



MEMORANDUM

July 16, 2013

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Chancellor Nancy Zimpher

SUBJECT: Roadmap to a New Structure for the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering

Resolution

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

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo's comprehensive workforce training, job creation, and economic growth agenda for New York provides strategic investments for educational, research and development, technology transfer, and business outreach in the emerging nanotechnology sector in New York State and fosters critical partnerships between State government, the private sector and the State University of New York; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York has led the U.S. in multibillion dollar strategic investments in innovation and education programs that cover the entire spectrum of the nanotechnology sector, from long-term innovative research and development, to workforce development and education, to product prototyping and commercialization; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, "The Power of SUNY" strategic plan is quickly establishing SUNY as a key engine for the revitalization of New York State's economy and a catalyst for enhancing the quality of life for the State's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State University of New York at Albany (UAlbany) is an internationally recognized public research institution that brings "The World Within Reach" to more than 17,300 graduate and undergraduate students who can choose from 118 undergraduate majors and 113 graduate programs, many of which are nationally ranked; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2004-41, adopted unanimously on April 20, 2004, the SUNY Board of Trustees established the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) as a separate academic unit within UAlbany, headed by a Vice President who serves as its chief administrative officer reporting directly to the President of the University; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2008-65, adopted unanimously on November 18, 2008, the SUNY Board of Trustees granted full administrative, academic and fiscal authority over CNSE's internal management and operations and those pertaining to its state-wide educational, research and economic outreach mission to the CNSE Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, CNSE – as a UAlbany academic unit with strategic, administrative, and infrastructure support from UAlbany's leadership, faculty and staff – has successfully established itself as a world-class leader and enabler of the discovery and dissemination of fundamental knowledge in the emerging interdisciplinary fields of nanoscience, nanoengineering, nanoeconomics, and nanobioscience, leading to the successful implementation of its overarching objective of providing the citizens of New York State with scholarly innovation and education programs of the highest quality; and

WHEREAS, the present success of CNSE, attributable in large part to its administrative leadership and outstanding faculty and students, can be leveraged to achieve its full potential by creating a new structure that enables further growth and broader impact by enhancing its ability to move quickly and nimbly to take advantage of the many emerging opportunities across the System and throughout the State of New York, in partnership with SUNY Administration and the SUNY RF, while ensuring full accountability and complete transparency; and

WHEREAS, a new structure would ensure optimum execution of nanotechnology-enabled research and manufacturing programs in support of state-wide innovation, education, workforce training, business development and economic outreach, thereby establishing and retaining the critical mass of intellectual and physical resources and capabilities that will lead to the creation and retention of high-paying, high-technology jobs and ensuring maximum return on investment for the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, a new structure would facilitate greater intellectual connectivity to UAlbany and to other campuses across the SUNY system, and will enable UAlbany to focus on complementary and other academic and research pursuits; and

WHEREAS, a new structure would enable CNSE to integrate systems thinking across SUNY, in collaboration with the SUNY RF, through its combination of energetic partnering, provision of technological expertise and the modeling of exciting new educational paradigms; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees gratefully acknowledges the work of the Chancellor's advisory group on CNSE, comprised of members of the Board of Trustees, SUNY Administration, UAlbany, CNSE, and New York State, and recognizes their work as the foundation of a framing vision for the future direction and broader contributions of CNSE; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees fully endorses the Chancellor taking immediate steps to implement the separation of CNSE and UAlbany, and to identify and assist in the implementation of the actions required to establish a new degree-granting structure that shall include CNSE, at which time the separation will commence, and be subject to oversight and governance by the Board of Trustees by the commencement of the 2014-15 academic year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York affirms the appointment of Professor Alain E. Kaloyeros as the Chief Executive Officer of CNSE who shall have authority parallel to that of a campus president over CNSE; and be it further

RESOLVED, subject to all applicable rules and regulations and appropriate actions, as necessary, by the Board of Trustees for the creation of a new degree-granting structure, the existing CNSE staff and leadership shall be transferred to the new degree-granting structure in capacities equal to or exceeding their current roles, including Dr. Alain E. Kaloyeros providing chief executive leadership.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees will support the University at Albany as it strengthens its current programs and works to develop and bolster key strategic areas as well as preserve the core interests of both institutions by ensuring compatible and complementary educational programs.