

Agenda Item Summary

To: Executive Committee

From: Matt Hart, Executive Director

CC: P. Yoder, Chief Operating Officer; K. Bishop, Economic Development Coordinator

Meeting Date: November 6, 2024

Subject: Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray

Background:

The Executive Committee has expressed support for establishing a fellowship at the UConn School of Public Policy (SPP) in honor of our Executive Director emeritus, Dr. Lyle Wray. Lyle had a close working relationship with the faculty and staff at the SPP.

We have reached out to the SPP and the UConn Foundation to discuss how to establish and structure the fellowship. The best approach would be to fund the endowment via the CRCOG Foundation, and then to issue an annual appeal for contributions. UConn could coordinate the annual appeal, as it does for its other fellowships and scholarships.

Staff will suggest that the SPP award the fellowship to a student with an interest in regional planning or government. The SPP could come up with more specific criteria on which to base the award.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG:

The fellowship would serve to honor Lyle's legacy and promote student interest in the field of regional planning and government.

Financial/Operational Impact:

The CRCOG Foundation has limited assets to fund an endowment. Consequently, staff suggests that we use interest income as a funding source. We could make a contribution from CRCOG's interest income in the amount of \$75,000, which would be sufficient to support an annual fellowship of \$3,000 - 5,000.

If the Board were to approve this process, the funds for the endowment would flow from CRCOG, to the CRCOG Foundation, and then to the UConn Foundation.

Recommendation:

Based on the support of our Executive Committee, I recommend that the Policy Board approve the attached Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray.

Attachments

- Proposed Resolution

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A FELLOWSHIP AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT IN HONOR OF
DR. LYLE WRAY**

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) would like to recognize the many contributions of Dr. Lyle D. Wray to the region and to CRCOG; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wray established a close working relationship and a partnership with the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has a 501(c)3 CRCOG Foundation that was established to advance regional goals but has limited resources; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has interest income that could be used at the discretion of the board; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CRCOG's Executive Director is authorized to donate \$75,000 of CRCOG interest income to the CRCOG Foundation to be given to the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy towards the endowment of a named Scholarship in honor of Dr. Lyle D. Wray.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on November 20, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary