RESOLUTION

reauthorizing

THE CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

at

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

July 22, 1994

WHEREAS, The Center for Educational Excellence (CEE) is located at Eastern Connecticut State University and has provided services for the Connecticut State University system which were both creative and vital to the teaching mission of the system, and

WHEREAS, The Center has encouraged and supported excellence in teaching, faculty development, curriculum development, and collaboration among the four campuses and the larger educational community, and

WHEREAS, The Center has encouraged substantive CSU campus collaboration among faculty members and administrators which included project IMPACT, workshops and seminars on improving classroom teaching, and the sharing of ideas through the Center’s publication EXCEL, and

WHEREAS, The President of Eastern Connecticut State University has evaluated the Center for Educational Excellence on its past accomplishments and recommends that the Center be continued for an additional three year period, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Center for Educational Excellence shall be extended for an additional three year period as an organized research and service unit at Eastern Connecticut State University for the primary purpose of supporting and encouraging excellence in teaching at Eastern Connecticut State University and shall in addition function as a resource for faculty throughout the CSU system for this same purpose; the Center for Educational Excellence shall go out of existence no later than December 31, 1997 unless action is taken to the contrary by the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University.

A Certified True Copy:

Thomas A. Porter
Interim President
I am pleased to submit to you a report on the Center for Educational Excellence (CEE) located at Eastern Connecticut. The services which the Center provided to the Connecticut State University system and particularly to Eastern were both creative and in many ways vital to the teaching mission of the CSU system.

Since the Center was moved to Eastern three years ago, it has encouraged and supported excellence in teaching, faculty development, curriculum development, and collaboration among the four campuses and the larger educational community.

CEE has encouraged substantive campus collaboration, with the most noteworthy examples being project IMPACT, workshops and seminars on improving classroom teaching, and the sharing of ideas through the Center's publication EXCEL and conferences. Because these collaborative activities represent some of the best forms of collaboration among CSU faculty members, they were genuinely supported by faculty and administrators from all four campuses.

I believe that the Center can build on its past accomplishments and prove to be a program of excellence at Eastern. Eastern's goal is to strengthen and expand the programs offered through the Center by seeking additional sources of support for its activities from sources outside CSU.

Your personal support and commitment to the mission and goals of CEE are greatly appreciated.

Finally, I wish to request that the CSU Board of Trustees renew its authorization of the Center for Educational Excellence for an additional three year period ending on December 31, 1997.

Please find enclosed a summary report to the Board of Trustees and copies of the Center's annual reports for years 1991 through 1994.

Sincerely,

David G. Carter
President

Enclosures
Various additional workshops, mini-conferences were held over the 3-year period.

4. University staff time assigned by semester to this activity:

Full-time Faculty

Name | Department/School | Semester | % of Time Assigned
--- | --- | --- | ---
IMPACT Participants | | | invest time during the summer on course transformations.

Part-time Faculty

Name | Department/School | Semester | % of Time Assigned
--- | --- | --- | ---

Other Staff

Name | % of Time Assigned | Period | Source of Funding
--- | --- | --- | ---
Executive Director | 100% | 91-94 | 
Secretary | 100% | 91-94 | 

5. Financial Schedule for Reporting Period

91-92 | 92-93 | 93-94
--- | --- | ---
Beginning Balance | 40,000 | 26,800 | 27,629

Income/Receipts*

Grants/Contracts | 0 | 0 | 0
Student Fees/Charges | 0 | 0 | 0
Other (identify source) | 0 | 0 | 0
Total | 40,000 | 26,800 | 27,629
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures*</th>
<th>91-92</th>
<th>92-93</th>
<th>93-94</th>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Services</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>6,604</td>
<td>5,150</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>O/E</td>
<td>28,993</td>
<td>20,196</td>
<td>6,805.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ending Balance</td>
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<td>11,058.85</td>
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* Show in-kind contributions in footnotes only, not on financial schedule

6. Current authorizing resolution establishes sunset date at:
   December 31, 1994

7. Campus President's evaluation of the activity and recommendation for continuance or discontinuance

8. If President's recommendation is for continuance, please outline plans for the future
Introduction

Many people refer to teaching as both an art and a craft. As such, it must be studied, developed, practiced, and refined. The Center for Educational Excellence, established in 1987 by CSU President Dallas K. Beal, has developed as a mechanism for supporting faculty in becoming teaching artists and craftspersons. Located at Eastern Connecticut State University, the Center is designed to enhance teaching and learning within the university community, promote excellence in educational research and practice, and strengthen school/university collaboratives in Connecticut. The Center is staffed by a full-time executive director reporting to Eastern's Vice President for Academic Affairs and a secretary. An Advisory Council comprised of twenty representatives from the educational community in the state offers advice on program development.

