

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
March 19, 2015**

**SUBJECT:** Doctor of Nursing Practice (CIP 51.3818) at Florida Gulf Coast University

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Consider approval of the Doctor of Nursing Practice at Florida Gulf Coast University, CIP Code 51.3818.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

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

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) proposes to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with two pathways – BSN to DNP and MSN to DNP. The proposed DNP is designed to prepare students with advanced nursing knowledge and leadership skills to improve health care outcomes and to provide expert evidence-based nursing care across diverse health care settings and systems. The MSN to DNP requires 39 hours of coursework and is intended for students who wish to build upon the candidate's specialty area. The BSN to DNP requires 84 hours of coursework and specialization in one of two specialty areas – Family-Nurse Practitioner or Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner.

The proposal includes a comprehensive review by a consultant who expressed support for this program and attests that the curriculum aligns with established standards for DNP programs. Currently, the DNP is offered at seven institutions in the State University System of Florida and five institutions affiliated with the Independent Colleges and University of Florida. A letter of support for this program was submitted by FIU's Provost.

The FGCU Board of Trustees approved the program proposal on April 15, 2014. If the proposal is approved by the Board of Governors, FGCU will implement the program in Fall 2015.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Information located in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee materials