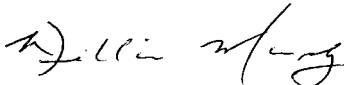





TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: William P. Murphy 
SUBJECT: Permission to Operate: Occidental College
DATE: May 27, 2021
AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Consent Agenda

Should the Board of Regents grant Occidental College permission to offer the William and Elizabeth Kahane United Nations Program, in which Occidental College students spend a semester in New York City taking courses applicable to their undergraduate degree programs?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute and State regulation.

Proposed Handling

This question will come before the Full Board at its June 2021 meeting, where it will be voted on and action taken.

Procedural History

N/A

Background Information

Occidental College (Occidental), a private, nonprofit institution located in Los Angeles, California, has submitted an application for permission to operate with a physical presence in New York State, pursuant to section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Occidental has submitted this application in order to come into compliance with New York State requirements for the operation of out-of-State institutions with a physical presence in New York State. Occidental has been offering the William and Elizabeth Kahane United Nations Program (Oxy-at-the-U.N.) since 1986. This program is available solely to undergraduate students who are matriculated at Occidental.

Oxy-at-the-U.N. is a one-semester study away program that is offered each fall. The program's curriculum design includes eight semester credits of direct academic instruction on topics related to the United Nations and eight semester credits of experiential learning in an internship. Internship placements have included United Nations agencies and commissions, country missions (government offices) to the United Nations, and the World Tourism Organization.

No Occidental degree is awarded in the State of New York. Credits from this program are applied to the Occidental undergraduate degree awarded in Los Angeles, California. Approximately 16 students are expected to enroll in Oxy-at-the-U.N. each year over the next five years of operation in New York State.

Occidental states that this program is the only full-time, in-residence United Nations program in the United States and that U.N. agencies and missions repeatedly seek out interns from this program. The institution further asserts that the program meets the needs of its students by allowing them to extend their liberal arts learning into a practical setting.

Occidental is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission. A Department review has indicated that the program for which the institution seeks authorization is comparable in quality to the standards for the registration of similar programs in New York.

The Department solicited input from existing colleges and universities in the New York City region concerning Oxy-at-the-U.N.'s impact on the institutions and their programs. No New York State institutions lodged any objections or statements of negative impact regarding this program.

Related Regents Items

N/A

Recommendation

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

VOTED: That the Board of Regents grant Occidental College permission to offer the William and Elizabeth Kahane United Nations Program, in which Occidental College students spend a semester in New York City taking courses applicable to their undergraduate degree programs. This permission will be effective June 7, 2021 and end on June 30, 2026.

Timetable for Implementation

Subsequent renewals of this permission to operate, if sought, will be subject to the terms of section 3.56 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. If Occidental College seeks to renew its permission to operate after its current term, it must notify the Department no later than June 30, 2025.