



RESOLUTION

amending

MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

for

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

October 1, 1993

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University wishes to continue the Merit Scholarship program set forth in the Board Resolution of January 10, 1992 (BR #92-14) but wishes to amend the terms of the program to permit greater flexibility in determining the dollar amount of the scholarships, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University amends Board Resolution #92-14 to permit each CSU campus president discretion to award either full scholarships in an amount equal to the sum of the annual in-state undergraduate tuition plus the annual University Fee, the annual University General Fee, and the annual Student Activity Fee or half scholarships equal to one-half of the sum of the above annual fees or both full and half scholarships within the allocated dollars.

A Certified True Copy:

Dallas K. Beal
President





RESOLUTION

concerning

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS
for
RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

January 10, 1992

WHEREAS: In 1987, the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University established the Merit Scholarship program for the recruitment and retention of academically outstanding students and mandated periodic review of the effectiveness of the program in attaining this objective, and

WHEREAS: A review of the program has now been completed which indicates some need for modification in the operation of the program although not in its basic objectives, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Resolution concerning Merit Scholarships of February 3, 1989 (BR#89-52) is hereby repealed, and be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University authorizes each institution comprising the Connecticut State University to award grants-in-aid in an amount equal to the sum of the in-state tuition charge, the appropriate University Fee, the General Fee, and the Student Activity Fee for the specific purpose of recruiting and retaining full-time entering freshmen and full-time entering transfer students of exceptional academic promise who might not otherwise consider attending a CSU institution, such grants to be awarded under the following conditions:

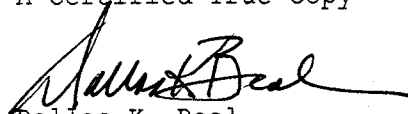
- (a) The number of such grant recipients per year shall be limited to .4% of the campus' full-time undergraduate enrollment of the previous Fall semester, and
- (b) The grants shall be paid to the students in the form of a stipend from which the recipients will pay the aforementioned tuition and fees, and
- (c) If the recipient's full financial need is not met by the Merit Scholarship, the Scholarship shall be attributed to the "self-help" portion of unmet need as calculated by the Financial Aid Office, and
- (d) Such scholarships shall be awarded under a process specifically approved by the campus president or



president's designee which by the timing of the award maximizes the recruitment or retention potential of the scholarship, and

- (e) Under the direction of the campus president each campus may decide whether or not to require merit scholarship recipients to participate in an Honors Program or other specially designated academic program, and
- (f) Under the direction of the campus president each campus shall identify and maintain criteria for continuing eligibility for the Merit Scholarships providing that no student shall receive such scholarships for more than eight semesters, and
- (g) Each campus president shall evaluate how well this program functions to recruit and retain academically outstanding students and shall submit annual reports to the president of the Connecticut State University on forms developed by the CSU Executive Office for this purpose.

A Certified True Copy


Dallas K. Beal
President

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JUL 21 1993

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
New Britain, Connecticut

CONNEL
STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
827-7288

July 16, 1993

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. Dallas K. Beal, President
Connecticut State University

FROM: Karen C. Beyard, Vice President *KCB*
Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Merit Scholarship Program

Dear President Beal:

On behalf of President John W. Shumaker, I am pleased to present our annual report on the Merit Scholarship Program (BR 92-14).

During 1992-93, the Honors Program was our one merit scholarship program. On-going self study and the infusion of new faculty have led to important changes which are described in the attached report prepared by Professor Leland Creer who directs the program. Perhaps most significantly, a change in selection criteria (toward more flexible consideration of performance and promise, particularly in the case of transfer students) and the use of an interview committee which has worked more closely with the Admissions Office have helped us to recruit and develop a more diverse honors program. We are especially proud that African-Americans and Hispanic students comprise twenty-five per cent of incoming honors freshmen. In addition, a University Curriculum Development Grant is helping the honors faculty to modify their program to reflect cultural diversity and other-than-Western traditions.

