

ITEM: 5  
Policy #: 2.007  
FKA: 2.43

**Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees**  
**June 19, 2007**

**SUBJECT:** Policies Pertaining to Academic Programs

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

*Approved as presented*

Approve the following policies pertaining to academic programs:

- Academic Learning Compacts
- Academic Program Authorization
- Academic Program Review
- Professional Certificate Programs
- Programs Offered Outside FGCU's Five-County Service Area
- Suspension and Discontinuance of Academic Programs

*BACKGROUND INFORMATION*

On January 25, 2007, the Board of Governors (BOG) issued public notice of intent to promulgate several regulations pertaining to academic programs. Subsequently, on March 29, 2007, the BOG adopted regulations dealing with the following topics: program authorization, program termination, limited access, hours to degree, program review, and student learning outcomes. These regulations are available on the BOG website [http://www.flbog.org/BOG\\_regs/](http://www.flbog.org/BOG_regs/)

The regulations codified many existing practices and brought together numerous policies relating to the above topics that had previously existed in statutes, regulations, resolutions, and policy memoranda. The regulations also clarified authority and responsibility of the BOG and the university boards of trustees, which was vague in statute. In addition, the regulations called for university boards of trustees to adopt policies in specified areas.

*Programs Offered Outside of FGCU's Five-County Service Area*

The attached policies presented to the FGCU Board of Trustees for review and approval respond to this mandate. The proposed policies are described in the attached executive summary. Relevant University procedures are also included as supporting documentation.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

1. Executive Summary
2. Academic Learning Compacts Policy
  - Academic Learning Compacts Development and Review Procedures
3. Academic Program Authorization Policy
  - Curriculum Development Procedures
4. Academic Program Review Policy
  - Program Review Procedures
5. Professional Certificate Programs Policy
6. Programs Offered Outside FGCU's Five-County Service Area Policy
7. Suspension and Discontinuance of Academic Programs Policy

**Prepared by:** Associate Vice President for Planning and Institutional Performance Paul Snyder, and Director of Program Development and Curriculum Cathy Duff

**Legal Review by:** General Counsel Wendy Morris

**Submitted by:** Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Bonnie Yegidis

**Executive Summary  
Proposed Policies Pertaining to Academic Programs  
May 23, 2007**

**PROGRAMS OFFERED OUTSIDE FGCU'S FIVE-COUNTY SERVICE AREA**

The Board of Governors adopted a regulation at its March 29, 2007 meeting that requires each university to have a policy concerning the implementation and review of off-campus degree program offerings outside of its assigned service area that encompass programs offered through continuing education, degree programs offered under contract as sponsored credit for an external public or private entity, and degree programs offered in foreign countries. Currently FGCU does not offer any programs that fall into these categories but may seek to do so in the future hence the need for developing a policy at this time.

Under the proposed policy, the unit seeking to establish such a program will follow all applicable existing policies and procedures of the University and the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.



## **FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **POLICY TITLE**

Programs Offered Outside FGCU's Five-County Service Area

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Florida Board of Governors (BOG) has determined that each state university system institution should have a policy concerning the implementation and review of off-campus degree program offerings outside of its assigned service area to include: programs offered through continuing education, degree programs offered under contract as sponsored credit for an external public or private entity, and degree programs offered in foreign countries. This policy is intended specifically to address BOG regulation 6C-8.011(5)(c). Currently FGCU does not offer any programs that fall into this category but it may choose to do so in the future and hence the need for the policy framework now. Under this policy the unit seeking to establish such a program will follow all existing policies and procedures of the university and the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) as they may apply.

### **RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE**

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICE(S)**

- Office of Curriculum and Instruction
- Office of Academic Affairs

### **WHO SHOULD READ THIS POLICY**

All faculty and academic administrators seeking to offer programs in the aforementioned categories.

### **PROCEDURES**

If the program to be offered is new, i.e., is not currently offered by the university, it will be reviewed by the Office of Curriculum and Instruction according to its procedures and those of the relevant curriculum team of the University Faculty Senate. If the program to be offered is currently offered by the unit, then that unit's leadership will seek the approval of the Provost who will review the adequacy of the proposed program in terms

*Programs Offered Outside of FGCU's Five-County Service Area*

of mission fit, goals, quality, fiscal integrity, and evidence that the unit has or will have the administrative capacity to offer the program in accord with all relevant university, BOG, and SACS policies and procedures.

The Provost in consultation with the unit's leadership will annually review the status of the offering to ensure that it continues to meet its goals successfully and in a fiscally sound manner so as not to adversely affect resources or programs within the university's primary service area.

*History: This the first policy to address this subject matter*