpose can be established except by a Board of Trustees with the approval of the Commission for Higher Education.

While the statutes do not specifically permit or forbid the expenditure of money from the student activity funds to be used to retain an attorney or establish a legal clinic, Sec. 4-52, Conn. Gen. Stat. does require that the activity fund be used for the benefit of the students. This does not mean that the activity fund may be used for the benefit of individual students, but should be used to benefit the student body.

An attorney or a legal clinic giving advice to students on landlord-tenant relations, consumer complaints against retailers, or on criminal matters is so enmeshed with the private rights of the individual as not to be an activity for the benefit of the student
body. Therefore, none of the fees heretofore established in accordance with Sec. 10-33h, 10-108c, 10-115 or 10-119a, Conn. Gen. Stat., nor student activity funds defined and established in accordance with Sec. 4-52, et seq., may be used to retain the services of an attorney.

Very truly yours,

Carl R. Ajello
Attorney General

By: [Signature]
Seymour D. Giber
Assistant Attorney General
State of Connecticut

CARL R. AJELLO
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of The Attorney General
30 THOMAS ST.
HARTFORD 06106

July 8, 1975

Chancellor Louis Rabineau
Commission for Higher Education
340 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Dr. Rabineau:

We have been requested by some of the constituent units of the system of higher education to advise them on whether or not part of the student fees they have heretofore established may be used to retain the services of an attorney to provide students with legal services.

It appears to us that this question is about to be raised in other constituent units and therefore in the interest of having this advice disseminated throughout the state system of higher education we have taken the liberty of addressing this advice to you.

Section 10-329b(a)(2), Conn. Gen. Stat., defines "tuition" as "a direct charge for instructional programs which charge will be deposited to the resources of the general fund and is clearly delineated from any other fees." Sec. 10-329b(b) states that "[i]n order to defray part of the cost of the higher education instructional programs at the constituent units of the state system of higher education, tuition shall be charged as provided in Secs. 10-33h, 10-108c, 10-115 and 10-119a...."

Sec. 10-33h(a) provides:

"...the board of trustees of the regional community colleges shall fix fees for tuition...and shall fix fees for such other purposes as the board deems necessary at such colleges, subject to the approval of the commission for higher education..." (emphasis added).