



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#01-74



RESOLUTION

concerning

CONTINUATION OF THE CENTER FOR COMPUTING AND SOCIETY

AT

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

November 8, 2001

WHEREAS, The Center for Computing and Society was established at Southern Connecticut State University by Board Resolution 89-7 and reauthorized by Board Resolution 92-12, and

WHEREAS, The President of Southern Connecticut State University has evaluated the work of the Center for Computing and Society and has recommended its continuation, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System authorizes the continuation of the Center for Computing and Society at Southern Connecticut State University and requires that the President of Southern submit a report to the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System evaluating the performance of the Center and recommending continuance or discontinuance by September 1, 2006, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Center for Computing and Society at Southern Connecticut State University shall go out of existence on December 31, 2006, unless the Board of Trustees acts to the contrary.

A Certified True Copy:

Handwritten signature of William J. Cibes, Jr. over a horizontal line, with the printed name and title 'William J. Cibes, Jr. Chancellor' below it.

**ITEM**

Continuation of the Center for Computing and Society at Southern Connecticut State University

**BACKGROUND**

The Center for Computing and Society at Southern was established in 1988, designated as a Center by the Board of Trustees in 1989 and continued in 1992 as an organized service unit to support teaching and scholarly research with regard to the impact on computing on society and human values.

**ANALYSIS**

The staff of the Center works with national and international scholars on cutting-edge research issues regarding ethics and our value systems. Center scholars have presented their findings at numerous professional conferences, while SCSU has co-sponsored six ETHICOMP international conferences. Faculty teach courses in Computer Ethics at SCSU and serve as resources for journalists and community organizations, including the United Nations [Protecting Children on the Internet]. The Center also collaborates with other SCSU units on computer ethics projects. Its web site won a national award for academic excellence in spring 2001.

The Center's five-year plan includes maintaining its leadership in teaching and curriculum development, sponsorship of international conferences, dissemination of resources for teaching and research, and providing workshops and seminars for the CSU community. An annual budget of \$19,000 for FY 2002, as well as office space, has been provided by the university. Such support is expected for the next five years.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Accept the report of the President of SCSU to continue the Center for Computing and Society and require an evaluation of the continuing operation of the Center, including a financial report, by September 1, 2006. A sunset date of December 31, 2006 will be in force if the Center is not recommended for continuance.

**DATE:** April 27, 2001

**TO:** J. Philip Smith, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Academic Affairs, SCSU

**FROM:** Alan J. Sturtz, Ed.D.  
Director, Institutional Research and Planning

**RE:** **Center for Computing and Society**

Following up on our discussion of April 25, I discovered that the Center for Computing and Society was not reauthorized in June 1996 as stipulated in Board Resolution 92-12, nor was it formally terminated. You indicated to me that the Center has been functioning for the past five years and that its director is highly regarded in the field of ethics of conduct in this discipline.

Had there been a reauthorization in 1996, another review would be called for this year. I would recommend that the report of the Center's activities from 1992-1996 and a report covering 1996-2001 (since the Center did continue to function) be sent to President Adanti who could use this information to decide whether to recommend the Center's continuance. This report and recommendation should be presented by September 1, 2001 for consideration by the Board of Trustees through its Academic Affairs Committee.

When you submit the request for continuance, we will draft a Resolution and Staff Report that will acknowledge that formal action in 1996 inadvertently did not occur but that SO and SCSU staff concur there was agreement to continue the Center. In view of this, there now is agreement that the Center's performance over the entire 1992-2001 period supports a recommendation of continuance.

I have attached the authorizing and first continuing resolutions for your review and files. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

C w/o attach: Herman Lujan, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer  
Dennis DeLong, Ph.D., Deputy Chief and Executive Officer for Academic Programs