

## **FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

December 14, 2001

**SUBJECT:** Limited Access Status for the University of North Florida's Bachelor of Fine Arts, Graphic Design and Multimedia Tracks

---

### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve Limited Access status for the graphic design and multimedia tracks within the BFA in Fine Arts (50.0702) at the University of North Florida

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Section 240.2097, F.S., directs the Board of Regents (BOR) to adopt rules regarding the assignment of Limited Access status to educational programs. Section 240.209(2)(r), F.S., requires the BOR to monitor the extent of Limited Access programs within the state universities and to report admissions and enrollment data annually to the State Board of Education and the Legislature. These responsibilities were among those transferred from the BOR to the Florida Board of Education. Rule 6C-6.001(10) addresses the criteria and procedures for designating Limited Access programs.

Students admitted to a university who have fulfilled the lower level prerequisites and met the university criteria for advancing to the upper level may enter the major of their choice. However, some baccalaureate majors may restrict access at the upper division if they have been approved by the Board as Limited Access programs. Board Rule outlines the reasons for which a program may be designated as Limited Access, and the criteria by which students are selected into these programs must be approved and specified in the university's catalog. The current criteria for receiving this designation include providing an adequate justification for restricting access, specifying the criteria by which students will be selected, ensuring that admissions criteria will not disadvantage community college transfer students in relation to the university's first-time-in-college students, and providing a strategy for maintaining or improving student diversity.

During the period 1993-96 a concerted systemwide effort decreased the number of Limited Access programs. Today, less than 20% of all baccalaureate programs are designated as Limited Access. Most of these programs are concentrated in the disciplines of mass communication, visual and performing arts, health professions, and

business programs. Many of the visual and performing arts programs received Limited Access status because they require auditions or portfolios to demonstrate talent and may require special studios to accommodate a finite number of students; this is the case with the University of North Florida (UNF) program which is requesting Limited Access designation at this time.

UNF requests that the graphic design and multimedia tracks within the BFA in Fine Arts be designated Limited Access in order to ensure that students have the artistic potential for success and have adequate access to appropriately equipped laboratories, technology, and faculty. The enrollment in the specified tracks will be limited to 175 upper division students. Acceptance will be based on an evaluation of each applicant's portfolio, transcript, responses to a common set of questions, the student's potential for success as an artist, and demonstrated talent. Community college transfers will be afforded the same opportunity as native students for admission, and the University's recruitment plan will focus on community college students and on maintaining diversity.

The University of North Florida Board of Trustees met on November 28, 2001 and recommended approval of this request.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:** None

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