



**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:** Master Plan Amendment: State University College of Technology at Farmingdale

**DATE OF SUBMISSION:** February 24, 2003

**PROPOSED HANDLING:** Approval (Consent Agenda)

**RATIONALE FOR ITEM:** Master plan amendment is required when an institution offers a program for the first time in a new discipline

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Goal 2

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *Thomas J. ...*

**SUMMARY:**

The State University of New York Board of Trustees seeks approval to authorize the State University College of Technology at Farmingdale to offer instruction leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Bioscience. Master plan amendment is required because this would be the College's first baccalaureate program in the discipline of biological sciences.

The Office of College and University Evaluation has determined that the proposed program, if approved, would meet the standards for registration set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

I recommend that the Regents take the following action:

**VOTED**, that the master plan of the State University of New York be amended, effective March 25, 2003, authorizing State University College of Technology at Farmingdale to offer a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Bioscience. This approval will be effective only until March 31, 2004 unless the Department registers one or more programs leading to the degree indicated, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

SUNY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY AT FARMINGDALE  
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Bioscience

Academic Review

The State University of New York Board of Trustees seeks approval to authorize the State University College of Technology at Farmingdale to offer instruction leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Bioscience. Master plan amendment is required because this would be the College's first baccalaureate degree program in the discipline of biological sciences.

The proposed program complements the mission of the College, which is to provide baccalaureate and associate degree, career-oriented programs in technological fields and the applied sciences that support the economic development of the region. Professional training in the manufacturing and regulatory aspects of the bioscience industry is specifically cited as one of the areas of professional training to be stressed in the College's Memorandum of Understanding.

The purpose of the proposed bioscience program is to produce versatile graduates prepared for a wide range of positions in the rapidly developing bioscience field in the Long Island region.

The program consists of the following: a 29-credit bioscience core; 25-credit specialization in one of four specializations: bioinformatics, bioprocessing, molecular pathology, and pharmaceutical manufacturing; 38 credits of general education; 17 credits of required electives; and 15 credits of free electives. Specified entrance requirements relate to mathematics, biology, chemistry, and cut-off scores on standardized tests.

The prospective students for the program will be freshmen and transfer students from existing associate degree programs from allied fields of study at Farmingdale and neighboring community colleges. The College projects enrollments in the proposed bioscience program to consist of 12 full-time and 6 part-time students in the first year, growing to 65 full-time and 39 part-time students in its fifth year.

The College's biology faculty and faculty from allied fields representing the multidisciplinary components of this curriculum will bring a broad range of expertise to the program. In addition, the College has hired two faculty members with Ph.D.s in biological chemistry and in immunology and microbiology. A search is also under way to recruit a new faculty member with expertise in molecular biology with the specific responsibility to help implement the new program.

There are adequate library resources, facilities and equipment available for start-up of the program. Additional facilities are under construction and equipment and library

holdings will be added to support the proposed program as the need for advanced specialized courses arises in its third and fourth year of operation.

### Planning Review

A canvass was conducted of the Long Island Region. There were two responses supporting the program.