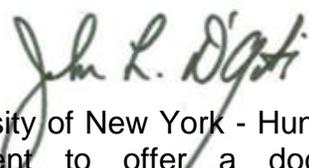




TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: The City University of New York - Hunter College: Master Plan Amendment to offer a doctoral program in Instructional Leadership and award the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree.

DATE: May 11, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment and authorize The City University of New York (CUNY) Hunter College to offer a doctoral program in Instructional Leadership and award the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by statute.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its May 2015 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

CUNY Hunter College submitted a proposal for a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree program in Instructional Leadership in December 2014. The Department conducted a full program review, after which, in March 2015, the Department conducted a statewide canvass of all doctoral degree-granting institutions. The proposed program represents the College's first doctoral program in the discipline of education.

Background Information

CUNY Hunter College seeks to amend its master plan to allow it to establish a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program in Instructional Leadership. A master plan amendment is required because this would be the College's first doctoral program in the discipline of education. The Board of Regents must also authorize the College to award the Ed.D. degree.

In support of this program, Hunter College identifies a series of fundamental changes in K-12 education that have occurred over the last few years, including new curriculum standards, new student assessments for college- and career-readiness, new methods for reaching all students, and new teacher evaluation systems. Hunter College makes the case that these changes mark a growing need for clinically focused doctoral training for education practitioners.

To meet these challenges, the design of the Hunter College Ed.D. program in Instructional Leadership has been deeply informed by the work of the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate and the information provided by the many graduates and adjuncts who have inquired about a possible Ed.D. program at Hunter. There is currently no public Ed.D. program in NYC designed to meet the needs of working educators with a part-time cohort model and practice-focused curriculum.

After departmental review, the Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) determined that, if the master plan amendment is approved, the program meets all standards for registration. In addition, the institution had two independent reviews conducted by external experts in the discipline. The external reviews were favorable. The existing educator preparation programs housed in the Hunter College School of Education demonstrate a pattern of good standing, as evidenced by the pass rates of its graduates on teacher certification exams. In March 2015, the Department conducted a statewide canvass of all doctoral degree-granting institutions. Of those canvassed, there were no formal objections to this proposal.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize The City University of New York Hunter College to offer a doctoral program in Instructional Leadership and the authorization to award Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment and authorizes Hunter College to award the Ed.D. degree, the Department will register the program in Instructional Leadership and the institution will proceed to recruit and enroll students.