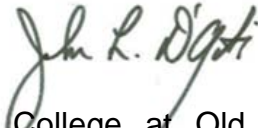




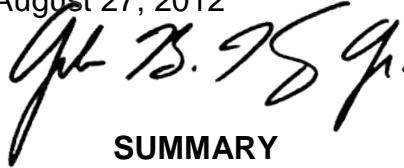
TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: State University College at Old Westbury: Regents authorization to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree

DATE: August 27, 2012

AUTHORIZATION(S):


SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University College (SUC) at Old Westbury to confer the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree on students successfully completing registered programs at the College?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the full Board at its September 2012 meeting where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

On May 10, 2012, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

Resolved that the Chancellor be, and hereby is, directed to seek the authorization of the Board of Regents for the State University College at Old Westbury to confer the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.). On May 22, 2012, the Department received SUNY's request, together with the proposal to register a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) program in Visual Arts (Studio Art and Electronic Media concentrations).

Background Information

Paragraph (f) of subdivision (2) of §355 of the Education Law authorizes the State University Board of Trustees:

To grant all degrees, diplomas and certificates which heretofore [i.e., July 1, 1948] have been granted or have been authorized to be granted upon the completion of courses of study in any state-operated institution which now is or hereafter may be in the state university, prior to the acquisition of such institution by the state university, and also such other degrees as the regents may hereafter specifically authorize them to grant.

At the State University College at Old Westbury, SUNY Trustees are authorized to confer the degrees of Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Professional Studies (B.P.S.), and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) on students successfully completing registered programs. Since SUC Old Westbury now seeks to offer a B.F.A. program, Regents authorization is required because the College is not currently authorized to award the B.F.A. degree.

The proposed B.F.A. program is intended to prepare students for graduate school and/or careers in such fields as art, design, and art education. The proposed degree is not a new area of instruction, but an expansion of current B.A. and B.S. degree programs in Visual Arts to offer a more specialized degree. The degree has concentrations in Studio Art and Electronic Media. Candidates are required to take the same set of lower division core courses as all art majors. Each concentration has a 48-credit upper-division core that includes a sequence of tutorials that provide direct, one-on-one interaction with the faculty and culminate in a senior project capstone course.

The Department has determined that the program, if approved, would meet the registration standards set forth in the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents authorize the State University College at Old Westbury to confer the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree on students successfully completing registered B.F.A. programs effective September 11, 2012.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board authorizes the State University College at Old Westbury to confer the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, the Department will proceed to register the proposed B.F.A. program in Visual Arts and the institution will proceed to recruit and enroll students.