

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
Student Affairs Committee
March 26, 2008

SUBJECT: The Mental Health Continuum of Care and Related Legal Issues in the State University System (SUS) of Florida

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

The Student Affairs Committee will meet jointly with the Board of Governors Emergency Preparedness and Campus Safety Task Force, chaired by Governor Tico Perez, to review findings and recommendations from the Mental Health Issues Subcommittee of the Student Affairs Committee.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution, Section 1001.705

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Governor Stanley Marshall was asked to chair a Mental Health Issues Subcommittee of the Student Affairs Committee on June 14, 2007. Additional members included Governors McDevitt, Chase, and Moseley. After initial discussions with Governor Marshall, Board staff convened an interinstitutional legal work group to provide guidelines and best practices for the sharing of mental health information concerning at-risk students. A second work group of student affairs and counseling center personnel was established to address other issues related to the mental health continuum of care on university campuses. Board staff generated a report that synthesized the information gathered from the work groups, two surveys, and additional research to provide an overview of current practices in the SUS, promising practices for how higher education institutions can approach mental health issues, and recommendations for further consideration. Initial findings were shared with the Mental Health Issues Subcommittee via a conference call on February 26, 2008.

After reviewing and discussing the findings, members of the Subcommittee have agreed upon a set of recommendations to forward to the full Student Affairs Committee. Those recommendations will be presented and discussed at this meeting.

Supporting Documentation Included: Final Report: *The Mental Health Continuum of Care and Related Legal Issues in the SUS*

Facilitator / Presenter: Governor Stanley Marshall