Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees  
April 18, 2006

**SUBJECT:** New Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Philosophy

**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve new B.A. in Philosophy.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

FGCU is requesting permission to offer a B.A. in Philosophy.

**Supporting Documentation Included:** (1) Memo from Provost, and (2) Executive Summary

**Prepared by:** Director of Program Development Cathy Duff

**Legal Review by:** N/A

**Submitted by:** Provost Bonnie Yegidis
March 27, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Larry Hart, Chair
    Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee
    FGCU Board of Trustees

FROM: Bonnie L. Yegidis
      Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Philosophy

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is proposing the addition of a B.A. in Philosophy. The proposed program builds upon the strengths of the existing degree programs offered through the CAS. The program also supports the University's commitment to critical thinking, independent inquiry, and civic engagement.

The program will be 120 semester credit hours in length and is consistent with the criteria for new degree authorization adopted by the Board of Governors on April 30, 2003. There are no formal concentrations or tracks within this program. The proposed program has been approved by both the college curriculum team and the university-wide Undergraduate Curriculum Team.

Implementation of the B.A. in Philosophy program will provide Southwest Florida with a high quality program that is consistent with the university's mission. I recommend approval.
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Major: Philosophy

College: Arts and Sciences

Department: Communication and Philosophy

Suggested CIP: 38.0101

Anticipated Implementation: Fall 2006

Program Description:

Philosophy literally means "the love of wisdom." An academic discipline whose roots go back 2500 years to ancient Greece, philosophy has over the centuries been distinguished by its combination of two basic activities. First, philosophy asks questions about the most important problems of human life—What is love? What is justice? etc.—and tries to live out Socrates' motto that "the unexamined life is not worth living." Second, by contrast to the way such questions might also be pursued through religion or literature, philosophers respond to these questions by making arguments: logically rigorous and conceptually precise claims that one is prepared to defend in a public forum. Philosophy as a discipline in the modern university asks students both to study the long tradition of questions and arguments proposed by philosophers over the years, and to master the skills of critical argumentation themselves.

The B.A. in Philosophy program will be a general program without internal tracks; nonetheless there are certain emphases that will give the program a distinctive profile in relation to other Philosophy programs. In structure, FGCU's Philosophy Program will combine a historical model focusing on figures, trends, and the relation of thought to its wider cultural setting with an activity model laying stress on the philosophical methods and on philosophy as an activity and process. Contemporary philosophy is typically divided into Analytic or Anglo-American philosophy stressing logic and epistemology, and Continental philosophy stressing the history of philosophy and the connection of philosophy to other areas of intellectual endeavor. FGCU's Philosophy program will be more oriented toward the continental side. In both cases, our choice of emphases reflects both the training and background of our faculty, as well as our conviction that the historical and activity models and the emphasis on continental philosophy best fit with FGCU's pedagogical goals of outcomes based learning and interdisciplinary or connected inquiry. Our philosophy graduates will likewise be thoroughly prepared to practice a
variety of critical thinking methods which are applicable in many areas of intellectual and practical endeavor: analyzing a problem from different angles and grasping its conceptual structure, formulating one’s own position with depth and clarity, and defending it against other possible claims in a well formulated argument.

The B.A. in Philosophy will include a total of 120 credit hours. Beyond the lower division requirements, the Program requires 33 hours in the major, 12 hours in the Collegium of Integrated Learning, and 3 hours in the University Colloquium IDS 3920. The remaining hours can be taken outside the Philosophy program as electives, or in fulfillment of another minor or dual major. The major is organized by three categories of courses: I) A Methods sequence of three courses with labs will thoroughly ground students in the methods of rational argumentation needed to do philosophy, will provide Philosophy majors with a core set of texts which every student reads, and in the Capstone will link Philosophy to service and public life. II) History of Philosophy courses will provide students with knowledge of the works, figures and movements most important to the Philosophical canon. III) Applied Philosophy courses will ask students to apply the skills of philosophical argumentation to a variety of disciplines and subject matters. A distinctive emphasis of the FGCU Philosophy Program will be a focus on training students in oral eloquence and presentation skills, competencies not often taught in Philosophy programs.

