

## **Resolution for the Proposal for A Micro-Credential in Forensic Accounting**

**WHEREAS**, the School of Business Graduate Programs proposed to create a **Micro-Credential in Forensic Accounting**, and

**WHEREAS**, a proposed program offers an opportunity for students to gain a knowledge of forensic accounting, specifically, in relation to recognition, detection and prevention of fraudulent activity, the use of information technology and real-life issues of fraud, and

**WHEREAS**, a proposed program offers a valuable credential for students who wish to highlight their skills in the specialized area of forensic accounting, and

**WHEREAS**, a proposed program helps prepare students to work in specialized areas of a growing field of forensic accounting, including public accounting firms, law offices, law enforcement and other government agencies, or business organizations, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed program consists of three graduate-level courses within the existing MS in Forensic Accounting program and does not require any additional resources,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate approve **the Proposal for Micro-Credential in Forensic Accounting**

Submitted by Curriculum and Academic Planning Committee (CAP), May 8, 2021

The Program Announcement approved by CAP, May 7, 2021

**[CAP Membership]**

Tejas Bouklas, Svetlana Jovic, Yu Lei, Matthew Lippert, Anissa Wicktor Lynch, Sheyi Oladipo, Dana Sinclair, Kerry Weir, and Ryoko Yamamoto (Chair)

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# Memorandum

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**To:** Chair, CAP Committee

**From:** Shalei Simms, Director, School of Business Graduate Programs

**Subj:** Proposal for Micro-credential in Forensic Accounting

**Date:** April 9, 2021

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## **A. Purpose**

The Micro-credential in Forensic Accounting is designed for individuals that are in, or are aspiring to be in, the field of forensic accounting. The courses in this micro-credential will allow students to gain a solid grounding in forensic accounting. The micro-credential will be available to individuals with an undergraduate degree in accounting, who want to expand their portfolio of skills, but who may not yet be ready to commit to a full graduate program. Those individuals with an undergraduate degree in a discipline other than accounting may undertake the credential upon completion of specified prerequisites prior to beginning the micro-credential program.

## **B. Demand**

The New York State Department of Labor estimates that annual job growth in the field of accounting & auditing will be between 10% and 20% on Long Island and in New York City. Moreover, the workforce demand for such openings is reinforced by the 2014-2015 *SUNY High Needs Program* identifying accountants and auditors as a high need area with annual average openings in New York State projected to reach almost 3,600. Due to its close proximity to New York City, Old Westbury is fortunate to be in a geographic area containing hundreds of accounting and financial institutions with a demand for employees trained in forensic accounting. The courses in this micro-credential can also be used to meet the 150 credit hour requirement necessary for licensure as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in New York State. In addition, courses offered in the micro-credential program can be used by CPA's to fulfill their continuing professional education (CPE) requirements. SUNY College at Old Westbury is an accredited NYS CPE sponsor (#0002067). CPA's will receive 45 CPE credits in forensic accounting for each course successfully completed.

## **C. Resources**

Courses offered by the School of Business Graduate Programs for this micro-credential program are already being offered as part of the Master of Science in Forensic Accounting program. Therefore, there will be no additional resources required to implement this program.

## **D. Additional Materials**

Following is a catalog copy for the micro-credential, modeled on the catalog copy for minors.

# **Forensic Accounting Micro-Credential – DRAFT**

## **Sponsoring School: School of Business Graduate Programs**

The Micro-credential in Forensic Accounting is designed for individuals that are in, or are aspiring to be in, the field of forensic accounting. It consists of three courses: one aimed at teaching students to recognize, detect, and prevent fraudulent activity; one teaching the use of information technology; and the final class providing students the opportunity to examine real-life issues of fraud. Students successfully completing the requirements for the micro-credential in forensic accounting will have a solid education in forensics and will be prepared to work in the tax department of public accounting firms, law offices, law enforcement, government agencies, or other business organizations.

## **Requirements**

Students are required to take 9 credits by completing all three of the following courses with a grade of B or higher:

Fraud Examination (BU7560)

Accounting Information Systems (BU7555)

Case Studies in Forensic Accounting (BU7561)

## **Skills and Competencies to be Gained**

Students who complete these courses at the required level will:

- Demonstrate a broad and in depth knowledge of forensic accounting principles, theories and practice. This knowledge should enable students to develop solutions to complex problems utilizing critical thinking and technical skills.
- Be prepared to become socially responsible business leaders able to uncover outcomes based on lapses in ethical judgement and achieve resolutions in a socially and professionally responsible manner.
- Be able to communicate findings from their analysis and investigation effectively, both in writing and orally.