



RESOLUTION

concerning

THE ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

AT

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

May 1, 1992

RESOLVED, That the Trustees of the Connecticut State University authorize the continued existence at Southern Connecticut State University of an Adaptive Technology Laboratory which shall have as its basic purpose the identification and/or development of computer technology and software to expand the capacity of persons with disabilities to lead self-sufficient and rewarding lives including but not limited to specific functions such as (1) services to students enrolled at Southern Connecticut State University, (2) expanding the capacity of students enrolled in Southern's teacher education programs to fulfill the educational needs of students with disabilities and (3) provision of training programs for persons employed by social and human service agencies, and be it

RESOLVED, That the Adaptive Technology laboratory shall interact with the faculty in the Departments of Computer Science, Special Education, Health Sciences, Nursing, Social Work, Physical Education, Recreation, Communication Disorders, Library Science, Instructional Technology and others at Southern Connecticut State University as necessary in fulfillment of its purposes, and be it

RESOLVED, That the Adaptive Technology Laboratory may receive payment for its services from agencies outside the University and from individual clients other than matriculated students enrolled at Southern Connecticut State University or staff members employed at the University (who shall not be charged for the laboratory's services) and may receive grants and other funding providing that all such income is deposited in University accounts established for the laboratory and expended exclusively for laboratory purposes, and be it


RESOLVED, That there shall be a Director of the Adaptive Technology Laboratory, who shall report to the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Southern Connecticut State University, and such other personnel as may subsequently be authorized according to University procedures, and be it



RESOLVED, That within four years of the date of this Resolution the President of Southern Connecticut State University shall cause the Adaptive Technology Laboratory to be evaluated in terms of its success in aiding persons with disabilities and enhancing the academic programs of the University and shall share the conclusions of this study with the President of the Connecticut State University, who in turn shall share it plus his recommendations with the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University, and be it

RESOLVED, That the Adaptive Technology Laboratory shall go out of existence on June 30, 1996, unless specific action to the contrary is taken by the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University.

A Certified True Copy:


Dallas K. Beal
President



A unit of The Connecticut State University

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

501 Crescent Street • New Haven, Connecticut 06515 • (203) 397-4234

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 20, 1992

Mr. A. Searle Pinney
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Connecticut State University
Lee Farm Corporate Park
83 Wooster Heights
Danbury, CT 06810

Dear Mr. Pinney:

I have completed by evaluation of the activity of the Adaptive Technology Laboratory of Southern Connecticut State University for the period from January 1989 to December 1991. During its first three years, this laboratory has conducted many major projects which were all highly successful. The activity of this laboratory has resulted in the identification of Southern as a leader for research and the development in the field of Adaptive Technology.

Based upon the established record of achievement as well as the proposed plans, I enthusiastically recommend continuance of the Adaptive Technology Laboratory. I suggest June 1996 as the new sunset date.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Adanti
President

MJA/ab
Attachment

cc: Dr. Dallas K. Beal
Dr. Anthony Pinciario
Prof. Barbara Heinisch

**REPORT TO THE CSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ON CENTERS AND INSTITUTES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES**

ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

Southern Connecticut State University

March 31, 1992

1. **Period covered by this report:** From Fall 1989 to Spring 1992

2. **General description of programs undertaken:**

The Adaptive Technology Lab (ATL) enables people with physical, visual and learning disabilities to gain access to computer technology for the purposes of increasing the productivity of their written material. This is accomplished through the use of specialized hardware and software modifications and specific training methods. The staff of the lab has evaluated and trained students and staff on campus as well as clients referred from state rehabilitation agencies (Board of Education Services for the Blind and The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services) and school districts statewide. The ATL is the only such facility in the state of Connecticut.

The ATL is committed to providing information on the innovative and rapidly growing field of assistive technology to the University community as well as to the community at large. The ATL works with students and faculty of many departments to enable them to include information on assistive technology in their curricula. Lab tours are given for entire classes with a specific educational focus. A tour for library science students, for example, has a different focus than one for computer science majors. A new graduate level course in adaptive technology and augmentative communication was written and taught by lab staff in the fall of 1991. A laboratory section of a designated English class for students with learning disabilities was held in the Macintosh lab and taught by an ATL staff member, who will teach the entire course in the future. To disseminate information on assistive technology, an Open House is held on the first Friday of the month during the semester. People from SCSU or the community who are curious about assistive technology visit the ATL to see demonstrations of computer adaptations for people with disabilities. During the 1991-1992 school year, the Open Houses were expanded to include demonstrations by vendors of assistive technology equipment not currently owned by the ATL. The ATL has sponsored faculty development workshops for SCSU faculty and staff and has presented inservice sessions for public school teachers statewide.

