

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**  
June 14, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Ph.D in Genetics and Genomics, University of Florida

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Consider for Approval the Ph.D. in Genetics and Genomics  
at the University of Florida, CIP Code 26.0801

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution; 1004.03 F. S.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The University of Florida proposes implementation of an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Genetics and Genomics. Genetics is the study of heredity, i.e., how related organisms resemble and differ from each other as a result of the interaction of their genes and the environment. Genomics is the branch of genetics that studies organisms in terms of their genomes (their full DNA sequences).

The proposed program has a stated goal of educating scientists in all areas of genetics, as well as teaching core computational skills needed for success in the profession. Students will be exposed to different laboratory philosophies, technologies, and projects, preparing them for employment in the biotechnology industry, the pharmaceutical industry, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and academic positions. The proposed program will support the 2005-2013 State University System strategic goal of creating access to and production of technology degrees, specifically in the area of biotechnology.

Eighty-nine faculty members will be involved with the implementation of the program. Many of them are based at the University of Florida Genetics Institute, which also serves to coordinate related academic and research efforts at the University. No additional faculty are needed to initiate the program.

If approved, the University anticipates accepting the first students in the fall of 2007.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Staff Analysis

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

Vice Chancellor R.E. LeMon  
UF Representatives