## UB awarded U.S. Department of Education grant worth nearly \$2 million

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University of Bridgeport has been awarded \$399,270 from the U.S. Department of Education, the first installment of a five-year Title III grant to enhance academic support and expand student services.

"It is a phenomenal recognition by the Department of Education of our faculty's superlative work and our dedication to best serve all students," said University of Bridgeport President Neil Albert Salonen. "It validates and builds upon what we have historically done to open doors and build futures."

The grant is among the largest awarded to the University in the past decade and will fund programs to enhance student retention and success. Key to that is a new Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching for faculty development and student support.

The University also will equip 30 SMART classrooms with multimedia teaching tools and interactive white boards; provide students with the latest instructional technology at study areas throughout campus; provide for ongoing professional development for 60 full-time and 30 adjunct faculty members; and implement Web-based registration for students.

The Strengthening Institutions Program, also known as Title III, was created as part of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 for improvements in educational quality, institutional management, and financial stability of eligible colleges and universities.