



Developing a State of Minds

Connecticut State University System

BR#01-09



RESOLUTION

concerning

PROGRAM MODIFICATION

for a

MAJOR IN PROFESSIONAL WRITING

at

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

February 2, 2001

WHEREAS, Western Connecticut State University currently offers the degree Bachelor of Arts in English and the degree Bachelor in Science for Elementary and Secondary Certification with options in Writing, and

WHEREAS, The offering of a new major in Professional Writing represents a modification to the existing Bachelor of Arts in English and Bachelor in Science for Elementary and Secondary Certification degrees, and

WHEREAS, In addition to an expanded academic objective than the Writing options, the Professional Writing major will have a sufficient amount of required courses to require separate approval under the Board of Governors approval regulations, and

WHEREAS, The new degree in Professional Writing will prepare students for a variety of careers, assist the University in addressing several of the learning objectives contained within the CSU Performance Indicators, and contribute importantly to workforce development in the State, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University System approves Western Connecticut State University's application to the Board of Governors for Higher Education for a major in Professional Writing within the Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and the Bachelor in Science for Elementary and Secondary Certification.

A Certified True Copy:

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William J. Cibes, Jr.  
Chancellor

**ITEM**

Major in Professional Writing at Western Connecticut State University

**BACKGROUND**

Western Connecticut State University proposes a new undergraduate major in Professional Writing as options within the licensed and accredited BA in English and BS in elementary and Secondary Certification programs. Approval for this major is sought under the program modification guidelines of the Board of Governors for the Department of Higher Education.

In addition to having a academic objective different from the Writing option which it replaces, the Professional Writing option will have a sufficient amount of required courses to require separate approval under the Board of Governors approval regulations.

**ANALYSIS**

The Professional Writing major is an outgrowth and a modification of the existing programs in English and in Elementary and Secondary Certification in which there currently are options that students can pursue a Writing major. There is significant demand for a professional writing focus, which will be addressed by separate status for the major. The major can be provided with existing resources since it relies largely on extant courses, facilities and library holdings. As it is an outgrowth from an existing option within the English and Elementary and Secondary Certification degrees, it is submitted appropriately as a modification to an existing program.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Approve WCSU's application for the major in Professional Writing.