

**State Board of Education
Update**

October 18, 2017

SUBJECT: Florida College System Council of Presidents Update

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION:

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Dr. Cynthia Bioteau, President, Florida State College at Jacksonville will provide an overview of select examples of the Florida College System (FCS) "Best Practices" related to ongoing gains in performance metrics as well as FCS budget priorities for 2018.

WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIPS:

Florida State College at Jacksonville's Surgical Technology Certificate program has created a unique partnership with Baptist Health and Memorial Hospital to train incumbent hospital workers to become surgical technologists. This partnership annually provides hands-on training for 12 incumbent hospital workers who currently hold positions in various departments at the hospitals, including billing and insurances clerks, floor technicians and nursing assistants. Through this program, students learn about anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, microbiology, pharmacology and anesthesia as well as being trained in creating and maintaining a sterile environment for surgical procedures. The program is designed to allow students to continue as full-time employees, maintaining their salary and benefits, while completing training that will further enhance their career opportunities and future earnings.

Tallahassee Community College and First Commerce Credit Union announced the launch of TCC Spark! an entrepreneurial initiative that will focus on building relationships between the College and the local business community. A Speed-Mentoring series, an Entrepreneurs' Forum and a 15 week Experienced Entrepreneurs' Series to assist participants in starting or enhancing their own business have recently been implemented under the guidance of Rick Paul who formerly served at both Penn State and Florida State in business education positions.

ADVISING INITIATIVES:

Valencia College's "New Student Experience" (NSE) focuses on four major areas that provide a consistent, yet adaptive personal experience for learners' first college year critical to student retention and success: 1) a new student orientation, 2) a redesigned general education course developed to help students identify their purpose and pathway, 3) co-curricular engagement activities and 4) course alignment that establishes intentional connections between the NSE and each student's program of study. The NSE initiative was designed and budgeted as a five-year, \$6 million investment to promote upfront student success. Students

concurrently enrolled in NSE earned a grade of C or better in Freshman English at rates 9% higher and 5% higher in Intermediate Algebra than non-participant students. Fall to Spring persistence increased by 6 percent to 83 percent.

OPTIMIZING AFFORDABILITY:

South Florida State College (SFSC) has committed to an aggressive initiative, SFSCopen, to promote and institutionalize the use of open educational resources (OER). SFSCopen focuses on promoting the use of OER textbooks both within and beyond campus boundaries with the hope of inspiring other FCS colleges to join in and reduce the cost of higher education for students. Both the college's Faculty Council and Student Government Association passed resolutions asking faculty to consider OER first when selecting a new textbook. More students, now uninhibited by financial concerns due to high textbook costs, have full access to their textbooks on the first day of class. Currently over 30 percent of faculty members have adopted an OER textbook as the main textbook in at least one class. This has resulted in saving SFSC students over \$125,000 last year in textbook costs.

FCS BUDGET PRIORITIES 2018:

The FCS Council of Presidents has been diligently working on drafting and refining their 2018 Legislative Budget Priorities which comprehend a \$286m request for funding to support Workforce Preparation, Student Success and Completion, Performance-Based Incentive Funding, and PECO Funding as well as Deferred Maintenance and Operating Funds for New Facilities.

UPDATE

Dr. Ann McGee, President of Seminole State College since 1996, has announced her plans to retire on July 21, 2018. Dr. McGee is only the 2nd President to lead SSC in its 52 year history.

Supporting Documentation Included: Budget Handout (under separate cover)

Facilitator/Presenter: Dr. Cynthia Bioteau, President, Florida State College at Jacksonville