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BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
County of Cook and State of Illinois

MODULAR APPROACH TO CHEMISTRY TEACHING
DALEY COLLEGE

THE CHANCELLOR

REPORTS

that Professor Paula Kolano has during the past year has received a stipend through the National Science Foundation for working with faculty from other area community colleges in developing and piloting a modular approach for teaching the general chemistry classes; and

that this approach begins each instructional unit with a practical question that provides a context for understanding and exploring chemistry concepts; and that skills taught through test modules include:

- > accessing current scientific data over the Internet
- > evaluating the reliability of such data
- > dealing with ambiguity
- > recognizing trends
- > formulating additional questions
- > communicating results in both oral and written formats as a product of teamwork, with a written paper being one of the requirements; and

that Dr. Kolano's module was on Global Warming, and provided a number of reality-based applications, and that the projects resulted in students having a much increased sense of ownership of the issues and of their conclusions; and

that the modular approach that she and her colleagues have developed will now be available for use by other faculty within the District and in other parts of the country as a means of giving day-to-day relevancy to the concepts of College chemistry.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne D. Watson
Chancellor

August 5, 1999