

## FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

December 3, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Implementation Authorization for a Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Society at the University of Florida

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### PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Consider implementation authorization for a Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Society (CIP 45.0401) at the University of Florida.

### AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7 (d), Constitution of the State of Florida

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Florida is requesting to move a criminology track, currently housed within its Sociology Ph.D. degree program, into a stand-alone Criminology, Law, and Society degree program housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Center for Studies in Criminology and Law. The program has existed as an interdisciplinary specialty under sociology for 23 years. The faculty currently involved with the program have demonstrated a strong record of scholarship and expertise in their fields. The proposed Ph.D. program involves the re-assignment of existing graduate-level faculty lines and the addition of 0.30 new faculty FTE lines. Therefore, few new costs will be associated with the implementation of the program.

The requested program is aligned with the mission and strengths of UF. Authors of the proposal contend that Ph.D. graduates are needed to fill academic faculty positions and to serve as experts in the areas of policy and research in criminology/criminal justice. They state that the proposed program will contribute in several ways to the University's strategic goals. For example, they believe that the program will facilitate growth at the graduate level, because the University will be better positioned to recruit students if the program is a stand-alone degree program. Also, the program will promote inter- and multi-disciplinary research, particularly in the area of children and families.

The UF Board of Trustees approved the proposal for the Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Society at its June 13, 2003, meeting. If the Board of Governors approves the proposal, the University plans to implement the program in the Fall of 2004.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:  
Facilitators/Presenters:**

Staff Analysis  
Chancellor Austin/R. E. LeMon  
UF Representatives