

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

Strategic Planning/Education Policy Committee
June 22, 2006

SUBJECT: Approval for Florida Gulf Coast University to offer lower division undergraduate courses at instructional sites off-campus

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve Florida Gulf Coast University to offer lower division undergraduate courses at instructional sites off-campus within the university service area as a two-year pilot program beginning Fall 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board of Governors Regulation 6C-8.009 (1) (a) requires that lower division undergraduate courses be offered only at the university main campus unless specific approval is granted by the Board to offer such courses at a branch campus, center, or site. The regulation further provides that "Approval will be based on a consideration of the following: the university's mission; an assessment of student demand; availability of necessary facilities, equipment and faculty; discussion with the educational institutions impacted by the proposed course offerings..." This regulation was originally promulgated by the Board of Regents and subsequently adopted by the Board of Governors by resolution at its January 7, 2003 meeting.

Florida Gulf Coast University requests approval to offer lower division courses beginning with the Fall 2006 academic term at off-site instructional centers located in Collier, Charlotte, and Lee County. These courses are intended to provide support for degree programs offered in response to local community demand, to reduce some of the expense and inconvenience of travel to the main campus by commuter students who live in the outlying communities, and to help alleviate growing constraints on space at the main campus. By an agreement between the two institutions, lower division courses will be offered at the Edison College campus in Charlotte County only if Edison cannot offer the course when needed by FGCU students to facilitate student progression. Florida Gulf Coast University has provided in its request a response to the criteria outlined in Regulation 6C-8.009 and has subsequently agreed to initiate the course offerings as a two-year pilot program.

Supporting Documentation Included: FGCU Request

Facilitators/Presenters: R. E. LeMon