



RESOLUTION

concerning

AWARD OF THE TITLE

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

to

JOHN P. BRIGGS

April 6, 2000

WHEREAS, The faculty at Western Connecticut State University has recommended Professor John P. Briggs for the title of Connecticut State University Professor, and

WHEREAS, The President of Western Connecticut State University, James R. Roach, has recommended awarding this title to Professor John Briggs, and Connecticut State University Chancellor, William J. Cibes, Jr., has concurred, and

WHEREAS, Professor Briggs has served Western Connecticut State University since 1987 as a member of the English Department and greatly assisted in the growth and development of the Department's curriculum and programs; and

WHEREAS, Professor Briggs has published numerous books on science and the arts, several have been published in foreign language editions, and he has contributed articles in professional journals on creativity, chaos theory, and creative approaches to social action; and

WHEREAS, Professor Briggs, a prolific writer and scholar, has lectured throughout the United States and in Europe, and he is recognized by his colleagues for his professional excellence; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the title Connecticut State University Professor is herewith awarded by the Board of Trustees to John Briggs of Western Connecticut State University effective April 7, 2000, pursuant to the BOT/AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement; and be it further

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

A Certified True Copy:

Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman

William J. Cibes, Jr., Chancellor

ITEM

Award of the Title Connecticut State University Professor to John P. Briggs

BACKGROUND

Several years ago, at the request of the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University, the title Connecticut State University Professor was created to recognize outstanding merit among the teaching faculty in the System. Each university is limited to three such designated scholars at any time. To attain the designation, a faculty member must be nominated through a committee procedure which is advisory to the University President, receive the recommendations of the University President and CSU Chancellor, and receive approval of the Board of Trustees. CSU Professors receive a salary 10 percent higher than they would otherwise receive for their rank and years of service.

ANALYSIS

Dr. John Briggs is a noted teacher and scholar, prolific writer, and lecturer both in the United States and abroad, and has significantly assisted the Department of English at Western Connecticut State University in the growth and development of programs and curriculum. The designation of CSU Professor for Dr. Briggs has been recommended by President Roach and Chancellor Cibes.

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

The resolution awarding the title of CSU Professor to Western Connecticut State University Professor John P. Briggs should be approved.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: John Briggs

Address: English Department, Western Connecticut State University
33 Barnard Road, Granville, MA 01034

Education:

Ph.D. in aesthetics and psychology, The Union Institute, 1981

M.A. in English, New York University, 1972

B.A. in Letters, Wesleyan University, College of Letters, Honors, cum laude, 1968

Professional Experience

1999— Co-chair, Department of English, WCSU

1995-1998 Adjunct faculty: Union Institute (Ph.D program); Vermont
College of Norwich University (Masters program)

1995- Professor of English, Journalism Coordinator, WCSU

1987-95 Associate Professor of English, Journalism Coordinator, WCSU

1974-87 Adjunct English Department Faculty, Mercy College

1973-87 Humanities Faculty, The New School for Social Research

1974 Adjunct English Department Faculty, Brooklyn College

1968-71 English teacher, Patchogue High School, Irvington High School

1981— Freelance science writer

1979-80 Consulting Editor, Herman Smith Associates

1978-79 Copy Editor, *The Hartford Courant*

1977-79 Co-host, The Logic of Poetry Radio show, WNYC public radio, NYC

1975-85 Freelance professional photographer specializing in book illustration

1972-77 Managing Editor, *New York Quarterly*

1970-76 Managing Editor, The Academy (Am. Acad. Psychoanalysis)

1965-68 Reporter, *The Hartford Courant*

1962-63 Reporter, *The Tarrytown Daily News*

Other:

1997— Assistant Editor, *Connecticut Review*

Civic: Member of Granville Board of Selectmen, 1987-1992, Chairman of Board 1989 and 1992; Chairman of committee to create a Citizens' Park for Granville 1995-99 ; organizer and Chairman, Granville Business Assn. 1993 to present; 1994 to present, patrol officer, Granville Police.

Sample of Courses Taught

Graduate: The Aesthetics of the Novel; The Primordial Aesthetics of Virginia Woolf and Joseph Conrad; Virginia Woolf. **Undergraduate:** William Faulkner, The American Shakespeare; Joseph Conrad, the Writer's Writer; The Logic of Poetry; Introduction to Fiction; The Universe as a Work of Art; Investigative Reporting; Specialty Reporting; Advanced Journalism; Opinion Writing; Magazine Editing, Production and Desktop Publishing, Fiction Writing Workshop; Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop.

Publications, exhibits, performances, etc.

