

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
June 18, 2015**

**SUBJECT:** Limited Access Status and an Exception to 120 credit hours for the Bachelor of Music Therapy (CIP 51.2305) at Florida Gulf Coast University

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Consider approval of limited access status and an exception to 120 credit hours for the Bachelor of Music Therapy at the Florida Gulf University, CIP Code 51.2305.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 8.013 and 8.014

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) seeks limited access status and an exception to 120 credit hours to degree requirement for the Bachelor of Music Therapy. The rationale for seeking limited access admission is that the National Association of Schools of Music requires applicants to demonstrate through audition they have the minimum performance skills in voice or instrument necessary to benefit from and succeed in the program.

The rationale for seeking an exception to the 120 credit hour-to-degree limitation is also related to meeting accreditation standards. Additional courses are required to meet specialized accreditation standards for program content and such accreditation is required for graduates to become employed as Music Therapists. To hold the credential "Music Therapist Board Certified," a student must complete an undergraduate music therapy curriculum accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music and by the American Music Therapy Association.

If approved, FGCU intends to implement the program at a maximum of 132 credit hours. Limited Access Status and the exception to 120 credit hours-to-degree are consistent with the existing Music Therapy program offered at Florida State University.

The FGCU Board of Trustees approved the Bachelor of Music Therapy with Limited Access Status and the exception to 120 credit hours to degree on April 21, 2015. If approved by the Board of Governors, it will be effective for Fall 2015.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Limited Access Request Form

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

Governor Norman Tripp