The "lazy days of summer" is a foreign concept for those working at our universities and the board office who are preparing for the start of the academic year. From improving access and degree attainment to advancing performance funding and enhancing online learning, we are making progress on a number of important initiatives. During the next few months, we will keep you informed of these and other efforts so you are ready to hit the ground running in the fall.

Enjoy the summer!

Frank T. Brogan
Chancellor

University work plans now online:
The State University System of Florida has been striving to be the most accountable university system in America and has taken yet another step toward that goal. During last month’s board meeting, the universities presented their work plans, which provide a roadmap for how each institution will evolve over the next few years. For the first time, those work plans and a system summary are now on the board's website.

Online Education Task Force:
Last month we launched a systemwide work group that will work with our institutions and the other higher education delivery systems to determine ways that online learning offerings can be coordinated to ensure state and student needs are met in a cost-efficient manner. The task force has been divided into three committees, which will continue to meet throughout the summer. Learn more on the task force’s website.

Access and Attainment Commission:
The Board of Governors Access and Educational Attainment Commission is exploring how Florida can make strategic choices on how best to increase the state’s educational attainment levels. The Commission—which includes members from government, business, industry and all sectors of higher education—is now looking at which program areas and in which regions of the state need to grow. Ensuring that this effort is data-driven, a team of research and senior policy staff from education, labor and business realms meets regularly to provide information and analyses to the commission. To learn more, visit the commission’s website.

Performance funding:
We have received $20 million from the Legislature in support of our push toward performance funding. This is a solid boost to the comprehensive performance funding model we have been working on during the last few months. While that model will ultimately utilize 10 metrics—including specific metrics that support each university’s unique mission—this first phase of funding will be allocated based on: 1) percentage of graduates employed or enrolled in further education, 2) the average wages of employed graduates, and 3) the average cost per graduate. We will recommend an allocation methodology to the Legislature by October 31, and the funds will be distributed by December 31.

Florida in the national spotlight:
The annual Higher Education Policy Conference of the State Higher Education Executive Officers association (SHEEO) will be held Aug. 6-8 in Orlando. Hundreds of university system leaders and top staff will gather to discuss critical higher education issues facing the nation—from both state and national perspectives. Florida will be front and center as our own board staff and university leaders and students will be part of a number of panel discussions and presentations. For more
TRUSTEE TOPICS

SAVE THE DATE - Trustee Summit & Orientation:
The Board of Governors will host a “Trustee Summit” on Wednesday, Nov. 20 in conjunction with the board meeting at Florida International University in Miami. This will be an opportunity for trustees to hear from national speakers on higher education issues that governing boards are facing. Trustees will have an opportunity to connect with each other and network with Board of Governors leadership and staff. A special orientation break-out session for new trustees will also be held during the summit.

More details will be available next month. Registration for the summit will be coordinated through each university’s board liaison office.