

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 27-28, 2002

SUBJECT: Authorize Florida International University to Exceed 120 Hours to Degree for the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Authorize Florida International University to offer a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering at 128 credit hours to degree.

Chapter 240.115 F.S. (6) provides that a baccalaureate degree require no more than 120 semester hours of college credit unless the Florida Board of Education has granted an exception. On May 21, 2002, the Florida International University Board of Trustees approved implementation authorization for a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering. The program will need to seek accreditation from the Engineering Accreditation Council of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The additional credit hours are needed to meet accreditation criteria and to ensure appropriate coursework coverage, particularly in mathematics. The 128 credit hours to degree is consistent with Florida International University's other engineering programs as well as engineering baccalaureates throughout the state universities which range from 124 to 135. Currently, 80% of baccalaureates in Florida's state universities are offered at 120 credit hours to degree.

Supporting Documentation Included: None

Facilitators / Presenters: Carl W. Blackwell / R.E. LeMon