

PRESENT TO BOARD: FEBRUARY 20, 2006

TO: SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: NORMAN L. STEPHENS, JR.

SUBJECT: LAKE PLACID SPECIAL PURPOSE CENTER

Our Lake Placid Center has continued to grow in enrollment, providing opportunities for students in Southern Highlands County and adjacent areas to pursue training and coursework otherwise unavailable to them. Staff has worked hard to maintain these facilities to ensure a safe and pleasant environment, and we have excellent facilities as a result. However, we've been unable to receive State funds for these facilities (i.e. operating costs, maintenance, renovation, construction funds) due to the annual rental agreement we've maintained with the SFCC Foundation, Inc., which has challenged the College financially. The timing appears right to consider transferring ownership of these facilities to the College from the SFCC Foundation, which would hopefully result in State support. To obtain State support, the facilities must be designated a campus, center, or special purpose center. Due to the number of FTE, the Lake Placid Center cannot be officially designated a campus or center, but due to the service to our rural populations and the distance from our Highlands Campus, we are hoping that we can receive a designation as a special purpose center.

We are seeking the support of the SFCC Foundation, Inc. and, with DBOT approval, the support of Chancellor Armstrong and the State Board of Education for submittal to the Florida Legislature this Spring. If not approved, we would prefer to leave ownership and rental agreements in place until we reach the level of FTE (400) to qualify for a center designation. Last year, and we appear to be on a similar track this year, FTE attributable to the Lake Placid Center totaled 288.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

**MOVE TO APPROVE THE SUBMITTAL OF THE REQUEST FOR THE LAKE PLACID CENTER TO BE DESIGNATED AS A SPECIAL PURPOSE CENTER BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE.**