

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Doctor of Dental Medicine
Implementation Update
August 2023

Condition #1: Secure sufficient funding from the state legislature and other sources to develop and implement the program.	
August 2023 Update	
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	In July 2023, Florida Atlantic University submitted (pending Board of Trustees approval) its Legislative Budget Requests (LBR) for the 2024 Legislative Session. Again, FAU is submitting its "Establishing a College of Dentistry at FAU" LBR, which is a continuation and update of our 2023 LBR. The 2024 LBR funding request has been updated to reflect the amount of operational and capital funding received during the 2023 Session. Given the scope and cost of establishing a College of Dentistry, the university understood that this would be a multiyear endeavor. In turn, the university devised a multiyear funding and implementation strategy. We will work to secure the necessary state support as we ramp-up operations.
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	The FAU Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 and will approve the university's LBRs for the 2024 Legislative Session. The university will again work with its champions and leadership in the Legislature to secure the additional funding needed to continue on our journey of establishing Florida's second public college of dentistry. The 2024 Legislative Session is scheduled to conclude on Friday, March 8, 2024. Once the Governor has reviewed and approved the budget, the university will know how much additional funding has been secured and how much funding we will need to seek during the 2025 Legislative Session.
Comments	In addition to state funding, Florida Atlantic University has an established history of outstanding community support through stewardship. Accordingly, we are building a strategy for fundraising that we will quickly execute. Possible avenues for fundraising are offered as follows: Major Gifts Campaign (Facility): Launch a major gifts campaign targeting high-net-worth individuals, prominent dental professionals, and foundations. Identify potential major donors through research and networking, and develop personalized cultivation strategies to secure substantial contributions. Other areas include 1. Corporate Partnerships, 2. Community Outreach, 3. Named Endowments and Scholarships, 4. Online Fundraising, 5. Grants and Foundations, and 6. Donor Recognition and Stewardship.

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Doctor of Dental Medicine
Implementation Update
August 2023

Condition #2: Hire sufficient numbers of qualified faculty to develop and implement the program.	
August 2023 Update	
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	The Office of the Provost and Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine Leadership have identified four key positions to be hired this year for the College of Dentistry which include an 1) Acting Academic Dean, 2) Acting Clinical Dean, 3) Associate Dean for Regional Affairs, and 4) Executive Director for Finance and Administration. All four positions will be hired immediately once the search process has been completed.
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	Florida Atlantic University's comprehensive strategy for healthcare recruitment involves a two-pronged approach. First, we will leverage the expertise of an internal FAU-employed healthcare recruiter who is dedicated to sourcing highly qualified candidates. Second, we have established a valuable partnership with a reputable academic healthcare search firm that specializes in recruiting top-tier leaders for dental institutions. This search firm boasts an impressive client portfolio, including prestigious organizations and companies such as New York-Presbyterian, Delta Dental, and Weill Cornell Medicine. Notably, the firm has a remarkable track record of successfully placing dental school leadership candidates in multiple esteemed academic institutions. Their demonstrated excellence in recruitment within the academic dental school space makes them an invaluable asset to FAU's hiring efforts.
Comments	<p>Florida Atlantic University is maintaining a well-organized database of dental professionals who have proactively reached out to express their keen interest in joining FAU. Despite minimal advertising, the response rate has been remarkably positive, which is truly encouraging. The program has garnered significant attention from both regional and national dental professionals, highlighting the widespread appeal of FAU's offerings.</p> <p>To foster stronger connections and facilitate a seamless recruitment process, the university is committed to providing episodic updates regarding ongoing faculty searches. These updates aim to keep the interested candidates well-informed about opportunities and create a transparent and engaging recruitment experience. Additionally, FAU plans to organize informal events to further nurture relationships with potential faculty members, providing them with an opportunity to interact with the university community and get a deeper understanding of the institution's culture and values.</p>

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Doctor of Dental Medicine
Implementation Update
August 2023

Condition #3: Approve a curriculum with appropriate and specific learning outcomes and industry-driven competencies consistent with the requirements of the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

