

September 29, 2016

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Scott A. Jordan 
Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

RE: Annual Report of the Endowed Chair Program Entitled "Aetna Chair of Writing"

RECOMMENDATION:

In accordance with statute, the Board of Trustees directs the submittal of annual reports prepared by the University Administration to the Office of Higher Education concerning the endowed chair expenditures for the Endowed Chair Program Entitled "Aetna Chair of Writing".

BACKGROUND:


The Aetna Chair of Writing is under the interim direction of Professor Thomas Deans and is funded jointly by the UConn Foundation and the Office of Higher Education Investment Fund. It was established during the 1988-89 fiscal year as authorized by C.G.S. Section 10a-20. Subsection (f) of the statute states that "the Board of Trustees shall submit annual reports to the Office of Higher Education concerning the endowed chair expenditures."

The 2016 annual report consists of a financial report and a narrative report by Professor Deans.

Attachments

DATE: August 29, 2016

TO: Scott A. Jordan
Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Charles H. Eaton 
Controller

RE: Aetna Chair of Writing

Enclosed is a financial report for the Aetna Chair of Writing program, under the interim direction of Professor Thomas Deans, for fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The report provides the separate financial operations of the program managed by the University and the UConn Foundation, along with the combined total. The expenditures for fiscal year 2016 totaled \$42,038.55.

Professor Deans has provided a narrative of the writing program's operation for fiscal year 2016, which is also enclosed. Section 10a-20a (f) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires an annual report approved by the University's Board of Trustees to be submitted to the Office of Higher Education (OHE) for the Endowed Chair of Writing.

Additional notes are provided on the financial report disclosing the year-end balances of the Foundation and OHE endowment funds.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you should have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Enclosures

c: T. Deans
R. Hasenfratz
M. Maynard
D. Brockway

University of Connecticut and
University of Connecticut Foundation
Aetna Chair of Writing
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

	University	Foundation	Combined Total
Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2015	\$76,749.74	\$35,904.10	\$112,653.84
<u>Revenue</u>			
Pooled Endowment Income Allocation	0.00	36,488.10	36,488.10
Transferred From UConn Foundation	25,510.59	(25,510.59)	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES (EXPENDITURES)	25,510.59	10,977.51	36,488.10
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Salary & Wages	353.00	0.00	353.00
Printing and Binding	827.35	0.00	827.35
Conferences and Meetings	5,653.29	0.00	5,653.29
Travel	3,350.00	0.00	3,350.00
Outside Professional Services	7,565.00	0.00	7,565.00
TOTAL Contractual Services	17,395.64	0.00	17,395.64
Office Supplies	8.49	0.00	8.49
TOTAL Commodities	8.49	0.00	8.49
Fringe Benefits	31.42	0.00	31.42
Student Aid Fees	24,250.00	0.00	24,250.00
TOTAL Sundry Charges	24,281.42	0.00	24,281.42
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,038.55	0.00	42,038.55
Ending Balance as of June 30, 2016	\$60,221.78	\$46,881.61	\$107,103.39

This endowed chair is not supported by any University funds, but the University maintains accounts which receive revenue from the Foundation and the Office of Higher Education (OHE). These University accounts disburse the funds in support of the program including all funds transferred from the Foundation and the OHE. There were no transfers from the OHE in fiscal year 2016. The first column above summarizes the University's revenue and expenditure activity for this chair. The Foundation also disburses certain expenses directly to third parties on behalf of the University as included above in the second column in fiscal year 2016, although there were no expenses in fiscal year 2016.

The Aetna Chair of Writing has funds held at the Foundation and the OHE. The Foundation endowed fund was established with a gift of \$506,989 (amount permanently restricted) in 1988 and was valued at \$811,921 at June 30, 2016, which included accumulated gains/losses on the original gift. The spendable portion of the Foundation endowed fund was \$46,882 as of June 30, 2016. The OHE endowed fund was established with \$500,000 of state funds and is invested in the Endowed Chair Investment Fund (managed by the State Treasurer). The interest earned on this fund supports the Aetna Chair of Writing. The value of this fund was \$510,124 at June 30, 2016, including principal of \$500,000 and interest of \$10,124.

