

Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#03-39



RESOLUTION

concerning

LICENSURE
OF A PROGRAM IN
BIOCHEMISTRY
LEADING TO A

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

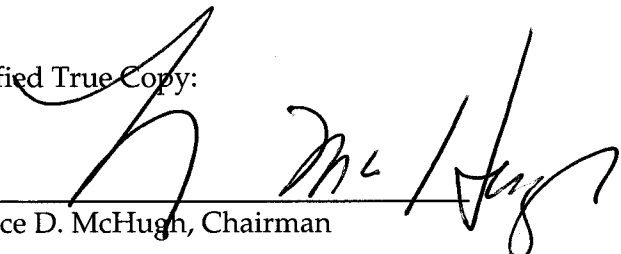
at

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

June 13, 2003

- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System approves Eastern Connecticut State University's proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science degree program in Biochemistry, and be it further
- RESOLVED, That, under the authority granted to the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University System in Chapter 185b, Section 10a-87 and 10a-149 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System is authorized to seek licensure for this program from the Connecticut Board of Governors for Higher Education.

A Certified True Copy:



Lawrence D. McHugh, Chairman

ITEM

Licensure of a Bachelor of Science degree program in Biochemistry at Eastern Connecticut State University

BACKGROUND

This program has been developed to address the growing demand for qualified individuals in the area of biomedical research as well as other careers in the life sciences (43.2% growth between 1998 and 2008, according to the State Department of Labor). In addition, this program has been a part of Eastern's institutional plan to offer a degree program in its Department of Physical sciences to "complement existing science programs."

ANALYSIS

The design of this program expands current offerings for students interested in the life sciences. While providing a distinct area of concentration for students interested in biochemistry, it would not take away from students who are enrolled in either the biology or chemistry programs. A critical feature is the emphasis on laboratory experiences in which students would design and perform their own experiments. This component emphasizes the relationship between this program and Eastern's liberal arts mission. Aside from employment opportunities, the program also prepares majors for advanced graduate study.

The proposed curriculum is aligned closely with the American Chemical Society's standards for biochemistry majors. An extensive course and learning outcomes assessment component has been developed by the faculty and the university's assessment coordinator to include traditional assessment methods as well as portfolios for original laboratory work, embedded assessments in each course, independent study, internships, and an evaluation of research and concepts that build upon previous coursework.

The university has provided evidence for program demand, both by students and from the private sector. Employment opportunities for graduates have also been identified. No new faculty, physical space, costs, or academic support services will be required. Existing library resources (through CONSULS) in biochemistry, biology and chemistry, as well as online databases are adequate to support the program; five additional subscriptions to electronic journals have been approved

CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approve the proposal from Eastern Connecticut State University to offer a Bachelor of Science degree program in Biochemistry.