August 2023 Update	
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	<p>Florida Atlantic University provided an outline of the proposed curriculum in December, 2022. FAU is working with the FAU Director of Dental Initiatives (DDI) to explore opportunities for integration between basic science and other subjects. As an initial step, the DDI met with the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs at the FAU Schmidt College of Medicine in June, 2023 to discuss potential crossovers in the dental and medical curriculum. Additional follow up meetings are scheduled for August, 2023 with the M1-2 and M3-4 directors.</p> <p>With the hiring of the active clinical dean and other key faculty that is currently underway, we will devise a schedule to complete the full curriculum development and approval.</p>
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	<p>Developing a curriculum for the College of Dentistry at Florida Atlantic University, with integration with the College of Medicine where appropriate, requires careful planning and coordination. Here are action steps that the university can take to achieve this goal:</p> <p>Establish a Curriculum Development Committee: Form a committee comprising experienced faculty members from both the College of Dentistry and the College of Medicine. Include representatives with expertise in dental education, medical education, research, curriculum design, and relevant specialties.</p> <p>Conduct Needs Assessment: Conduct a thorough needs assessment to identify the current and future requirements of dental and medical education. Engage stakeholders, including students, practicing professionals, and healthcare organizations, to gather input and insights.</p> <p>Define Learning Outcomes: Clearly define the learning outcomes for the dental and medical programs, ensuring they align with accreditation standards and best practices in dental and medical education.</p> <p>Identify Overlapping Content: Identify areas where dental and medical education share common ground and could benefit from integrated instruction. Foster collaboration between faculty from both colleges to determine how this integration can enhance students' overall learning experience.</p> <p>Design Integrated Modules: Develop specific integrated modules that bridge dental and medical education, focusing on interdisciplinary topics such as basic science, oral-systemic health connections, medical emergencies, and collaborative patient care.</p> <p>Determine Course Sequencing: Plan the sequence of courses and rotations in a way that optimizes the integration of dental and medical concepts. Ensure that the curriculum remains well-structured, coherent, and supports progressive skill development.</p>

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	August 2023 Update
<p>Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates (continued)</p>	<p>Utilize Active Learning Strategies: Integrate active learning strategies, simulations, case-based learning, and interprofessional activities to enhance students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.</p> <p>Implement Technology-Enabled Learning: Utilize technology to enhance learning experiences, such as virtual simulations, online resources, and interactive learning platforms.</p> <p>Assessment and Evaluation: Implement a robust assessment plan to regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the integrated curriculum. Gather feedback from students, faculty, and stakeholders to make continuous improvements.</p> <p>Faculty Development: Provide faculty members with training and resources to effectively deliver integrated instruction and foster collaboration between the College of Dentistry and the College of Medicine faculty.</p> <p>Accreditation Compliance: Ensure that the integrated curriculum meets the requirements of relevant accreditation bodies for both dental and medical education.</p> <p>Pilot Program and Refinement: Run a pilot program to test the integrated curriculum with a select group of students. Gather feedback, identify areas of improvement, and refine the curriculum accordingly.</p> <p>Full Implementation: After refining the curriculum based on feedback, implement the fully integrated program for all students in the College of Dentistry, with the necessary support and resources in place.</p>
<p>Comments</p>	

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Condition #4: Obtain specialized accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation for the Doctor of Dental Medicine prior to implementing the program.	
August 2023 Update	
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	Provost Russ Ivy received the Initial Accreditation Application for Dental Education Programs on July 24, 2023 from the Commission on Dental Accreditation.
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	Florida Atlantic University will gather data and assess compliance with CODA standards by the end of February 2024. This includes two internal finance and operations administrators outlining the specific work that needs to be completed in accordance with each of the six standards from CODA. The University will submit the self-study report to CODA by the end of September 2024.
Comments	Florida Atlantic University's team working on the CODA application includes assembling a team (internally and externally) to provide critical focus on securing accreditation. This group consists of healthcare leaders with the FAU College of Medicine (shared curriculum, facilities), finance team members (pro-forma and budgets), information technology experts (facility, web, and program), a project manager (application management and compliance), and an administrative fellow (supports the team) dedicated to this effort, along with consultants with robust subject matter expertise.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Doctor of Dental Medicine
Implementation Update
August 2023

<i>Condition #5: Meet with Board staff to provide updates on funding, faculty hiring, curriculum development, specialized accreditation, and implementation.</i>	
	August 2023 Update
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	FAU submitted their most recent progress report to the Board of Governors staff in May 2023, with follow up comments to BOG staff queries in July 2023.
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	Provost Russ Ivy will contact the Board of Governors staff to provide the essential updates on funding, faculty hiring, curriculum development, specialized accreditation and implementation. We will continue to submit periodic progress reports and milestone achievements as scheduled.
Comments	

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Condition #6: Include in the mission statement that the program's primary objective is to serve Florida's rural and underserved communities and that the program has been established for this purpose.	
	August 2023 Update
Action Steps Taken & Completion Dates	FAU drafted a new mission statement and submitted as part of their response to BOG staff queries from the May 2023 quarterly report. The FAU response to the BOG staff queries was submitted in July 2023.
Planned Action Steps & Anticipated Completion Dates	The Mission Statement will be made available to the public on our website and be utilized by our Marketing department for the general public and recruitment of faculty, staff, and prospective students once feedback is received from the Board of Governors staff.
Comments	Florida Atlantic University's College of Dentistry established the mission statement: Our mission is to empower and serve rural communities by providing exceptional dental education, fostering compassionate care, and addressing the critical need for additional dentists in underserved areas. We are committed to cultivating a supportive and inclusive learning environment that nurtures the next generation of highly skilled dental professionals, who are dedicated to improving oral health outcomes and overall well-being in rural populations.