



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

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

SUBJECT: Conferral of Degrees: Taylor Business Institute and Elim Bible Institute and College

DATE: June 16, 2014

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

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents confer degrees upon students successfully completing programs at Taylor Business Institute and Elim Bible Institute and College?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and State regulation.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its June 2014 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Background Information

Taylor Business Institute

Taylor Business Institute was authorized by the Board of Regents on March 24, 1972 to grant the Associate in Occupational Studies (A.O.S.) degree. On September 26, 2006, the New York State Education Department directed Taylor Business Institute to cease operation as of January 12, 2007. The decision to close Taylor and deregister its academic programs was based upon the failure of the Institute to comply with the academic standards in Commissioner's Regulations. The Institute in fact closed in September 2006.

To hold the former Taylor students harmless, the Department took possession of all student records from Taylor. Upon request from students who have completed their degree requirements at other institutions, the Department will review the student's record and transcripts and, if a determination is made that the student has met the degree requirements, the Department makes a recommendation to the Regents that the Regents confer the degree for that student.

Elim Bible Institute and College

Elim Bible Institute, Inc., located in Lima, NY, was established in 1924. During the first 88 years of its existence, Elim Bible Institute, Inc. was a non-degree institution, offering a three-year, non-credit diploma in Biblical Studies and a variety of one-year, non-credit certificates. The institution submitted a petition for a provisional charter in 2010, seeking authorization to award the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree. Following the customary review process, including an on-site peer review visit, the Regents granted a provisional charter to the institution, under the name Elim Bible Institute and College, in September 2012. Until such time as its charter is made absolute, Section 224 of the Education Law requires that the Regents award degrees on the College's behalf.

The degree-conferral process for colleges with provisional charters consists of the following steps:

- The institution sends the Department a list of candidates and the official transcripts.
- The institution also sends its official handbook that states the specific requirements for the degree. This is checked against the original program registration to ensure that the program provided is the same as the program that was approved.
- Transcripts are cross referenced with program requirements to ensure that candidates have first met all degree requirements prior to making a recommendation to confer the degree, and a petition is prepared for Regents action.
- At the same time that a petition is prepared for Regents action, Department staff will review the transcripts and notify the institution which candidates for the degrees have met the requirements.
- After the Regents act on the petition, Department staff will notify the institution of the Regents action.
- When the degrees are conferred, the institution then prepares diplomas with the candidates' names and degrees completed and the required signatures at their institution (e.g., President, Chairman of the Board, Dean, etc.).

- Diplomas are then mailed to Department staff for imprinting of signatures of the Chancellor of the Board of Regents and the President of the USNY and the affixing of the official Regents seal to each diploma.
- The diplomas are mailed back to the institution thereby completing the process.

Recommendation

VOTED, that the Board of Regents confer upon the following individuals, who have completed the requirements for their registered degree program at Taylor Business Institute or Elim Bible College and Institute, the respective degrees as listed below:

Taylor Business Institute:

The following student has completed the requirements for the Associate in Occupational Studies degree (A.O.S.):

3075. Rodriguez, Tanya

Elim Bible Institute and College

The following students have completed the requirements for the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree program in Biblical and Theological Studies:

1. Abrams, Edward
2. Ball, Josiah Christopher
3. Bercel, James Robert
4. Brink, Meaghan Elizabeth
5. Cochran, Drew Michael
6. Eppard, Ian Matthew
7. Hummer, David Andrew
8. Ielapi, Garrett Daniel
9. Johnsen, Ruth Elise H.
10. Knight Miller, Sarah-Louise
11. Lavin, Joshua Lewis
12. Lehman, Joshua Wayne
13. Mauer, Luke Wesley
14. Moore, Zion Elissa
15. Orgler, Patrick Christopher Allan
16. Phillips, Bethany Lynn
17. Sandoval, Belen Sarai
18. Seymour, Emily Rachel
19. Thorpe, Patrick Cole
20. Wunderlich, Caleb Christopher