We continue to be very pleased with the success of our honors program in recruiting very talented students to Central Connecticut State University, and we plan to continue to invest the majority of our merit scholarship dollars in its support. However, beginning in 1993-94 we will use the flexibility provided by the Board of Trustees' revised resolution to establish additional merit scholarship programs within each academic school. Most programs will focus on attracting to our professional programs highly qualified transfer students who have completed their Associates degrees in the Connecticut Community-Technical Colleges.

Dr. Beal
Page 2
July 16, 1993

We do offer one suggestion for consideration by you and the Board. We think that we could broaden the impact of this program if we had permission to offer both half and full tuition scholarships. A half tuition scholarship would still provide a significant incentive for recruiting talented students while giving us the opportunity to attract two good students for the cost of a single scholarship. If the Board prefers not to revise their resolution, perhaps the universities could be given permission to try this approach on an experimental basis. I would be happy to provide information about the results of such an experiment in next year's report.

KCB/mlj
w.295
c: President Shumaker
Professor Creer

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
New Britain, CT 06050

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. Karen Beyard, Vice President
Academic Affairs

FROM: Leland Creer, Director of Honors Program *Leland Creer*

RE: Annual Report on Honors Program Merit Scholarships

DATE: June 29, 1993

1. Criteria for selection of scholarship recipients and criteria for retention.

Incoming freshmen are eligible for selection if they have SAT scores of 1050 or above and a score of at least 550 on the verbal portion of the test, rank in the top 20% of their high school class, and successfully complete an interview with Honors Program faculty. These criteria (expecting the interview) are not applied rigidly. Students with exceptionally good grades but SAT scores below standard are selected, as are students with very high SAT scores but grades below standard. Transfer students and students who have completed two semesters at Central are selected on the bases of outstanding academic achievement at college.

Retention of scholarship requires retention in the Honors Program. To continue in the Honors Program students must make progress toward completing the program, completion requiring a B average in Honors Program courses.

2. Process for awarding scholarships.

A brochure describing the Honors Program and accompanying scholarships was mailed to appropriate officers at every public and private high school in Connecticut. Admissions officers from Central also describe the program when they visit the schools. Beginning in February, the Admissions Office sends the director of the Honors Program at regular intervals lists of qualified students who have applied to the university. As the lists are received, the director mails candidates the brochure, sample syllabi of honors courses, and a request for an interview if they wish to apply. Honors faculty participating in the interview process meet weekly to review candidates and approve scholarship awards. Recipients of the awards are notified immediately by the Director of the Program. All who interview by late April receive

notice of acceptance or rejection before May 1. Transfers and Central freshmen are interviewed in May and June, with offers made by July 1. This Spring, special efforts to recruit minority students resulted in two African American and three Hispanic freshmen receiving merit scholarships for fall, 1993. They are 26% of the incoming freshmen class.

3. Program requirements.

The Honors Program consists of 24 credits in team-taught, interdisciplinary courses in western culture, a senior thesis project worth three credits, and a three credit anthropology course in non-western cultures. Students who enter the program as freshmen are also required to take an honors section of freshman English. The total program, including freshman English, is 33 credits. In addition, there is a requirement of proficiency in a foreign language equivalent to four semesters of college study. All honors courses can be used to fulfil general education requirements. The western culture courses, which study western culture from ancient times to the present primarily through great books, must be taken in sequence.

4. Number of students in the program and their persistence in the program and at the university.

The attached charts show that of 114 students on scholarship since 1989, 77 (67%) persisted in the program through spring, 1993 or until graduation, and 99 (86%) persisted at the university through spring, 1993 or until graduation.

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' PROGRAM OF MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

EVALUATION FORM - ACADEMIC YEAR 1993/1994

1. *Describe the criteria for selection of scholarship recipients and the criteria for retention in this program.*

Potential Merit Scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of their school records. Specifically, Connecticut students having a minimum SAT [verbal and math] score of 1050 and a ranking within the top 15% of their graduating class are eligible. These numerical criteria, however, are not the sole basis for consideration. The students must also have an outstanding record showing excellence in a variety of subject areas, letters of recommendation from teachers and advisors, and participation in noteworthy extra-curricular activities.

