

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**  
September 24, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Request to Offer Lower-Division Undergraduate Courses at the University of South Florida Polytechnic Campus

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Consider request to offer lower-division undergraduate courses at the University of South Florida Polytechnic Campus in Polk County

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7(d), Article IX, Florida Constitution; BOG Regulation 8.009

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Board of Governors Regulation 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. This regulation was originally promulgated by the Board of Regents and subsequently adopted by the Board of Governors by resolution at its meeting on January 7, 2003.

The University of South Florida (USF) requests approval to offer lower-level courses and enrollment at the USF Polytechnic campus. The ability to offer lower-level courses at the USF Polytechnic campus is directly related to the long-term goals of the University to increase undergraduate enrollment at the regional campuses. When the USF Polytechnic campus opens its new site, it will no longer be primarily collocated with Polk State College (PSC), its primary 2+2 partner. Further, as new degree programs are developed within the polytechnic education model, there is increased likelihood that local Florida College System institutions will not be equipped to offer the appropriate lower-level courses for USF Polytechnic campus students. Approval for lower-level course expansion is also necessary for the USF Polytechnic campus to proceed with any corresponding faculty hiring initiatives. A letter of support is provided from the President of Polk State College.

If approved by the Board of Governors, the authorization to offer lower-level courses at

the USF Polytechnic campus will be effective immediately.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** USF Letter of Request (with Committee Materials)