June 27, 2014

President Wilson Bradshaw
Chair Robbie Roepstorff
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Boulevard, South
Ft. Myers, Florida 33965-6565

Dear President Bradshaw and Chair Roepstorff:

Our elected leaders have called upon the State University System of Florida to reach new levels of efficiency, academic quality and accountability. The Board of Governors has implemented a performance based funding model, which builds upon our Strategic Plan goals and annual accountability reports. This model will further elevate our System while acknowledging each university’s distinct mission.

The integrity of data provided to the Board of Governors is critical to the performance based funding decision-making process. Therefore, the Board of Governors developed the attached Data Integrity Certification (see Attachment 1). The purpose of this certification is to provide assurance that the data submitted for Board of Governors Performance Based Funding decision-making is reliable, accurate, and complete.

The processes used at each System university to record, process, summarize and report data are unique, complex, iterative and dynamic, requiring routine executive management attention. Consistent with Board of Governors Regulation 1.001(3), University Presidents, Chief Academic Officers, Chief Financial Officers and Chief Information Officers have a shared responsibility to maintain, on behalf of their board of trustees, effective information systems to provide accurate, timely and cost-effective
information about the university, and ensure that all data and reporting requirements of the Board of Governors are met.

University Presidents should exercise professional judgment in making sure that the Board is informed of data integrity issues related to their performance funding data submissions.

At the direction of this Board, each University President shall execute the attached Data Integrity Certification affirmatively certifying each representation and/or providing an explanation as to why the representation cannot be made as written. These certifications and related explanations will be provided to the Board of Governors after being approved by the board of trustees.

The executed Data Integrity Certification shall be submitted to the Office of Inspector General and Director of Compliance no later than March 1, 2015. A copy of the submission shall be provided to each member of the Board of Governors Audit and Compliance Committee.

To make such certifications meaningful, university boards of trustees shall direct the university Chief Audit Executive to perform, or cause to have performed by an independent audit firm, an audit of the university’s processes which ensure the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of data submissions to the Board of Governors. Refer to the University Data Integrity Audit Requirements document included in these materials as Attachment 2.

Additionally, the Board of Governors will periodically test the veracity of the university’s representations through independent audits or reviews. The Board of Governors has a responsibility to address issues which may arise in the event a university certification is called into question.
We appreciate your cooperation and support as we move forward with implementing the Performance Based Funding Data Certification which will help ensure the integrity of the performance funding process.

If you have questions regarding this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact the Board of Governors Inspector General at BOGInspectorGeneral@flbog.edu or 850-245-0466.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Morteza “Mori” Hosseini
Chair

MH/jkm

Attachments