



**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents  
Acting in their Capacity as Trustees of The University of  
the State of New York

**FROM:** Mary Drzonsc, Fiscal Agent

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of a \$369,000 grant from The Bill and Melinda  
Gates Foundation

**DATE:** December 15, 2015 *Mary Drzonsc*

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *Margaret Elin*

Issue for Decision

Approval of a \$369,000 grant to The University of the State of New York Regents Research Fund from the Foundation. The Foundation's educational mission is to dramatically improve education so that all young people have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The Foundation seeks to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready for college and career and prepared to complete a postsecondary degree or certificate with value in the workplace.

Reason(s) for Consideration

The grant from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has a dual purpose. To support an operational alignment planning process in order to ensure alignment of vision and action amongst the Department's leadership team and to support NYS to launch, execute and utilize implementation data collection at the state level. The primary areas of data collection will focus on four key priority areas: implementation of NYS's curriculum frameworks, improved educator development and supports, robust education evaluation system and use of EngageNY.

Proposed Handling

Approval

Recommendation

That the Board of Regents accept the sum of \$369,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support the work of the USNY Regents Research.