Staff members of the Lab have travelled extensively to professional conferences to present papers on aspects of adaptive technology, most notably on issues in starting an adaptive technology lab. This presentation has been made at conferences in six states, and has established the ATL at SCSU as a model for service delivery of adaptive technology at the postsecondary level. In addition, the ATL has published the Adaptive Technology StartUp Kit, which is sold to other Universities developing a lab following the SCSU model. In recognition of the work done by the Adaptive Technology Lab, SCSU has received an award from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. The ATL was included in Centers of Energy, a report on the fifteen exemplary assistive technology labs in the country recently published by the National Council on Disability. Staff members of the lab have begun to publish articles about assistive technology in the literature.

During the Spring 1992 semester, the ATL submitted applications for two grants, which would provide funds to hire additional staff to enable the ATL to expand services to the community. The first, submitted to the United States Department of Education, focused on training teachers and computer specialists from public schools to use assistive technology with their students who are disabled. The second was submitted to the Dole Foundation for the Employment of People with Disabilities, and would allow the ATL to train people from small businesses to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The status of these grant applications is unknown at this writing.

3. Participants in ATL activities

<u>Program</u>	<u>No. Students</u>	<u>No. Faculty</u>	<u>No. Others</u>
Evaluation and training			
1989-1990		2	8
1990-1991	28	1	13
1991- Feb. 1992	26	1	9
Open Houses and Lab Tours			
1989-1990	60	6	20
1990-1991	120	10	40
1991-1992	150	12	65
	2		

Conference Presentations

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic of presentation</u>
4th Annual CSU Computing Conference	3/89	ECSU	Successful Adaptations of Adaptive Computer Technology
VIDEO 10	5/90	Quinnipiac College	Adaptive Computer Technology for Persons with Disabilities
TechAccess Rhode Island	7/90	Providence, R.I.	Establishing an Adaptive Technology Lab
ConnSense	8/90	UCONN	Establishing an Adaptive Technology Lab
Closing the Gap	10/90	Minneapolis, MN	Macintosh Access for Persons with Blindness: A Hands on introduction to outSPOKEN
Technology and Persons with Disabilities	3/91	California State U., Los Angeles, CA	Establishing an Adaptive Technology Lab in a Post-Secondary Setting
			Macintosh Access for Persons with Low Vision: A Hands-on Introduction to inLARGE
			Macintosh Access for Persons with Blindness: A Hands-on Introduction to outSPOKEN
			Why Re-design the Page: Templates for Writing Success

Conference Presentations (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic of presentation</u>
Toward Independence (Apple Computer Conference)	3/91	Boston College	Panel presentation on establishing adaptive technology labs
Yankee Independence and Ingenuity	7/91	U. of Maine Portland, ME	Establishing an Adaptive Technology Lab
ConnSense	7/91	UCONN	Macintosh Access for Persons with Blindness: A Hands-on Introduction to outSPOKEN
National Conference on Computing and Values	8/91	SCSU	Equity and Access to Computing Resources; panel presentation
Closing the Gap	10/91	Minneapolis, MN	Establishing an Adaptive Technology Lab in a University Setting
Technology and Persons with Disabilities	3/92	California State U., Los Angeles, CA	PreConference session- How to start a Technology Center inLARGE 2.0 and Beyond: Resources for Macintosh Access for Persons with Low Vision

4. University Staff time assigned by semester to this activity:

Full-time Faculty

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>%of time</u>
Robert Gelbach	Political Science	Fall 1989- Spring 1990	50%
Barbara Heinisch	Special Education	Fall 1989 to present	50%

Administrative Faculty

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>%of time</u>
Amy Rubin	Computer Center	Fall 1989 to Spring 1990	30%

Other Staff

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hours/week</u>	<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
Debbie Cancemi (University Assistant [UA])	19	Fall 1989- Spring 1990	Extension Fund (EF)
Amy Rubin (UA)	19	Summer 1990- Spring 1991	EF
Dewitt Zuse (Consultant)	10	Fall 1989- Spring 1991	SID Account
Janice Hecht (UA)	19	Summer 1989 to present	EF
Jerry Panagrossi (Student worker)	10	Fall 1990- Spring 1991	Tuition Fund
Ron Farina (Graduate Assistant)	20	Fall 1991- Spring 1992	Tuition Fund

Keith McKay (UA)	19	Fall 1991	EF
Dewitt Zuse (UA)	40 total	Fall 1991	EF
Peter Gordon (Student worker)	10	Fall 1991	Tuition or EF
William O'Donnell (UA)	19	Spring 1992	EF
Dewitt Zuse (UA)	40 total	Spring 1992	EF
Nancy Zychek (Student worker)	10	Spring 1992	Tuition or EF

