

University Compacts  
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Alignment of Goals, Priorities, and Plans

- Goals for the Economy and Society.
- State Needs and Goals for Higher Education.
- Board of Governors Strategic Plan and System Initiatives.
- University Strategic Plans - Aligned with System Goals & Priorities.
- University Compacts - Aligned with University and System Strategic Plans and Initiatives, Accountability Expectations, and Budget Planning.

The University Compact Process

- An on-going, iterative, and collaborative process of communication.
- Includes a multi-year, reciprocal agreement between an institution and the System which outlines the institution's top priorities, strategic directions, and performance expectations on a negotiated set of indicators.
- Includes a "Dashboard" with updates and measures of progress (perhaps annually).
- Allows the Board of Governors and System leadership to use the results to inform resource and planning decisions.

Examples of What a University Compact Could Include

- University mission.
- Top university priorities that align with University and System Strategic Plans.
- Short-term and ongoing initiatives to support top priorities.
- Financial plans to support top priorities and initiatives.
- Progress metrics for identified initiatives.
- Enrollment plans.
- Academic program development plans.
- Major capital investment priorities.
- University performance on BOG/SUS strategic priorities.
- Performance on additional indicators identified for each individual university.
- University's funding trends (State, tuition, fund-raising).
- Identifiable benefits from special System and State investments/contributions.
- Responses to unexpected opportunities and crises.

Proposed Timeline

- March 27, 2008: Presentation to the Board of Governors:
  - o Conceptual Framework for SUS Compact Process.
  - o Multi-Year Timeline for Related Activities.
  - o Template for Phase I of Process to Be Implemented in 2008-09.
- April -June, 2008: Development of Phase I Compacts for Individual Institutions.
- June or July, 2008: Presentation of 2008-09 Phase I University Compacts to the Board of Governors.
- Multi-Year Activities to Include Review of SUS Strategic Plan; Approval of Individual University Strategic Plans; More Developed Compacts.

Potential Benefits of University Compact Process\*

\* Based on input from other systems and institutions utilizing compacts.

- Helps create a shared vision and plan.
- Improves alignment of broad system goals and the directions, investments, and actions of institutions.
- Encourages cooperation, negotiation, and information sharing.
- As public document, further heightens trust and accountability.
- Imposes obligations on both sides and builds relationships that are more horizontal, cooperative, & reciprocal.
- Integrates planning, budgeting, and assessment.