

## RESOLUTION

### RECOMMENDING SUNY CANTON RETAIN ITS OWN PRESIDENT

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton is committed to improving administrative efficiency while simultaneously working to preserve quality, accessibility, affordability, completion, and unique student experiences at its institution; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton has begun a collaborative process of identifying opportunities for cost savings and administrative efficiencies and the realignment of resources toward academic and student support services and other strategic priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton has demonstrated achievement of at least 52% spending on instructional budget in total and reported to be at 64% for 2010-11 in data provided by SUNY's Vice Chancellor for Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton has hired eleven new, full-time faculty for the 2012-13 academic year, bringing an additional \$500,000 to Academic Affairs and exceeding the five percent increase expected by SUNY System Administration by June 30, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, through its presidential leadership, SUNY Canton has shown the ability to transform itself from a two-year college with fewer than 2000 students to a four-year college that will serve more than 4000 students during the Fall 2012 semester and more than 6000 different students during the 2012-13 academic year; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to record-setting applications and enrollments, the focused and sustained leadership of the college has resulted in a transformed faculty that reflects the level of preparation expected of a four-year college, new facilities, and the growth of the Canton College Foundation from \$1 million to about \$40 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the role of the college in the local community, local economy, and the North Country has grown dramatically under its presidential leadership, as evidenced by the response of the community with various awards, accolades, nominations, recognitions over the past 19 years and support from elected officials; and

**WHEREAS**, resolutions supporting an individual president for each college and the need for focused, anchored leadership were passed by SUNY Canton's College Council, Faculty Assembly, Alumni Board, and College Foundation Board, as well as by elected officials, local municipalities, community members, and the SUNY Student Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam have worked together promptly, diligently, and cooperatively to explore and implement shared services where appropriate and to devote the savings from such efforts to academics and student support services, particularly working toward a goal of increasing the percentage of operating funds devoted to instruction and academic services; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam have established a unified Executive Team which provides oversight for the shared business services, shared information technology services, and the identification of opportunities to develop additional areas of cooperation and sharing; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam have hired a shared Chief Financial Officer and a shared Military and Veteran Services Coordinator, are recruiting an Inter-Library Loan Specialist, and have made progress on sharing resources and economies of scale among Library Services, University Police, Campus Life, Human Resources, Payroll, Purchasing, Auxiliary Corporations, Residence Life, Auxiliary Corporations, and Institutional Research/Effectiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam have made significant steps toward aligning both Information Technology (IT) Departments to deliver joint services, to establish cross-campus project teams for common areas of future interest, and addressing SUNY's IT Transformation Plan; and

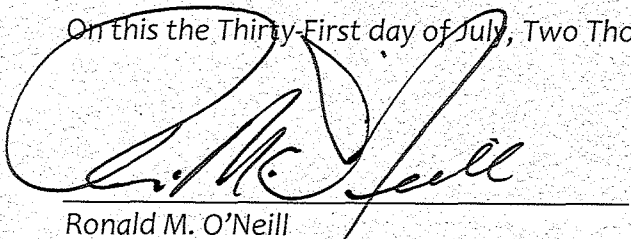
**WHEREAS**, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education has recently taken action to express concerns that Standards 4 and 5 may not be met with shared presidencies, and is requiring that three of the four colleges in the Administrative Alliances that are currently sharing a president provide a monitoring report to "provide evidence that there is a Chief Executive Officer whose primary responsibility is to lead the institution toward the achievement of its goals and for the administration of the institution, and an assessment of the effectiveness of institutional leadership and governance, in relation to recently implemented shared services agreements"; and

**WHEREAS**, SUNY System Administration received overwhelming support for the concept of shared services in general, but many constituents were not in support of one president serving two campuses simultaneously and that such a long-term arrangement may not be necessary in order to achieve the primary goal of achieving administrative efficiencies and increasing the proportion of funding spent on academic and student support services; and

**WHEREAS**, significant progress on shared services was made in the past year with both SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam having their own presidents, which did not impede or preclude any discussions or implementations of any shared services initiatives or jeopardize the mission or integrity of either institution; and therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the College Council of the State University of New York, College of Technology at Canton (SUNY Canton), concludes that the college has met all of the benchmarks set forth by the SUNY Board of Trustees in their resolutions dated September 20, 2011 and November 22, 2011 and, therefore, expects the college to be led by its own president, solely focused on the continued success of this institution, and with the presidential search beginning immediately.

On this the Thirty-First day of July, Two Thousand and Twelve

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. M. O'Neill". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Ronald M. O'Neill  
Chairman, College Council