

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Budget and Finance Committee
January 22, 2015

SUBJECT: Shared Initiatives Update

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Budget and Finance Committee 2014-2015 BluePrint

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Committee, in its 2014-2015 BluePrint committed to work with the universities, particularly the Council of Administrative and Financial Affairs, to explore opportunities that allow for efficiencies and shared initiatives. These initiatives are critical to ensure that resources are strategically allocated to best meet the needs of students and university operations.

In October, 2014, the Board hired Ms. Karen Armstrong as the Director of Shared Initiatives. Ms. Armstrong will be responsible for providing a central point for coordination for effective and efficient shared services initiatives for the State University System. Working with the twelve universities, Ms. Armstrong will review cost savings proposals and associated system- level contracts.

Prior to this appointment, Ms. Armstrong was Departmental Purchasing Director at the Department of Management Services. She has over 15 years of state government experience in a variety of areas including contracts and purchasing, governance, and legal services.

Ms. Armstrong completed her legal education and bachelor's in criminology at Florida State University.

In September, 2014, the Board partnered with FSU to be the lead institution on shared initiatives. Ms. Armstrong has been working with our FSU partners and convenes weekly meetings with the university procurement and financial specialists. The group has worked to establish a foundation for tracking and calculating savings.

The group currently has six procurements underway or in the planning stages and are discussing additional projects for shared savings. One procurement currently underway is an Invitation to Negotiate for a Spend Analytics software tool, with FSU as the lead. Once awarded, all universities will participate in the purchase, and the tool will assist the universities in managing spend by aggregating, cleansing and categorizing the data.

Supporting Documentation Included:

1. Board / FSU Shared Initiatives Partnership
2. Savings Definitions and Baseline Calculations document
3. LBR Summary on Shared Initiatives

Facilitators/Presenters:

Governor Ned Lautenbach
Ms. Karen Armstrong