



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: John L. D'Agati *John L. D'Agati*
SUBJECT: State University College at Old Westbury: Regents
Authorization to award the Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree
DATE: September 8, 2014

AUTHORIZATION(S):

John B. ...
SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University College at Old Westbury to award the Master of Arts (MA) degree?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

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

Procedural History

On January 14, 2014, the State University of New York Board of Trustees (the Trustees) adopted a resolution directing the SUNY Chancellor to seek the authorization of the Board of Regents for the State University College at Old Westbury to confer the degree of Master of Arts (M.A.).

Background Information

The Trustees are currently authorized to confer Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Professional Studies (B.P.S.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) and Master of Science (M.S.) degrees on students successfully completing registered programs at State University College at Old Westbury leading to those degrees. The Trustees now request that the Regents

authorize State University College at Old Westbury to also offer a Master of Arts program in Liberal Studies. Master plan amendment is not needed because the College already offers masters-level programs, however Regents authorization is required because this will be the College's first Master of Arts degree program.

The Trustee's resolution indicates that the Master of Arts degree is consistent with the College's mission and SUNY's mission and goals for community engagement, inter-cultural and global understanding, cradle-to-career education, and experiential learning by building on existing relationships with a network of partners connected to the College's Community Action, Learning and Leadership (CALL) program.

An academic review of faculty, curriculum and other critical program aspects of the proposed degree program 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 reviews conducted by external experts in the discipline of liberal studies. The external reviews were favorable.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents authorizes the State University College at Old Westbury to award the Master of Arts degree, the Department will proceed to register the Liberal Studies program leading to the Master of Arts degree and the institution will proceed to recruit and register students.

Recommendation

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorizes the State University of New York Board of Trustees to award the Master of Arts degree on students who successfully complete registered programs at the State University College at Old Westbury effective September 16, 2014.