Consistency with the FGCU Mission and Strategic Plan:

The goals of the Philosophy Program relate to the mission statement of Florida Gulf Coast University and its College of Arts and Sciences in at least four ways detailed in this report: First, the university mission states that “Florida Gulf Coast University infuses the strengths of the traditional public university with innovation and learning-centered spirit.” One compelling reason to add Philosophy as a program at FGCU is just this connection between Philosophy and the traditions of the University and of the Liberal Arts. Philosophy has typically been regarded both as a necessary core subject and as a “prestige” program for universities like FGCU that profess allegiance to liberal arts education. Second, the university and college mission statements mention in several places FGCU’s commitment to intellectual inquiry and to the teaching of critical thinking. Philosophy connects especially well with the imperative to teach students the tools of critical thinking and independent inquiry. Third, FGCU has embraced civic engagement as a central part of its mission. The Philosophy Program will offer advanced training in critical thinking and ethical/political thought as well as courses in applied and engaged philosophy, and will be well suited to develop students into critical democratic thinkers. Fourth, FGCU values interdisciplinary inquiry and pedagogy. The Philosophy program will stress interdisciplinary knowing by featuring the interdisciplinary CAS Collegium of Integrated Learning, by offering students a variety of “Philosophy of…” courses, and by producing students who are good conceptual translators—people who can identify the common points and differences at issue when experts speaking different disciplinary languages have to communicate with one another.
Need and Demand:

Need for philosophical training is supported by a number of studies, and there are a number of career paths open to students who take an undergraduate major in Philosophy. Besides the few students who may go on for graduate work in philosophy, a broad range of careers are open to the Philosophy student who applies the transferable skills of philosophical training to other fields of endeavor. The American Philosophical Association lists general problem solving, communication skills, persuasive powers, writing skills, and development of research and analysis skills as key transferable skills taught by Philosophy, and many recent articles and studies document the usefulness of liberal arts training in the business and public sector worlds.

The APA lists areas in which Philosophy majors have been employed, including business (especially advertising and management), consulting, finance, insurance, sales, education, various branches of government, law, medicine, media, publishing, technical writing, and clergy. A very common use of Philosophy is as a pre-professional degree, for students planning to pursue the fields of law, medicine, clergy, business management, or other fields requiring graduate training. Philosophy students as a group do particularly well on entrance exams: In studies, Philosophy majors scored higher than the mean scores for all kinds of business majors on the GMAT, had the highest scores of all Humanities, Social Science, Education, or Business majors on the GRE, and between 2nd and 5th place for all majors on the LSAT. Additionally, Philosophy is frequently paired with a more “practical” subject as part of a dual major. The APA notes that understanding of the principles, methods and history of other disciplines is one of the main educational applications of the Philosophy degree.

Enrollment Projections:

The head count and FTE calculations for students expected to enter the proposed Philosophy program is estimated to be 22 students for the first year, increasing gradually to 28 students in year two, 34 in the third year, 47 in year four, and 65 students by year 5. Enrollments for Philosophy courses and loads for Philosophy faculty are also affected by the fact that we supply required and elective courses to the Communication Program, which has a very large enrollment of around 350 majors.

Resources:

The College of Arts and Sciences currently has sufficient faculty resources to initiate the Philosophy program. As the program and the university grows, it will be necessary to expand faculty resources in Philosophy in order to deliver the Philosophy program while maintaining our obligations to support growing programs in Communication, General Education, and the College of Arts and Sciences’ Interdisciplinary Core. We will request the addition of one faculty line in Year Three of the Program, and another in Year Five. No additional facilities are needed. Additional library resources are being requested ($12,233 in Year One and $32,233 in Year Five).
Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees  
April 18, 2006

SUBJECT: New Degree Program: Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Chemistry

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve new B.S. in Chemistry.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FGCU is requesting permission to offer a B.S. in Chemistry.

Supporting Documentation Included: (1) Memo from Provost, and (2) Executive Summary

Prepared by: Director of Program Development Cathy Duff

Legal Review by: N/A

Submitted by: Provost Bonnie Yegidis
March 27, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO:       Trustee Larry Hart, Chair
           Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee
           FGCU Board of Trustees

FROM:     Bonnie L. Yegidis
           Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT:  Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Chemistry

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is proposing the addition of a B.S. in Chemistry. The proposed program builds upon the strengths of the existing degree programs offered through the CAS. The CAS already offers a B.A. in Chemistry, which began in fall 2005. The two programs differ in content and focus. The B.S. in Chemistry will include additional coursework in high-level chemistry courses, laboratory experiences, and mathematics content. The B.S. provides preparation for entry into chemistry graduate programs or professional programs such as medicine. It also prepares students for employment as chemists or physical scientists and for teaching high school chemistry.

