



March 23, 2023

Emily Sutherland, Director
Office of College and University Evaluation
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue – 969 EBA
Albany, New York 12234

Mei Zhou, Director
Office of Professional Education
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Avenue – 2nd Floor, West
Albany, New York 12234

Dear Directors Sutherland and Zhou:

The following curricular matter is approved by this office for the State University of New York. We are forwarding this approval to initiate NYSED review of the proposed registered academic program actions with the understanding that the State University of New York at Albany (UAlbany) and the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly) may not implement the proposed actions until after NYSED registers the proposed actions, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education approves the related requested Substantive Change, and the SUNY Board of Trustees approves the plan required by the December 13, 2022 resolution that initiated the process to transfer the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE), presently under the administrative authority of SUNY Poly, to UAlbany.

Transfer of Registered Academic Programs from SUNY Poly to UAlbany

Title	Award	SUNY Poly SED Code	HEGIS	TBT Date for Program at SUNY Poly
Nanoscale Science	B.S.	32975	0915	08/31/2029
Nanoscale Engineering	B.S.	33440	0915	08/31/2029
Nanoscale Sciences	M.S.	31357	0915	08/31/2028
Nanoscale Engineering	M.S.	28096	0915	08/31/2028
Nanobioscience	M.S.	39946	0915	08/31/2028
Nanoscale Sciences	Ph.D.	37545	0915	08/31/2030
Nanoscale Engineering	Ph.D.	37544	0915	08/31/2030
Nanobioscience	Ph.D.	39947	0915	08/31/2030
Medicine/Nanoscale Engineering	M.D./Ph.D.	37546	0915	08/31/2031
Medicine/Nanoscale Sciences	M.D./Ph.D.	37550	0915	08/31/2031

Enclosed you will find information to respond to the questions previously indicated as necessary to initiate NYSED review of the proposed registered academic program actions. Let us know if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

David T Cantaffa, Ph.D.
Interim Senior Associate Provost, Academic Affairs

cc: Provost-in-Charge Sandvik; Vice Chancellor for Operations and Management and Chief Operating Officer Berlin; President Rodriguez; Officer-in-Charge Russell; Provost Kim; Interim Provost Thomova

To: Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Ph.D., Provost-in-Charge, SUNY

From: Carol H. Kim, Ph.D., Provost, University at Albany
Zora Thomova, Ph.D., Provost, SUNY Polytechnic

Date: February 23, 2023

Subject: Transfer of CNSE Academic Programs from SUNY Polytechnic to the University at Albany and Teach-out Plan

1. Summary of the proposed change

In a memorandum shared with the SUNY Board of Trustees, dated December 13, 2022, SUNY Interim Chancellor, Deborah F. Stanley, provided SUNY's rationale for implementing a roadmap to the reunification of the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) with the State University of New York at Albany. The resolution initiated the process to transfer CNSE, presently under the administrative authority of the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly), to the State University of New York at Albany (UAlbany).

Specific CNSE degree programs that would transfer from SUNY Poly to UAlbany may be viewed in the chart below:

Title	Award	Poly SED Code	UAlbany SED Code (Discontinued)	HEGIS	Notes
Nanoscale Science	BS	32975	37033	0915	
Nanoscale Engineering	BS	33440	37032	0915	
Nanoscale Science	MS	31357	37031	0915	
Nanoscale Engineering	MS	28096	37030	0915	
Nanobioscience	MS	39946	NA	0915	Reg 10/2018
Nanoscale Science	PhD	37545	31358	0915	
Nanoscale Engineering	PhD	37544	28095	0915	
Nanobioscience	PhD	39947	NA	0915	Reg 10/2018
Medicine/Nanoscale Engineering	MD/PhD	37546	34300	0915	w/Downstate

Medicine/Nanoscale Science	MD/PhD	37550	34299	0915	w/Downstate
----------------------------	--------	-------	-------	------	-------------

2. Rationale for the proposed change

The resolution referenced above cited “Governor Hochul’s 2022 State of the State initiative to transform and strengthen the future of SUNY” as among the reasons for the transfer of CNSE and its degree programs to UAlbany. The resolution adds that the State of the State “included a proposal to reunite CNSE with UAlbany in order to streamline and ensure effective day-to-day management, promote research excellence, and strategically advance the vision to cement SUNY’s status as the nation’s premier system of public higher education.” In addition, the resolution indicated, “this proposed reunification would empower CNSE and UAlbany to capitalize on their geographic proximity and individual strengths, and would have multiple benefits to both institutions, including research output, enrollment impact, and institutional reputation.” The [full resolution can be found here](#).

