



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

For Immediate Release

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Eastern Receives Grant for Summer Academy

Willimantic, CT—Eastern Connecticut State University has received a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to support the University's Summer Academy for 21st Century Literacies, as well as provide content staff development. This is the fourth year in a row Eastern has received such a grant.

During the summer, Eastern faculty work with Connecticut schoolteachers of grades 4 through 8 to upgrade their subject mastery, particularly in math and science, with the effort of making the classroom more stimulating for students.

The grant money will support Eastern's summer academy for integrated science, social studies, liberal arts and mathematics in which 30 middle school teachers from eight school districts will attend a 9-day session. The summer academy will combine instruction in content areas and Connecticut's curriculum standards, with hands-on science lab activities and field trips to help teachers and students relate theory to actual practice.

“These projects help teachers keep up with changes in their field as well as with tailoring classroom instruction to state frameworks and assessments,” stated Higher Education Commissioner Valerie Lewis. “Just as important, they give teachers a valuable

opportunity to learn together and from each other, guided by experts in their fields. Connecticut educators, and ultimately their students, have much to gain from these workshops.”

The funds come from the Connecticut Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program, which is administered by the Department of Higher Education and part of Title II of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Other grant recipients include Albertus Magnus College, Saint Joseph College, The University of New Haven and Sacred Heart University.

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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.