The B.S. in Chemistry will be 120 semester credit hours in length. It is consistent with the criteria for new degree authorization adopted by the Board of Governors on April 30, 2003. The proposed program has been approved by both the college curriculum team and the university-wide Undergraduate Curriculum Team.

Implementation of the B.S. in Chemistry program will provide Southwest Florida with a high quality program that is consistent with the university’s mission. I recommend approval.
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Executive Summary
New Program Proposal

Degree: Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Major: Chemistry

College: Arts and Sciences

Division: Physical Sciences and Mathematics

Suggested CIP: 40.0501

Anticipated Implementation: Fall 2006

Program Description:

Chemistry is the study of matter, the physical material of the universe. By understanding the nature of the universe, applications of chemistry have been developed which enhance the quality of life including production of pharmaceuticals and antibiotics, fertilizers, construction materials and plastics. Chemistry can also be used to analyze and monitor sample for pollutants, toxins or used to analyze forensic evidence. The broad definition of chemistry and its relevance to applications served as the basis for the development of the proposed baccalaureate program in chemistry. The proposed program will prepare students for (a) employment as laboratory chemists in fields such as agriculture, environmental analysis and the pharmaceutical industry, (b) chemistry graduate programs (c) professional study in medical, dental, veterinary, or pharmacy schools; or (d) employment in K-12 educational system as science teachers. Although the B.S. Chemistry degree meets State of Florida criteria for subject content, additional requirements must be met by program graduates within 1-3 years after employment. A Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry is not presently available at any public or private institution of higher education within the five county area serviced by FGCU.

The College of Arts and Sciences already has a B.A. Chemistry program, which started in the Fall 2005 semester. The B.A. program is best suited for students interested in chemistry-related careers, which do not require work in the laboratory and as a pre-professional degree leading to enrollment in a program such as medicine, dentistry, or pharmacy. Some examples of chemistry-related jobs are a pharmaceutical representative or an educator, teaching high school
chemistry. The B.S. Chemistry differs in content and focus. The B.S. has more high-level chemistry courses, increased laboratory content and more mathematics courses. It is suitable for students interested in continuing their education in a chemistry graduate program or for employment as a chemist in the fields of agriculture, environmental analysis, forensics, pharmacy and other industries that require a high level of chemistry knowledge and laboratory skills. It can also be useful to provide a strong scientific background for students interested in entering professional programs, such as medicine, or for teaching high school chemistry. However, the program’s strength is providing the development of physical scientists, needed to keep the United States’ place as a leader in science and technology.

The proposed curriculum consists of 120 credit hours. During the first 60 hours, students complete general education and common prerequisite requirements in accordance with state and university guidelines. The program also includes 42 hours of core coursework in the major including 4 credits in a research component and 8 credits in chemistry or science upper-level electives. Also, 3 hours in the Collegium of Integrated Learning and the 3-hour University Colloquium are required.

The curriculum emphasizes hands-on learning and provides undergraduate research experience. The core coursework in the major emphasizes chemistry as related to biological applications and the analytical principles used to detect and quantify chemicals. The course design was selected to complement with the FGCU mission of environmental awareness and its current biology, biotechnology and environmental studies programs. Students will also learn how to apply chemical knowledge to solve current problems in fields such as agriculture, medicine, and environmental and marine sciences.

Implementation of the program is anticipated for Fall 2006.

Consistency with the FGCU Mission and Strategic Plan:

The university’s mission emphasizes undergraduate education utilizing cutting-edge technological tools and innovations in pedagogy in an active, learning-centered environment. The strategic plan calls for active collaboration with community partners to benefit the Southwest Florida region and citizenry.

The proposed program is consistent with both the mission and strategic plan. The program will provide hands-on activities in scientific processes and methodologies. Courses will use a combination of lecture, group problem-solving activities, and laboratory experiments to maximize learning. In addition, the program will include undergraduate research and connect research efforts directly to the curriculum. Faculty collaborate within the Whitaker Center, directed by Dr. Diane Schmidt and Dr. Joseph Kakareka. The Center encourages collaboration between scientists in various fields, exchange of educational ideas and tools, and
Executive Summary: B.S. Chemistry

partnerships with teachers and students in the K-12 school system. The Whitaker Science building houses classroom and research facilities, which are designed to facilitate dissemination of scientific information and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration between different areas of science.

