

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Strategic Planning Committee**  
November 9, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Dental Education

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Endorse the Chancellor's signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Florida Department of Health; Consider for Recommendation on an Individual Basis Collaborative Proposals with Regard to Dental Education as Submitted by Universities

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors Regulation 8.011

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At its June 2011 meeting the Board of Governors heard presentations by staff; by the Dean of the University of Florida's College of Dentistry; and by a Florida Department of Health representative from the office of Division of Family Services, Public Health Dental. These presentations were with regard to issues surrounding the provision of dental education, actions currently being undertaken by the Department of Health to provide dental services to Florida's most needy citizens, and the conclusions reached by Board staff and other organizations that two of the most critical needs with regard to dental care were increasing the number of minority dentists, and increasing the number of dentists practicing in underserved areas.

The Chancellor has met with the Secretary of the Florida Department of Health to explore, via a Memorandum of Understanding, seeking legislative support for any programs or initiatives that would increase the number of dentists practicing in underserved geographic areas, and that would have the potential of increasing the number of minority dentists. The Memorandum of Understanding, jointly drafted by Board and Department of Health staff, is provided as backup material to this agenda item and, if endorsed by the Board of Governors, would be jointly signed at a later date.

At its September 2011 meeting the Board of Governors heard presentations proposing new dental schools at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and at the University of Central Florida (UCF), as well as a proposal for increasing the

enrollment at the University of Florida (UF) College of Dentistry by 80 students. After extended discussion and questions, the Board directed those universities to go back and to work among themselves to determine whether a different, collaborative arrangement or arrangements could be agreed to between the institutions, especially collaborative proposals that would focus on the two critical issues of guaranteeing that more dentists could be placed in underserved geographical areas, and that more minority dentists could be enrolled, educated, and ultimately placed in geographically underserved areas.

Subsequently, it was the Chancellor's direction to the universities that they engage in such a dialogue and that any dialogue that resulted in positive collaborations be presented at the November Board of Governors Strategic Planning meeting, at which time the Board of Governors indicated that it would conclude its consideration of dental education.

Two proposals have been submitted.

Briefly, the first proposal, "Florida A&M University and University of Florida Collaboration Proposal to Enhance Dental Education in Florida," would involve FAMU and UF collaborating to establish a FAMU Health Sciences Academic Enrichment Program which would include an outreach program for middle and high school students, a FAMU/UF Dental/Medical Honors Program for promising undergraduate students, a UF Summer Learning Program, a FAMU Post-Baccalaureate Program for promising disadvantaged students who applied but were denied admission to dental school, expansion of UF's College of Dentistry class size by 12 students per year for a total increase of 48 dental students per year after a four-year phase-in, and expansion of the UF College of Dentistry's Senior Dental Student Community Rotations which provide care to low-income patients.

Briefly, the second proposal, "State University System of Florida Board of Governors Addendum to Request to Offer a Doctor of Dental Medicine University of Central Florida," provides further information by UCF with regard to minority recruitment and care for the underserved in Florida, the need for more dentists to meet population growth, advancement of auxiliary funds as a vehicle to support the start-up operations, use of alternative funding vehicles to support the construction of facilities, and sensitivity of the budget to tuition rates, enrollment, and interest rates. UF's collaboration is described as serving in an advisory capacity in the development of the curriculum and clinical experiences, sharing curricular developments and curriculum innovations, and additional areas of collaboration that may form as the program matures.

The universities will be provided the opportunity to present their proposals, and the Strategic Planning Committee will be in a position to make a recommendation to the full Board of Governors.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Draft Board of Governors/Department  
of Health Memorandum of  
Understanding  
University Proposals and Presentations

**Facilitators / Presenters:**

Governor Martin  
University Representatives