As we enter the holiday season, it’s a good time to reflect on yet another year of great successes across the State University System. Despite budget challenges, our universities deliver a world-class experience for students and provide among the best returns on investments for the State. Our students are graduating, getting jobs and helping to grow Florida’s economy. We’re very proud of their hard work and grateful for the contributions made by so many faculty, staff and volunteers that make this happen.

Frank T. Brogan
Chancellor

“Aim Higher” Press Conference
On December 5, our university presidents and student body presidents unveiled a new campaign called “Aim Higher,” which is designed to encourage state investment in higher education. The presidents announced that if the State University System received its $118 million legislative budget request – which would be tied to key performance goals – tuition would not have to increase next year. The following day, I spoke before the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Committee and shared the group’s message that an investment in higher education is an investment in Florida’s future.

Press Release >

Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience Grand Opening
Last week I attended the grand opening of the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience in Jupiter, Fla. The institute will focus on biotechnology research to cure disorders such as schizophrenia and Alzheimer’s disease. Sharing a campus with Scripps Research Institute and Florida Atlantic University, the institute is primed to encourage economic growth and job creation for Florida along side the many other biotech organizations that are choosing to make Florida home.

Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience Web Site >
Florida Council of 100
The Florida Council of 100 had its annual meeting in November, at which Chair Dean Colson and I offered remarks highlighting the System’s legislative priorities, including performance funding, increased accountability, online learning and PECO needs. We are always grateful for the Council’s support of higher education.

Florida Selected to Join Nationwide Lumina Project
The Lumina Foundation-supported College Productivity Strategy Labs has invited Florida to join its network of states that is designed to identify innovations in four areas: performance funding, student incentives, new models and business efficiencies. Florida was chosen to join with 25 other states because of our growing track record on these critical issues.

College Productivity Web Site >

NEXT BOARD MEETING
January 16-17, 2013
at University of Florida in Gainesville

2013-2016 Board Meeting Calendar >

TRUSTEE TOPICS

The Board of Trustees Role in Educational Oversight
In order to fulfill a board’s fiduciary responsibilities effectively, the board must understand, monitor, evaluate and exercise responsibility for the institution’s academic programs and policies. There has been a heightened awareness of boards’ oversight of educational quality in recent years based on certain key factors…

Read the full article >
From Association of Governing Boards