



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Johanna Duncan-Poitier
Johanna Duncan-Poitier

COMMITTEE: Higher and Professional Education

TITLE OF ITEM: Proposed Framework for the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2004-2012

DATE OF SUBMISSION: January 16, 2003

PROPOSED HANDLING: Discussion

RATIONALE FOR ITEM: To seek Regents guidance on the proposed framework for the Statewide Plan

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goals 2, 3, 4 and 5

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Robert P. Mulie*

SUMMARY:

Every eight years, the Board of Regents, in collaboration with the higher education community, develops and adopts the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, setting goals and objectives for New York's coordinated system of higher education. The next Statewide Plan will cover the period 2004-2012. Attached for your review is the Proposed Framework for the Development of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2004-2012.

This Plan will create a strong linkage between the Regents priorities identified in the Statewide Plan and the college and university individual master plans. The goal is to ensure that the Regents priorities identified for the Statewide Plan are relevant to higher education operations and become a focal point for the individual colleges in the development and implementation of their master plans. Over the course of the Plan's duration, the Regents will also develop initiatives to assist in the implementation of the Regents priorities. Finally, we are recommending that the Commissioner's Advisory Council on Higher Education periodically discuss the implementation of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education as part of its ongoing responsibilities and to inform the 2008 progress report.

Throughout the development of this Plan we will continue to collaborate closely with the institutions of higher education in New York State. We began our conversations about the Statewide Plan with the Commissioner's Advisory Council in September 2002 and at the Regents October 2002 Public Policy Conference. The Commissioner's Advisory Council discussed the Plan again at its December 2002

meeting. We have also shared this proposed framework with the Advisory Council members and will provide you with any additional comments from the Advisory Council members at your February meeting.

The Regents Committee on Higher and Professional Education will discuss specific Regents priorities for the Statewide Plan at its March meeting with the approval of those priorities by the Board of Regents at the April meeting. On May 1, 2003, the Commissioner will provide the Regents priorities for the Statewide Plan to the colleges and universities. The priorities will guide the development of their master plans.

The master plans from the colleges and universities will be submitted to the Department in Spring 2004 and the Board of Regents will adopt the overall Statewide Plan for Higher Education, including the master plans from individual colleges and universities, in the fall of 2004.

Attachment

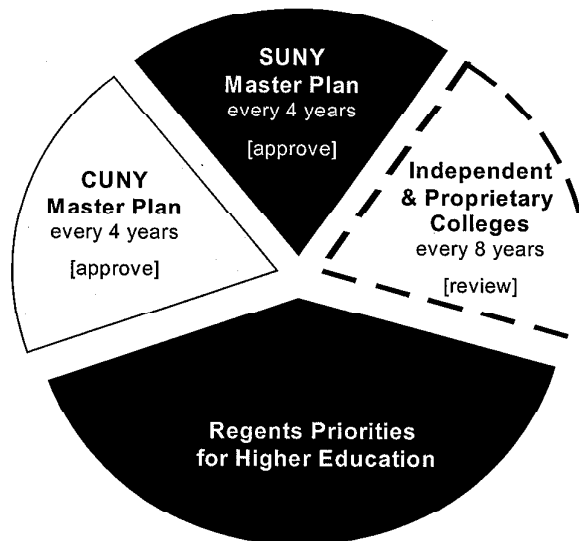
PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR THE STATEWIDE PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, 2004-2012

NEW YORK'S COMMITMENT

New York State is a world leader in education. Working together, the State's colleges and universities - public, independent, and proprietary - will demonstrate even greater leadership during the first decades of the 21st Century to continue to advance the educational and economic needs of the State and its citizens.

INTRODUCTION

Every eight years, the Board of Regents, in collaboration with the higher education community, develops and adopts the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, setting goals and objectives for New York's coordinated system of higher education. The Statewide Plan focuses on major policy issues affecting the role of higher education in New York State and its service to its residents, workforce, and community. Regents priorities for higher education serve as the foundation for the Plan, which includes the long-range master plans of the State University of New York (SUNY), The City University of New York (CUNY), and New York's independent and proprietary institutions of higher education.



The Regents and Department leadership began discussions with the higher education community regarding the Statewide Plan at the October 2002 Public Policy Conference. Leaders from the four higher education sectors and over 100 participants from the

higher education community shared their insights on the Statewide Plan. Specific recommendations for the priorities and goals for the Plan were also provided at this session. In September and December of 2002, the Commissioner similarly discussed the Statewide Plan with the Commissioner's Advisory Council on Higher Education. This dialogue with the higher education community will continue throughout the Plan's development and implementation.

