

**Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees  
January 17, 2006**

**SUBJECT: Student-Athlete In-State Waivers**

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve FGCU policy on student-athlete in-state tuition waivers.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Intercollegiate athletics provides a number of benefits to an institution of higher education – including the opportunity to significantly contribute to greater student diversity on campus, and the opportunity to bring national and international recognition to the institution. These in-state waivers are created to target recruitment opportunities to attract a diverse and strong student population.

Through state budget proviso language, the state universities' boards of trustees are authorized to waive tuition and matriculation fees for purposes that support and enhance the mission of the university. In October 2004, the FGCU Board of Trustees approved a policy on student in-state tuition waivers, and is in the position of being able to approve a similar policy on in-state tuition waivers for student-athletes.

Providing the FGCU Athletics Department with these in-state tuition waivers would enable our coaches to recruit the best student-athletes from the state of Florida who would contribute significantly to student diversity and raise FGCU's visibility around the nation and world—while not affecting the University's bottom line when it comes to tuition revenues.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Policy on Student-Athlete In-State Tuition Waivers

**Prepared by:** Director of Athletics Carl McAloose

**Legal Review by:** General Counsel Wendy Morris (December 18, 2005)

**Submitted by:** President Bill Merwin

## **POLICY ON STUDENT-ATHLETE IN-STATE TUITION WAIVERS**

**Purpose:** Florida Gulf Coast University uses University Board of Trustee authority for the purpose of waiving the in-state portion of tuition for certain types of students to enhance campus diversity and academic quality in an ever-increasing competitive student market.

**Policy:** Waivers are awarded based on the University's established key selection criteria of recruitment, retention, diversity and service to students who meet certain initial requirements.

**Application:** The Office of Enrollment Management (OEM) is the central receiving and processing location for all undergraduate student waiver applications. With the assistance of a student-athlete waiver committee (consisting of the NCAA Compliance Director and Faculty Athletics Representative), the Director of Athletics may authorize in-state tuition waivers to target recruitment opportunities to attract a diverse and strong student population. These waivers may be awarded or renewed each year to selective undergraduate students meeting the criteria below. Undergraduate waivers are awarded in conjunction with the admission process.

**Procedure:** Parameters for award and renewal eligibility for undergraduate student-athlete in-state tuition waiver authority shall be as follows:

### **Undergraduate Student Waivers**

#### *Initial eligibility requirements:*

- ✓ Approval for admission to Florida Gulf Coast University as a full-time degree-seeking first time in college or transfer student; and
- ✓ In-state residency status; and
- ✓ A minimum 3.0 grade point average, or a 1050 on the SAT or a 22 on the ACT; or
- ✓ An outstanding record of athletic and leadership achievements determined by a student-athlete waiver committee.

#### *Renewal requirements:*

Waiver awards are guaranteed for one year only and are contingent upon continued budget authorization. To renew, student-athletes must continue to meet the established NCAA eligibility criteria.

**ANNUAL REPORT:** Each unit making awards is responsible for submitting an annual report to the OEM verifying compliance with all requirements by August 1 of each year. OEM will ensure that all awards are disbursed to the students and to ensure compliance with federal, state and institution regulations and will forward all reports to the President or designee.