

University of West Florida Board of Trustees
Resolution in opposition to
Okaloosa-Walton Community College proposal
for a four-year nursing program

WHEREAS, the University of West Florida (UWF) and Okaloosa-Walton Community College (OWCC) have a long history of collaboration in meeting the higher-education needs of Northwest Florida, and

WHEREAS, UWF already has a four-year nursing program with an articulation agreement with OWCC, and

WHEREAS, UWF's nursing program has strong financial, professional and logistical support from the major regional medical centers, and

WHEREAS, UWF is finalizing a plan to expand its existing baccalaureate nursing program to Okaloosa and Walton counties in fall 2004, and

WHEREAS, the goals of a coordinated education system require efficient use of state resources to avoid duplication of degree programs, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida currently is struggling with a budget unable to adequately meet the needs of existing programs, and

WHEREAS, no official at UWF was consulted in any manner at any time by OWCC officials before submission of its nursing proposal, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the University of West Florida Board of Trustees, meeting at the Fort Walton Beach Campus on this 21st day of February, 2003, does vehemently object to OWCC's proposal to begin a four-year nursing program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be included in the minutes of this meeting and a copy presented to the Council for Education Policy, Research and Improvement; the Commissioner of Education; and the Board of Governors.



J. Collier Merrill
Chair, University of West Florida Board of Trustees

