

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

NO.: BHE 16-07

BOARD DATE: May 3, 2016

RESOLUTION

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education (BHE) through its strategic planning process and Academic Affairs Committee is undertaking a review of its approach to program approval in general, and approval of programs proposed by public higher education institutions in particular. As part of that, the BHE intends to explore how to ensure, in the context of program approvals, that more strategic considerations about the future and character of public higher education are considered alongside the quality of the individual proposed program.

To that end, the BHE directs the Commissioner of Higher Education to develop, after consultation with the appropriate campus leadership, an approach to BHE program approval which will help the BHE understand the long-term strategic plan and rationale of any proposed program in order to provide context for review of specific program proposals. We direct the Commissioner to present proposed recommendations to the BHE in time for implementation during the 2016-17 academic year.

Authority: M.G.L. c. 15A, §§ 6, 9

Contact: Chair Chris Gabrieli