# The Appeal of NYU-SCPS Master's Programs as Pathways to Success

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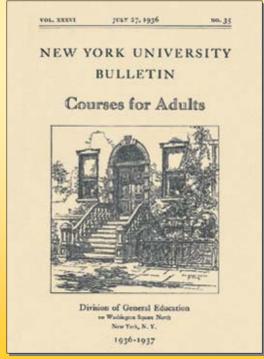
UCEA - Annual Conference - March 2008

#### Roots of Industry-Specific Master's Degrees

- As New York University evolved, it recognized the needs of new professional areas
  - SCPS became an extension of "in and of the City"

 SCPS anticipates the city's aspirations, responding to the pulse of the city and its people

- Programs help fuel the cultural, civic, and commercial innovation of New York City
- The School's "industry centers" reflect the roots of the Master's programs in the industries of New York



#### **NYU-SCPS Mission: In and of the City**

□ SCPS creates pathways throughout the School to reflect the growing industries within New York City



- Master's synced with economic infrastructure; in and of the city
- Continuing education is a natural for degree programs, graduate certificate programs, CE programs, and conferences
- □ The School brings learners together with instructors, knowledge, and know-how to achieve a better future
  - A unique social ecology at SCPS presumes upon the current and future more than the past
- "Glocal" gateway to New York City and the world
  - Intellectually, physically, and virtually without boundaries
  - Customization of local market orientation
  - Export master's to other campuses (Abu Dhabi)

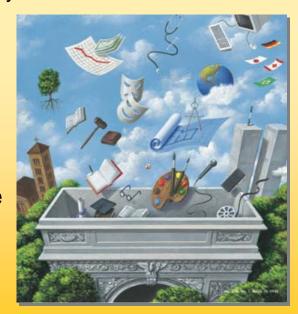
#### Differentiating for Competitive Advanta

- □ Play in a blue ocean
  - Look for unique opportunities
    - avoid heavy competition
  - At SCPS, the Master's programs reinforce our industry centers, becoming the first programs of their kind
- □ Follow a long-tail strategy
  - As you develop excellent programs, expand and market adaptations for more opportunities
  - Market one-year professional graduate certificates as standalone programs or feeders into the Master's
  - Look to develop cross-disciplinary concentrations



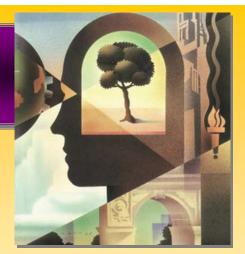
### Evolution of Feeders, Pathways, and Ecosystem

- Create a community of learners that students won't find elsewhere
  - Typical SCPS Real Estate Institute student scenario
    - Take a CE Real Estate course
    - Pursue a Graduate Certificate in Real Estate
    - Earn the M.S. in Real Estate
  - Ties to industry
    - Prominent professionals are faculty and the advisory board
    - Networking opportunities for students and alumni
- SCPS ecosystem provides pathways giving students opportunities for their individual needs
  - Students finish a Bachelor's degree;
     take a CE course; start a graduate certificate;
     get a Master's degree
  - Accelerate their career...and come back for more



#### Role of Research

- Research provides "big picture" updates
  - O Know your students what do they want?
  - Know the industry: Specific industry needs should drive Masters' curricula
  - Track changes over time of what's happening with regard to satisfaction levels, motivations, competition
- □ Research reveals differences between inquirers and students
  - Actual students display much higher confidence in their ability and belief that they can improve their lot in life
- Research tells us how Master's candidates are driven
  - Career goals in specific industries
  - Desire for advancement
  - Opportunity to change professions

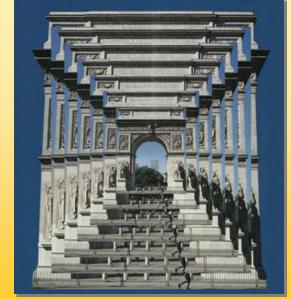


#### **Research Findings**

- As you evaluate program potential through feasibility analyses, talk to your audiences
  - Faculty do we have the resources?
  - CE audience will there be students for the program launch?
  - O Audiences in allied fields is there a market?
- □ The answers drive programs geared to the needs of

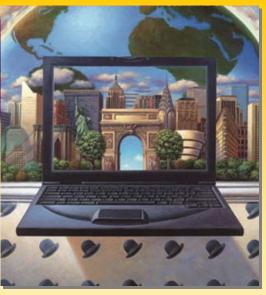
prospective students and the industry

- □ Research shows:
  - 30% of CE students at SCPS want to earn a Master's
  - 25 30% of McGhee undergraduate students want to earn a Master's



#### **Case Studies**

- Construction Management
  - Investigated prospects, queried the community
  - Dug deeper (architecture, engineering)
  - Built an audience
- Public Relations and Corporate Communications
  - Students wanted both practical and academic experience
  - Industry wanted practitioners understanding the theory behind the practice of PR
- □ Human Resource Management and Development
  - Research found a market filled with competitive programs
  - Program required differentiation
    - Higher-quality curriculum
    - Emphasis on leadership and strategic side of HR
- Art Business
  - The industry didn't see a value in such a graduate program
  - However, strong interest led to expansion of CE courses



#### Program the Market, Market the Program

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dollars?"

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#### Recasting the Future of Marketing

- More Master's programs available through online study
  - Graduate certificate programs and hybrid Master's programs with online components
- Under consideration:
  - Master's in Professional Studies concept
  - Graduate certificate crossover (2 Plus 2)
  - Executive formats (Mini-MBA)
  - More extensive use of distance learning programs to reach adult learners in every corner of the globe
  - Portability of CE certificates into credit programs
  - Cross-collaboration within the broader university



## For more information, contact **Dorothy.Durkin@nyu.edu**

