



Eastern Connecticut State University

# NEWS

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## **Eastern Presents George Weiss with the Chase Institute Medallion**

Willimantic, CT—George Weiss, founder of the “Say Yes to Education” program, was recently presented with the Chase Medallion at a luncheon reception in his honor on Oct. 24 at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Presenting the medallion to Weiss were Eastern President David G. Carter and David T. Chase, whom Carter called a “true humanitarian” for his philanthropic support of Eastern and other community organizations in Connecticut. Chase is the founder and benefactor of the David T. Chase Free Enterprise Institute at Eastern.

In accepting the award, Weiss said he started the Say Yes program 18 years ago to demonstrate that “we can transform lives.” The program, which began in Philadelphia, provides funds to economically disadvantaged youth so that they may attend college or vocational school. To date, 778 youth in four cities have gone through Say Yes.

“This has been a blessing for me,” said Weiss in describing his own feelings about the “Say Yes” program. “God has asked me to fulfill his mission, to raise hope, to raise expectations. I truly feel spiritually blessed.”

Weiss is a strong advocate for education, and serves as including being a charter trustee and long-time supporter of the University of Pennsylvania. He is chair of the University’s

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committee for Undergraduate Financial Aid and a member of Penn's Athletics Advisory Board.

Weiss also is an honorary regent for the University of Hartford.

In addition, Weiss founded George Weiss Associates, a money management firm with offices in Hartford and New York, in 1978. He established the Weiss Center for International Financial Research in 1990. The primary mission of the Weiss Center is to encourage research on international finance.

The Chase Medallion is presented periodically to outstanding leaders who have excelled in the business community and who also have made major contributions to the betterment of society-at-large. Other recent recipients include Mark Warner, governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia; Harry Gray, former CEO of United Technologies; and Victor Kiam, the late chairman of Remington razors.

The David T. Chase Free Enterprise Institute has been providing services to businesses for 20 years at Eastern Connecticut State University through the generosity of the David T. Chase family. The institute's annual lecture series brings leaders from business, government, and education to campus to offer insights to students and the public on current business-related topics.

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.