

ITEM: _____

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

NEW DEGREE PROPOSAL: Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Taxation (CIP xx.xx), proposed by the College of Law.

OTHER SUS INSTITUTIONS OFFERING SAME PROGRAM: None.

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION: Approval of the Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Taxation.

DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR PROGRAM: Legal expertise in international taxation is increasingly in demand in a world of multinational corporations, electronic commerce, international business and investment transactions, bilateral and multilateral tax treaties, and tax questions involving the laws and procedures in multiple taxing jurisdictions. U.S. lawyers must become more familiar with international tax rules, and foreign lawyers must become more familiar with both U.S. tax rules and international tax rules as well. Based on the experience with the existing LL.M. in Taxation program at the College of Law, students will find employment with government agencies, law firms, international accounting firms and major corporations. Many international students can be expected to take leave from employment to attend the program, and to return following completion of the program to their employers or to another position. The volume of inquiries from prospective students throughout the world suggests that the program's enrollment targets will be met.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The LL.M. in International Taxation builds on the national and international reputation of the College of Law's existing LL.M. in Taxation program. (*U.S. News* ranks the tax faculty of the College of Law number two among the tax faculties of more than 175 accredited law schools.) Just as the LL.M. in Taxation has brought tax students from throughout the U.S. to the College of Law, it is anticipated that the LL.M. in International Taxation will similarly bring tax students from throughout the world to Gainesville. Indeed, the existing LL.M. in Taxation program has drawn interest and applications from potential students in many foreign countries, even though it did not actively recruit international students or market the program to them. An international tax degree would meet the special needs and interests of students pursuing international taxation careers, and it would be particularly attractive to international students. With active marketing and recruitment, the LL.M. in International Taxation is expected to establish itself as a successful and influential program in the field of international tax studies. The college plans a maximum enrollment of 25 students in the program. Although the program will be open to both foreign-trained and U.S.-trained law school graduates who possess outstanding credentials, it is expected that the great majority of students will be foreign students.

The LL.M. in International Taxation will require a minimum of 26 credits, at least 13 of which will be in international tax coursework. The remainder of the 26 credits may be satisfied through other graduate tax coursework. The program will ordinarily be completed in one academic year, and will culminate in the writing of a substantial research paper. (The existing LL.M. programs at the College of Law also require 26 credits. LL.M. programs at other law schools typically require 24 credits.)

All of the resources necessary to offer the program, including faculty and administration, are already in place. The College of Law includes among its faculty a very strong international tax faculty. Their presence provides a unique opportunity for the college to develop and implement an outstanding international tax degree program.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN: The new degree program fits very well with the University's Strategic Plan. The program will increase by 25 the enrollment of graduate students at the College of Law, a one-third increase in the historic number (about 75) of graduate students in the college's existing graduate programs. The new program will also clearly further the internationalization of the University of Florida. It will bring foreign students from Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia to Gainesville. It will also bring visiting professors and researchers from numerous foreign countries. The program will provide opportunities for UF faculty and students to interact with the international students and faculty and to develop professional working relationships with scholars, centers and institutes here and abroad.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA: Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Taxation.

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Projected FTE and headcount are:

	Projected Headcount	Student FTE	Faculty Headcount	Faculty FTE
First Year	10	8	12	2.0
Second Year	15	12	12	2.0
Third Year	20	16	12	2.0
Fourth Year	25	20	12	2.0
Fifth Year	25	20	12	2.0

Additional Comments: No additional faculty resources will be needed to support the new degree program. The program will contribute to the already strong national and international reputation of the College of Law and the Graduate Tax Program.

Supporting Documentation Included:

Other Support Documents Available: Full proposal submitted by College of Law.

Prepared by: Michael K. Friel

Email: friel@law.ufl.edu **Phone:**2-1081

Submitted by: Michael K. Friel

Email: friel@law.ufl.edu **Phone:**2-1081
