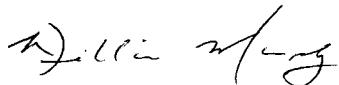






TO: The Higher Education Committee

FROM: William P. Murphy 

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to Sections 3.47 and 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents Relating to the Authorization of Degrees: Adding the Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) Degree and Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) Degree in New York State

DATE: April 29, 2021

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents amend sections 3.47 and 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents relating to the authorization of degrees: adding the Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) degree and Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree in New York State?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of policy.

Proposed Handling

This item will come before the Higher Education Committee at its May 2021 meeting for discussion. A copy of the proposed rule is attached (Attachment A).

Procedural History

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on May 26, 2021. Supporting materials for the proposed amendment are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

The City University of New York (CUNY), Baruch College, has requested that the Board of Regents add the Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) degree to list of

recognized degrees in New York State. According to the Executive DBA Council, the professional association of doctorate of business programs, the D.B.A. is recognized as the terminal degree for practical and applied business education. This degree is designed for working executives, as compared to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), which usually involves full-time study, research, and teaching in preparation for an academic career, or the Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.), which often focuses on other specialized discipline areas (e.g., bioethics/health ethics, computing, homeland security, and information management).

Currently, there are over 107 D.B.A. programs available worldwide, including several in the United States at institutions including Temple University, DePaul University, Georgia State University, University of Florida, and the University of Minnesota. According to CUNY Baruch College, the adoption of the D.B.A. degree award will yield many benefits to the State of New York, such as: (1) strengthening the higher education industry in our state and attracting executive students of high caliber and promise; (2) showing that New York State is receptive to the evolving needs of business, thus enhancing the reputation of New York State as being flexible and proactive in its educational offerings; and (3) demonstrating New York State's commitment to innovation in educational programs.

Separately, Fordham University has requested that the Board of Regents add the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree to the list of recognized degrees in New York State. The M.T.S. degree is recognized by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), a member organization of more than 270 institutions offering degree programs within the theological disciplines. The M.T.S. is considered a pursuit independent from degrees such as the Master of Divinity and the Master of Arts, according to the American Academy of Religion.

The designation of M.T.S. is also recognized by the ATS's accrediting body – the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. The M.T.S. is offered at over 70 institutions outside New York, including the respective divinity schools of Harvard University, Boston College, University of Notre Dame, Vanderbilt, Duke University, Emory University, and Boston University, among many others.

Therefore, the proposed rule amends sections 3.47 and 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents to include Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) and Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) to the list of degrees that may be conferred in New York State.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

Not applicable.

Timetable for Implementation

Following the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, it is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption at its September 2021 meeting. If adopted at the September 2021 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on September 29, 2021.

Attachment A

AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Pursuant to sections 207, 210, 214, 215, 218, 224, 305 of the Education Law

1. Paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of section 3.47 of the Rules of the Board of Regents is amended to read as follows:

(2) Professional degrees. Graduate professional degree programs must be comprised of advanced studies in professional or vocational fields. While they may have strong theoretical underpinnings, they must have as their primary purpose knowledge for application in professional practice. Master's degree programs of this type are primarily terminal in nature. They may serve as preparation for advanced studies at the doctoral level, but they shall not be designed primarily for this purpose. The doctorate in such studies is likewise practical, insofar as it prepares the student to train or supervise others in the field, to discover new knowledge that has practical application in the field, or to prepare the student for a life of practice in the student's particular profession. Only the following degrees may be conferred upon the completion of a professionally oriented graduate program:

Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.)

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

----- Engineer (-- -- E.)

Master of Architecture (M.Arch.)

Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.)

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

Master of Comparative Jurisprudence (M.C.J.)

Master of Comparative Law (M.C.L.)

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Master of Education (Ed.M. or M.Ed.)

Master of Engineering (M.E.)

Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.)

Master of Food Science (M.F.S.)

Master of Forestry (M.F.)

Master of Health Administration (M.H.A.)

Master of Hebrew Literature (M.H.L.)

Master of Industrial and Labor Relations (M.I.L.R.)

Master of Industrial Design (M.I.D.)

Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.)

Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.)

Master of Laws (LL.M.)

Master of Library Science (M.L.S.)

Master of Management in Hospitality (M.M.H.)

Master of Music (Mus.M.)

Master of Nutritional Science (M.N.S.)

Master of Physical Therapy (M.P.T.)

Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.)

Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.)

Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)

Master of Regional Planning (M.R.P.)

Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.)

Master of Sacred Music (S.M.M.)

Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.)

Master of Science for Teachers (M.S.T.)

Master of Science in Education (M.S. in Ed.)

Master of Science in Pharmacy (M.S. in Pharm.)

Master of Social Science (M.S.Sc.)

Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)

Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

Master of Theology (Th.M.)

Master of Urban Planning (M.U.P.)

Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (D.A.O.M)

Doctor of Arts (D.A.)

Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)

Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.)

Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.)

Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.)

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)

Doctor of Engineering (D.Eng.)

Doctor of Engineering Science (Eng.Sc.D.)

Doctor of Hebrew Literature (D.H.L.)

Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)

Doctor of Law (J.D.)

Doctor of Library Science (L.S.D.)

Doctor of Medical Science (Med. Sc.D.)

Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.)

Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)

Doctor of Nursing Science (D.N.S.)

Doctor of Occupational Therapy (O.T.D.)

Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)

Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)

Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.)

Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)

Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.)

Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.)

Doctor of Public Administration (D.P.A.)

Doctor of Public Health (D.P.H.)

Doctor of Religious Education (D.R.E.)

Doctor of Sacred Music (S.M.D.)

Doctor of Science in Veterinary Medicine (D.Sc. in V.M.)

Doctor of Social Science (D.S.Sc.)

Doctor of Social Welfare (D.S.W.)

Doctor of the Science of Law (J.S.D.)

Doctor of Theology (Th.D.)

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.)

2. Paragraphs (3) and (30) of subdivision (b) of section 3.50 of the Rules of the Board of Regents is amended to read as follows:

(3) Business Administration:

Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)

Master of Management in Hospitality (M.M.H.)

Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.)

(30) Theology:

Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.)

Bachelor of Sacred Theology (S.T.B.)

Bachelor of Theology (Th.B.)

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.)

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

Master of Theology (Th.M.)

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

Doctor of Theology (Th.D.)

Note: Any institution of higher education authorized to confer the Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.) or Bachelor of Sacred Theology (S.T.B.) degree may confer the Master of Divinity

(M.Div.) degree, provided that the programs leading to the degrees have been registered in accordance with the regulations of the commissioner.