Five goals have been established for the Center. Each is listed below, along with a description of activities developed to accomplish each one during the academic year. Activities that were particularly noteworthy in terms of positive feedback and response from participants were Project IMPACT, the Instructional Workshops in Teaching and Learning, the ECSU New Faculty Orientation, EXCEL, and the CEE Annual Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning.

Center Goals and Activities

1) **Identify professional development needs of university faculty.**
   - met regularly with Eastern's Faculty Development Committee to plan and implement model programs meeting the needs and interests of faculty at Eastern;
   - facilitated discussions for regular meetings of the Center's Advisory Council;
   - conducted and synthesized evaluations of the Center's programs, including the spring conference, Project IMPACT, the Instructional Workshops, and the New Faculty Orientation.
   - established and facilitated meetings of the CSU Faculty Development Network, for the purposes of bringing together representatives responsible for faculty development on the four campuses to share progress, needs, concerns.

2) **Serve as resource for faculty and departments in working to enhance teaching effectiveness and improve learning in the college classroom.**
   - developed, organized, and evaluated the CSU Conferences on Teaching and Learning (attendees were from the four CSU campuses);
   - worked with the CSU Board of Trustees to plan a major statewide conference celebrating teaching at CSU;
• in collaboration with Eastern's Faculty Development Committee, developed, facilitated, and evaluated the ECSU New Faculty Orientation, including a two-day seminar and a mentoring program, and an eight-session Dinner Dialogue Series on education topics;
• developed and implemented the Instructional Workshops in Teaching and Learning on three CSU campuses during the spring semester (three workshops on each campus, meeting for 5 sessions each);
• developed and facilitated the 5-session Instructional Workshop at Eastern on "The Teaching Portfolio";
• established the Project IMPACT Network of faculty participants for three years; facilitated two workshops/meetings for the group on institutionalizing the curriculum transformation process.

3) **Disseminate information about educational practice and research in higher education in order to meet the challenges of education in the 21st century.**
• wrote and disseminated to all CSU faculty and administrative staff 4 annual issues of EXCEL, the Center's newsletter, focusing on issues pertaining to teaching and learning in the college classroom;
• developed and disseminated brochures to all CSU faculty for the Center's programs, including Project IMPACT, the IMPACT Spring Lecture Series, and the Dinner Dialogue Series;
• wrote papers on model programs developed at ECSU that were accepted for presentation at AAHE, and an international conference on "Improving University Teaching";
• developed brochure for dissemination on "Faculty Development at ECSU";
• developed collection, system for accessing, and annotated listing of resources available to faculty on teaching and learning (includes books, videotapes, articles, journals, simulations).

4) **Support applied research and other innovative faculty-initiated projects that deal with pressing educational issues.**
• organized and evaluated Project IMPACT for four years (63 participants for four years), in which transformed courses were implemented and evaluated by faculty and students on all four CSU campuses;
• administered Project IMPACT for four years, including development of faculty participant selection process and project organization; developed Project IMPACT Handbook for all participants; developed and facilitated daylong retreat for participants in January; developed spring scholarly workshop series (six daylong workshops facilitated by nationally recognized scholars in race, ethnic, and gender studies); developed and facilitated additional workshops on teaching and learning for diverse student populations;
• assisted Pat Martin in developing and implementing the Community Service Learning Project and grant at ECSU (developed and disseminated selection process).
5) **Serve as a resource for the continued improvement of school/university relationships.**

- represented CSU in the Connecticut Recruitment Network for Educational Diversity (statewide network established to link educators at all levels in supporting the development and retention of a diverse educational workforce); facilitated dialogues over Connecticut's Knowledge Network on the project; served as resource in the development of a videotape on exemplary programs.

**Goals**

The goals of the Center for Educational Excellence will remain the same. The major activities of the Center in the years ahead will include:

- development of at least two grant proposals focused on supporting faculty in transforming curriculum to include multicultural perspectives and taking new and innovative approaches to teaching math and science in the college classroom;
- continuation and initiation/expansion of Project IMPACT;
- continuation of work with the IMPACT Network;
- ECSU New Faculty Orientation;
- establishment of the Peer Consultation Program;
- development and publication of the Project IMPACT publication (about the process, including an annotated bibliography);
- EXCEL - 4 annual issues;
- expansion and care of the Clearinghouse on Teaching and Learning;
- the Instructional Workshops.