



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 *John L. D'Agati*

Subject: Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (LIM): Regents
Authorization to authorize LIM to award the Bachelor of
Science (B.S.) degree

Date: October 11, 2013

Authorizations: *John L. D'Agati*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (DBA LIM College) to award the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree?

Reason for Consideration

Required by State Regulation

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its October 2013 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

The Laboratory Institute of Merchandising has submitted a proposal for a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree program in International Business. Regents authorization of the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree is required because LIM College is not currently authorized to award that degree title.

The Department has determined that the program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Background Information

Laboratory Institute of Merchandising, DBA LIM College, a proprietary college located in midtown Manhattan, was founded in 1939. It currently offers A.A.S. and A.O.S. programs in Fashion Merchandising, B.P.S. and B.B.A. programs in Fashion Merchandising, Marketing, and Management, an M.P.S. degree in Fashion Merchandising and Retail Management, and an M.B.A. degree program in Fashion Management and Entrepreneurship.

The proposed B.S. degree program in International Business is a 130-credit program designed to prepare students for careers in international business and participation in the global marketplace, with a particular emphasis on the fashion industry. The curriculum of the proposed program combines foundational elements of the fashion industry, core business competencies, the particularities of conducting business in a global environment, and an experiential component. The proposed program consists of 65 credits of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 33 credits in the major (including a 3-credit Senior Co-op experience), and 32 credits of elective courses. There is a corps of full-time faculty at the college who have appropriate doctoral and/or master's degrees in business and professional qualifications to teach the courses that comprise the proposed program. The current baccalaureate degree graduation rate at the college is 52.7%.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents authorize the Laboratory Institute of Merchandising to confer the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree on students successfully completing registered programs at the college.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents authorizes the Laboratory Institute of Merchandising to award the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree, the Department will register the program and the institution will proceed to advertise the program and enroll students.