

FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

July 23, 2003

SUBJECT: Implementation Authorization for a Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Central Florida

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve implementation authorization for a Ph.D. in Chemistry (CIP 40.0501) at the University of Central Florida.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

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

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Central Florida has provided compelling evidence as to the need for a Ph.D. in Chemistry. UCF has been planning and building this proposed program since 1995 and it represents a collaborative effort in several different areas of the physical sciences. In addition, the University has received the support and endorsement of many industries, both local and nationwide, for this program. The Ph.D. will contribute to the development of the highly skilled workforce required to foster high-tech and economical development in the Orlando service area. The UCF Chemistry Department has been successful in building a strong Master's Program in Chemistry, with a 2002 enrollment of 53. Specializations in materials chemistry, environmental chemistry and forensic science will be offered in this program. UCF's Bachelor's in Forensic Science is the world's largest and is one of the nation's premier programs.

Dr. Charles E. Hoyle, Professor of Polymer Science and Chemistry at the University of Southern Mississippi, was retained as a consultant to review the proposal and submitted a favorable report, indicating that the proposal for three separate specializations is unique among chemistry doctorates in the United States and has the potential of setting this program apart from other traditional chemistry Ph.D.s.

The UCF Board of Trustees approved the proposal for the Ph.D. in Chemistry at its March 27, 2003, meeting. If approved, the University plans to implement the program in August 2003.

Supporting Documentation Included:

Staff Analysis

Facilitators / Presenters:

Chancellor Austin / R. E. LeMon