Annual Report, Aetna Chair of Writing, 2015-16

This was a transitional year. In spring 2015 Lynn Bloom, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor and inaugural holder of the Aetna Chair of Writing, retired after three decades of service to the University of Connecticut. A prolific scholar, teacher and administrator, Professor Bloom developed and sustained a rich range of writing programs throughout the UConn system. We are grateful for all that she accomplished as well for the generous spirit with which she conducted all her affairs.

We conducted an extensive national search and are happy to announce that Professor Brenda Jo Brueggemann will be the new Aetna Chair of Writing, starting in August 2016. Professor Brueggemann is a scholar of international reputation who works at the intersections of writing, rhetoric, disability studies, and creative nonfiction. She has edited major journals, led international scholarly associations, coordinated innovative interdisciplinary projects, received major grants, and written or edited nine books. At her previous home institutions—most recently the University of Louisville and before that Ohio State—she won teaching awards, mentored many graduate students into successful academic careers, and founded nationally lauded programs in writing, diversity, disability, and public engagement. We are very fortunate to have her coming to UConn.

To fill the one-year gap between the outgoing and incoming Aetna Chairs, Professor Thomas Deans stepped in to maintain stewardship of the programs sponsored by the endowment. Those programs touch a wide range of departments across UConn, and some extend well beyond campus to enrich the teaching of writing across State of Connecticut:

Connecticut Writing Project. UConn's Connecticut Writing Project, led by Director Jason Courtmanche, is the only site in the nation with an endowment, a half million dollars generously provided by the Aetna Foundation (begun in 1985), initially with matching funds from the State Department of Higher Education. For the past twenty-seven years, the Aetna Chair of Writing Endowment has provided \$24-30,000 to fund invitational fellowships for teachers participating in the Connecticut Writing Project five-week Summer Institute. Over the years, Fellows have included teachers from all levels, kindergarten to college, and a wide range of schools, from high need to college. The variety of subsequent awards and appointments for Summer Institute participants attests to their impressive qualities as educators and administrators. These include Connecticut Teacher of the Year awards; graduate fellowships for bilingual education, masters, doctoral, and post-doctoral work; positions as department head, program director, and dean; publications of their own (including a novel), journal editorship (*ALAN Review*, *Massachusetts Review*), awards for Teaching Writing (College Board) and Human and Civil Rights (Connecticut Education Association); and Scholastic Writing Awards for their students. One consequence of a robust program is its ability to engender additional funding from other sources. Thus the Connecticut Writing Project's demonstrated success led to an award from its parent umbrella organization, the National Writing Project.

First-Year Writing. The Aetna Chair of Writing again co-sponsored the annual Conference on the Teaching of Writing. Each spring this conference brings a scholar of national prominence to campus, creates a regional forum for researchers in writing studies to deliver papers, and serves as a professional development opportunity for our own First-Year Writing instructors at Storrs and the regional campuses, as well as in the Early College Experience program.

Creative Writing. The Aetna Endowment supports publication of the award-winning *Long River Review* (student literary magazine); Poetic Journeys (poetry on campus buses, in Babbidge Library, and

the Austin Building); undergraduate and graduate creative writing awards; and a host of speakers and guest teachers. The Aetna Endowment funded short-term writer-in-residence program enables students to work with (and be inspired by) widely published, award-winning authors with international reputations, who also give public readings during their residencies. Fiction writer Laura van den Berg served as Aetna Writer-in-Residence in fall 2014 and poet Jericho Brown in spring 2015. The Aetna Celebration of Creative Nonfiction on April 16 featured novelist Ginger Strand. All delivered terrific readings and graciously mentored UConn student writers.

University Writing Center. Aetna Endowment funding helps the Writing Center sustain its nationally recognized range of programs. Endowment funding also drives the annual Writing in the Disciplines Awards, which recognize excellent undergraduate writing in the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and professional schools.

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs. Some Aetna Endowment funds were disbursed to allow undergraduate and graduate students to attend professional conferences.

Critical and First Year Essay Prizes. Now in its 26th year, the annual Aetna Writing Prize Award evening has evolved into a particularly happy and festive gathering of faculty, students, parents, administrators, and teachers. Prizes recognize outstanding writing by first-year students, graduate students, and Aetna Fellows.

