



April 12, 2010

Dr. Scott Shannon, Dean
Instruction and Graduate Studies
State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry
277 Bray Hall
1 Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210

Dear Scott:

Enclosed please find a signed MOU establishing an articulation agreement between SUNY-ESF undergraduate programs and the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at Binghamton University.

I look forward to an on-going partnership with you and to welcoming some of your students into our program.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadia Rubaii-Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nadia Rubaii-Barrett
Chair, Department of Public Administration

March 24, 2010

Memorandum of Understanding
between
**The State University of New York at
Binghamton University**
and
**The State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

**For the purpose of articulation between undergraduate programs at SUNY-ESF
and the Master of Public Administration program at Binghamton University**

This memorandum of understanding describes the arrangement between Binghamton University (BU) of the State University of New York and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) articulating a process facilitating admission of ESF undergraduate students into the Master of Public Administration Program at Binghamton University upon satisfactory completion of the baccalaureate programs at ESF. The purpose of this articulation agreement is to encourage greater opportunity to students within career tracks which logically extend from undergraduate course offerings at ESF, as well as provide for the opening and expansion of an environmentally oriented recruiting pool for the MPA program at BU. Within the programs associated with this agreement, the individual institutions retain their separate authority and responsibility concerning curriculum, course content, degree requirements, admission requirements, granting of degrees, and related matters. Courses taken at each institution at either the undergraduate or graduate level are intended to be counted toward the work load at the corresponding "home" campus, and shall not be "double-counted" toward the requirements of either degree program.

This agreement provides for flexibility to meet the needs of individual students, and is based upon the belief that both institutions can benefit from greater collaboration and is consistent with each institution's concern for academic excellence. Students participating in ESF's undergraduate programs in Natural Resources Management, Environmental Studies, and potentially others, may participate in the articulation agreement leading to graduate study in the Public Administration program at BU. ESF students completing course requirements in 5 core knowledge or skill competency areas will be eligible to participate in the articulation program. Participation in the articulation program will allow a streamlined application process, with a guarantee of acceptance if certain minimum performance standards are maintained over the course of the undergraduate program at ESF (consistent with BU's standard MPA admissions review requirements and entry thresholds).

Articulation Program:

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program at Binghamton University prepares students for professional public service positions in local government and nonprofit organizations. The program emphasizes partnerships with community-based agencies to address management and policy challenges. Binghamton University's MPA program will provide students with a concentration in environmental studies or natural resources at ESF an opportunity to obtain the knowledge and skills needed to develop, implement and evaluate policies and to manage people, budgets and projects. When combined with their expertise

gained from ESF, students will be able to use this skill set to effectively address environmental challenges and promote environmental sustainability at the community level.

The 42 credit-hour program includes a required core courses, specialization or elective courses chosen by the student, an internship, and a capstone project linked to the internship. The program is typically completed in two years of full-time study or three to five years of part-time study. The program includes a balance of full-time pre-service students and part-time students who are practicing public administration professionals.

Within the Department of Public Administration, students may specialize in nonprofit management and leadership or local government management and leadership. Alternatively, students may use their elective credits to take courses in other programs at Binghamton University. The MPA program has established relations with Environmental Studies, Social Work, Nursing, Student Affairs Administration, Asian and Asian-American Studies, and Economics. Study abroad opportunities are available for students interested in enhancing their international experience in Shenzhen, China or Budapest, Hungary.

Students participating in the Pre-MPA articulation program will be required to complete coursework in five "Core MPA Competency Areas." Courses fulfilling each of the five (5) competency requirements are listed in the following table:

MPA Competency	ESF Course(s) Providing Foundation in Competency
Management and Administration	FOR 360: Principles of Management
Statistics	APM 391: Intro. To Probability and Statistics
Economics	FOR 333: Managerial Economics for Env. Professionals
Government Policy	FOR 465: Natural Resources Policy or EST 321: Government and the Environment
Accounting, Budgeting, and/or Finance	ACC 201: Introduction to Accounting or FIN 301: Finance for Non-Management Students

Two ESF degree programs provide the most direct access to fulfilling these competencies.

- The Department of Forest and Natural Resource Management's Natural Resource Management (NRM) degree requires coursework in all five competencies and provides students with an excellent foundation for an MPA degree.
- The Department of Environmental Studies' Environmental Studies Program's Option in Environmental Policy, Planning, and Law requires coursework in two competencies (statistics and government policy). Students in this ES degree option could easily utilize some of their electives to address the other three competencies.

In addition to completing a bachelors degree at ESF including the aforementioned core "MPA competency" course requirements, participating students shall maintain a minimum undergraduate Cumulative GPA of 3.3 or better to assure entry. The Department of Public

