





TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: St. Thomas Aquinas College. Master plan amendment to offer a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree program in Criminal Justice Administration

DATE: April 27, 2017

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment for St. Thomas Aquinas College to offer its first masters-level program in the Social Sciences discipline area, a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) in Criminal Justice Administration?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and State regulation.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its May 2017 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

St. Thomas Aquinas College has submitted a proposal for a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) in Criminal Justice Administration. A master plan amendment is required because the proposed program will be the College's first masters-level program in the Social Sciences discipline area.

Background Information

St. Thomas Aquinas College seeks a master plan amendment to allow it to offer a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) in Criminal Justice Administration.

The proposed M.P.A. in Criminal Justice Administration program at St. Thomas Aquinas College will provide mid-career criminal justice professionals and other students an opportunity to supplement their knowledge of the criminal justice field with distinctive skills and competencies in administration, business, research, planning, and statistics. It will also provide an opportunity for undergraduates who wish to directly enter the field of public administration without first directly serving in one of the line areas of criminal justice careers, such as law enforcement or corrections.

The curriculum for the M.P.A. in Criminal Justice Administration program consists of 39 credit hours of study (13 courses: 10 core and 3 elective) including capstone and thesis requirements. The projected enrollment for the program is anticipated to be 6 students in Year 1 and 66 students in Year 5.

An academic review of faculty, curriculum and other program elements 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 February 2017, following its standard protocol, the Department conducted a canvass of institutions of higher education in the Hudson Valley region. There were no objections or statements of negative impact.

Related Regents Items

NA

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize St. Thomas Aquinas College to offer its first masters-level program in the Social Sciences discipline area, a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) in Criminal Justice Administration.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will register the program.