5. Financial Schedule for reporting period

Beginning balance	<u>\$5000.00</u>
Income/Receipts	
Grants/Contracts	<u>\$5000.00</u>
Student fees/charges	<u>\$0</u>
Other (identify source)	
Outside evaluations	<u>\$ 8,017.00</u>
Sale of StartUp Kit	<u>\$1505.00</u>
Workshop Reg. fees	<u>\$3275.00</u>
Total	<u>\$17,797.00</u>

Expenditures

Personal services (Contractual)	<u>\$9,775.00</u>
Equipment	<u>\$0</u>
O/E	<u>\$0</u>
Other (supplies)	<u>\$1,930.00</u>
Total	<u>\$11,705.00</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$6,092.00</u>

SCSU In-Kind Support:

Staffing: 12 load hours reassigned time for Bob Gelbach; 36 load hours reassigned time for Barbara Heinisch; 26 hours reassigned time from Computer Center for Amy Rubin; 760 University Assistant hours for Amy.

Rubin; 2,424 University Assistant Hours for Janice Hecht; 304 University Assistant hours for Keith McKay; 304 University Assistant hours for Bill O'Donnell; 80 University Assistant hours for Dewitt Zuse, 640 Graduate Assistant hours for Ron Farina; 40 student helper hours total.

Other: Physical facilities, computers and software, furniture, telephone, photocopy services, mailing, security, custodial services, miscellaneous office supplies, computer support.

6. Current authorizing resolution establishes sunset date at: JUNE 30, 1992.

7. Campus president's evaluation of the activity and recommendation for continuance or discontinuance. (please see attachment)

8. If president's plan is for continuance, please outline plans for the future.

Future plans for the Adaptive Technology Lab:

Student Services:

Staff of the ATL will continue to evaluate and train SCSU students in the uses and applications of assistive technology. Students with disabilities are choosing to attend SCSU in greater numbers because of the support system at this university. It is anticipated that the numbers of students needing adaptive technology solutions will continue to increase. The ATL sees a need to work more closely with high schools in transition planning for students with disabilities. There are plans to include a peer support group for students with disabilities who are hesitant to use computers.

Information Dissemination:

Open Houses will continue to be offered on the first Friday of the month to accommodate visitors from on and off campus. Vendors will continue to be included, and the Open Houses will be advertised to those people who will derive maximum benefit from the vendor demonstration. Staff members will continue to encourage local newspapers and publications to include articles about the ATL.

Staff members of the ATL will continue to make presentations at the major national conferences in the field of assistive technology. Additional presentation topics will continue to be developed. Topics currently under development include a session on computer solutions for students with learning disabilities and one comparing the features of word prediction software programs for students with physical or learning disabilities. The Adaptive Technology Lab StartUp Kit will continue to be offered to agencies beginning to develop assistive technology programs. Staff members will continue to submit articles for publication in the professional literature.

Direct Services to clients:

The Staff of the Adaptive Technology Lab will continue to evaluate and train clients referred from the Board of Education Services for the Blind, the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, school districts throughout the state, and those people with disabilities who seek services independently. The ATL charges an hourly fee for the evaluation and training of these clients. Clients referred to the ATL usually have multiple disabilities and challenge the staff to keep current on the latest evaluation and training techniques.

Financial Development: The staff of the ATL will continue to pursue federal and private grants which will allow the expansion of services and programs through the acquisition of equipment, software, and staff

resources. Teacher training and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act will continue to be areas of priority.

Software Development: Due to the growing recognition of the ATL as an exemplary technology center, software developers have approached staff members of the lab to explore the possibilities of beta testing software currently under development. One such field test will begin in April, 1992.

Workshops and Training Opportunities: The staff of the ATL has sent a survey to teachers in public schools throughout the state to determine interest in a variety of topics related to assistive technology. The responses to these surveys will guide the staff in developing a series of workshops on the uses and applications of assistive technology for children with disabilities in the schools.



A unit of The Connecticut State University
SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

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Office of the Vice President
For Academic Affairs
Telephone: (203) 397-4320

April 20, 1992

Dr. Thomas Porter
Provost
Connecticut State University
P.O. Box 2008
New Britain, CT 06050

Dear Dr. Porter

Please find enclosed a copy of the report on the Adaptive Technology Laboratory which has been prepared in accordance with the proposed guidelines. A copy was also submitted by fax on Monday, April 20, 1992.

I would be pleased to answer any questions which you may have concerning this report.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony V. Pinciario
Vice President for
Academic Affairs

AVP/ehp
Attachment
cc: M. J. Adanti
B. Heinisch