

## **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

August 19, 2003

**SUBJECT: Project Funding Recommendations for the College Reach-Out Program**

### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approval of Advisory Council recommendations for funding 2003-04 CROP Projects

### **AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Chapter 1007.34, Florida Statutes, and 2003 General Appropriations Item #71

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The College Reach-Out Program (CROP) was established in 1983 by the Florida Legislature to motivate and prepare educationally disadvantaged, low-income students in grades 6 through 12 to pursue and successfully complete a postsecondary education. Participants are students who otherwise would be unlikely to seek admission to a postsecondary institution without special support and recruitment efforts. Funds are appropriated by the Legislature to the Department of Education and allocated competitively to postsecondary institutions around the state.

CROP is presently serving approximately 8,300 students through ten state universities, twenty-six community colleges, and five independent postsecondary institutions. Approximately 73% of these students are African-American, 10% are Hispanic, 13% are white, 1% is Asian, less than 1% is American Indian, and approximately 2% are other. The 2003-04 state appropriation is \$3,199,990, and participating postsecondary institutions are required to match the state appropriation with cash and in-kind services.

The CROP Advisory Council met on June 17 to review the 2003-04 CROP applications and recommend funding levels for each project. The funding recommendations have been included in the Prioritized Funding List, which is being presented for State Board Approval.

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**Supporting Documentation Included: 2003-04 CROP Prioritized Funding List**

**Facilitators/Presenters: Mr. John Winn**