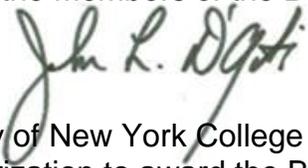




**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** John L. D'Agati 

**SUBJECT:** State University of New York College at Oneonta:  
Regents Authorization to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts  
(B.F.A.) degree

**DATE:** October 4, 2018

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

### **SUMMARY**

#### **Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)**

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York College at Oneonta to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree?

#### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute.

#### **Proposed Handling**

The question will come before the full Board at its October 2018 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

The Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (SUNY) approved the authorization for the SUNY College at Oneonta to offer the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree on June 14, 2018.

#### **Background Information**

On June 19, 2018, the Department received SUNY's proposal to award a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree and to register a B.F.A in Art and Design at SUNY College at Oneonta. Regents authorization is required because SUNY College at Oneonta is not currently authorized to award this degree title. A master plan amendment is not needed

because the College already offers baccalaureate programs in the discipline area of the Fine Arts.

The SUNY Trustees request that the Regents authorize the SUNY College at Oneonta to offer the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The College believes that the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree designation comports with current professional practice and will better convey the content and purpose of the program to interested students.

The rationale given for awarding the new degree:

*“SUNY Oneonta has successfully offered a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) program in Digital and Studio Art for more than 40 years and wishes to expand student options by awarding the BFA degree. Such a degree is consistent with the growing trend in the field for the more rigorous degree program as a precursor to graduate study and career opportunities.*

*The proposed program supports SUNY Oneonta’s mission to provide a comprehensive undergraduate education of the highest quality and will provide their graduates with advantages and greater opportunities in the job market and graduate studies.*

*Based on a survey administered to current students in the Digital and Studio Art B.S. program, there is strong interest in shifting into the BFA program.*

*While students in other areas of the state have access to some established, distinctive BFA programs, access is limited to both public and private programs in the Oneonta region. SUNY Oneonta seeks to offer currently enrolled students opportunities for more concentrated preparation, provide an affordable BFA option in their service area, and meet existing market demand in the state.”*

The Department has determined that the program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

### **Related Regents Items**

N/A

### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York College at Oneonta to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree to students who successfully complete registered programs at the College.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents authorizes the State University of New York College at Oneonta to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, the Department will proceed to register the Art and Design program leading to the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.