

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee
January 25, 2022**

SUBJECT: Florida Institute of Oceanography, Academic Infrastructure and Support Organization Renewal

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 10.014

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Florida Institute of Oceanography is an academic infrastructure and support organization hosted by the University of South Florida. Board of Governors Regulation 10.014 defines an academic infrastructure and support organization as an entity that provides “underlying technology, equipment, facilities, services, and resources for academic programs and research in the State University System of Florida.” The regulation requires that all academic infrastructure and support organizations be reviewed every five years. The review must include the following components.

- A determination of the organization’s progress against defined goals and objectives within the context of the organization’s mission, the participating university missions, and the current Board of Governors Strategic Plan.
- An assessment of the return on investment of state dollars, if applicable.
- The need for continuation of the academic infrastructure and support organization.
- Proposed changes in mission or organizational structure.
- Recommendations for budget reductions or expansion.
- Recommendations for status or location change, if applicable.

The Florida Institute of Oceanography serves as a research and educational coordinating body across academia, state and federal agencies, ocean science organizations, and the private sector to address Florida’s coastal and oceanic environmental challenges. The institute is a 32-member consortium providing infrastructure support for coastal oceanographic research and education. Florida Institute of Oceanography supports the state of Florida with two regional class research vessels and a full-service marine laboratory.

The Florida Institute of Oceanography has completed its second five-year review focusing on the institute’s performance between 2015-2020. The University of South

Florida Board of Trustees approved the Florida Institute of Oceanography's five-year programmatic review, the 2021-2025 strategic plan, and the academic infrastructure and support organization renewal of the host institution's memorandum of understanding at its August 24, 2021, meeting. The Council of Academic Vice Presidents has also reviewed and approved the 2021-2025 strategic plan. Since there is no change in the host institution, formal approval is not required by the Board of Governors for the Florida Institute of Oceanography to continue as an academic infrastructure and support organization.

Supporting Documentation Included:

Florida Institute of Oceanography Five-Year Review, 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, and Host Institution Memorandum of Understanding

Facilitators / Presenters:

Dr. Ralph Wilcox
Dr. Monty Graham