

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
June 20, 2013**

**SUBJECT:** Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology, CIP 26.0406, University of South Florida

---

**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Consider approval of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of South Florida, CIP Code 26.0406.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7, Art. IX, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 8.011

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The University of South Florida (USF) proposes to offer a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology. The proposal to offer the Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology represents a final step at the graduate level to formally reorganize the former Department of Biology into two distinct departments, with the proposed program operating within the Department of Cell Biology, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology. The resources to support the program already exist as a result of the currently offered concentration in Cell and Molecular Biology within the Ph.D. in Biology program. As a result, no new funding is requested. Graduates will be prepared for employment in bioscience fields within higher education, government, and industry.

The doctoral program will require 90 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree, which includes 38 dissertation research hours for completion. The proposal includes a report expressing support for the program from an external consultant. A letter of support is also provided in the proposal from the University of Florida, which states that the proposed program will not increase duplication or overlap with its doctoral programs in the discipline.

The USF Board of Trustees approved the program on March 21, 2013. If the proposal is approved by the Board of Governors, USF will implement the program in Fall 2013.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Staff Analysis  
(Full proposal online at [www.flbog.edu](http://www.flbog.edu))

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

USF Representatives