Update from Frank T. Brogan, Chancellor
November 23, 2009

First, let me wish you and your family a very happy and safe Thanksgiving. The people of the state of Florida are fortunate to have dedicated individuals such as you working hard to make a difference as we strive to elevate our university system to the next level. Personally, I am so thankful to have the opportunity to work with you in this great cause.

**BOG/SBE Joint Workshop**
By all accounts, it was a very worthwhile endeavor to hold the first-ever joint workshop of the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education. As requested by the two Boards, Commissioner Smith and I will be meeting in the coming weeks to create a proposal for working groups that will address the major opportunities for cross-coordination. The Boards also requested that we provide them an update within 30 days and a plan for another meeting in time for the legislative session. I will give you an update regarding our progress during the December 10 Board tele-meeting.

**Medical Education**
Last week, Chair McDevitt and I travelled to D.C. with a delegation to meet with key members of Congress in an effort to increase the number of residency slots that are allocated to Florida, and I want to thank everyone who helped make the trip a success. We had a good dialogue regarding the importance of funding additional residencies, and we made the case that the majority of existing surplus slots should go to growth states that demonstrate the greatest need, including Florida. We also discussed other concepts that would encourage the federal government to explore new partnerships and incentives that would lead to the creation and funding of additional residency slots. We will keep you informed as this issue evolves.

**Legislative Update**
As the calendar year winds down, we are reminded that the 2010 legislative session is just around the corner. In preparation for that, the Legislature will be in Tallahassee for committee meetings during the second week in December. We will let you know if staff members representing the SUS are expected to speak before any committees once their agendas are finalized.
**Space/Aerospace Meeting**

Building on the many ongoing space/aerospace efforts already under way across the State University System, we are working with industry leaders to arrange a day-long meeting at the Cape to allow for an exchange of ideas and begin discussions regarding what role the system will have in advancing the space/aerospace industry in Florida. There can be no doubt that our universities are fertile ground for the research and development that will be critical in this process, and it is important to begin the dialogue now. We expect that this first meeting will lead to larger, more comprehensive sessions in the coming months.

**Outreach**

Since my last update to you, I have had the opportunity to connect with various individuals and groups who will be helpful as we position the SUS as the best vehicle for moving Florida forward. They include Florida Senate President Jeff Atwater, Florida Sen. Dan Gelber, Florida Sen. Evelyn Lynn, Florida Rep. Alan Williams, Mr. Tom Rice (Congressman Young’s aide), the Florida Council of 100 and the Bio Florida Conference, at which I delivered a keynote address regarding the role our universities are playing in positioning Florida as a biotech leader.

**Coming Up...**

- November 26-27 – Office closed for Thanksgiving
- December 10 – Board of Governors tele-meeting
- December 25 – Office closed for Christmas