This proposed framework discusses the process and content for the 2004-2012 Statewide Plan for Higher Education.

- The Regents, with input from the higher education community, will identify characteristics of a highly effective higher education system for New York State.
- Based on these characteristics, the Regents will identify their priorities for higher education for 2004-2012.
- The institutions' **individual** master plans and related Regents initiatives become the blueprint for action to help attain the Regents priorities in the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2004-2012.
- Over the eight years, SED and the institutions, through the Commissioner's Advisory Council on Higher Education, will discuss the Plan's implementation. These discussions will inform the formal progress report on the Plan in 2008.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

All higher education institutions in New York State:

- avidly pursue knowledge relating to their mission and share that knowledge with other institutions and individuals wishing to learn;
- give students the ability, through quality education, to develop ethical, intellectual and social values; contribute to society; succeed in the workplace; and engage in lifelong learning;
- admit all qualified applicants within the institution's resource capability to offer them a quality education, providing appropriate financial assistance to ensure access to all and assist all enrolled students to succeed in their studies;
- cooperate with each other in sharing resources for an efficient and cost-effective system and accepting appropriate credits in transfer to avoid unnecessary repetition and tuition costs;
- collaborate with elementary and secondary schools to assist, where possible, in the preparation of students so that they may enter and be successful in higher education and, if teacher education is their mission, to prepare a sufficient number of effective future teachers to meet the State's needs;

- collaborate with government and community organizations to identify pressing and emerging needs of society and devise effective ways to meet those needs;
- collaborate with the professions and the people they serve to identify related needs that can be addressed by higher education, through new research initiatives or preparation of professionals with new knowledge and skills, and to devise effective ways to meet those needs;
- collaborate with businesses and other organizations to identify their needs that can be addressed by higher education, through new research initiatives or preparation of a workforce with new knowledge and skills, and to devise effective ways to meet those needs, thus advancing economic development;
- provide New Yorkers with opportunities to learn at convenient times and locations and through a variety of means, including quality distance education;
- seek excellence through ongoing self-study and study of the environment for the purpose of continual improvement.

Regents Priorities. The Regents priorities for higher education for 2004-2012 will be directed at creating an even more effective higher education system. Developed with the input of the higher education community and other segments of The University of the State of New York (USNY), the Regents priorities will include existing and emerging issues such as: a smooth transition from PreK-12 to higher education; qualified teachers and leaders for all schools; qualified professionals for every community; success for all higher education students; creation of new knowledge through research; strong graduate education; and a balanced regulatory environment.

These priorities will be augmented by available data identifying what we know about these priority areas to inform any initiatives planned.

Regents Initiatives. The Regents will draw on USNY's collective resources and initiate specific policies and programs, where appropriate, to advance the priorities they have identified.

Master Plans of the Institutions. The master plans of SUNY, CUNY, and the independent and proprietary institutions will contain the systems' objectives and strategies for achieving both the Regents priorities and the specific goals of the institutions. These master plans and the Regents initiatives will become the blueprint for action to attain the Regents priorities in the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2004-2012.

Reviewing our Progress, 2004-2012. The effectiveness of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education depends on the higher education community regularly reviewing its progress in achieving its priorities and objectives. The Commissioner's Advisory Council on Higher Education, which includes representatives from all four higher education

sectors (SUNY, CUNY, independent and proprietary institutions) will regularly discuss the implementation of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education. The Department will report to the Regents each year on progress.

Timeline for the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2004-2012

- October 2002 **Regents Public Policy Conference:** stakeholders discuss goals and priorities for the Statewide Plan and for the long-range master plans for all institutions.
- Late 2002 The Department gathers input from the **Commissioner's Advisory Council on Higher Education** and from the field.
- Spring 2003 The Board of Regents adopts characteristics of a highly effective higher education system and priorities for the Statewide Plan. The Department provides guidance to SUNY, CUNY, and independent and proprietary institutions on preparing their master plans.
- Spring 2003–
Spring 2004 SUNY, CUNY, and independent and proprietary institutions **develop their master plans.**
- Spring 2004 SUNY and CUNY send master plans to the Board of Regents for approval; independent and proprietary institutions send master plans to the Regents for review. **All are incorporated into the Statewide Plan.**
- Summer –
Fall 2004 The **Regents** issue a tentative Statewide Plan, hold public hearings, revise the plan as needed, **adopt the 2004-2012 Statewide Plan for Higher Education**, and send it to the Governor for approval and to the Legislature.