Options to Consider

Focus on Four Areas:

• Budget Reductions
• Tuition
• Governance
• Enrollment

Three specific action items for Board of Governors
Recommendations for Boards of Trustees
Budget Reductions

Principles:

a. Strive to maintain current retention and graduation rates through reallocation of resources.

b. Focus system budgeting process to emphasize quality instruction and timely graduation.
Budget Reductions (continued)

For possible action:

c. Consider hiring freezes and budget cuts — including E&G faculty and staff travel — except in those areas directly related to student support and safety, and statewide workforce priorities — teaching, nursing, and high skill-high wage areas.

d. Review and clarify authority to seek legal relief from existing obligations.

e. Consider program efficiencies through consolidation of administrative support, program and course offerings, academic, research and service program closing.
Budget Reductions
(continued)

For possible action (continued):

f. Review branch and regional campuses. Consider closing off-site locations with low enrollments relative to resources expended.

g. Expand number of complete degree programs and general education courses offered via distance learning through consolidation of existing low enrollment programs. Otherwise delay initiating new degree programs at the graduate and professional level.

h. Encourage development of graduate, professional and continuing programs that can pay for themselves or generate surpluses through tuition or other revenues.

i. Freeze all senior administration salary and performance bonus considerations.
Tuition

a. Restructure graduate and professional tuition where market conditions allow so that tuition covers a higher percentage of the program costs.

b. Raise undergraduate tuition and fees for Spring 2008 if budget reductions exceed 4%.
Governance

a. Develop and publish general guidelines that govern all actions not related to legislative appropriations.

b. Support Senator Graham’s declaratory action initiative.
Enrollment

a. Eliminate non-critical low enrollment courses and increase class size for all faculty.

b. As a result of the four percent cutback, freeze Freshman enrollment growth (at current funded levels) statewide for a three year period beginning with the Spring 2008 and Fall 2008-2009 admissions. Hold harmless community college AA transfers.
Three Action Items Relating to:

Tuition

Governance

Enrollment