Books

- Seven Life Lessons of Chaos*. HarperCollins 1999. Paperback scheduled Feb. 2000. With F. David Peat. German, Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Portuguese, Spanish editions.
- Fractals: The Patterns of Chaos*. (Simon & Schuster, Touchstone, 1992). Selected, Quality Paperback Book Club, McGraw-Hill Book Club. German, Italian and UK editions. Over 60,000 copies sold.
- Metaphor, The Logic of Poetry*. Revised edition (Pace Univ. Press, 1991). Originally *The Logic of Poetry*, published by McGraw-Hill as a textbook in 1974. Coauthored with Richard Monaco.
- Turbulent Mirror: An Illustrated Guide to Chaos Theory and the Science of Wholeness*. (Harper & Row, 1989). Coauthored with David Peat. Reissued in paperback by Harper & Row, 1990; published in French, German, Korean, Japanese, Italian, Greek, Chinese (separate mainland and Taiwanese translations), and UK editions; Book of the Month Club, Macmillan Book Club and Quality Paperback Book Club selection. Over 160,000 copies sold.
- Fire in the Crucible: The Alchemy of Creative Genius*. (St. Martin's Press, 1988; reissued in new edition by Jeremy Tarcher, 1989). Crucible will be released in a new edition Fall 2000 by Phanes Press. Author.
- Looking Glass Universe*. (Simon and Schuster, 1984) Coauthored with David Peat. A Science Book Club selection, six printings; French, Japanese, Italian, UK and Spanish Editions.

Selected Book Chapters

- "Tim O'Brien's Ironic Aesthetic: What is the Nature of a True Story," written with Edward Hagan (WCSU English Dept.), forthcoming in a collection of O'Brien criticism from the University of Michigan Press, Catherine Calloway, ed.
- "Where's The Poetry? Consciousness as the Flight of Three Blackbirds" in *Advances in Consciousness Research*, Paavo Pylykkanen, ed., Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing, forthcoming.
- "Alice in the Mirror of Art" in *Lewis Carroll's Lost Quantum Diaries*, William Shanley, ed., Werner Locher: Frankfurt, 1998.
- "The Balm of Irony," in *Voices on the Threshold of Tomorrow*, Boston: Quest Books, 1993.
- "Nuance, Metaphor and the Rhythm of the Mood Wave in Virginia Woolf," in *Virginia Woolf Miscellanies: Proceedings of the First Annual Conference on Virginia Woolf*, New York: Pace University Press, 1992.
- "Ultimate Questioners: The Search for 'Omnivalent' Meaning" in *The Search for Meaning: The New Spirit in Science and Philosophy*, Paavo Pylykkanen, ed., Thorsens: Wellingborough, UK, 1989.
- "Reflectaphors: the (Implicate) Universe as a Work of Art" in *Quantum Implications*, Basil Hiley and F. David Peat, eds., London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1987.
- "This*Other-ness and Dreams" in *The Variety of Dream Experience* Montague Ullman and Claire Limmer, eds., New York: Continuum, 1987. Published in paper by Crucible (Thorsons), 1989.

Poetry selection in *New American Poetry* by Richard Monaco (McGraw Hill, 1972).

Photo illustration for *Seven Life Lessons of Chaos*. Fractal photos will also be appearing in a collection *Fractalist Art* to be published in France, Jean-Claude Chirollet, ed.

Selected Relevant Articles

- "Nuance and Omnivalence in the Creative Mind," *Advanced Development, A Journal of Adult Giftedness*, spring 1997.
- "Chaos, Fractals, Aesthetics and the Environment," *The Network*, Winter 1994.
- "Exploring the Potentials of Creative Dialogue," *ICIS Forum*, Spring 1994.
- "Dialogue between John Briggs and Morris Berman on the Possibility of Social Creativity and Its Attendant Dangers in a Mass Society," *Troisième Millénaire*, Paris, Mar. 1994. Also appeared in the Spanish edition of this magazine. Berman, a social historian, is author of *Coming to Our Senses* and *The Reenchantment of the World*.
- "Unholy Desires, Inordinate Affections, A Psychodynamic Inquiry into John Wesley's Relationship with Women," with John P. Briggs, M.D., *Connecticut Review*. Spring, 1991.
- "Sweden's Clean Energy Boondoggle," with Lionel Bascom, in the investigative reporting magazine of Sweden, *Scoop*, Jan. 1, 1991.
- "Quantum Leap," article on and interview with David Bohm on the physics of social change, *New Age Journal*, Sept./Oct. 1989. Excerpted for *Wellness for Helping Professionals*, Kendall Hunt, 1990 and *Utne Reader*, Spring 1991. Reprinted as a chapter in *Discovering Common Ground, Strategic Futures Conferences for Improving Whole Systems*, Marvin R. Weisbord, Ed. (Jossey-Bass, 1992)
- "Interview with Reese Jenkins," Thomas A. Edison scholar and Director of The Edison Papers, *Omni Magazine*, April 1989.
- "Beyond Stereotypes," on prodigy and talent, *The World and I*, Mar. 1987.
- "Interview with David Bohm," *Omni Magazine*, Jan. 1987.
- "Masks," transpersonal states induced by masking and metaphor, *Science Digest*, Nov. 1987. Reprinted in the *Grolier Scientific Annual 1987*.
- "The Genius Mind," *Science Digest*, Dec. 1984. Reprinted in *Royal Scientific Society and Squiblines*, 1987.
- "Unshrouding the Muse: The Anatomy of Inspiration," *Artnews*, April 1980.
- "Creativity," cover article *Northeast*, Oct. 7, 1979.
- "Some Thoughts on Consciousness, Language and Metaphor," *The Academy*, May 1974.

