STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
June 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Ph.D. in Security Studies (CIP 45.0902) at University of Central Florida

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Security Studies at the University of Central Florida, CIP Code 45.0902.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution
Board of Governors Regulation 8.011

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Central Florida (UCF) is proposing to offer a Ph.D. degree program in Security Studies. Serving the state’s need for analysts and security specialists for international corporations, military, and ports, it will “produce specialists capable of analyzing and communicating security issues to policy makers, the general public and the government.” The program’s advisory board is comprised of representatives from Siemens Energy, Inc., Georgetown University, the National Defense University, George Washington University, and the U.S. Naval War College. Documentation confirms that external consultants and security industry leaders are supportive of the program. The proposed program will require 62 hours of course work beyond the master’s, including dissertation. Estimated enrollment will stabilize at 20 students, primarily full-time. Communication with FIU, FSU, UF, USF, University of Miami, and Nova Southeastern has confirmed the lack of overlap with their Political Science programs.

The proposal provides evidence that start-up costs will be covered by the College of Sciences and the Department of Political Science and paid from new undergraduate growth money. The College of Graduate Studies will hire one senior and two junior faculty members with expertise in security studies, and fund Graduate Teaching Assistants positions. Faculty will be expected to help generate external funding for this program.

The UCF Board of Trustees approved the program on March 17, 2011. If the proposal is approved by the Board of Governors, UCF will implement the program in Fall 2013.

Supporting Documentation Included: Staff Analysis
Facilitators/Presenters: UCF Representatives