3. Statement that verifies students, faculty, and other impacted stakeholders are aware of the proposed change

Students, faculty, staff, and other impacted stakeholders have been made aware of the proposed change via internal campus communications, internal presentations by leaders, and through the availability of a joint web-based effort by UAlbany and SUNY Poly. The web pages, which include background information, communications to-date, steering committee details, FAQs, and other helpful information, can be accessed via the links below:

SUNY Poly Webpage:

- UAlbany-CNSE Reunification: <https://sunypoly.edu/ualbany-cnse-reunification.html>

UAlbany Webpage:

- UAlbany-CNSE Reunification: <https://www.albany.edu/cnse>

4. Identification of a webpage and contact person to whom students, faculty, and other stakeholders with concerns can be referred for information and/or assistance if they contact NYSED regarding this change

Both the University at Albany and SUNY Polytechnic Institute have created webpages that contain information and updates for students, faculty, and other stakeholders regarding the UAlbany-CNSE reunification. These websites provide communications and updates about the reunification and provide answers to frequently asked questions:

- The URL for the SUNY Poly website is: <https://sunypoly.edu/ualbany-cnse-reunification.html>
- The URL for the UAlbany website is: <https://www.albany.edu/cnse>
- The points of contact for questions to NYSED are:
 - UAlbany – Dr. Carol Kim, Provost, provostmail@albany.edu
 - SUNY Poly – Dr. Zora Thomova, Interim Provost, provost@sunypoly.edu

5. Statement that verifies there are no changes to each program curriculum, faculty, and facilities (changes to which campus is offering general education courses does not constitute a change for this purpose)

The following programs are transitioning to the University at Albany as a result of the CNSE-UAlbany reunification:

- B.S. Nanoscale Science
- B.S. Nanoscale Engineering
- M.S. Nanoscale Science
- M.S. Nanoscale Engineering
- M.S. Nanobioscience
- Ph.D. Nanoscale Science
- Ph.D. Nanoscale Engineering
- Ph.D. Nanobioscience
- M.D./Ph.D. in Medicine and Nanoscale Science or Engineering

There will be no changes to the curriculum in any of these programs as they transition to UAlbany. They will remain consistent with their current catalog requirements. Further, the faculty for these programs will be retained and it is anticipated that the facilities will remain the same.

6. Discontinuance dates for the programs at Poly that will allow current and admitted Poly students to have Poly award the degree

The anticipated discontinuance dates for the programs are in the table below

Title	Award	SUNY Poly SED code	HEGIS	Discontinuance date
Nanoscale Science	BS	32975	0915	08/31/2029
Nanoscale Engineering	BS	33440	0915	08/31/2029
Nanoscale Science	MS	31357	0915	08/31/2028
Nanoscale Engineering	MS	28096	0915	08/31/2028
Nanobioscience	MS	39946	0915	08/31/2028
Nanoscale Science	PhD	37545	0915	08/31/2030
Nanoscale Engineering	PhD	37544	0915	08/31/2030
Nanobioscience	PhD	39947	0915	08/31/2030
Medicine/Nanoscale Engineering	MD/PhD	37546	0915	08/31/2031
Medicine/Nanoscale Science	MD/PhD	37550	0915	08/31/2031

7. Effective start date for the programs at UAlbany that will represent the point of possible first admission to the programs under the administrative authority of UAlbany

The proposed effective start date for the programs will be August 21, 2023. Students will be admitted as soon as possible, pending approval by the corresponding accrediting agencies, including the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), and the New York State Education Department.

8. *Statement that current and admitted Poly students will have the option to complete their program and be awarded the degree through Poly or UAlbany (if there are any limitations to this, including timeframe, clearly state them)*

Current CNSE students as well as perspective CNSE students that have been accepted for the Fall 2023 semester will have the option to complete their degree programs either at SUNY Poly, or will have the option to transfer to UAlbany to complete the same degree program without any loss of credit.

9. **Acknowledgement from SUNY Downstate**

Leadership at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University is aware of the change in administrative authority for the MD/PhD programs in nanoscience and nanoengineering. A letter of support for this change has been requested and will be forwarded.