Funding Background: In 1985 the Aetna Foundation gave UConn a half million dollars to support the Connecticut Writing Project and related writing activities. This money is held in a UConn Foundation managed account. The State of Connecticut matched Aetna's half million dollar donation and those funds are invested in a short-term investment fund at the State of Connecticut

Current status: Aetna Endowment funds, supplemented by interest from the matching state grant, have enabled us to sustain the myriad of activities identified here on a \$45,200 budget for FY 2016. The University of Connecticut can be justifiably proud of the activities of its undergraduate and graduate students and faculty in rhetoric and composition on state, regional, national, and international levels, made possible in part by the Aetna Chair of Writing Endowment.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Deans
Professor of English and Director of the University Writing Center
August 10, 2016

**CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS
FOR INFORMATION
September 29, 2016**

ON-CALL CONSULTANT SERVICES - MEP/LIFE SAFETY & FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING (continued)										
9	URS Corporation AES	012.2-9-500-22916	\$0 [Contract Value Previously \$500,000; Contract Value Remains the Same]	03/01/13-11/30/16	Multiple Sources	Matthew Larson, Director of Procurement Services	\$74,612	\$40,688	\$29,055	On-call MEP/life safety & fire protection engineering services for all University campuses, including UCH. Second Amendment. Amend to extend term three months, through 11/30/16.
10	Van Zelm Heywood & Shadford, Inc.	012.2-10-500-22916	\$0 [Contract Value Previously \$500,000; Contract Value Remains the Same]	03/01/13-11/30/16	Multiple Sources	Matthew Larson, Director of Procurement Services	\$97,054	\$15,676	\$32,303	On-call MEP/life safety & fire protection engineering services for all University campuses, including UCH. Second Amendment. Amend to extend term three months, through 11/30/16.

ON-CALL CONSULTANT SERVICES - PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION										
No.	Contractor	Contract No.	New Approval Amount	Term	Fund Source	Program Director	Total Expenditures as of 7/31/16	Expenditures FY 16	Expenditures FY 15	Purpose
1	Chance Management Advisors, Inc.	020-2-400-113016	\$550,000 [Contract Value Previously \$400,000; Total New Contract Value \$950,000]	12/01/13-11/30/16	Multiple Sources	Matthew Larson, Director of Procurement Services	\$246,632	\$60,849	\$0	On-call parking and transportation consulting services for all University campuses, including UCH. Amend to increase the contract value by \$550,000, for total new contract value of \$950,000.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT SERVICES										
No.	Contractor	Contract No.	New Approval Amount	Term	Fund Source	Program Director	Total Expenditures as of 7/31/16	Expenditures FY 16	Expenditures FY 15	Purpose
1	Leggat McCall Properties, LLC	901376	\$24,742 [Contract Value Previously \$812,010; Total New Contract Value \$836,842]	07/15/13-05/31/16	Bond Funds	Laura Cruickshank, University Master Planner and Chief Architect	\$836,842	\$24,742	\$374,332	Project management oversight services for the Engineering and Sciences Building on the Storrs campus. Amend to increase the contract amount by \$24,742, for total new contract value of \$836,842. (Revised Planning Project Budget approved by the BOT on 08/03/11 - \$60,500,000).

STANDARD FIXED-FEE ARCHITECT'S CONTRACT										
No.	Contractor	Contract No.	New Approval Amount	Term	Fund Source	Program Director	Total Expenditures as of 7/31/16	Expenditures FY 16	Expenditures FY 15	Purpose
1	BVH Integrated Services, P.C.	901824	\$9,832 [Contract Value Previously \$637,407; Total New Contract Value \$647,239]	05/05/14 - 07/31/16	Bond Funds	Laura Cruickshank, University Master Planner and Chief Architect	\$647,240	\$231,509	\$291,757	Architectural services for the Avery Point Building 21 and Building 23 Demolition at Avery Point campus. First through fourth amendments. Amend to increase contract value by \$9,832, for total new contract value of \$647,239. (Final Project Budget approved by the BOT on 04/29/15 - \$7,300,000)
2	JCJ Architecture, P.C.	901332	\$4,852,003 [Contract Value Previously \$1,219,900; Total New Contract Value \$6,071,903]	10/29/15-02/28/20	Multiple Sources	Laura Cruickshank, University Master Planner and Chief Architect	\$6,019,113	\$660,683	\$0	Architectural services for the Student Recreation Center on the Storrs campus. First through third amendments. Amend to increase contract value by \$4,852,003, for total new contract value of \$6,071,903. (Revised Planning Project Budget approved by the BOT on 02/24/16 - \$11,000,000)