

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Update

August 31, 2016

SUBJECT: Florida College System Council of Presidents Update

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

None

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I am pleased to be here with you on behalf of the Florida College System Council of Presidents. The twenty-eight (28) colleges that make up the System served over 800,000 students last year and produced outcomes that lead the nation, making us our nation's best college system. This is due in no small part to the support you provide as Board members. Over the past year we have accomplished a great deal. Working closely with Department and Division staff the Council of Presidents modernized and strengthened the funding model. This model informs the allocation of \$1.2 billion and reflects the complexity of our colleges, the program mix that best serves our communities and remains responsive as we continue to innovate. Your support remains critical to further strengthening the model and we thank you for your support in this work.

This past year our System received \$30 million in new funds to further support our focus on serving our students through an updated performance funding model. By passing the State Board of Education rule related to performance funding you made necessary refinements to the model to account for Pell students and more accurately account for individual college performance on outcomes such as wages and job placement or continuing education.

The importance of our contributions to the community are recognized by our students, who are increasingly enrolling in workforce programs. While the number of total credit hours may be decreasing for some of our colleges the number of actual students in workforce-focused programs are increasing. Plainly put, the high-quality programs we offer lead to jobs and an opportunity to learn more at universities or our colleges.

Our dual enrollment programs continue to serve as an access point for greater numbers of students, and it makes a difference. The data clearly show that when students participate in dual enrollment the average time to an associate degree nearly cuts in half. We want to do more of this work and look forward to future opportunities to strengthen dual enrollment by helping students select their meta-major in high school and make course decisions based upon a general program of study. This will save time, save money, and increase the number of graduates entering the workplace.

As you are aware the colleges have implemented Senate Bill 1720, which made developmental education an option but not requirement for students. The policy change has provided us an opportunity to reinvent the way we deliver education and advise our students. We are finding that students are increasingly choosing to enroll in Gateway courses.

Our work around 2+2 and working with our state universities is paramount to the FCS mission, as well as our workforce programs. Florida developed a seamless articulation system to facilitate efficient and effective progression and transfer of students between and among public postsecondary institutions, and we are proud of the relationships we have with the state universities as we continue to build on the strength of our 2+2 system.

The Commissioner serves on the Board of Governors Select Committee on 2+2 Articulation and the Chancellor presented to the group in June 2016 to expand on best practices and seamless transition.

Innovation also drives our workforce programs. These include certificate, associate and our baccalaureate programs, of which you have been so supportive over the past year. These proposals clearly meet a workforce need and align to the rule passed by the State Board last July.

As we look towards the future the Great 28 colleges will continue to enhance our workforce programs to meet the needs of employers in Florida. We will continue to seek additional Public Education Capital Outlay funding to provide the environment and equipment we know expands opportunity and leads to student success. And finally, we will continue to seek an increase in the amount of funding that our System needs through the strengthened and modernized funding formula

I want to leave you with two reminders: One, you oversee a great college system. Two, we need your continued support.

Supporting Documentation Included: Florida College System Council of Presidents Update

Facilitator: Dr. Thomas LoBasso; President, Daytona State College