Students will participate within the community by tutoring younger students in science, acting as mentors for science fair projects or participating in environmental projects as related to chemistry for their service learning work. They will cooperate with community industry partners, such as Herbal Science, NeoGenomics and U.S. Sugar, by working on undergraduate research projects with these companies. Graduates will support community needs with employment in science teaching positions in the K-12 school system and as community science educators, for museums, science centers and similar organizations.

Need and Demand:

A Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry is not presently available at any public or private institution of higher education within the five county area serviced by FGCU. Although FGCU started a B.A. Chemistry program in Fall 2005, the B.A. is not best suited for students interested in industrial careers as laboratory chemists or for admission to chemistry graduate programs. The B.S. degree is a more rigorous degree, requiring more chemistry and mathematics, and will better fit those needs.

Chemistry is a target program, listed in the State University System Strategic Plan (under Natural Sciences and Technology). There is also a need at the national level, a shortage of physical scientists such as chemists, physicists, and engineers, according to a presentation from the U.S. Secretary of Education at the March 2004 Secretary’s Science Summit in Washington D.C. There is a need to increase science education and interests, both early in the educational system and later at the university level, to help develop students into physicists, chemists and engineers.

The proposed B.S. Chemistry program may also help fill a shortage of science teachers needed in the K-12 educational system. Science education programs are on the Florida Board of Governors List of Target Programs. Additionally, it would prepare students interested in applying to chemistry graduate programs or professional programs such as medicine, pharmacy, veterinary and dentistry.

Program graduates will be able to start teaching chemistry in the state of Florida at the high school level immediately upon graduation, although additional certification standards must be passed within one to three years after employment. These additional requirements include several examinations and some education courses, all of which can be completed while working full-time. The state of
Executive Summary: B.S. Chemistry

Florida is encouraging the hiring of non-traditional teachers from science fields due to their increased content knowledge of the field.

Enrollment Projections:

Enrollment projections are based on student enrollment numbers in other programs at FGCU and on the growth rate of the university. It is estimated that enrollment in the first year will be 8 students (6 FTE), increasing to 24 new students admitted to the program (18 FTE) in Year 5. In the first year, a significant fraction of students in the program will be students currently enrolled in related programs at FGCU, such as the B.A. Biology program; however, this will decrease in later years. Although the number of students enrolled as freshman is expected to increase in subsequent years, the rigorous nature of the program may limit large enrollments. It is anticipated that the majority of students in the program will enroll on a full-time basis. Enrollment may increase as the demand for scientists increase with the inception of the Scripps research center on the east coast of Florida and the biotechnology park to be developed near FGCU.

Resources:

The FGCU programs in the sciences and mathematics are rapidly growing both in size and strength. Whitaker Hall, completed in December 2000, provided additional on-campus classroom, office, meeting, and research space. Current faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences will support the B.S. Chemistry program plus the addition of a new Physical Chemist. The line for the Physical Chemist was approved last spring and the search is on-going. The new Physical Chemist will also help support the B.A. Chemistry and lower level chemistry courses which service many degree programs such as nursing, engineering, biotechnology and biology. The chemistry faculty participating in the B.S. Chemistry program will provide expertise, diversity and interdisciplinary connections to the curriculum. No additional facilities will be required to implement the program. Approximately $10,000 will be needed in the first year of the program to purchase equipment needed for laboratory courses and $17,275 will be needed to obtain library resources. After the first year, $10,000 to $15,000 will be needed annually for classroom laboratory equipment and $10,000 will be needed annually to support library resources. The total estimated costs of the program, including instructional support, will be $66,875 in year 1 and $272,400 in year 5.
Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees
April 18, 2006

SUBJECT:  New Degree Program:  Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Sociology

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve new B.A. in Sociology.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FGCU is requesting permission to offer a B.A. in Sociology.

Supporting Documentation Included:  (1) Memo from Provost, and (2) Executive Summary

Prepared by:  Director of Program Development

Legal Review by:  N/A

Submitted by:  Provost Bonnie Yegidis
March 27, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Larry Hart, Chair
    Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee
    FGCU Board of Trustees

FROM: Bonnie P. Yegidis
      Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Sociology

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is proposing the addition of a B.A. in Sociology. The proposed program builds upon the strengths of the existing degree programs offered through the CAS. Sociology is a traditional core liberal arts discipline and supports the University’s mission of encouraging civic responsibility and fostering understanding of diverse social institutions and social interaction.

