September 2014

With students fresh to campus and football season gearing up, September is an exciting time at our universities. It’s also an exciting time for the Board of Governors as we prepare for our Board meetings in September and November and continue work on several important State University System initiatives. Thank you for reading, and we look forward to continued collaboration as we embark on the new school year.

Welcome Back.
Marshall M. Criser III
Chancellor

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Research vice presidents meet
The State University System Vice Presidents of Research met at the University of Central Florida August 13 to discuss the research strengths of the State University System and potential opportunities for federal or state funding. The meeting also highlighted opportunities for the universities to work collaboratively toward research opportunities.

Public-private partnership workshop facilitates dialogue
University and private sector professionals attended a workshop on August 14 on university public-private partnerships, known as P3s. Led by a panel of state experts, discussion topics included the opportunities and challenges presented by P3s, how to structure a P3 transaction to minimize risk to the university, and the current processes in place for the approval of traditional and nontraditional financing or long-term lease agreements. Led by Board of Governors’ Facilities Director Chris Kinsley, the workshop facilitated dialogue between Board staff and other stakeholders and provided constructive feedback for the Board as it works to develop clear “rules of the road” for public-private partnerships at universities.

Blueprint for higher education governance launches
A group of national leaders issued a blueprint for higher education governance this month. Former Board of Governors Chair Dean Colson was part of the group that focused on finding innovative
solutions to the issues confronting higher education. Their report, *Governance for a New Era*, was published by the American Council for Trustees and Alumni can be accessed online [here](#). The Council is distributing additional copies to its network of trustees throughout the country. Included in the mailing will be a recent survey which finds that the public believes trustees must take a more active part in overseeing colleges and universities.

**TEAm Grant celebrations continue**

After successful events in Tallahassee, Boca Raton and Tampa, the Board of Governors will continue to say thank you to our Governor and Legislature for investments in our students—particularly with regard to preparing them for the state’s workforce. The events highlight $15 million in Targeted Educational Attainment Grants, known as TEAm Grants, designed to produce more graduates in accounting and the high-need, high-wage areas of computer information and technology. The next event is on Sept. 22 at Florida International University in Miami.

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**Trustee Topics**

Circle November 5-6 on your calendars for Trustee Summit 2014. The summit, scheduled to coincide with the November Board of Governors’ meeting at FAU in Boca Raton, will begin at noon on November 5 and conclude at noon on November 6. This annual trustee development event is an opportunity to share governance information and meet other trustees responsible for helping to lead our institutions throughout the State University System of Florida. Details regarding the agenda and information about hotels will be sent to trustees soon.