ITEM: __23__

Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees
January 15, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008 Legislative Priorities

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve legislative priorities for the 2008 Legislative Session.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

These items have been reviewed and proposed by President Bradshaw and his President’s Council, and now need approval by the FGCU Board of Trustees prior to the 2008 Legislative Session.

Supporting Documentation Included: FGCU 2008 Legislative Priorities

Prepared by: Director of Government Relations Jennifer Goen

Legal Review by: N/A

Submitted by: President Wilson G. Bradshaw
1. **Enrollment Growth**

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) continues to experience rapid growth in enrollment. Currently, there are 9357 students, for a 13% increase over last year, and 5373 FTEs (Full Time Equivalents), for a 14% increase over last year.

The enrollment growth request for FGCU for 08-09 is an increase of 1426 FTE. This additional amount combined with our current funded enrollment of 5373 FTE, brings our total FTE to a projected 6799 for 08-09. The 1426 FTE equates to approximately $15.6 million of new general revenue (per the FTE formula). That is a 27% increase of our FTE over last year's enrollment plan.

2. **Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) Funding**

As FGCU continues to exceed expectations for enrollment growth the demand for classroom, laboratories and office space on campus has dramatically increased. In addition to those demands, the need for additional land and infrastructure has sharply increased and created a critical shortage in these areas. Therefore, our 08-09 PECO request is:

- Roads/Parking/Infrastructure $ 5,000,000
- Hospitality Management Building $ 5,000,000
- Academic VIII Classroom Building $10,247,619

3. **Courtelis Matching Funds**

Once again, due to the generosity of our Southwest Florida community and the dedication of the FGCU Foundation we will submit a request in the amount of $1,000,000 to be matched by the State of Florida from the Courtelis Matching gift program. The matching funds will be used to assist with construction of our green building project on campus.

Green Building $1,000,000

4. **Major Gifts Matching Funds**

In addition to the Courtelis request, FGCU has been able to establish 5 major gifts totaling $2.95 million for submission to the State as matching funds.