Published interviews with creators such as Richard Wilbur, Jorge Luis Borges and W.D. Snodgrass; these interviews have appeared in *New York Quarterly*, *The Craft of Poetry* (Doubleday, 1974) and on air in "The Logic of Poetry" show which I hosted from 1976-79 on WNYC, New York.

Published short stories and poems have appeared in such publications as *New American Poetry* (McGraw-Hill, 1972), *Northwest Review*, *Iowa Review* and *Prairie Schooner*. Recent short fiction in *Parting Gifts*; *New Novel Review*; *Manifold*; *Ibis Review*; *Paragraph*; *Art Times*; *Pudding Magazine*; *The Connecticut Review* and others.

Selected Relevant Lectures. Papers

- Reading of fiction from *Night Shaman Stories*, Guild Arts Complex, Chicago, Illinois, Oct. 20, 1999.
- "Disassembling Reality and Then Not Quite Putting It Back," talk for conference on Science and the Arts, DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., Oct. 20-24, 1999. Travel funded by conference and Illinois Humanities Council grant..
- "The 'Enemy' is 'Us'" with Kathleen Brady (UConn) and Edward Hagan (WCSU), presentation (by Hagan and Brady) at a conference entitled, *Dressing Up for War: Transformation of Gender and Genre in the Discourses and Literature of War*, Barcelona, Spain, March 26-28, 1999. This paper was selected for a book collection of papers on the subject, forthcoming.
- "Where's the Poetry?" presentation to a conference on *The Varieties and Dimensions of Conscious Experience*, Skovde Sweden, Oct. 10-12, 1997. Travel funded by conference.
- Presentation at the World Congress on Violence and Co-existence, Dublin, Ireland, August 1997 of a paper entitled "War, Creativity, Misogyny and the Male Romance of Power" written with WCSU Prof. Edward Hagan and Kathleen Brady of the University of Connecticut.
- "Chaos, Fractals and the Universe as a Work of Art," The College of Letters, Wesleyan University, Nov. 6, 1996.
- Talk on the Aesthetics of Fractals and Art for the University System of Georgia Research Symposium, "Chaos Theory and the Arts and Humanities," Athens, Georgia, Feb. 29-March 1, 1996.
- Day-long lecture-seminar, "Creatividad y Genio: De la Alquimia a la Ciencia," Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Bogotá, Columbia, July 23, 1993, for the University's program on "Scientific Investigation: an Interdisciplinary Vision."
- Keynote lecture on "Wholeness in Nature Through Chaos Theory" for Clarke College (Dubuque, Iowa) 150th Symposium on Paradigms for the Future, Mar. 24, 1993. Travel funded by symposium.
- "Fractals, Chaos and the Universe as a Work of Art," one of the Science, Technology & Society Lectures, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall downtown Portland, Oregon, Jan. 22, 1993. Travel funded by lecture series.
- "Art, Science, and Spirit," literary metaphor, reflectaphors, chaos theory, quantum mechanics, black holes and Beethoven's Grosse Fugue, a presentation with Eric Lewis of the Manhattan String Quartet for WCSU symposium on "The New Age of Exploration: The Next 500 Years," Oct. 10, 1992.
- "Virginia Woolf's Primordial Aesthetics": Virginia Woolf Summer Institute (Southern Connecticut State U.), June 1992.
- "The Universe as a Work of Art": Interface (Boston), June 1990; Society for Layerists in Multimedia (San Antonio), June 1992. Travel funded by SLM.
- "The Alchemy of Creative Genius": The Open Center (New York City) June 1989; Whole Health Expo, May 1990; Powell's Lecture Series (Portland, Oregon), Fall 1990. Travel funded by Powell's Book Store.

Selected Relevant Grants. Awards

WCSU travel grant to consult with Basil Hiley, Physics Dept., Birkbeck College, University of London, on the metaphoric aspects of mathematics, summer 1998. AAUP Research Award (1991) of \$3,317 to complete an outline and sample chapters for a book, *The Universe as a Work of Art*; George Herbert Award for Poetry, from the World Order of Narrative Poets (1986); travel and lodging grant from Svensk Ortmedicinska Institutet to help organize and to participate in an international conference on Holism and the Crisis in Consciousness, Goteborg Sweden(1988); travel and lodging grant from the same organization for a conference on Meaning, Mind and Matter, Isle of Thorns, Sussex, England (1986); research fellowship from Lifwynn Foundation for study of the social significance of dreams (1977).

Listed in Gales *Contemporary Authors*; *Who's Who in the World (Marquis)*; *Who's Who in the East*; *Who's Who in American Education*; *International Authors and Writers Who's Who* .

Professional Organizations: American Association of University Professors, The National Writers' Union, The Science and Medical Network, The American Society for Aesthetics.