## ASACR 4

Office of the President February 17, 2023

Members, Board of Trustees:

## ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION: COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Criminal Justice, within the College of Social Work beginning in the 2023 Fall Semester.

<u>Background</u>: The Master of Science (MS) in Criminal Justice provides a comprehensive understanding of the integration of theory, policy and research within leadership and administrative roles in criminal justice systems. The degree cultivates critical thinking in examining the synthesis of social and legal systems, structures and institutions in implementing and evaluating outcomes. The Criminal Justice degree prepares students for careers as administrators in public and private criminal justice settings including advocacy, probation and parole, re-entry, prosecution and enforcement, correctional facilities and court systems. In order to access students across the Commonwealth and beyond, the MS in Criminal Justice will be offered as an online program.

The program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate. The provost of the university supports this recommendation. Pending approval by the Board of Trustees, the program will begin the review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education.