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.2 in order to retain a Merit Scholarship.

2. *Describe the process for awarding the scholarships. For new students, identify the point in the admissions process at which the offer of the scholarship is extended.*

The evaluation process for selection of the Merit Scholarship recipients is coupled to that for entry into the Honors Program at Western Connecticut State University [described under 3, below]. The members of the Faculty Honors Council are assigned to assess a group of applications, which were chosen on the basis of the criteria [given in 1 above]. After this preliminary screening, the candidates among the final group are called in for an interview with a member of the Faculty Honors Council. The Merit Scholarships are offered to the best overall candidates.

In order to promote participation by the entire University community in the Honors and Scholarship Programs, the scholarship awards are distributed among

recipients intending to concentrate in fields within each of the three schools, as follows: 40% of the total number of available scholarships to students in the School of Arts and Sciences, 30% to students within the School of Professional Studies and 30% to students within the Ancell School of Business.

The Honors Program offers the Merit Scholarship as an enticement to attract outstanding students to WCSU. To that effect, a brochure describing the Honors Program and the Merit Scholarships is sent to high school guidance counsellors within the recruitment area. This document solicits inquiries from interested high school students. This procedure was implemented beginning with the class entering in Fall 1992.

3. *Does the program require the recipients to participate in a specially designed academic program, e.g., an Honors Program?*

Students receiving the Merit Scholarships at WCSU must be enrolled in the Honors Program. There are students in the Program who are not Scholarship recipients as well.

The Honors Program at WCSU consists of four basic parts, which are designed to provide the academically motivated student the opportunity to explore the curriculum from an interdisciplinary/multi-cultural perspective while allowing some degree of freedom in choosing areas of honors study suited to the individual.

The four components of the WCSU Honors program are as follows:

1. The student must take a total of three [3] Honors courses [enhanced courses] at any time before graduation. Honors courses are based on the regular courses available in the University Catalog. A regular course becomes an Honors course when the student and faculty member have designed a contract specifying the work the student must perform in order to receive Honors credit. The nature of this work depends on the student's interests and the faculty member's expertise and can be in addition to or different from the regular course work. The three Honors courses must each cover a different area of the curriculum.

2. The student must take one Honors Seminar course in each of her/his first three years at WCSU. Each year, The Honors Seminar course is based on a general theme. Invited speakers from within and outside the University give lectures keyed to the general theme from their own disciplinary perspectives.

The Honors students are involved in panel discussions after the presentations.

3. The student must participate in some multi-cultural experience in order to broaden her/his perception of the critical social issues facing society. This aspect of the program can take on many forms, from language study to foreign travel to a community volunteer program.

4. The student must culminate the Honors Program with a senior project, to be executed and completed in the final year. This project is typically based on an area within the student's major and is done under the guidance of a faculty member chosen by the student. The nature of the project is extremely flexible and can range from a written thesis, a research report or a literary work to a computer work of art

4. *On a separate form, indicate the numbers of students admitted to the program for each academic year and indicate their persistence in the special academic program and their persistence at the University.*

Please see the attached forms.

5. *President's evaluation of the program as a means of recruiting and retaining academically outstanding students.*

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Willimantic, CT 06226

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Dr. Jim Lacey, Director

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E-MAIL: LACEY@ECSUC.CTSTATEU.EDU

Sandra Snow, Coordinator

PHONE: (203) 456-5563

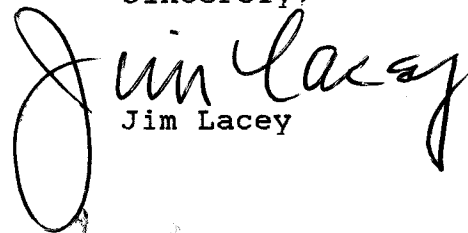
September 16, 1993

Dr. Thomas A. Porter, Provost
Connecticut State University

Dear Tom,

I learned only this morning that you will be reporting on the Merit Scholarship Programs at CSU to the BOT Committee on Academic Affairs on September 22. As the new director of the University Honors Program at Eastern, I have filed internal reports but I was unaware of a deadline for this one to your office on Merit Scholarships. I hope it arrives in time for your presentation to the Academic Affairs Committee.

