

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Update

December 2, 2008

SUBJECT: College System Updates – State College Task Force and State College Pilot Project

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Information/Discussion

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Florida College System Task Force and State College Pilot Project

At the November 13, 2008, Florida College System Task Force meeting, Ms. Brenda Albright, a nationally recognized expert on higher education policy and finance, who has been serving as consultant to the Funding workgroup, discussed advantages and disadvantages of funding models in other states. She recommended that the Task Force consider building on the strengths of the college system as it considers the best way to incorporate baccalaureate degrees into our mission. She emphasized that high degree productivity, low taxpayer costs and low tuition were features which distinguished the Florida College System from systems in the other Southern Regional Educational Board states. She also focused on the current funding model for Florida's community colleges and how it could be adapted to meet the needs of a system which encompasses both 2 and 4-year programs.

In addition, each of the Task Force workgroups submitted their recommendations on the four major components of SB 1716. Those workgroups are:

- Mission, Vision, Governance-Dr. Charles Dassance, Chair
- Transition Criteria for Becoming a State College-Dr. Katherine Johnson, Chair
- Baccalaureate Degree Approval Process-Dr. Judy Genshaft, Chair
- Funding Options-Dr. Bill Law, Chair

The recommendations include the following major points:

- That the 28 community colleges/colleges and state colleges remain unified under the Florida College System and under the governance of the State Board of Education.

- That the State Board continue to have a role in the approval of new baccalaureate degree programs offered through the Florida College System.
- That the funding formula used for allocating appropriations for lower division programs (CCPF) be used as the basis for funding baccalaureate degrees.

Chancellor Holcombe and staff are using these recommendations to draft the Task Force report, which will be vetted with the group at the December 4, 2008, meeting in the Orlando area and presented to the State Board of Education and to the Legislature in January 2009.

Information, minutes and materials from all past and upcoming meetings, including the subcommittee meetings can be found at: <http://www.fldoe.org/cc/college-task-force.asp>

The **State College Pilot Project (SCPP)** which consists of the presidents representing the nine institutions named as pilot state colleges in SB 1716: Chipola, Daytona Beach, Edison, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Okaloosa-Walton, (Northwest Florida State College), Polk, Santa Fe and St. Petersburg College.

The group met as a “committee of the whole” on June 12, September 3, September 19 (conference call), October 2 (joint-meeting with Florida College System Task Force) and October 16, 2008 (conference call). During those meetings, the group developed and approved a Statement of Guiding Principles which clearly support a commitment to the historical mission of Florida’s community colleges, a Funding model recommendation, and at the last meeting, finalized their overall report/recommendations which were delivered to Speaker Ray Sansom and Commissioner Eric Smith on November 5, 2008. The report will be formally presented to the State Board of Education at the January 2009 meeting.

Information, minutes and materials from all meetings can be found at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/cc/scpp.asp>

Supporting Documentation Included: Workgroup Reports: State College Pilot Project Report (under separate cover)

Presenter: Dr. Willis N. Holcombe, Chancellor, Division of Community Colleges