

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Strategic Planning Committee**  
June 10, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Designation of Preeminent State Research Universities

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Consideration of the designation of the University of Florida and Florida State University as preeminent state research universities

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Subsection 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 2013-27, Laws of Florida

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The 2013 Legislature enacted, and the Governor approved, CS/CS/SB 1076, codified as Chapter 2013-27, Laws of Florida, which, among other things, created the preeminent state research universities program in section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes. Effective July 1, 2013, section 1001.7065 establishes 12 academic and research excellence standards and provides for the Board of Governors to designate each state research university that meets at least 11 of the 12 standards as a preeminent state university. The University of Florida is the only university that meets all 12 of the standards, and Florida State University is the only university that meets 11 of the 12 standards.

The university that meets all 12 of the standards, as verified by the Board of Governors, is required to submit a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence to the Board for approval. Once approved, the Board will award the university an amount specified in the General Appropriations Act. The 2013-2014 GAA includes, within the university's lump sum appropriation, \$15 million designated for this purpose in legislative work papers. Upon the university's meeting the benchmark plan goals annually, the Board shall award an amount specified in the GAA throughout the 5-year period.

In addition, the law specifies that a state research university that meets 11 of the 12 academic and research excellence standards, as verified by the Board of Governors, must submit a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence to the Board. Upon meeting the goals in the plan annually, the Board will award the university an amount specified in the GAA annually for the five-year period for the purpose of recruiting National Academy Members, expediting the provision of a master's degree in cloud virtualization, and instituting an entrepreneurs-in-residence program throughout its campus. The 2013-2014 GAA includes, within the university's lump sum appropriation, \$15 million designated for this purpose in legislative work papers.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Academic and Research Excellence Standards

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