SUBJECT: Ph.D. in Informatics and Big Data Analytics, CIP 11.0104, University of South Florida

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PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Consider approval of the Ph.D. in Informatics and Big Data Analytics, CIP 11.0104, at the University of South Florida

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

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

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of South Florida (USF) is proposing a Ph.D. in Informatics and Big Data Analytics. The interdisciplinary program will include the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Public Health. The program will require the completion of a minimum of 72 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, completion of a practicum, completion of qualifying exams, and completion of a dissertation. For those entering the program with a master's, up to 12 credit hours may be transferred.

If approved, the program would be the second Ph.D. in CIP 11.0104 in the state of Florida. This program will also be the second with a focus on data science and the first with an interdisciplinary curriculum. Graduates of the program will be trained to manage large data, write code, develop models, and build systems while also considering potential bias and ethical issues.

USF will charge the institution's current approved graduate tuition and fees based on the courses' host department as described in the program proposal. USF does not intend to operate this program through continuing education on a cost-recovery basis, seek approval for market-rate tuition, or establish differentiated graduate-level tuition.

The USF Board of Trustees approved the program on June 6, 2019. If approved by the Board of Governors, USF will implement the program effective fall 2020.

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