The State’s Strategic Investment in Supporting the State University System of Florida

Taxpayers invested approximately $2.7 billion in resources in the State University System (SUS) for 2007-2008. Through tuition, students have contributed $900 million. In return, the SUS continues to provide educational and economic benefits for Florida’s citizens and constituents.

Highlights of SUS Funding and State Benefits

In 2007-2008, the SUS will receive an estimated $2.7 billion in state funds (before any budget reductions) which include general revenue and lottery funds. That amount is approximately 9.2 percent of the total state general revenue and lottery appropriation for this fiscal year. The SUS share of the state general revenue has remained flat or decreased from 2002-03 to 2005-06. However, in 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 the percentages have increased and now the SUS share of state funds is on the rise.

The SUS invested funds in the following:

- 300,000 students
- 63,000 degrees granted (estimated 2006-07)
- $1.6 billion in Contracts and Grants (a 10 to 1 return on investment)
- $148 million in endowments were created using private donations and state matching funds
- 50,000 faculty and staff (31,000 in E&G)
- 67 million gross square feet of space
- 14,000 acres of land

Where do the Funds Go?

The Educational and General (E&G) budget (which consists of state appropriations and student tuition) consists of educational activities such as instruction and research, libraries, student services, plant operations and maintenance, etc. These activities are standardized across the country to allow for various comparisons. The primary educational activity is Instruction and Research (I&R).
In 2005-2006, (actual data for 2006-2007 is not yet available), I&R accounted for about 65 percent of the $2.9 billion in E&G expenditures. The next significant activity is administration and support (11%) and plant operations and maintenance (9%). Chart 1 shows a breakout of expenditures by educational activity.

**STATE INVESTMENT**
**CORE ACTIVITIES, 2005-2006**

- Instruction & Research, 64.58%
- Student Services, 5.667%
- Library, 4.05%
- PO&M, 9.01%
- Other, 5.49%
- Admin & Support, 11.21%

Chart 1
As with many large organizations, personnel costs comprise the largest obligation of the universities followed by other fixed costs such as plant operations and maintenance. Thus, the largest portion of the E&G budget is dedicated to employee Salaries and Benefits (S&B) with approximately 74 percent in 2005-2006. The second largest expenditure is expenses which cover items such as utilities, contractual obligations, and travel. See Chart 2.