




DATE: March 26, 2021

TO: Fred Latour, President of the Faculty Senate

FROM: David P. Dauwalder, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs 

COPIES: Z. Toro, R. Wolff, J. Hedlund, R. Smith, J. Tully

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD B. A. CRIMINOLOGY POSTHUMOUSLY
TO CHRISTOPHER BOOTHBY

I recommend that Mr. Christopher Boothby be awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology with a Minor in Political Science posthumously at or before CCSU's Spring 2021 Commencement.

Mr. Boothby tragically passed away in early March 2021. During Spring 2021, Mr. Boothby was enrolled in 17 credits of courses, having already completed 103 credits toward his degree. Recommendations from the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice through its chair, Dr. Jennifer Hedlund, and from Dean Robert Wolff accompany this request.

Attachments

Recommendation for a Posthumous Degree | Christopher Boothby

Wolff, Robert (Dean Liberal Arts & Social Sciences) <wolffr@ccsu.edu>

Fri 3/12/2021 12:42 PM

To: Dauwalder, David P. (Academic Affairs) <dauwalder@ccsu.edu>

Cc: Hedlund, Jennifer (Criminology and Criminal Justice) <HedlundJ@ccsu.edu>; Tully, John (VP Student Affairs) <Tullyj@ccsu.edu>; Lynes, Michelle (Academic Affairs) <Lynes@ccsu.edu>

 2 attachments (248 KB)

Posthumous Degree Policy.pdf; Boothby Posthumous Degree Request.pdf;

Dear David,

I am honored to support the attached recommendation that CCSU award Christopher Boothby a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree.

Sincerely,
Robert

Dr. Robert S. Wolff
Dean, Carol A. Ammon College of
Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
D303 Willard-DiLoreto Hall
Central Connecticut State University
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050

Phone: 860.832.2807

Pronouns: *he, him, his*

From: "Hedlund, Jennifer (Criminology and Criminal Justice)" <HedlundJ@ccsu.edu>
Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 at 12:27 PM
To: "Wolff, Robert (Dean Liberal Arts & Social Sciences)" <wolffr@ccsu.edu>
Subject: FW: Posthumous Degree process

Dear Robert,
Attached is a letter requesting that Christopher Boothby be considered for a posthumous degree.
Thank you for your consideration,
Jen

*Jennifer Hedlund, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Department Chair
Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
Central Connecticut State University
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050-4010
Ph: 860-832-2968 / Fax: 860-832-3014 /Email: Hedlundj@ccsu.edu
Office hours: Email me to set up a virtual appointment*

From: Tully, John (VP Student Affairs) <Tullyj@ccsu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 5:01 PM
To: Hedlund, Jennifer (Criminology and Criminal Justice) <HedlundJ@ccsu.edu>

Cc: Wolff, Robert (Dean Liberal Arts & Social Sciences) <wolffr@ccsu.edu>

Subject: Posthumous Degree process

Hello, Jen.

Again, my deepest condolences on the tragic loss of Christopher.

As we discussed, his mother was very hopeful that the university would pursue a posthumous degree for him. I've attached the official process, but it is very simple, really.

The Department needs to send its recommendation to Robert, who will then forward it along to the Provost, who will submit it to Faculty Senate.

You can write up a Word document or send it to Robert via email.

Let me know how I can help.

Best,
John

Dr. John Day Tully

Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

(He/Him)

Please consider helping students through
our [Circle of Care](#) project.





March 12, 2021

Dear Dean Wolff,

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice requests that CCSU award Christopher Boothby a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology. The Political Science Department, where Christopher was pursuing his minor, also fully supports this request.

Christopher was not only poised to graduate this May 2021, he was on track to do so with distinction. Since transferring to CCSU in the Fall of 2019 from Asnuntuck Community College, he excelled in his classes and earned Dean's List and President's List recognition multiple semesters. He was enrolled in his remaining degree requirements this Spring 2021 semester, including his required Field Studies in Criminal Justice course. He was highly regarded by his faculty and peers, and was consistently described as bright, enthusiastic, and genuinely kind. His Field Studies supervisor characterized him as a "shining star" who was in the process of narrowing down his career choices. The coordinator of the Judicial Branch Experiential Learning Program said that Christopher was a pleasure to work with and took advantage of every opportunity to learn from their program. Lastly, he shared with his faculty how much his education meant to him since he was to be the first in his family to earn a bachelor's degree. His untimely passing is a loss not only to CCSU but to the criminal justice field where he would have made an indelible impact.

I hope that granting this degree will provide some solace to his family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Hedlund".

Jennifer Hedlund, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Department Chair

Central Connecticut State University
UNIVERSITY SENATE ACTION

Senate Motion Number FS 17.18.028B

TO: President Zulma Toro

FROM: President of the University Senate

1. The attached motion of the University Senate, dealing with: **Posthumous Degree Policy Proposal** is presented to you for your consideration.
2. This motion was adopted by the University Senate on **04/30/2018**.
3. After considering this motion, please indicate your action on this form, and return it together with the original copy to the President of the University Senate.
4. Under the By-Laws of the University Senate, Section 3.7, the following schedule of action is to be observed.
 - a) By **05/14/2018**, Senate action reported to the President of the University. (Within five school days of the session in which they are adopted).
 - b) By **05/29/2018**, the President of the University to return the motion to the President of the Senate. (Within ten school days of its receipt).

05/14/2018

Date


Stephen Cohen, President, University Senate

ENDORSEMENT:

TO: President of the University Senate

FROM: President Zulma Toro

1. Motion Approved : ✓
2. Motion Disapproved: _____ (Explanatory statement must be appended).
3. Action "is deferred": _____
4. Resolution Noted: _____
5. Other: _____

5/17/2018
Date


President Zulma Toro

Proposal for a Posthumous Degree Policy At CCSU

Whereas the granting of academic recognition to students who pass away before earning their degree is common practice at universities nationwide, and

Whereas CCSU has no policy to guide the granting of such recognition,

Be it resolved that CCSU adopts the following policy on the granting of posthumous academic recognition.

Posthumous Degree Policy

- Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at the time of their death in the courses or other credit-bearing activities that would allow them to complete their degree are eligible for the posthumous awarding of the degree appropriate to their course of study.
- Undergraduates who do not meet the standard above but have senior standing are eligible for the awarding of a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment.
- Graduate students who do not meet the standard above but have completed 75% of the credits required to earn their degree are eligible for the awarding of a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment.
- Any student receiving either a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment must be in good academic standing at the time of their death.
- The granting of either a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment is initiated by the recommendation of the department in which the grantee is a student.
- The department's recommendation must be approved by the dean of the school in which the department is housed and, in the case of graduate students, by the Dean of Graduate Studies as well. The Provost must then approve the dean's recommendation.
- If the Provost approves the granting of a posthumous degree or Certificate of Academic Accomplishment, the decision must be approved by the Faculty Senate, which has authority over the granting of all degrees.
- Departments with deceased students who do not meet the above criteria for unusual or unanticipated reasons may recommend to the appropriate dean the granting of a posthumous degree or a Certificate of Academic Accomplishment, accompanying their recommendation with an explanation of the relevant circumstances.
- The family of the deceased student shall be offered the choice of receiving the diploma or certificate at the first commencement ceremony following the student's death, or in a private meeting with the President of the university or her/his designee.