

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
March 29, 2007**

SUBJECT: Approval of Board of Governors Regulation 6C-8.011, Academic Program Authorization

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve Board of Governors Regulation 6C-8.011, Academic Program Authorization

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This new regulation will codify into one source the program authorization policies that now exist in various statutes, regulations, resolutions, and policy memoranda. In preparation for drafting the proposed regulations, the BOG Office of Academic and Student Affairs hosted a two-day Academic Affairs Conference in July of 2006 attended by state university academic affairs staff. Subsequent to this meeting draft regulations were developed and provided to university staff for review and comment.

In brief, the proposed regulation includes:

- Definitions of key terms (Degree Program, Major Track, Minor Track, etc.)
- Revised BOG New Degree Program Approval Criteria
- Authority and process for approval of degree programs at all levels
- Authority and process for approval of other types of academic program offerings (Clarifies UBOT and BOG authority that was vague in statute)
- Requires University Board of Trustees to adopt policy

As drafted this regulation reflects and supports campus-level decision making, and institutional accountability under the constitutional framework established by Floridians for their system of public universities. Once adopted, it will supplant any existing policies and more clearly delineate the authority and responsibilities of the Board of Governors and University Board of Trustees with regard to Academic Program Authorization.

Summary of Changes from January 2007 Version

This proposed regulation has been revised as a result of comments and suggestions received during the public notice period. Subsection (5), Other Academic Program Approval, has been amended to clarify that the University Board of Trustees must promulgate policies consistent with applicable accreditation standards for the approval

and implementation of such offerings. Subsections (5) (a), (b), (c), and (d) have been amended to remove redundant text.

Supporting Documentation Included: None

Facilitators/Presenters: Staff, Academic and Student Affairs