DOWNSTATE
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

David J. Christini, PhD
Senior Vice President for Research
Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies

1 March 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

SUNY Downstate has been made aware that the SUNY Board of Trustees voted in December to formally begin the process of reuniting the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) with the University at Albany (UAlbany). This affects SUNY Downstate because of the two MD/PhD programs that it has with SUNY Polytechnic, where CNSE is currently affiliated. UAlbany and SUNY Poly have begun the process of changing the administrative authority of CNSE to UAlbany and transferring the registration of academic programs at NYS Department of Education from SUNY Poly to UAlbany.

SUNY Downstate is aware of the change in administrative authority for the two multi-institution MD/PhD programs and is supportive of this change as it relates to these two programs. We will work with UAlbany and SUNY Poly to communicate this change to students, faculty, and other stakeholders.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David J. Christini".

David J. Christini, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President for Research
Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Research Foundation Operations Manager
Professor of Physiology & Pharmacology
SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University
450 Clarkson Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11203
718-270-1681
david.christini@downstate.edu

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

450 Clarkson Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11203 • 718-270-1681 • david.christini@downstate.edu



MEMORANDUM

December 13, 2022

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Deborah F. Stanley, Interim Chancellor

SUBJECT: Implementing a Roadmap to a Reunification of the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering with State University of New York at Albany

Action Requested

The proposed resolution initiates the process to transfer the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE), presently under the administrative authority of the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly), to the State University of New York at Albany (UAlbany).

Resolution

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

Whereas CNSE was originally created in 2004 as a College within University at Albany (UAlbany) and, because of early investments in CNSE, the College was enabled to become a leading player in the nanotechnology research and education space; and

Whereas CNSE was later transferred to being under the administrative authority of what became known as SUNY Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly) in 2014; and

Whereas despite the move of administrative functions to SUNY Poly's Marcy campus in Utica, CNSE faculty, students and staff have remained on site in Albany since 2014; and

Whereas Governor Hochul's 2022 State of the State initiative to transform and strengthen the future of SUNY included a proposal to reunite CNSE with UAlbany in order to streamline

and ensure effective day-to-day management, promote research excellence, and strategically advance the vision to cement SUNY's status as the nation's premier system of public higher education; and

Whereas Governor Hochul's transformative vision for SUNY includes the empowerment of - and investment in - SUNY Poly Utica to strategically grow their successful programs in engineering and nursing while strengthening their position as a premier public polytechnic and destination for economic and workforce development focused on nanotechnology and the integration of chip technology in new and innovate ways, including the needs of the Air Force Research Laboratory; and

Whereas this proposed reunification would empower CNSE and UAlbany to capitalize on their geographic proximity and individual strengths, and would have multiple benefits to both institutions, including research output, enrollment impact, and institutional reputation; and

Whereas UAlbany is an R1 institution designating "very high research activity" in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Learning; and

Whereas with the current national spotlight on the semiconductor industry and New York State's emergence as a global leader in chips research and development, merging a revitalized CNSE with the vibrant research and education opportunities of an R1 SUNY University Center like UAlbany, as well as supporting the expansion of SUNY Poly and its' local ecosystem will allow for greater regional and statewide coordination of the broader nanotechnology research and economic development agenda; and

Whereas On Tuesday, December 13, Chancellor Stanley announced the appointment of Dr. Andrew Russell as temporary Officer in Charge of SUNY Poly; and

Whereas On Tuesday, December 13, Chancellor Stanley charged the SUNY Poly College Council to immediately launch a national search for a Permanent President of SUNY Poly Utica; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Board of Trustees begins the process to transfer CNSE from being under the administrative authority of SUNY Poly to being under the administrative authority of SUNY Albany, becoming once again a College fully within UAlbany; and be it further

Resolved that this transferal shall not impact continued operational management of SUNY Poly's Marcy campus; be it further

Resolved that the Officer-in-Charge of SUNY Poly be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to begin the process of creating a robust strategic plan along with local stakeholders strengthening the future of SUNY Poly Utica as the premier public Polytech school in the state and nation without CNSE under its administrative authority, including a consideration to partner with all levels of educational institutions and economic development partners, to be completed no later than December 2023, unless a later date is agreed to by the Chancellor or designee; and be it further

Resolved that the President of UAlbany, in consultation with the Chancellor or designee and the Officer-in-Charge of SUNY Poly be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to create a detailed master plan, timeline, and accounting of debts to effectuate the transfer of CNSE to UAlbany, to be completed no later than December 2023, unless a later date is agreed to by the Chancellor or designee; and be it further

Resolved that a core principle of such master plan for reunification must be ensuring proper consideration of student interests, and

Resolved that the Chancellor or designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take any and all administrative actions necessary and appropriate to assist in the planning and preparedness for such transfer.

