I. **Purpose**: The purpose of the Global Academic Partners (GAP) Program is to provide an opportunity to develop meaningful, sustainable, and mutually beneficial collaborative research, teaching, and creative activities with USF and our Global Academic Partner University faculty. The aim of this competitive seed grant program is to assist faculty from all partner institutions in developing common projects that become springboards for external funding, sustained collaborative teaching, or creative scholarly activities. The number of identified global partner universities is designed to allow USF to focus, deepen, strengthen, and maintain our commitment to a limited number of collaborative strategic academic relationships. Partner universities are: Nankai University, China, Ocean University, China, University of Exeter, United Kingdom, University of Ghana, Ghana, and University of the Cape Coast, Ghana. We have identified the City of Knowledge in Panama as our initial Latin America and the Caribbean partner institution and we are in the process of developing a model by which to funnel Latin American and Caribbean universities through the City of Knowledge to collaborations with USF. We hope to begin funding faculty for that site in the Spring of 2011. In addition, we plan to add another Latin American university to the GAP Partnership in the Spring of 2011. Partners in South Asia and the Middle East will also be developed. Institutional liaisons are: Dr. Linda Whiteford (lwhiteford@acad.usf.edu) and Dr. Kofi Glover (kglover@acad.usf.edu) for USF’s Ghana partner universities, Dr. Eric Shepherd (eshepher@cas.usf.edu) for USF’s China partner universities, Dr. Graham Tobin (gtobin@acad.usf.edu) for Exeter University, and Rachel May (rmay@usf.edu) for the City of Knowledge.

II. **Objectives for the Seed Grant GAP Program**: The objective of the seed grant program is to generate collaborative research, curricular development, and/or creative activity in areas of strategic strength and focus for USF and our global partner universities. For instance, we encourage awards that stimulate global sustainability, global impact and literacy, and the development of global human capital. Desired outcomes are external funding of research, externally derived funding to sustain innovative teaching, and external funding for program/faculty development. Awards are only
provided for tenure and tenure track faculty from Academic Affairs. Funding may be used for USF faculty to travel to a partner university to establish sustainable research, teaching and/or performance possibilities with a faculty member from that university. Funding may also be used to bring a faculty member from a partner university to USF to work with a member of the USF faculty. Examples of successful proposals can be found on the website. All funded applicants will participate in a brief workshop hosted by USF World in which information on the culture, history, aims and expectations of the partner university is provided, and an entry and exit interview with the GAP facilitator is expected.

III. Process and Funding: PIs must contact the appropriate GAP liaison before submitting the proposal. Members of the USF GAP Liaison Team will work with USF faculty and appropriate administrators from partner universities to find common research/teaching/creative activity interests between faculty members at the institutions and to help facilitate the discussion leading to a viable proposal. Evaluation criteria are list below. For USF faculty, chair and dean must sign off and commit up to a $5,000 match with monies provided by Academic Affairs (please complete the submission checklist). Partner universities will be asked to provide in-kind support. There will be two rounds of submission dates (November 30, 2011, and May 06, 2011). Information concerning the spring submission criteria may change. Before you apply, please contact Diana Trueman (dtrueman@usf.edu).

IV. Benefits to GAP Participants: Opportunity to develop international collaborative research, experience of another country, development of leadership potential and human capital enrichment.

V. Review process for the Global Academic Program Proposal: Review committee consists of the Provost Office GAP Liaison Team and selected representatives from the Colleges and from the Division of Sponsored Research.

VI. Evaluation Criteria:
1. Proposals likely to obtain external funding necessary to sustain the proposed research project;
2. Proposals that offer (a) new and strategically-relevant curriculum and pedagogy (e.g. enhancing global literacy and impact at USF), and/or (b) expand capacity (e.g. faculty development) at both participating institutions. Acknowledgement from department chair(s) concerning the likelihood of continuing to teach the course once developed is expected.
3. Accountability will be demonstrated by one or more of the following: a joint proposal for external funding (NSF, NIH, NEH, NIMH, etc), a collaboratively taught designed course that is scheduled to be taught, and/or a public performance/presentation, and means to continue the collaboration. [Note: Indirect cost recovery money returned to
colleges from such funding may be shared among college(s), the Provost’s Office and the PI(s).]

4. Projects that include innovative methods of co-teaching, collaborative research;
5. Projects that are original and innovative in concept and/or approach;
6. Clarity and soundness of objectives/hypotheses, methods, budget justification;
7. Evidence of ongoing attempts to obtain external funding.

VI. **Necessary item in order for the proposal to be considered:**
1. Appropriate sign-offs by:
   a. Dean
   b. Chair
   c. GAP counterpart faculty
2. Budget details and justification
3. Completion of check list of eligibility
4. Allocation of tasks among PIs and participants
5. Identification of proposed outcomes.