Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees
January 18, 2011

SUBJECT: FGCU 2011 Legislative Agenda

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve legislative priorities for 2011 Legislative Session.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

These items have been reviewed and proposed by President Bradshaw and his Cabinet, and now need approval by the FGCU Board of Trustees prior to the 2011 Legislative Session.

Supporting Documentation Included: FGCU 2011 Legislative Agenda

Prepared by: Director of Government Relations Jennifer Goen

Legal Review by: N/A

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

Florida Gulf Coast University was established by the Florida Legislature, in 1991, to provide an institution of higher learning to a previously underserved area of Florida. FGCU admitted its first student in 1997 and as a result of the university's ability to provide competitive and affordable access to further educational opportunities in southwest Florida; enrollment has grown to over 12,000 students. It is clear that FGCU is well suited to meet the demands for higher education in southwest Florida. As FGCU continues to attract a diverse student population and provide access to education, the need for enrollment growth funding will continue to be significant. FGCU’s funding request will be an increase of $13,019,297, an additional 1,737 FTE. This additional funding will underpin our substantial growth as a regional university and provide the essential resources to continue to comprehensively develop, strategically expand, and timely offer courses to streamline degree progression and provide sufficient student services that will increase the proportion of and pace by which students graduate from FGCU with a Bachelor’s degree.

- FTE Request 7120

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

In response to FGCU’s rapid growth, the demand to provide adequate classrooms, laboratories and office space will continue to be one of the university's priorities. As we strive to offer a world class education, buildings and infrastructure are necessary to meet the needs of our expanding student population as well as continue to attract talented and qualified faculty. In addition, FGCU remains highly effective with space utilization in our current buildings, and this will continue with the addition of any new space.

Therefore, FGCU’s PECO request for 2011-2012 will be:

- Roads, Parking, and Infrastructure $3,000,000
- Classrooms/Labs Academic 8 $4,500,000
- Innovation Hub Research Building $12,500,000
- Classrooms/Labs Academic 9 $2,607,590
3. Courtelis Matching Funds

FGCU is fortunate to have both State-funded and donor-funded facilities that are critical to support the academic, recreational, residential and support needs of our campus community.

Since FGCU’s inception, our Southwest Florida community has generously donated funds which have been matched by the State through the Courtelis Matching Funds Program. This matching program has been an integral part of our ability to build the necessary foundation for our campus that might not have otherwise been possible. This program provides an excellent opportunity for the community to contribute to the success of FGCU and to become a part of the university’s historic moments.

Therefore, FGCU’s 2011-2012 request will be:

- Courtelis Matching Funds $1,508,000

4. Major Matching Gifts

FGCU embraces the opportunity and responsibility to respond to the interest of its ever-growing student body and to the needs of the region by expanding existing degree programs and establishing new academic experiences. Again, through the generous donations of our Southwest Florida community, the State’s major matching gift program allowed FGCU to attract and retain the finest faculty by providing the funding to pursue independent research and other scholarly activities.

Therefore FGCU’s 2011-2012 request will be:

- Major Matching Gifts $8,285,500