



To: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

From: John L. D'Agati 

Subject: Mildred Elley School: Regents Authorization to award the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree

Date: January 30, 2012

Authorizations:

SUMMARY

Issue for Consent Agenda

Should the Board of Regents authorize Mildred Elley School to award the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree at its main campus in Albany?

Reason for Consideration

Required by State regulation.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its February 2012 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken

Procedural History

Mildred Elley School has submitted a proposal to offer a program in Paralegal Studies leading to the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree to be offered at the School's main campus in Albany.

The School currently offers programs in paralegal studies leading to a certificate and the Associate in Occupational Studies (A.O.S.) degree at the main campus. Since 1997, the School has been offering programs leading to the A.O.S. degree. In accordance with Section 3.47 Requirements for Earned Degrees of Chapter I, Title 8 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Mildred Elley's programs leading to the A.O.S. degree award do not include courses in the liberal arts and sciences.

The School's proposed program in Paralegal Studies leads to the A.A.S. degree award and meets the requirement set forth in Section 3.47 that one-third of the work required for the A.A.S. degree shall be in the liberal arts and sciences.

The School believes that programs leading to the A.A.S. degrees will better prepare their graduates for further higher education and advancement in their careers. The new degree award is also expected to increase the number of transfer students with credit applicable to the liberal arts and sciences portions of the programs.

Regents authorization is required because the School is not currently authorized to award the degree title. Master plan amendment is not needed, as the School is proposing to offer a program in the discipline area of Business. The School currently offers associate-level degree programs in the discipline area of Business at the main campus.

Background Information

Mildred Elley School was founded in 1917 as a non-degree proprietary school. In 1997, the Board of Regents authorized the School to confer the Associate in Occupational Studies (A.O.S.) degree on students successfully completing registered programs. The main campus is located in Albany, with a branch campus in lower Manhattan. Its stated mission is "to provide quality career education and technical training to allow students of diverse educational, cultural and personal backgrounds to become successful in an ever-changing global economy."

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents authorize Mildred Elley School to confer the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree on students successfully completing registered programs at the School's main campus in Albany.