



**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

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

**SUBJECT:** New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University: Regents Authorization to award the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) Degree

**DATE:** June 6, 2016

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *Mary Ellen Eisa*

#### **SUMMARY**

#### **Issue for Decision (Consent)**

Should the Board of Regents authorize the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University to award the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree?

#### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute.

#### **Proposed Handling**

This question will come before the full Board at its June 2016 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Procedural History**

On May 4, 2016, the State University of New York Board of Trustees adopted a resolution directing the SUNY Chancellor to seek the authorization of the Board of Regents for the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University (the "Veterinary College") to confer the degree of Master of Public Health (M.P.H.).

#### **Background Information**

The Trustees are currently authorized to confer degrees at the masters and doctoral levels on students successfully completing the respective registered programs at New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University leading to those degrees, including the Master of Science (M.S.), Master of Nutritional Science (M.N.S.),

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) The Trustees now request that the Regents authorize the Veterinary College to offer a Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in Public Health. Master plan amendment is not needed because the Veterinary College already offers masters-level programs; however, Regents authorization is required because this will be the Veterinary College's first degree program leading to the M.P.H. degree.

The Trustee's resolution states that the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree "will further the Veterinary College's land grant mission of bringing local experience and research based solutions together" to aid families and communities across New York State. The proposed program will also "advance the Veterinary College's strategic initiatives for community engagement and making sustainable impacts from local to global levels." The proposed program aligns with the State University of New York's strategic plan "to impact state and global challenges and to improve the quality of life of the communities it serves."

An academic review of faculty, curriculum and other crucial program aspects of the proposed degree program 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 addition, the institution had reviews conducted by external experts in the discipline of international affairs. The external reviews were positive.

### **Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University to award the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree on students who successfully complete registered programs at the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University effective June 14, 2016.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents authorizes the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University to award the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree, the Department will proceed to register the Public Health program leading to the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree and the institution will proceed to recruit and register students.