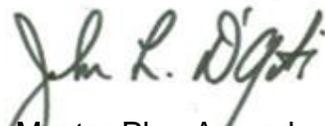




**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

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

**SUBJECT:** Fei Tian College: Master Plan Amendment to establish a Branch Campus in Middletown, NY and registration of bachelor's and master's degree programs

**DATE:** July 12, 2018

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

**SUMMARY**

**Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)**

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment for Fei Tian College to establish a branch campus in Middletown, NY and authorize the College to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), and Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degrees at the branch campus?

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute and State regulation.

**Proposed Handling**

This question will come before the full Board at its July 2018 meeting, where it will be voted on and action taken. A related charter petition for the establishment of the branch campus and the authority to grant Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees at that branch campus will also be before the Board at the July 2018 meeting.

**Procedural History**

Fei Tian College submitted a proposal for degree programs to be registered at a new branch campus located in Middletown, NY. An amendment of the College's charter and a master plan amendment are needed to establish the new branch campus and to grant the College the authority to offer certain bachelor's and master's degrees at that branch campus.

## **Background Information**

Fei Tian College seeks approval of a master plan amendment to establish a branch campus at Middletown, NY (Orange County). A master plan amendment is needed to authorize both the establishment of the branch campus and the registration of the degree programs proposed for the campus.

The proposed branch campus is located at 1 Ashley Avenue in the City of Middletown, about 12 miles from the College's main campus in Cuddebackville. The College has acquired 8 buildings and more than 100 acres of land at the Middletown site; almost 70,000 assignable square feet (ASF) has been remodeled to meet campus needs and renovations will continue on additional space. Middletown is easily accessible via various modes of transportation and possesses urban amenities unavailable at the more rural main campus. The branch location will provide new educational options for students at a convenient location.

The College proposes to offer the following programs at the branch location:

| Program Name | Credential Awarded |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Dance        | B.F.A.             |
| Dance        | M.F.A.             |

The dance programs are closely modeled on similar programs in classical Chinese dance at the main campus. Dance programs at the branch will have an added concentration in classical ballet. Courses emphasize repertoire, choreography, skills, history and professional practices. Projected enrollments in the first and fifth year respectively are 10 and 14 for the B.F.A. and 4 and 6 for the M.F.A.

The faculty are well-qualified and sufficient in number for the proposed programs of study. Dance faculty include five full-time positions and one part-time position. Four faculty positions will be added over the next four years; two full-time and two part-time.

Consistent with its master planning process, the Department conducted a canvass of all degree-granting institutions in the Hudson Valley region. The Department received responses from two institutions. Neither had any objection to the proposal.

An academic review of the faculty, curriculum and other program elements has been completed by the Department. The Department has determined that the proposed branch campus and programs meet the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

## **Related Regents Items**

N/A

## **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan of Fei Tian College to authorize the establishment of a branch campus in Middletown and authorize the College to grant Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees at that location. The amendment will be effective until July 17, 2019, unless the branch campus and degree programs are registered prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

## **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will register the branch and the programs.