RESOLVED, that the proposed program in Urban and Community Studies leading to the Bachelor of Arts, offered by the School of Professional Studies through The Graduate School and University Center, be approved effective February 26, 2013, subject to financial ability.

EXPLANATION: Increasingly, public service career paths require a college education. This program will provide state and municipal government agencies, as well as non-profit organizations, with a pool of prospective employees already familiar with the issues and challenges of their organizations.

This proposed degree program, aimed at adult students already in the workforce, offers concentrations in Urban Studies for students interested in careers in public service, Community Studies for students interested in careers in community activism, and Labor Studies for students interested in working with, and for, unions. The Joseph A. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies will offer student support services such as tutoring and co-curricular activities in addition to being a primary source of recruitment for prospective students, many of whom receive tuition benefits from their employers.