

**State University System  
The Florida Initiative for Global Education  
2008-2009 Budget**

**Note:** On August 27, 2007, the State University System Council of Academic Vice Presidents met and discussed this potential budget issue. While generally supported by the Council, and highly supported by certain institutions, the level of support by all universities significantly ranged. The CAVP expressed its doubt that the dollars requested are enough to realize an economy of scale. At the current dollar figure, the Council envisions the Initiative as a pilot in nature, with minimal infrastructure and the identification of discrete goals and milestones that are modular in nature relative to the Initiative's major program components.

**2008-09 Budget Request: \$1,303,575**

(75% of these dollars are for external licenses, partnerships, and collaboration among institutions for development of foreign language assets and in support of study abroad.)

The Florida Initiative for Global Education (FIGE) will fully utilize existing resources within higher education in Florida to rapidly develop strategic language instruction and study abroad opportunities for the purpose of furthering international education and global competence among Florida's students and entrepreneurs. The FIGE is expected to serve as a catalyst for internationalizing the curriculum, pre-kindergarten through postsecondary in order to promote intercultural competence across discipline areas and delivery sectors. Towards this end, FIGE will seek to establish an interface with preK-12 and community college entities to provide mutual support, maximum alignment, and scaffolding of efforts.

The synergy created by FIGE will ensure that language instruction development and delivery as well as study abroad access are provided with efficient coordination. Matching grants are proposed to ensure institutional participation and provide a cost effective means of acquiring academic instructional materials for use throughout Florida's postsecondary institutions. FIGE will also encourage collaboration and resource sharing, and leverage state support to attract additional funding from the many federal and other public and private sources.