

## FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

October 22, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Implementation Authorization for a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences at Florida State University

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### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Consider implementation authorization for a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (CIP 50.1608) at Florida State University.

### **AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

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

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Offering this program is a key requirement in the University's effort to achieve full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education for its new medical school, which was created by the Florida Legislature in 2000. This Ph.D. is the first of several medical science related degrees planned for an Interdisciplinary Health Science program within the College of Medicine. At the national level there exists a shortage of physician-scientists (MD/Ph.D.), and academic job opportunities are expected to grow in direct relationship to increasing research and development funding over the next decade. Job growth for Ph.D. level researchers in the biotechnology industry has followed the expansion of biotech companies into research and development. The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries employ close to 300,000 persons in the U.S. and generate \$105 billion in sales. Forty-one states have undertaken initiatives to stimulate the development of their biotechnology industry, and Florida has targeted the sector as a vital part of its economic development.

Dr. William F. Marzluff, Director of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology at the University of North Carolina Medical School, Chapel Hill, was retained to review the proposal and recommends implementation of the program.

The FSU Board of Trustees approved the proposal for the Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences at its June 13, 2003, meeting. If approved, the University plans to implement the program in Fall 2004.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Staff Analysis

**Facilitators / Presenters:**

Chancellor Austin / R. E. LeMon  
FSU Representatives