

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

1. **NAME OF ITEM:** New Academic Program – Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, USM
2. **INITIATED BY:** James H. Page, Chancellor
3. **BOARD INFORMATION:** **BOARD ACTION:** X
4. **BACKGROUND:**

The University of Southern Maine is proposing the creation of a Bachelors of Science in Information Technology, the study of specifying, designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining computer-based information systems. This proposal is for a 2+2 program closely coordinated with three area community colleges and a four-year option based mostly on existing USM courses.

The goals of this program are to prepare students to fill a gap in the workforce of Maine's IT cluster and to provide a smooth, articulated path from Maine's community college systems to an accredited Bachelors degree from USM. Local industry and state government have asked for this program, which will significantly improve the statewide prospect for excellence in the computer-based delivery of services and information.

5. **TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

That the Board of Trustees approve the creation of a Bachelors of Science in Information Technology at the University of Southern Maine.