

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Strategic Planning Committee
June 6, 2011**

SUBJECT: Organizing the System for Success: Discussion of Proposed Regulations

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information and discussion.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board indicated in its *2005-2013 Strategic Plan* that it intended to “continue to study ways to create the optimum structure for the university system.” Over the past several months, in particular, the Board and its Committees have had discussions focusing on better organizing and coordinating efforts within the System. These discussions will continue with the three proposed regulations on the agenda. Together, these proposed regulations have been designed to facilitate expansion of the System’s capacity to help address the State’s needs for access and economic development and to ensure better communication and coordination within the System.

Two of the proposed regulations, Continuing Education and Educational Sites, have been in place since approved by the former Board of Regents, but are being updated to address identified gaps. One proposed regulation, Academic Program Coordination, is new. All three proposed regulations are scheduled to be discussed further at the June 23rd Committee meeting and considered for noticing.

8.002 Continuing Education

Regulation 8.002, Continuing Education was promulgated in parts from 1970 through 1993 under the governance of the Board of Regents (BOR). As the nature of continuing education continued to change after 1993, and as the governance structure of the State University System changed in subsequent years, the BOR rule was not updated and

some of its provisions have become obsolete. This situation has caused some confusion with regard to authority for administering continuing education.

The proposed amendment eliminates the obsolete provisions and puts into place clear guidelines for administering and reporting continuing education activity within the State University System.

8.004 Academic Program Coordination

In order to facilitate collaboration, articulation, and coordination of program delivery across the System, this proposed regulation:

- Requires a cyclical review of current academic programs at all levels, as well as those planned for addition or termination;
- Establishes economic development regions, designating each university, or team of universities, as having lead responsibility for working with their community partners to identify specific unmet higher education needs and student demand in their regions, and to coordinate any viable options to offer the needed academic programs in a cost-effective manner. The regions reflect those established by Enterprise Florida; and
- Provides a process for all universities to use when they wish to go into other regions to meet identified needs. The process is established to ensure communication and coordination of academic program offerings across the state.

8.009 Educational Sites

The proposed updates to the regulation:

- Establish an updated typology for system structure planning and data reporting;
- Provide a role for the boards of trustees;
- Clarify approval processes;
- Require Board approval prior to branch campuses seeking separate accreditation;
- Provide flexibility for universities to offer lower-level courses on branch campuses, while respecting the partnerships with institutions in the Florida College System.

Supporting Documentation Included: Regulations 8.002, 8.004, and 8.009
Map, Economic Development Regions

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