



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

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

SUBJECT: New York University: Master plan amendment to expand the University's mission to include offering programs in Engineering

DATE: June 10, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S): *John L. D'Agati*
SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

New York University seeks to amend its master plan to expand its mission to include offering programs in engineering. This change will be accomplished by means of a consolidation of Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly) into New York University (NYU) with NYU as the surviving institution ("the merger"), so that NYU-Poly will then become NYU's school of engineering.

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State regulation

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the full Board at its June 2013 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken. A related petition for consolidation of the two entities will also be before the Board at the June meeting.

Procedural History

New York University submitted a request for this master plan amendment to the Department in February 2013.

Master plan amendment is required because the programs will be NYU's first programs in the disciplinary area of Engineering since its School of Engineering merged into the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (i.e. NYU-Poly) in 1973.

Background Information

This master plan amendment represents the culmination of a process which began in 2008 when NYU and Polytechnic University (i.e. NYU-Poly) entered into an affiliation agreement with merger as the ultimate goal, which was approved by the Board of Regents at that time. The period post-affiliation has proceeded as expected, with improvements at NYU-Poly in terms of students, faculty, research, and financially, and with the initiation of a phased integration with NYU.

The merger will restore the discipline of engineering to NYU, which it had for 141 years prior to 1973, when its School of Engineering and Science separated from NYU and merged into the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (as NYU-Poly was then known). It will strengthen both New York University and NYU-Poly in ways that are not possible as separate entities. The resulting combination will enhance the education, research, and economic development produced by these two institutions, thus benefiting the citizens of New York City and the State of New York. It will also result in broader, more valuable opportunities for students of New York and beyond, and allow each institution to more successfully meet the challenges of the 21st century global economy.

For NYU-Poly, the merger means a connection to a research university with a basic science research agenda and programs in the social sciences, humanities, and professions. Broadly speaking, the integration of technological depth with business, medical and social science fields will produce better prepared engineers who can engage themselves in devising technical solutions of complex problems with better awareness of their consequences in a larger societal context. For NYU, it means the re-establishment of a capability for applied science, engineering, and technology, and the benefits those disciplines would bring to its existing areas of scholarship. Increasingly, most federal funding agencies look more favorably, and develop more RFPs, that emphasize cross-disciplinary partnerships involving engineering and science experts on campus.

The merger is not predicated on the development of new needs or new markets, other than those that will naturally arise over time as technology progresses and plays an increasing role in society. NYU-Poly, as a school of NYU, will continue to offer its current programs under the aegis of NYU, and any growth will not significantly impact the market place among engineering institutions. Its undergraduate enrollment is expected to remain steady at the current level of approximately 2,070 students through the 2017-18 academic year. Graduate enrollment, which grew at NYU-Poly between 2005-06 and this year, is projected to grow from the current 2,581 (combined full-time and part-time head count) to approximately 3,000 in 2017-18. Based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Joint Economic Committee projects a growth in engineering employment between 2010 and 2020 of 10 percent, and an increase in various other STEM occupations ranging from 15 to 20 percent.

There is no plan to initiate new engineering-related programs beyond responding to the normal development of new fields which would occur whether or not NYU-Poly became a school of NYU. All NYU-Poly programs on the 2013 State Inventory of Registered Programs, other than those now offered at the Long Island and Westchester locations, which will be discontinued, will transfer to and be offered by New York University

(approximately 21 undergraduate and 56 graduate degree programs, and 39 certificate and advanced certificate programs). Most of the students currently enrolled at NYU-Poly's Long Island and Westchester campuses are expected to have completed their degrees by the time these campuses will close in December 2013. Arrangements have been made for the approximately 7 students at the Westchester campus and 35 at the Long Island campus who will require additional time beyond December 2013 to complete their degrees.

If the merger is approved by the Board of Regents, NYU-Poly will become the School of Engineering of NYU, with the same standing as that of the other schools of NYU. The faculty, students, staff, and programs of NYU-Poly will become part of NYU and its New York City campus. Students who graduate after January 1, 2014 will receive an NYU degree. All NYU-Poly tenured faculty will be tenured in the new school of engineering, and those who remained non-tenured at the time of the merger may continue to advance through the tenure process as prescribed by NYU.

Central administrative services and systems related to admissions and enrollment, development and alumni relations, financial systems, human resources and benefits, faculty services such as research support, and student information systems will be integrated into those of NYU, a process already begun during the affiliation phase, as it has with other operations and campus services.

In December 2012, staff from the Department's Office of the Professions carried out a review visit to NYU-Poly's Brooklyn campus and determined that the facilities and faculty were adequate and appropriate for the programs that are currently offered there.

Following standard protocol for master plan amendments, the Department conducted a canvass of all colleges and universities in the New York City region. There were two responses, which indicated either no comment or no effect on their respective institutions.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment to authorize New York University to offer degree programs in the discipline of Engineering. This amendment will be effective until June 30, 2014, unless the Department re-registers the programs prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board approves the related consolidation petition and this master plan amendment, the Department will re-register all programs currently offered by NYU-Poly as programs of NYU, which will continue to recruit and enroll students in the programs.