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By SUSAN LEVINE
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Richard T. Nolan, a philosophy professor who spent more than a year battling the state community college system over what constitutes acceptable non-classroom work, is starting the fall semester with a victory.

Nolan was told in early 1983 that his co-authorship of a textbook would not count toward required outside activities unless Mattatuck

Community College in Waterbury, where he teaches, received the royalties from the book's sales. Without the royalties, the school's acting president, Kenneth Summerer, wrote at the time, "no direct benefit is actually enjoyed by the institution."

But Nolan has received approval of his writing. His work on the eighth edition of "Living Issues in Philosophy" will be counted as two of the nine hours he must spend weekly on college or community service to

avoid teaching a fifth course when school starts Tuesday. In addition, he will retain all royalties.

However, his dean at Mattatuck took great pains in a memorandum to tell Nolan that the professor was being given credit because the book might be useful, not because of Nolan's distinction for having authored it.

Dean Joseph V. Cistulli said the college would benefit from the "systemization of knowledge and suggested approaches to teaching" that

could come as Nolan and other professors use the text.

College and system administrators had said academic writing is not a high priority for a community college professor. They denied Nolan's royalties were ever really an issue.

The professor, who has a doctoral degree and has taught at Mattatuck 15 years, spent more than \$3,500 on legal expenses to fight his school's initial position. He described it as "a bitterly divisive issue" that seemed to play into an effort by Mattatuck

and several other community colleges to increase teaching loads.

Although wearied and disillusioned by the battle, which dragged for months in grievance hearings and, at one point, was pending before the State Board of Labor Relations, Nolan believes the outcome vindicated him.

And he has channeled his feeling of alienation from the college system into a new pursuit called the Litchfield Institute, an independent, non-profit organization he established

this spring to promote continuing higher education and to encourage humanitarian service.

Those who become institute fellows agree to give lectures, lead seminars and conduct other activities sponsored by the institute, which is centered in Litchfield. Honorary fellows include S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; John Lang, dean of Litchfield Cathedral in England; and Michael Rion, president of Hartford Seminary.

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