

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Update

May 16, 2017

SUBJECT: Florida College System – President Meadows, on behalf of the Council of Presidents

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Good morning, Madam Chair and Board Members. I am Dr. Ed Meadows, President of Pensacola State College and I am here today to provide you with a Florida College System update on behalf of the FCS Council of Presidents.

SYSTEM UPDATES:

Florida College System Best Practice Convening

On April 6, 2017, the Division of Florida Colleges presented the inaugural Chancellor's Best Practices Convening on Innovation and Excellence. This statewide convening, supported by the Lumina Foundation, the Helios Education Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, hosted more than 130 attendees representing Florida's 28 colleges, their faculty and administrative staff, and national leaders, who shared best practices in Attainment, Affordability, Achievement/Articulation and Access.

National speakers and higher education leaders from the Lumina Foundation, Helios Education Foundation, Gallup, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Education Commission of the States, Florida Council of 100, and the Florida College Access Network were present to discuss trends and strategies in higher education, share innovative methods for enhancing college affordability for Florida College System students, discuss the pipeline needed for advancing and aligning degrees to jobs in Florida, and share successful practices that promote access, achievement, attainment, and affordability. Program highlights from the event, including the Best Practices publication, statewide dashboard information, and institutional dashboard information are available at www.floridacollegesystem.com.

2017 All-Florida Academic Team

On April 7, 2017 in Tallahassee, The Florida College System honored the 2017 All-Florida Academic Team, which recognizes outstanding students for their academic achievement, leadership and service to their communities. Students are nominated by their respective colleges to the All-USA Academic Team competition sponsored by USA Today and the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. This year's team consisted of 127 students. The All-Florida Academic Team is sponsored by the Florida Lottery, Phi Theta Kappa Florida Region, RBC Wealth Management, Coca-Cola Beverages Florida and Capital City Trust Company.

COLLEGE UPDATES:

Florida College System institutions continue to "push the envelope" in postsecondary excellence and are being recognized nationally for innovation in pursuit of their mission. In

addition to the previously reported 2017 Aspen recognitions for Broward College and Indian River State College, Pensacola State College's Bellwether Award, Miami Dade College's Leah Meyer Austin Award, and the System being recognized by U.S. News and World Report as leading the country in retention rates, there are numerous additional recent initiatives and recognitions of note, some of these were selected to be highlighted at the FCS Best Practices Convening on April 6th.

- Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) has announced the debut of the first program in Florida to provide a debt-free pathway to college completion. [FSCJ Promise](#) is leading the College Promise initiative in Florida and beginning this Fall, via donor scholarships, FSCJ Promise will fully fund the first two years of an Associate degree at FSCJ (tuition, fees and books) for up to 1000 eligible new students on an annual basis. FSCJ is dedicated to creating strong public support in efforts to support a college-going culture in Duval and Nassau counties. According to the LeRoy Collins Institute, Florida is falling short of the national average on need-based aid appropriations. Nationally, the percent of higher education need-based grants is 48%; in Florida, that number is only 25%.
- Pensacola State College was recently awarded the prestigious, national 2017 Bellwether Award in the Instructional Programs and Services category for its Virtual Tutoring program. The award identifies cutting-edge, trendsetting programs that other colleges might find worthy of replicating. The Virtual Tutoring Program at Pensacola State College supports student retention and success by expanding access to academic support services. The College offers free, high-quality tutoring in the math and writing labs at physical locations across the service district. With Virtual Tutoring, the College offers support to students unable to visit a physical support lab at times convenient to students such as late night and weekend hours. Using free, open source software, accessed via the College's LMS, tutors offer online, synchronous tutoring to students at any location. Students are able to use any electronic device with Internet access.
- A significant way in which the System's commitment to meeting student and workforce needs is realized is by supporting veterans. The FCS provided tuition waivers to 3,135 veteran students in 2015-16. Each college has a staff member devoted to working with veterans and assisting them through the educational benefits process. Recently, Hillsborough Community College (HCC) was selected by Veteran's Florida to participate in a statewide consortium focused on supporting vets with interests in entrepreneurship and small business development. HCC in partnership with the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners has launched Operation Startup, an ideation and collaboration center for veterans, active duty service members, their spouses and business partners to work jointly on developing social impact businesses that help transform communities and promote services through business enterprising.
- Another example of responsiveness to fulfilling Florida's workforce and economic needs is Broward College's recently implemented Corporate Alliance Partnership Program that connects students to employers and builds a workforce pipeline to bridge the skills gap revolutionizing how the college approaches corporate training, continuing education, career center services, internships and on-site enrollment services.

