



MEMORANDUM

November 15, 2017

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Kristina M. Johnson, Chancellor

**SUBJECT: Master Plan Amendment for the State University of New York
College of Technology at Delhi**

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the State University of New York College of Technology at Delhi to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in the disciplinary area of the Social Sciences.

Resolution

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

Resolved that the State University Master Plan be, and hereby is, amended to authorize the State University of New York College of Technology at Delhi to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in the disciplinary area of the Social Sciences; and be it further

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

Background

Approval of this resolution will authorize the State University of New York College of Technology at Delhi to offer the Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. New York State Education Law § 237 and the regulations of the Commissioner of Education (Title 8 NYCRR §52.1 and Part 54) require that a master plan amendment be submitted and approved in order for an institution of higher education to offer a new program in a disciplinary area where it does not currently have a registered program. The proposed Criminal Justice program represents the College's first baccalaureate degree program to be offered in the discipline of Social Sciences at its main campus.

SUNY Delhi's proposed Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice is an upper-division program that will prepare students for careers in policing, investigation, juvenile justice, probation or corrections. Currently, SUNY Delhi

offers an Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Criminal Justice Studies and an online Bachelor of Science program offered through its branch campus at Schenectady County Community College. In the course of advising students in the A.A. Criminal Justice Studies program, faculty learned that many students want to continue their studies at the Bachelor level and have the experience of learning in a traditional format. This program will enable students to complete almost half of the program on the Delhi campus, while also taking some courses online. Its hybrid nature is a central program feature, enabling the combination of a traditional classroom format with online and experiential learning.

SUNY Delhi faculty members are well qualified to offer the proposed curriculum, not only in terms of their academic credentials but also because of their extensive field experience as attorneys, law enforcement officials, and victim service coordinators. All possess a strong combination of academic credentials and significant experience to deliver a curriculum that will develop critical thinkers and productive citizens who are prepared for service and leadership.

The design of the proposed program is very similar to that of the one currently offered online. It is distinguished, however, with its emphasis on law and law enforcement, from the nearest bachelor level program at Oneonta (24 miles away) which has a sociology/social science based focus. The Delhi curriculum would prepare students through a focus on topics including: Courts and the Criminal Justice System; Civil Liberties; Constitutional Law; the New York State Penal Code; the History of Law Enforcement; Cyber Security; Substance Abuse; Treatment of Offenders; Comparative Criminal Justice; Applications of Technology in Criminal Justice; Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice; and Victimology. The program culminates in a Criminal Justice Capstone course.

The program at Delhi is expected to enroll 40 full-time students in its initial year and then double within five years. These projections are based on current enrollment in SUNY Delhi's own associate degree program (125), as well as on the number of students enrolled in fall 2016 in associate degree programs at SUNY Broome (247), SUNY Tompkins-Cortland Community College (182), SUNY Ulster (149) and SUNY Sullivan (110). Further, the campus has articulation agreements with Hudson Valley Community College, Columbia-Green Community College, Corning Community College and Suffolk Community College and expects that this program will be attractive to those students.

The proposed program in Criminal Justice will expand the degree offerings on campus and give students from a variety of two-year programs the opportunity to continue their education at the baccalaureate level in a residential setting. The success of the well-established associate's degree in Criminal Justice Studies at Delhi and the proven success of the online B.S. in Criminal Justice at Schenectady County Community College provides a solid foundation for the baccalaureate degree program on the Delhi campus.

The proposal has been carefully reviewed and found to be sound from an academic and financial perspective.