TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: John L. D'Agati

SUBJECT: Degree Authorization and Master Plan Amendment: CUNY School of Professional Studies

DATE: November 9, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the CUNY School of Professional Studies ("CUNY SPS") to award degrees?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

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

Procedural History

A master plan amendment is required because CUNY SPS does not have degree-granting authority.

Background Information

CUNY SPS was created in 2003 by CUNY's Board of Trustees with the purpose of meeting the educational needs of working adults, organizations, and employers. It has operated as a component of the CUNY Graduate School and University Center, with the Graduate School awarding degrees to students who complete programs organized under the School. CUNY SPS is now seeking authorization to award its own degrees for its existing programs.

CUNY SPS has grown from an initial cohort of 200 students to over 2,600 degree and certificate students in 52 credit-bearing programs. Through its programs registered to the Graduate Center, it has recommended the awarding of over 1,100 certificates, 990 baccalaureate degrees, and 550 master's degrees. In addition, CUNY SPS serves over 10,000 students annually in non-credit instruction, many of them in State and City organizations and agencies. In 2014, this work reflected over $10 million in grants to provide education and training programs that help agencies and organizations address a variety of learning needs and improve performance.

Although established within the CUNY Graduate School, CUNY SPS has operated with a high degree of independence. It has its own local governance body independent from that of the Graduate School, and it provides student support and almost all administrative services independently of the Graduate School. Given CUNY SPS's success and rapid growth, CUNY believes the institution has attained the maturity and readiness to operate as a stand-alone institution.

CUNY SPS is dedicated to being the University's premier school for adult learners and its leader in online learning. Adapting to the needs of its students across a growing range of fields and sectors, CUNY SPS expands the system's ability to address the demands of evolving workplaces and disciplines. It has focused not only on curricula, but on the services and supports its student population needs to succeed. This includes offering Prior Learning Assessment opportunities that make it possible for students to earn credit for previous education, work experience, and learning.

Two CUNY SPS institutes further support adult students:

The *Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies* supports CUNY SPS's labor-related higher education programs for working adults and union members, and serves as a resource center to labor, academic, and community leaders seeking a deeper understanding of labor and urban issues. In addition, the Institute conducts research, organizes forums and conferences, offers leadership development programs, and publishes a national journal, New Labor Forum.

The *John F. Kennedy, Jr. Institute* supports workforce development initiatives in health, education and human services, with a particular focus on advocating for career ladders, health and educational benefits, and a living wage for frontline workers, along with supporting the employment of people with disabilities.

In addition, CUNY SPS has developed programs that are not only unique within CUNY, but nationally and internationally as well. For example, the School's M.A. in Applied Theatre, M.S. in Disability Services in Higher Education, and B.A. in Disability Studies were all the first programs of their kind in the United States.

Summary of CUNY SPS Operations and Transition Plans:

Degrees and Disciplines: To make awards under its own authority in programs now affiliated with the School of Professional Studies, the institution needs authorization to award the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.); Bachelor of Science (B.S.); Master of Arts (M.A.); and Master of Science (M.S.). The School's programs reflect offerings in

the following major disciplines: Business (bachelor's and master's degrees); Fine Arts (master's degrees); Health Professions (bachelor's degrees); Physical Sciences (bachelor's and master's degrees); and Social Sciences (bachelor's and master's degrees).

Programs: The 52 academic programs now offered by the CUNY SPS and registered to the Graduate School will be transferred to the CUNY SPS and remain as currently offered. A list of these programs is attached. The School's offerings include 12 fully online degree programs.

Faculty and Staff: Existing CUNY SPS faculty and administrative staff will remain in place.

Facilities: The University is leasing 68,000 square feet of space on five floors at 119 West 31st Street. This space includes a welcome center, computer labs, 23 smart classrooms, conference rooms, administrative offices, mail room, and help desk. Two floors of administrative space leased by the University at 101 West 31st Street complements the space at 119 West 31st Street.

Library: The home library for CUNY SPS is the nearby Newman Library at Baruch College, which provides students easy access to computer-based library materials through its internet-based resources. Students also have access to the 20 libraries of The City University of New York system.

Foundation: To further support SPS and its students, the recently established CUNY SPS Foundation, now with eleven board members, has already raised nearly $1 million in philanthropic gifts.

Need and Demand: The noted growth of CUNY SPS programs reflects continuing student and employer demand for programs aligned with the SPS's specific mission. Likewise, CUNY SPS will continue to serve the mission and purposes of the CUNY system as a whole.

