



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: John L. D'Agati

SUBJECT: State University College at Potsdam: Regents
Authorization to award the Master of Science (M.S.)
Degree

DATE: July 15, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University College at Potsdam to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

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

Procedural History

On May 7, 2013, 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 State University College at Potsdam to confer the degree of Master of Science (M.S.).

At the State University College at Potsdam, the Trustees are authorized to confer Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Professional Studies (B.P.S.), Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S. in Ed.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Music (Mus. B), Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.), Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), Master of Science in Teaching (M.S.T.), Master of Science in Education (M.S. in Ed.), and Master of Music (M.M.) degrees on

students successfully completing registered programs. SUC Potsdam now seeks to offer a Master of Science program in Community Health. Regents authorization is required because this will be the College's first Master of Science (M.S.) degree program.

The Trustee resolution indicates that, the Master of Science degree is consistent with the mission of SUC Potsdam and is aligned with *The Power of SUNY* strategic initiatives, as it broadens Potsdam's graduate offerings while building on the strength of the Bachelor of Science degree program in Community Health. This program will provide an opportunity for students to work in a medically underserved, rural area where community health education services are in high demand and where they can contribute to improving preventative services and health education.

Background Information

The Department received from the State University of New York a proposal requesting to register a Master of Science (M.S.) degree program in Community Health. This would be the College's first degree program leading to the Master of Science. Master plan amendment is not needed because the College already offers a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in the disciplinary area of the Health Professions. An academic review of faculty, curriculum and other critical program aspects has been completed by the Department. The Department has determined that the program meets the standards for registration as set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. In addition, the institution had a review conducted by two external experts in the field of health studies.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents authorize the State University of New York Board of Trustees to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree on students successfully completing registered programs at the State University College at Potsdam effective July 23, 2013.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents authorizes the State University College at Potsdam to award the Master of Science degree, the Department will proceed to register the Community Health program leading to that degree and the institution will proceed to recruit and enroll students.