PRESIDENT/COLLEGE RECOGNITIONS:

Palm Beach State College

March 2017 was a momentous month at Palm Beach State College which celebrated the official investiture of Ava L. Parker, JD as the college's 5th president. A highlight of the ceremony was the announcement of a \$1million gift to the College from Jan Winkler and Heroine Drezner. The investiture ceremony concluded a week of activities that tied into the Feb. 27th opening of the College's fifth campus in Loxahatchee Groves.

Miami Dade College

Dr. Eduardo Padron, President of Miami Dade College has been selected as the recipient of the SouthFlorida Business Journal's 2017 Lifetime Achievement award. This award recognizes businesses and organizations that set the standard for growth, service, quality and innovation. The awards program will mark its 20th anniversary on April 27th.

Additionally, Miami Dade College received the renowned 2017 Achieving the Dream's Leah Meyer Austin Award (LMA), which annually recognizes an institution that has demonstrated outstanding achievement in designing a student-focused culture that permeates all levels and structures of the organization.

Valencia College

Dr. Sandy Shugart, has been named one of three winners of the 2017 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education, one of the most prestigious awards in the field of education. The prize recognizes outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving education through new approaches. Dr. Shugart received the U.S. Higher Education prize for demonstrating a stellar model of community college change that is increasing graduation rates and helping large numbers of Hispanic students succeed.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS:

All-USA Community College Academic Team: Rachel Diaz, Miami Dade College

Rachel Diaz is one of only 20 students nationally to earn a spot on the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society's All-USA Community College Academic Team, which includes a \$5,000 scholarship. Currently, she is enrolled at The Honors College at Miami Dade College North Campus, where she is majoring in Economics. Rachel has demonstrated leadership and commitment to her community by developing a mentorship program for local students. With a long-term goal of becoming a lawyer, Rachel is looking forward to serving as an intern for the U.S. Department of State this summer.

Coca-Cola New Century Scholar Team: Veronica Aguilera, Florida SouthWestern State College

Veronica Aguilera earned a \$2,000 scholarship as Florida's Coca-Cola New Century Scholar. Currently, she serves as the President of Phi Theta Kappa and Vice President of Membership and Public Relations for National Collegiate Scholars. Veronica will continue her studies at Florida International University where she will major in Biology with a Pre-Med focus and a minor in Public Health.

Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team

A Coca-Cola Community Academic Team is selected annually by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation to recognize outstanding leadership, service to the community and academic excellence. Gold scholars are awarded with a \$1,500 scholarship, silver scholars receive a \$1,250 scholarship and bronze scholars receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

- Gold Scholars
 - Jayde Smelcer, Chipola College

- Elizabeth Varnum, Chipola College
- Juliana Arias, State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota
- Silver Scholars
 - Jonathan Howell, Eastern Florida State College
 - Geigh Olson, Florida Keys Community College
 - Melissa De La Cruz, Hillsborough Community College
- Bronze Scholars
 - Michele Khadir, Broward College
 - Caleb Bockoras, Indian River State College
 - Alexa Jauregui, Miami Dade College
 - Jenifer Rodriguez, Miami Dade College

2017 Jack Kent Cooke Scholars

Out of nearly 3,000 applicants nationwide, just 55 of the top community college students were chosen for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Out of those 55 across the country, **NINE** Florida College System students earned the award. The Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is the largest private transfer award a student can win, providing students transferring to a university to earn their bachelor's degree up to \$40,000 per year for up to three years of study.

The nine students from five of our state colleges are:

Broward College (*total 10)

- Quratulain Amin
- Yanelle Cruz

Hillsborough Community College (3)

- Leo Dulanto Falcon
- Adrian Vincente La Lande

Miami Dade College (11)

- Reynier Montaivan

Palm Beach State College (5)

- Marshelle Davis
- Tanzina Chowdhury

Seminole State College (9)

- Cathryn Kandle
- Gustavo Diaz Galeas

*number of recipients since 2013

Source: Jack Kent Cooke Foundation,
<http://www.jkcf.org/>

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Industry Certifications

The Legislature is currently allocating \$10M for performance based incentives for Florida Career and Professional Education (CAPE) Act Industry Certifications. FCS programs are grounded in the needs of the local workforce, and CAPE postsecondary industry certifications provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in their communities.

Industry certifications related to CAPE strengthen the partnership between students, colleges and the workforce, offering valuable skills that contribute to and sustain a vibrant state economy. In 2015-16, over 10,000 FCS students earned industry certifications while enrolled in FCS institutions. The top three areas of postsecondary industry certifications were earned in Health Science, Law, Public Safety and Security and Information Technology.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Supporting Documentation Included: N/A

Facilitator/Presenter: Dr. Ed Meadows, President, Pensacola State College