



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

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

SUBJECT: State University of New York at Albany: Regents
Authorization to award the Master of International Affairs
(M.I.A.) Degree

DATE: June 8, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Elizabeth R. Berlin*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York at Albany to award the Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) degree?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its June 2015 meeting for action.

Procedural History

On January 13, 2015, the State University of New York Board of Trustees adopted a resolution directing the SUNY Chancellor to seek the authorization of the Board of Regents for the State University of New York at Albany to confer the degree of Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.).

Background Information

The Trustees are currently authorized to confer degrees at the bachelors, masters and doctoral levels on students successfully completing the respective registered programs at the State University of New York at Albany leading to those degrees, including the Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.S.), Master of

Professional Studies (M.P.S.), Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), Master of Science for Teachers (M.S.T.), Master of Science in Education (M.S. Ed.), Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.), Master of Public Health (M.P.H.), and Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) The Trustees now request that the Regents authorize the State University of New York at Albany to offer a Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.). Master plan amendment is not needed because the University already offers masters-level programs; however, Regents authorization is required because this will be the University's first Master of International Affairs degree program.

The Trustee's resolution indicates that the Master of International Affairs degree is consistent with the University's mission and SUNY's mission and aligns with SUNY's Strategic Plan, which calls for "transforming SUNY into a transnational enterprise of the highest order, increasing opportunities for international exposure throughout all courses and degrees, and increasing the pool of talented foreign students studying on our campuses."

An academic review of faculty, curriculum and other crucial program aspects of the proposed degree program has been completed by the Department. The Department has determined that the proposed degree program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. In addition, the institution had reviews conducted by external experts in the discipline of international affairs. The external reviews were positive.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorizes the State University of New York Board of Trustees to award the Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) on students who successfully complete registered programs at the State University of New York at Albany effective June 16, 2015.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents authorizes the State University of New York at Albany to award the Master of International Affairs degree, the Department will proceed to register the International Affairs program leading to the Master of International Affairs degree and the institution will proceed to recruit and register students.