The University currently offers a B.A. in Social Science, which is be phased out and will be replaced with the proposed Sociology program and the already existing Political Science and Anthropology programs. The B.A. in Sociology will be 120 semester credit hours in length. It is consistent with the criteria for new degree authorization adopted by the Board of Governors on April 30, 2003. There are no formal concentrations or tracks within this program. The proposed program has been approved by both the college curriculum team and the university-wide Undergraduate Curriculum Team.

Implementation of the B.A. in Sociology program will provide Southwest Florida with a high quality program that is consistent with the university’s mission. I recommend approval.
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Executive Summary
New Program Proposal

Degree: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
Major: Sociology
College: Arts and Sciences
Department: Social and Behavioral Science
Suggested CIP: 45.1101
Anticipated Implementation: Fall 2006

Program Description:

Sociology is the study of group life. A sociologist studies the social and cultural forces which shape the behavior, beliefs, and relationships of individual members of a larger society. Sociologists can also analyze all types of interaction, from economic to political to cultural, as well as social organizations from small groups to communities to large nations. Sociologists emphasize the careful use of systematically collected evidence and reason to better understand the social world. Many fields of study are grounded in sociological theories and concepts. The proposed program will provide an excellent foundation for a wide range of career and graduate school pursuits including government work, research, and applied roles in business and human services.

The proposed curriculum consists of 120 credit hours. During the first 60 hours of study, students complete general education and common prerequisite requirements in accordance with state and university guidelines. The program also includes 30 hours of core coursework in the major, which includes 3 credit hours of an internship, 3 credit hours of a senior capstone course, and 9 hours of upper-level electives. In addition, 12 hours in the Collegium of Integrated Learning and the 3-hour University Colloquium are required.

The curriculum emphasizes the application of sociological theory with community experience and undergraduate research projects. Students will extend this knowledge through interdisciplinary courses, connecting the interaction of institutions and processes, to make better sense of their circumstances as individuals and citizens of contemporary society.
Implementation of the program is anticipated for Fall 2006.

Consistency with the FGCU Mission and Strategic Plan:

The university's mission emphasizes undergraduate education utilizing cutting-edge technological tools and innovations in pedagogy in an active, learning-centered environment. The strategic plan calls for active collaboration with community partners to benefit the Southwest Florida region and citizenry.

The proposed program is consistent with both the mission and strategic plan. As a traditional core liberal arts discipline, the proposed Sociology program will provide activities in sociological theory and research methodologies. Courses will use a combination of lecture, group problem-solving activities, and internships to maximize learning and foster improved understanding of social institutions and social interactions.

Students will participate within the community by providing services such as needs assessments to community organizations. Graduates will be prepared to work in fields of employment that include a variety of government, human service, and business settings, or to enter many graduate programs of study.

Need and Demand:

According to the American Sociological Association (2004) the number of Sociology graduates increased 60% during the last decade of the 20th century. More than 60% find employment in business and industry, 21% in government. These statistics are particularly favorable for the FGCU program because SW Florida’s primary industries are tourism and business. Because of the nature of the curriculum, students majoring in Sociology graduate with a core understanding of culture, social dynamics that historically and currently impact society and community, and social challenges in terms of demographic, social, economic and cultural issues. Students will develop skills to become key players in the continued development of the area. The sociology major complements other majors and career choices, and also provides a solid foundation for graduate school.

Enrollment Projections:

The proposed Sociology major will replace the current Social Science program which was intended as an interdisciplinary approach to the broad field of the Social Sciences including the areas of Political Science, Economics, Sociology and Anthropology. Since 2002, as the University has experienced rapid growth, separate programs have been established for Political Science, Economics and, most recently, Anthropology. Enrollment projections for the proposed BA in Sociology are based on student enrollment numbers in other programs at FGCU and on the growth rate of the university. It is estimated that enrollment in the first year will be 38 (28.5 FTE), increasing to 121 (90.75 FTE) in Year 5.
Resources:

FGCU programs in the behavioral and social sciences are rapidly growing. Current faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences will support the B.A. Sociology program and will continue to support lower level general education courses which service many degree programs. The sociology faculty participating in the B.A. Sociology program will provide expertise, diversity and interdisciplinary connections to the curriculum. No additional facilities will be required to implement the program. The total estimated costs of the program, including instructional support, will be $339,713 in year 1 and $402,713 in year 5. Again, these do not represent new expenditures but are based on current expenditures for the Social Science program.