

UF. 6552



BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

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Office of the President

October 13, 2009

Chancellor Mark Rosenberg
Board of Governors
State University System of Florida
325 West Gaines Street
Suite 1614
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Dear Chancellor Rosenberg:

I am writing to request that serious consideration be given to exempting Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) from future freshman enrollment freezes. As the State's newest university, over the past 10 years we have been provided significant State and private resources, and we have wisely invested these resources to expand our infrastructure and physical facilities so that we have the capacity to serve a growing student body. We have determined that exempting FGCU from the freshman freeze will not have a negative impact on our capacity to serve transfer students. Indeed, because of the demographics of our incoming students, our enrollment management professionals are confident that FGCU can well serve an increased number of freshman students, the projected number of transfer students, and our currently enrolled students.

As you know, FGCU has been charged with becoming a high quality, public regional university serving Southwest Florida. We have made remarkable progress toward this end over our first 10 years. Now, as we enter our second decade, I strongly believe we must be allowed to continue growing our student body and providing our students with adequate academic programs, facilities and services that are responsive to their needs. To be sure, this will be a challenge in the current fiscal environment, but I assure you and the Board of Governors that we will manage this growth in a manner that is data driven and intentional. Thank you for your attention to this request. Of course I am available to discuss this matter further as the Board of Governors develops its enrollment/budget strategy.

Sincerely,

Wilson G. Bradshaw, Ph.D.
President

WGB:vaf

C: Cabinet
Jennifer Goen