Sincerely,



Jim Lacey

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SEP 20 1993

Connecticut State Univ.
Academic Affairs

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EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**University Honors Program***** * * M E M O R A N D U M * * *****TO:** Dimitrios Pachis, Vice President for Academic Affairs**FROM:** Jim Lacey [VAX:LACEY], Director**RE:** University Honors Program, 1993 Annual Report**DATE:** June 18, 1992

I. Program Profile: The University Honors Program is designed to attract and retain academically talented students and thereby positively affect the culture of the Eastern campus as a whole. Benefits to Honors Scholars include a Freshman Seminar, specially designed interdisciplinary courses (colloquia) featuring distinguished teachers and scholars, and a capstone experience, which includes the completion and defense of an Honors Thesis. The quality and leadership of Honors Scholars, the teaching innovations developed in colloquia, and especially the Honors Forums open to the entire community, enhance the intellectual, social, and cultural life of the University. About 75% of the 53 students enrolled in the program are the recipients of merit scholarships covering the cost of fees and in-state tuition.

II. Meeting 1992-93 Goals:

To further develop a sense of community among Honors Scholars. Several activities contributed to a growing esprit, including the party for outgoing Director Nancy Salter in February and the first annual Honors Program barbecue and picnic held at Mansfield Hollow in late April. The Honors Club has matured considerably, meeting twice a month at the Director's home since January, sponsoring fund-raising affairs, funding participation of five students in an Honors Conference, and welcoming the incoming freshmen to the Honors Program when they registered in June. The purchase of sweatshirts and T shirts with our new logo on it, to be distributed to club members and entering freshmen, will also contribute to this goal. The logo, it should be pointed out, was created for an honors brochure and letterhead, which, after one more editing, at long last saw the light of day!

The Director has published and distributed an Honors Newsletter each month, initiated an annual report in which students list their contributions to the program, their major, and the university, and also created an award to be given annually to a student who has made significant contributions.

To begin recruitment earlier than in the past and recruit vigorously, so that enrollment goals will be met before May 1. The program initiated its own recruitment in November, which, together with the concerted efforts of the Admissions Office and the Honors Council, resulted in the awarding of scholarships and substantial acceptances in February and March. Recruitment numbers were above projected goals by April. As of June 15, 16 freshmen accepted into the program have registered for fall courses, eleven of these students on scholarship--record numbers.

III. Major Activities: In January, Jim Lacey became the director of the program, replacing Nancy Salter, who remains on the Honors Council. The Council has been expanded to seven members, and now includes faculty from professional studies, as well as liberal arts, social sciences, and natural sciences. A number of administrative procedures have been streamlined to facilitate communication, a development necessitated by the growth of the program. Sandra Snow, for example, now serves as program coordinator, and she, along with admissions officer Lura Fellows-Butt, attends the tri-weekly meetings of the Honors Council. Similarly, Honors Theses will be accepted by a panel of three, rather than the entire Honors Council, as in the past. This year we found ourselves with ten theses being completed in April, rather than the two or three typical in the past, and they arrived at the same time as eleven formal thesis proposals by juniors.

A noteworthy activity of the Honors Program was the five Monday evening concerts by folksinger/songwriters that were offered to the public as Honors Forums in tandem with Hugh Blumenfeld's colloquium, Modern North American Troubadours. These were well publicized, well attended, and enthusiastically received. Significant also was the participation of five Honors Scholars at the regional conference of the American Collegiate Honors Council at Albright College, Reading, PA, at which each of them read papers.

