



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: Higher Education Committee

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

SUBJECT: Change in Scope of Institutional Accreditation: Fei Tian College

DATE: December 29, 2016

AUTHORIZATION(S): *MaryEllen Elia*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents approve a change in the scope of institutional accreditation of Fei Tian College?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the Higher Education Committee at its January 2017 meeting, where it will be voted on and action taken. It will then come before the full Board at its January 2017 meeting for final action.

Procedural History

The Board of Regents granted institutional accreditation to Fei Tian College in 2014. The College's current term of accreditation expires on February 10, 2019. In October 2016, the Board of Regents approved a master plan amendment to authorize the institution to offer its first programs at the master's level. The Department's Office of College and University Evaluation subsequently registered the programs associated with that action, a Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Classical Chinese Dance and a Master of Music (Mus.M.) in Performance. As a result of that new authorization, the College has applied to the Regents for a change in scope of its institutional accreditation. A Regents –accredited institution that undergoes a substantive change must apply for a change in its scope of accreditation. Section 4.1-5(d) of the Rules of the Board of Regents defines actions that require such a change in scope, along with processes.

Background Information

Fei Tian College applied for a change in scope of accreditation for the following reason, as defined in Regents Rules:

The addition of courses or programs of study at a degree or credential level different from that which is included in the institution's current accreditation.

Specifically, the College added degree authority and programs at the master's level.

The purpose of the change in scope application is to document that the change does not adversely affect the institution's capacity to meet the accreditation standards defined under Sections 4-1.3 and 4-1.4 of the Regents Rules.

The College's progression to the master's level comports with its mission as a highly specialized institution dedicated to the preparation of creative professionals in music and dance. Based on the application submitted by the institution, the Department finds that the College's new authority does not compromise the institution's ability to meet accreditation standards related to the College's mission; assessment of student achievement; resources; faculty; programs of study; administration; support services; admissions; consumer information; and related technical processes. The College's documentation of steps to support the delivery of the master's curricula provides assurance of the College's capacity to continue to satisfy critical accreditation standards addressing faculty and programs of study.

The Department finds that the College's move to the master's level does not adversely affect the institution's capacity to continue to meet Regents accreditation standards. As a result, the Department recommends approval of the requested change in scope of accreditation for Fei Tian College.

Related Regents Items

October 2016 <http://www.regents.nysesd.gov/common/regents/files/1016brca2.pdf>

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a change in scope of the institutional accreditation of Fei Tian College, in recognition of the institution's authority to award degrees at the master's level.

Board of Regents members with a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest on this application are asked to recuse themselves from participating in the deliberation and decision.