State University System Institutional Enrollment Plans: Executive Summary

Enrollment plans serve multiple purposes:

- One-year plans are used for budget requests
- Three-year plans are required by proviso in the General Appropriations Act
- Five-year plans are required as part of the facilities planning process

Universities submitted enrollment plans in July based on assumptions that:

- the freshman enrollment freeze would remain in effect through fall 2010;
- funding for 2009-10 would be flat in inflation-adjusted terms;
- subsequent years' increases would be 2% in excess of inflation;
- prior years' cuts would not be restored;
- undergraduate tuition would increase 6% annually;
- tuition differential policy would remain as currently established; and
- there will be strong statewide student demand growth at upper division and graduate level (though local conditions may vary)

Based on these assumptions, universities planned for:

- a 1% enrollment decline for 2008-09, (~-3,000 students compared to 07-08);
- a 1.7% enrollment increase for 2009-10 (~+5,000 students); and
- an average 2% increases over five years (~+30,000 headcount students by 2013-14).

Draft plans that were included in the September BOG Agenda will be revised prior to the January 2009 meeting to reflect:

- better 2008-09 enrollment estimates
 - o based on informal reports, 2008-09 enrollments are likely to be flat rather than 1% down;
 - o official enrollment data were submitted in mid-October); and
- better assumptions about the 2009-10 fiscal situation.

Enrollment plans will be included in and approved as part of university compacts.

Universities and the System cannot produce credible long-term enrollment plans without making assumptions about funding. In recent years, these assumptions have often proved false. Predictable funding policy will create an environment for credible statewide enrollment planning.

Board actions requested:

- 1. Discuss freshman enrollment freeze currently in place through fall 2010 (see resolution and minutes on following page). Determine whether to maintain.
- 2. Request that the Chancellor solicit revised plans from universities based on current enrollment data and revised fiscal assumptions for 2009-10 and submit

to Board for discussion at January Budget, Finance, and Business Operations Committee meeting.

Enrollment Actions Adopted by the Board of Governors, July 10, 2007

(See presentation at

http://www.flbog.org/documents_meetings/0013_0019_0133_OptionsToConsider.pdf)

- a. Eliminate non-critical low enrollment courses and increase class size for all faculty.
- b. As a result of the four percent cutback, freeze Freshman enrollment growth (at current funded levels) statewide for a three year period beginning with the Spring 2008 and Fall 2008-2009 admissions.

Hold harmless community college AA transfers.

Excerpts from July 10, 2007 Meeting Minutes

(see http://www.flbog.org/documents_meetings/0012_0016_0100_055.pdf)

Ms. Parker inquired about enrollment. Dr. Rosenberg responded that 38,500 freshmen were currently enrolled. The proposal before the Board would retain the same number of freshmen; the freeze would be on increasing the number of freshmen enrolled. He said the Board here would be mandating a system-wide cap on the freshman class at the currently funded level and the SUS would continue to take 38,500 freshmen. He noted that the SUS already had 5,627 students who were not funded by the state. He noted that admitting additional students was further complicated by the fact that enrollment was not fully funded by the state.

Ms. Parker encouraged the universities to adopt the freeze on freshman enrollment growth. She said this would ensure quality for the students already enrolled. She moved that the Board approve the two enrollment action items, a. Eliminate non-critical low enrollment courses and increase class size for all faculty; and b., As a result of the four percent cutback, freeze Freshman enrollment growth (at current funded levels) statewide for a three year period beginning with the Spring 2008 and Fall 2008-2009 admissions, holding harmless the community college AA transfers, as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Chancellor Rosenberg clarified that item a. was a system-wide enrollment policy initiative of the Board of Governors, asking the Boards of Trustees to follow this system-wide initiative. He said item b. was action for this Board. Ms. Parker agreed that action item a. would be implemented by the University Boards of Trustees, but this Board action, as a policy motion, would send a strong and clear message. Members of the Board concurred unanimously.