




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

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

**SUBJECT:** Daemen College: Master Plan Amendment to Establish a Branch Campus in Brooklyn, NY

**DATE:** September 6, 2018

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

### **SUMMARY**

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

Should the Board of Regents approve a master plan amendment for Daemen College to authorize the College to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, NY?

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

Required by State statute and State regulation.

#### **Proposed Handling**

The question will come before the full Board at its September 2018 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

#### **Background Information**

Daemen College seeks approval of an amendment to its master plan to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, NY to serve the unique needs of the Hasidic Jewish community in the area.

Since 2003, Daemen has operated an approved extension center in Brooklyn, offering the following alternative certification (Transitional B) programs, which are currently registered at the College's main campus in Amherst, NY:

- Master of Science (M.S) Childhood Special Education and General Education (1-6)
- Master of Science (M.S.) Early Childhood Special Education and General Education (Birth – 2)

The program began in response to an ongoing shortage of teachers of students with disabilities in NYC and its five boroughs. The design of the transitional B alternative certification program requires all candidates to be employed and mentored while completing the program. Daemen candidates are employed in agencies requiring certified special education teachers, Yeshivas, or public schools. Most candidates are retained as teachers in these settings after completing their programs.

Daemen is now proposing to establish a branch campus in place of the extension center, at a new location in Brooklyn, and to register the programs at that branch campus. Daemen has signed a long-term lease for approximately 1,440+ square feet of space on the ground floor of a multi-story commercial property located at 3815 13th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. The entrance into this facility is handicapped accessible, as is the entire facility. The space is subdivided into the following: reception area for full-time technology resource/librarian; lead administrator office; private faculty/student conference room; learning commons - includes a large screen TV for teleconferencing, modular seating for group study, research, and projects; a kitchenette; and student support center - includes computers for student research, academic support, and links to essential services on Daemen College's main campus. In addition, teacher candidates in Brooklyn, NY have access to all online content through the Daemen Library in Amherst, NY, as well as other academic libraries through the "Academic Share" program. Daemen's off-campus students are also fully supported in the use of technology through Daemen's campus IT infrastructure and support offered by the Office of Information Technology.

Classroom instruction for female candidates will be offered at the leased location of Ditmas Junior High School at 700 Cortelyou Road, Brooklyn, NY and for male candidates at the leased location of Bias Yaakov of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 4419 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

The Department conducted a canvass of all degree-granting institutions in the New York City region. No concerns were raised by institutions in the canvassed region.

### **Recommendation**

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan for Daemen College to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, NY, and Regents authorization to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree at the branch campus. The amendment will be effective until September 17, 2019, unless the Department registers the branch campus and its related programs prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents approves the master plan amendment, the Department will register the branch campus and the programs.