

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
November 16, 2006

SUBJECT: Ph.D in Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Florida

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Authorization of a proposed Ph.D. in Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology
at the University of Florida, CIP Code 26.0204

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

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

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Florida proposes to elevate an existing track in Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology (AMCB) to an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program that will educate scientists in molecular and cell biology, and how this knowledge is applied to problems of animal health, livestock production, and animal biotechnology. The proposed program addresses the need for an integrative graduate biology program at UF, bringing together the fields of life sciences, veterinary medicine and medicine. Fourteen tenure track faculty members are associated with the program through a consortia agreement. These faculty members have numerous publications and a record of participation on both Masters and Ph.D. committees. No additional faculty are needed to initiate the program.

The proposed program is consistent with the 2005-2013 SUS strategic goal of creating access to and production of degrees, specifically in areas of emerging technologies. Programs in this subject area are limited across the country, and this program would be the only one of its kind in Florida. Because the program already exists as a track, costs are relatively low, and facilities, resources and all major equipment are in place.

If approved, the University anticipates accepting the first students in January 2007 and conferring the first degree in May 2010.

Supporting Documentation Included: New Degree Program Approval Staff Analysis

Facilitators/Presenters: R.E. LeMon, Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs,
Richard P. Stevens, Director, Academic and Student Affairs,
UF Representatives