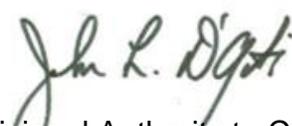




THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

To: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

From: John L. D'Agati 

Subject: Extension of Provisional Authority to Confer Degrees:
Institute of Art-New York LLC (dba Sotheby's Institute of Art –
New York)

Date: April 11, 2016

Authorizations: 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents extend the Institute of Art-New York's (dba Sotheby's Institute of Art-New York) provisional authority to confer degrees?

Reason for Consideration

Required by State Regulation

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its April 2016 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

In April 2010, the Regents granted Sotheby's Institute of Art-New York provisional authority to confer degrees until April 30, 2015 pursuant to Section 3.58(c)(1) of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Regents action is required to extend Sotheby's provisional authority to grant degrees until such time as the Regents make a determination concerning permanent authority to confer degrees.

Background Information

Sotheby's Inc., the company that owns the Sotheby's auction house, does not play a role in the management of Sotheby's Institute of Art-New York nor does it have an ownership interest. Cambridge Information Group, Inc. (CIG) acquired the Institute from Sotheby's, Inc. in 2005.

In April 2010, the Board of Regents granted Sotheby's provisional authority to confer degrees as a for-profit degree granting institution of higher education. Sotheby's offers M.A. and Advanced Certificate programs in Art Business; American Fine and Decorative Art; Contemporary Art; a M.A. program in Fine and Decorative Art and a certificate program in Basic Interior Design. The Institute has been accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) since 1989.

Pursuant to §3.58(c)(1) of the Rules of the Board of Regents, provisional authority to confer degrees can be granted for a period of up to five years. During that period, an institution is required to apply for permanent authority to confer degrees. Sotheby's provisional authority to confer degrees was granted for a period that ended on April 30, 2015. Through an oversight, Sotheby's neglected to apply for permanent authority to confer degrees prior to the expiration of the provisional authority period. Sotheby's is currently working to complete the application for permanent authority. In order to hold students harmless, and to provide time to complete the process to apply for permanent authority to confer degrees, Sotheby's has requested a time-limited extension of its provisional authority to confer degrees, retroactive to March 31, 2016 and ending on March 31, 2017. Before the expiration of the extension period, Sotheby's will complete the process to apply for permanent authority and the Department will bring a recommendation to the Regents concerning that application.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents grant the Institute of Art–New York, LLC, (dba Sotheby's Institute of Art–New York), an extension of its provisional authority to confer degrees retroactive to March 31, 2016 and ending on March 31, 2017.

Timetable for Implementation

If approved by the Board of Regents, Sotheby's provisional authority to confer degrees retroactive to March 31, 2016 and ending on March 31, 2017, will take effect immediately.