Attempts have been made to increase the modest resources available to the University Honors Program by requesting a 33% increase in the annual budget and by attempting to secure substantial endowment through the Office of Institutional Development.

IV. Goals for 1993-94:

To encourage the University Honors Program to cooperate with the Student Government in an area that will serve academic, social, and cultural needs, such as the promulgation of multiculturalism.

To make University Honors Scholars aware of opportunities and awards available at Eastern and to encourage those intending to pursue graduate work to prepare themselves to apply for fellowships and assistantships. I hope to see University Honors Scholars being granted major awards on the basis of national competition in the not too distant future.

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' PROGRAM OF "MERIT" SCHOLARSHIPS
for
ACADEMICALLY OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

EVALUATION FORM
for 1992-1993

Campus: Eastern Connecticut State University

1. Describe the criteria for selection of scholarship recipients and the criteria for retention in this program.
2. Describe the process for awarding the scholarships. For new students, identify the point in the admissions process at which the offer of the scholarship is extended.
3. Does the program require the recipients to participate in a specially designed academic program, e.g. an honors program?

If so, describe the special program.

4. On a separate form (to be attached) indicate the numbers of students admitted to the program for each academic year and indicate their persistence in the special academic program AND their persistence at the University.
5. President's evaluation of the program as a means of recruiting and retaining academically outstanding students:

SEE ATTACHED

1. Students with a combined SAT of at least 1100 and who rank in the top 20% of their graduating class are recruited for admission to the University Honors Program and advised to apply for merit scholarships. Occasionally, students who do not quite meet these standards are encouraged to apply upon the recommendation of the Admissions Office. To remain in the Honors Program and to renew their merit scholarships, students must maintain a QPA of 3.0. Each year all the merit scholarships made available to ECSU in accordance with the formula devised by the BOT are awarded to incoming freshmen. The Honors Council awarded ten in 1992 and eleven in 1993. The primary purpose of scholarship awards is to attract and retain academically qualified students who might not otherwise attend Eastern. To be considered for admission to the Honors Program and for merit scholarships, students must formally apply and provide a sample of their thoughtful writing. (See Appendix A)

The University Honors Program continually recruits candidates from the student body at large, including transfer students, and outstanding scholars thus recruited are offered merit scholarships when a student on scholarship has either withdrawn from the university or been dismissed from the Honors Program.

2. The University Honors Council, which meets every three weeks throughout the academic year, reviews all applications to the program and awards merit scholarships and alternates in a manner comparable to the "rolling admissions" acceptance procedures of the Admissions Office. One of the Honors Program's goals last year was to begin recruitment earlier than in the past and to recruit vigorously, so that enrollment and scholarship goals would be met before May 1. (See Appendix B) With recruitment beginning in November, the Council was able to award half the available scholarships by February and the remainder in March, so that scholarship goals were met and program recruitment goals surpassed by early April. By May 1 sixteen of the twenty-five students admitted to the program, including eleven scholarship recipients, had paid binder fees. The Honors Council's policy is to award scholarships as early as possible, and this year we began to recruit early in September.

For continuing students, preliminary decisions for renewal are made each semester by the director, in consultation with the Honors Council, as soon as updated transcripts including grade reports are available. Students maintaining a 3.0 QPA and fulfilling other requirements of the program are notified of their renewal; those failing to meet the requirements are put on probation and notified that they must meet standards by the following semester or be dismissed from the University Honors Program and forfeit their scholarships. (See Appendix C)

3. Merit scholarships at ECSU are available only to students who pursue the University Honors Program. The enclosed brochure (Appendix D) describes this program in some detail. Basically, Honors Scholars take a freshman seminar in lieu of the basic English composition course, three interdisciplinary and often team-taught colloquia (courses especially designed for the program by outstanding teachers, emphasizing participation and experiential learning), and a serious research project, involving three semesters of work and resulting in an Honors Thesis.