

Connecticut State University System

BR#98-68



RESOLUTION

amending

CSU TRUSTEES' SCHOLARSHIPS

AT

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

December 11, 1998

WHEREAS, In June 1997 the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System authorized each university to award Connecticut State University Trustees' Scholarships to a limited number of students in an amount not to exceed the amount of tuition charged an in-state student per year, for the specific purpose of recruiting and retaining full-time entering freshmen and full-time entering transfer students of exceptional talent who might not otherwise consider attending a CSU university, and

WHEREAS, The Council of Presidents have expressed concern that they would like to enhance their ability to attract the "bright, high achievers", and have requested that certain modifications be made to the present program, therefore let it be

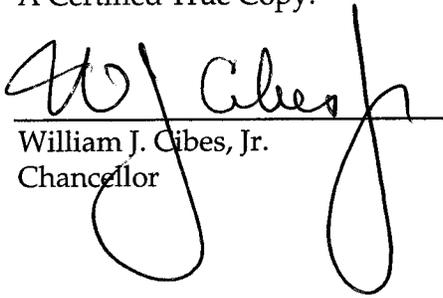
RESOLVED, That the conditions (e) and (g) for awarding Trustees' Scholarships set forth in Board Resolution 97-49 be amended as follows:

- (e) The annual funding allocated to this program at each university for each class of entering students shall not exceed an amount equivalent to 0.5% of tuition revenue based on the amount generated by the campus' full-time undergraduate enrollment of the previous fall semester.
- (g) Under the direction of the president, the university shall establish and publish the criteria on the basis for which such scholarships will be awarded. Such criteria may include, but shall not be limited to, need, rank-in-class, scores on standardized tests, measures of leadership, evidence of achievement, or grade point average for first time freshmen or transfer applicants.

and be it further

RESOLVED, That all other conditions shall remain as stated in BR97-49 including the provision to terminate the program on June 30, 2001, unless each university develops an endowment fund for the specific purpose of these awards in an amount sufficient to continue adequate funding, and the program is re-authorized by the Board of Trustees.

A Certified True Copy:



William J. Cibes, Jr.
Chancellor

ITEM

Amendment to CSU Trustees' Scholarship

BACKGROUND

In addition to grants-in-aid to students based on financial need, the CSU universities award merit-based scholarships for the purpose of recruiting and retaining academically outstanding students. These merit based scholarships are supported by operating fund sources, including tuition and fees, and have come to be associated almost entirely with enrollment in the honors program at each university.

In 1996, as the competition for students increased, the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University system established a goal for enrollment (2% increase per year) and also asked that the academic profile of the universities be enhanced. To meet these requests, the presidents petitioned for an expansion of the merit scholarship program. In recognition of the difficulty the universities were experiencing in recruiting and retaining qualified students, the Board established the Trustees' Scholarship program. This program was intended to supplement the Presidential Merit Scholarship program with a more flexible, merit-based scholarship initiative.

ANALYSIS

In developing the Trustees' Scholarship program, the Academic Affairs Committee members expressed differing views on the criteria for such an award. Some felt that merit based scholarships should only be granted after all need-based scholarships had been funded. Others felt that merit based programs should not tap state appropriations or student tuition and or fee revenue. After consideration of the various components of the program, the Committee agreed that the eligibility criteria should include a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 and 24 credits annually.

The Committee also agreed that the cumulative funding allocated to the program at each university for each class of entering students shall not exceed an amount equivalent to 0.5% of tuition revenue based on the amount generated by the university's full-time undergraduate enrollment of the previous fall semester. Finally the Committee agreed that each university should establish and publish the criteria on the basis for which such scholarships shall be awarded.

Over the course of the academic year (1997-1998), the Presidents have expressed concern that they would like to enhance their ability to attract the "bright, high achievers". They have requested that the 0.5% limit be raised to allow for more dollars to be awarded, and that the funding basis be *annual* rather than *cumulative*. Furthermore, they have asked that *evidence of achievement* be included as one of the criteria on which a trustees' scholarship award might be granted.

On December 2, 1998, the Academic Affairs Committee agreed to move forward with the revisions regarding the funding basis and the criteria but chose to leave the limit at 0.5%.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the amendment to the Trustees Scholarship program.