





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

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

**SUBJECT:** Pace University: Master Plan Amendment to offer a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Computer Science and a Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.) degree in Computing Studies

**DATE:** July 13, 2015



**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

### **SUMMARY**

#### **Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)**

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize Pace University to offer its first doctoral programs in the Physical Sciences discipline at its Pleasantville 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 2015 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

Pace University submitted a proposal to move two registered programs, the D. P.S. in Computing Studies and the Ph.D. in Computer Science, from the White Plains campus to the Pleasantville campus. A master plan amendment is required because the programs would be Pace University's first doctoral programs in the Physical Sciences discipline at its Pleasantville campus.

## **Background Information**

The Department originally registered the Computing Studies D.P.S. and Computer Science Ph.D. programs at the Pace University White Plains campus in 1999 and 2013, respectively. According to the University, the Ph.D. program enrolls 18 students. The D.P.S. program enrolls 98 students, of which 63 students have completed coursework and are working on their dissertations. Overall, 95 students have completed the D.P.S. program with a successful dissertation defense.

The University has made a strategic decision to move these programs to the Pleasantville campus and to discontinue them at the White Plains location. Both campuses are in the Hudson Valley Region, approximately nine miles apart. According to the University, students in both programs have been informed about the proposed move, and no students have expressed concerns. Overall, the facilities are comparable. The University states that, relative to the White Plains campus, the Pleasantville location features more extensive on-site library services and collections and such amenities as free parking for students.

No changes are planned in program admission requirements, enrollments, curriculum, or assessment mechanisms. The Department reviewed a summary of current faculty and found them to be suitable for the programs.

The Department did not conduct a canvass for these proposals because they are not new programs and regional and doctoral institutions had an opportunity to comment at the time of original registration in White Plains.

## **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan of Pace University to authorize the University to offer its first doctoral programs in the Physical Sciences discipline at its Pleasantville campus. The amendment will be effective until July 30, 2016, unless the Department registers the programs 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 programs at the Pace University Pleasantville campus and discontinue them at the White Plains campus.