SUBJECT: Bright Futures Scholarship for the Summer Term

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information and discussion

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In recent years, and as a result of increased Bright Futures eligibility requirements for students, funding for the Fall and Spring Terms has declined. In March 2014, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) projected that $32 million of the 2014-2015 amount appropriated for Bright Futures would not be needed in 2015-16 as a result of the increase in student eligibility requirements. At the November 5, 2014, Board of Governors meeting, the Council for Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP) submitted a system-wide Legislative Budget Request (LBR) to use the available $32 million to fund Bright Futures for Summer Term 2016, as authorized in Subsection 1009.53(9), Florida Statutes, which states, “A student may use an award for summer term enrollment if funds are available.” Pursuant to this section of law and recent history, only two state budget cycles have contained funding for students during the summer semester.

The Board delayed discussion of the CAVP Summer Bright Futures LBR so that Board staff could collect estimates of the number of students affected, potential costs, and possible challenges in implementation. The results of that research are provided in the supporting documentation.

Supporting Documentation Included: Bright Futures Scholarship for the Summer Term Report

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Jan Ignash