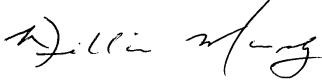





TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: William P. Murphy 

SUBJECT: The State University of New York (SUNY), State University College at Geneseo: Regents Authorization to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree

DATE: July 3, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents authorize the State University College at Geneseo to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree?

Reason for Consideration

Required by State Statute and State Regulation.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its July 2024 meeting.

Procedural History

On April 16, 2024, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees authorized the State University College at Geneseo to offer the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree, subject to Regents approval.

Background Information

The SUNY Board of Trustees requests that the Board of Regents authorize the State University College at Geneseo to offer the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree. Regents authorization is required because this will be Geneseo's first degree program leading to the B.F.A. degree. A master plan amendment is not required because the institution already offers bachelor's level programs in the Higher Education General Information System (HEGIS) disciplinary area of Fine Arts.

The B.F.A. is a specialized degree in Fine Arts widely recognized by prospective students and employers. B.F.A. programs are practice-based and prepare candidates for professional careers across the Arts. Upon approval, SUNY Geneseo will change the degree award attached to its existing program in Musical Theatre from the Bachelor of Professional Studies (B.P.S.) to the B.F.A. The College originally expected that offering the program as leading to the B.P.S. degree would make it distinctive from other musical theatre programs. However, the College has determined that they are at a competitive disadvantage because the B.P.S. is not as recognizable to prospective students.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents authorize State University College at Geneseo to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents authorizes the institution to award the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree, the Department will register the proposed change to the program in Musical Theatre at State University College at Geneseo.