

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Update
May 20, 2014

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

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

President Ed Meadows will provide an update on Florida College System (FCS) issues and legislative priorities that will affect the FCS.

Chancellor Randy Hanna will be available to answer any questions regarding issues concerning the FCS.

Supporting Documentation Included: FCS Council of Presidents Update from the April 11, 2014 Council of Presidents Meeting

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Ed Meadows, President, Pensacola State College and Randy Hanna, Chancellor, Florida College System

Florida College System Council of Presidents
Update for State Board of Education
May 20, 2014

The Florida College System Council of Presidents has identified several items that were monitored throughout the 2014 legislative session. At the time of this report, Legislative Session had not been completed. The list of issues below will be updated verbally during the May State Board of Education meeting.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The FCS has embraced this concept in the past and for the future. Following the approval of performance measures by the State Board of Education a few months ago, we have continued to work with the Chancellor's office to ensure the measures are suitable for our institutions. We had a committee review the measures and suggest any changes needed and have vetted their work with the Division of Florida Colleges, Legislative staff, and the Governor's office staff. Presidents approved the revised measures in February as a one-year pilot so they can revise the measures if needed in the future. **Update:** The 2014-15 budget does not contain additional performance funding (other than what was in place last year for industry certifications) but does contain direction to the State Board of Education to recommend a performance funding methodology by Dec. 2014. We will continue work closely with the Chancellor as you move forward developing this formula.

DREAM ACT / RESIDENCY ISSUES:

Speaker Weatherford has recently spoken out in the press about his support for addressing the residency issues that face some of our students. The presidents have been supportive of this issue in years past, and reaffirmed their support of the issue at the February Council of Presidents meeting. **Update:** The House and Senate are currently negotiating many items including this important legislation.

Additionally, HB 7015 covering many topics related to military members and their families. Includes the Dollars for Duty (FLNG) program and waiver of out-of-state portion of tuition and fees. **Update:** Gov. Scott has signed this important legislation into law.

TECHNICAL COLLEGES:

No update at this time: COP members were recently briefed on the career and technical center bill, which contains a provision for career and technical centers to become technical colleges while remaining accredited by the Council of Occupational Education (COE). The bill also authorizes technical colleges to offer Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degrees and any college credit certificate program. They would have to go before the State Board of Education to seek approval for AAS degrees, but not the certificate programs. General education courses would be allowed, but only the ones for their approved AAS degrees. The bill would also require technical centers to ensure the faculty credentials for the general education courses met the same standards as Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation requirements to ensure seamless transfer to the Florida College System.

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY:

No update at this time: Bills are sponsored by Senator Flores and Representative Porter. The colleges have long sought to help improve affordability for students and are working with the sponsors and Governor's office on these important bills. There were some initial concerns over some of the procedures and timelines required in the bill but the colleges and universities are working closely with the Governor's office to find workable solutions that improve textbook affordability for students.

COMMISSIONER PUTNAM PECO PROPOSAL:

No update at this time: The COP endorsed a plan by Agriculture Commissioner Putnam to restructure the funding for PECO.

COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL:

A proposed Senate bill by Education Chairman John Legg would require colleges to establish collegiate high school programs as options for public school students in grade 12 to earn industry certifications and complete the first year of college. The bill would require FCS institutions to execute a contract with each school district to establish the collegiate high school programs in public schools. The bill would allow FTE funding to exceed the 1.0 cap and would limit funding to FCS institutions from the FEFP and the CCPF if the institution did not establish a collegiate high school program. The colleges have been working hard on this bill with Chair Legg, to express our support for the concept of expansion of acceleration, but also to address the penalty for colleges in this bill. **Update:** At the time of this report, the House had a similar concept filed as an amendment, which did not contain a penalty for colleges.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE AUTHORITY:

An amendment proposed in the Senate would remove authority for the State Board of Education to approve future baccalaureate degrees at Florida College System institutions and reduce the tuition authority for existing programs. The FCS presidents worked closely with Chair Negrón to reach an agreement for a one-year moratorium on new baccalaureate degree approvals so the Legislature can study the issue.

2014-15 BUDGET:

The Council of Presidents was pleased that Governor Scott recognized our system with his budget recommendations for \$40 million in new funds. **Update:** The final budget contained an increase in funding for the Florida College System including:

1. Increase to program fund to be distributed under formula
- \$5 million
2. Compression - 15, 531,395
3. Dual Enrollment for summer classes - \$4,790,125