



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: William P. Murphy *William Murphy*

SUBJECT: CUNY Lehman College: Regents authorization to award the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree and Master Plan Amendment to offer a Doctor of Education degree in Organizational Leadership, Development and Change

DATE: October 7, 2021

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Beth...*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the City University of New York (CUNY) Lehman College to award the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree and approve a master plan amendment (MPA) to authorize CUNY Lehman College to offer an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership, Development and Change?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board at its October 2021 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

A master plan amendment is required because the proposed program will be the first doctoral level program in the discipline area of social science at CUNY Lehman College. Regents authorization is also required to award the Ed.D. degree.

Background Information

As described by CUNY Lehman College, the proposed program will enable “graduates to lead mission-driven organizations that serve the community in a complex

and constantly shifting environment through its emphasis on research, collaboration, social justice and applied practice.” The College further states that the proposed Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership, Development and Change “is aligned with the mission of the college in that it will provide students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to be effective leaders in a variety of organizations; will provide organizations in the region with graduates who have developed their abilities to perform leadership functions effectively; and will provide professional degree programs and afford opportunities to develop skills and competencies needed in the workplace.”

Currently, Lehman College has three full-time faculty members in leadership studies. In addition, there are nine individuals in Department of Counseling, Leadership, Literacy and Special Education, where the leadership programs are housed, and multiple faculty within the School of Education who are qualified and capable of teaching the proposed leadership and/or research courses based on their academic background and/or professional experience. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of this program, faculty from partnering departments will be invited to collaborate to teach those courses, applying their expertise and lending outside perspective to the program. Two additional full-time faculty will be hired.

Doctoral students will receive support from the time they submit their application to Lehman’s Ed.D. program through their graduation. Academic advisors will guide students through their course of study, carefully noting and discussing issues related to each student’s academic performance and progress on his/her dissertation. Lastly, Ed.D. graduates will have access to Lehman College’s Career Services Center, and program faculty will work collaboratively with appropriate departments/offices/programs, across the campus, to find out about potential leadership positions that may be a good fit for Ed.D. graduates.

The Department canvassed doctoral degree-granting institutions in the New York City region. Of those canvassed, three positive letters of support were submitted, and there were no objections or statements of negative impact. The Department has determined that the proposed program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following actions:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize The City University of New York, Lehman College, to award the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree and that the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize CUNY Lehman College to offer a program in Organizational Leadership, Development and Change leading to the Ed.D. degree.

Timetable for Implementation

Amendments to The City University of New York Master Plan require approval by the Governor. If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will forward the amendment to the Governor for approval. Upon gubernatorial approval, the Department will register the proposed program in Organizational Leadership, Development and Change at CUNY Lehman College.