



THE STATE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW YORK

MEMORANDUM

Office of the
Chancellor

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To: Members of the Board of Trustees

From: Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

Subject: Master Plan Amendment for the State University College of Technology at Delhi at Schenectady County Community College

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Resolved that the State University of New York Master Plan be, and hereby is, amended to authorize the State University College of Technology at Delhi at Schenectady County Community College to offer instruction leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, and be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor be, and hereby is, authorized to transmit this amendment to the Board of Regents and the Governor for incorporation into the State University Master Plan.

Background

Approval of this resolution will authorize the State University College of Technology at Delhi at Schenectady County Community College (Delhi @ SCCC) to offer the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Criminal Justice, subject to the approval of the Board of Regents. A Master Plan amendment is required as the curriculum represents Delhi @ SCCC's first baccalaureate degree in the disciplinary area of the Social Sciences.

The B.S. in Criminal Justice program is wholly consistent with Delhi's mission to provide quality two- and four-year programs and to integrate liberal arts, technology, and life skills into technical and professional programs. This program will provide an avenue for graduates of SUNY associate degree programs in Criminal Justice, including graduates of Delhi, SCCC, and other colleges, to pursue the B.S. It is consistent with the College's commitment in its Mission Review II Memorandum of Understanding to continue to build

collaborative academic programming with SCCC. The collaboration between Delhi and SCCC is also consistent with *The Power of SUNY's* commitment to link resources and talents. It provides an educational pipeline from the associate degree to a baccalaureate degree leading to many opportunities for direct employment.

The proposed program is designed to integrate theory and practice. The curriculum provides students with the academic foundations needed to pursue a variety of options in the study of criminal justice. The program has been positively reviewed by an external team of experts in the field of criminal justice. Students will complete coursework in each of the six areas identified by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, a key professional and certifying organization in the field of criminal justice studies as follows: Administration of Justice, Corrections, Criminological Theory, Law Adjudication, Law Enforcement, and Research and Analytical Methods.

Delhi's program is designed to provide both an academic foundation and a career focus. Students will receive the appropriate grounding in liberal arts and sciences, and must satisfy distribution requirements in justice and government courses that provide the conceptual and empirical background needed for successful careers. Students interested in other areas of law enforcement will find the curriculum and specialized courses suitable for those areas. Students will also be expected to successfully complete both a capstone project and an internship. The location of the program at SCCC offers access to a wide array of internship opportunities and professional expertise including local law enforcement and justice agencies.

Based on the current enrollment of over 260 students in associate degree criminal justice programs at Delhi and SCCC combined, relevant data and strong interest from employers, projected full- and part-time enrollment is approximately 30 students in the first year, growing to 60 students within five years. Most students will be residents of the Capital District, parts of the Mohawk Valley and Hudson Valley regions; it is expected that a large proportion will be graduates of Delhi and SCCC's associate programs.

The B.S. program will help meet regional demand. Currently, the University at Albany and SUNY Plattsburgh at Adirondack Community College are the only SUNY institutions in the greater Capital Region offering a baccalaureate degree in Criminal Justice. SUNY Albany's Bachelor of Arts program is highly selective and according to their catalog is, "with a high level of abstraction, clearly focused on preparation for graduate work." SUNY Plattsburgh at ACC is more remote for students from parts of the Capital District, Catskills and Hudson Valley. Its Bachelor of Arts program is based on a broad, social-scientific approach where the Delhi program's strength lies in its occupational nature to lead to employment in the field as police officers and investigators, juvenile justice, probation or corrections officers.