The Department originally registered CUNY SPS programs to the Graduate School. No new programs are being proposed at this time. As part of the master planning process for new degree authority, the Department canvassed institutions of higher education in the New York City region. Two institutions responded. No objections or statements of negative impact were received.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize the CUNY School of Professional Studies to confer degrees, and authorize the School to award the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.); Bachelor of Science (B.S.); Master of Arts (M.A.); and Master of Science (M.S.) degrees. The amendment will be effective until November 17, 2016, unless the Department registers the programs to the School of Professional Studies 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 transmit it to the Governor with a recommendation for favorable action. Following gubernatorial approval, the Department will register the noted programs to the CUNY School of Professional Studies and discontinue the registration of those programs at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center.

Attachment: CUNY School of Professional Studies Programs

Program Name	Award	Program Code	Degree Relationship (for Certs/Advanced Certs)
1. Adult Learning: Program Design and Facilitation	Adv. Cert.	33611	MA in Psychology (37396)
2. Applied Theatre	MA	32107	
3. Business	BS	31791	
4. Business Communication	Cert.	31784	BS in Business (31791)
5. Business Management and Leadership	MS	32999	
6. Child Development Associate	Cert.	35052	BA in Psychology (34511)
7. Coaching in the Organizational Context	Adv. Cert.	33875	MA in Psychology (37396)
8. Communication and Media	BA	30806	
9. Communication and Media	BS	30807	
10. Creating Theatre with Young People	Adv. Cert.	29339	MA in Applied Theatre (32107)
11. Data Analytics	MS	34715	
12. Disability Studies	Adv. Cert.	29124	MA in Disability Studies (32353)
13. Disability Studies	MA	32353	
14. Disability Services in Higher Education	MS	37346	
15. Disability Studies	BA	35334	
16. Diversity in the Workplace	Cert.	31790	BA in Sociology (34441)
17. Drama in the Classroom	Adv. Cert.	29130	MA in Applied Theatre (32107)
18. Education Foundation	Cert.	31786	BA in Psychology (34511)
19. Financial Studies	Cert.	31785	BS in Business (31791)
20. Health Care Policy and Administration	Cert.	32825	BA in Urban and Community Studies (36024)
21. Health Care Policy and Administration	Adv. Cert.	32809	MA in Urban Studies (35316)
22. Health Information Management	BS	34442	
23. Human Relations	BA	36664	
24. Immigration Law Studies	Adv. Cert.	29358	MS in Business Management and Leadership (32999)
25. Information Systems	BS	36516	
26. Interactive Technology and Pedagogy	Adv. Cert.	25566	MS in Data Analytics (34715)
27. Labor Relations	Cert.	33037	BA in Urban and Community Studies (36024)
28. Labor Relations	Adv. Cert.	34553	MA in Labor Studies (32234)
29. Labor Studies	Cert.	30980	BA in Urban and Community Studies (36024)
30. Labor Studies	Adv. Cert.	31373	MA in Labor Studies (32234)
31. Labor Studies	MA	32234	
32. Leadership	Cert.	31787	BA in Psychology (34511)
33. Management	Cert.	31782	BS in Business (31791)
34. Management	Adv. Cert.	31789	MS in Business Management and Leadership (32999)
35. Management in the Transportation Industry	Cert.	35987	BS in Business (31791)
36. Medical Coding	Cert.	37237	BS in Health Information Management (34442)
37. Nursing	BS	36149	
38. Nursing Dual/Joint with QCC	AAS/BS	37062	
39. Organizational Studies	Cert.	31781	BA in Psychology (34511)
40. Project Management	Adv. Cert.	32373	MS in Business Management and Leadership (32999)
41. Psychology	BA	34511	
42. Psychology	MA	37396	
43. Public Administration and Public Policy	Cert.	31889	BA in Urban and Community Studies (36024)
44. Public Administration - Level 1	Adv. Cert.	31606	MA in Urban Studies (35316)
45. Public Administration - Level 2	Adv. Cert.	31605	MA in Urban Studies (35316)
46. Sociology	BA	34441	
47. Theatre Teaching Artist	Adv. Cert.	29341	MA in Applied Theatre (32107)
48. Transportation Administration and Policy	Cert.	37203	BA in Urban and Community Studies (36024)
49. Understanding How Adults Learn	Cert.	31783	BA in Psychology (34511)
50. Urban and Community Studies	BA	36024	
51. Urban Studies	MA	35316	
52. Youth Studies	Adv. Cert.	33964	MA in Disability Studies (32353)