

## **Developing a Methodology for Determining Costs, Capacity, Efficiency, and Quality**

The Board of Governors' Strategic Plan has clearly stated goals for increased degree production, especially in targeted programs aimed at better meeting the State's needs for an advanced workforce. In addition, the Board expects universities to be good stewards who ensure program quality and the efficient utilization of resources. As good stewards, the Board and the universities should consider not only the costs of producing different degrees, but also the ability of given programs to effectively manage degree pipelines, to efficiently produce more degrees, and, most importantly, to provide quality educational experiences for students.

To advance the Board goals, the State University System should create a model to better determine and predict costs, capacity, efficiency, and quality of programs.

### **Purpose**

**The intention is to design a model that will assist each university in answering the following questions for each program:**

1. Are there opportunities in a given program for the university to utilize existing resources to better accomplish the BOG's goals for degree production?
2. What are the challenges faced by a given program that hinder its ability to accomplish the BOG's goals for degree production, both now and in the future? How will these challenges be addressed?
3. What are appropriate goals and benchmarks for standards of quality in this program?

**The intention is to design a model that will assist the BOG in answering the following question:**

Can the Board and the universities effectively increase the number of program graduates while ensuring quality through targeted investments in specific programs? How will that be accomplished?

### **Model Development**

The model will be developed by focusing on the following programs: Engineering, Nursing, and Education. The model will then be tested using additional programs.

A working group of BOG staff and select university staff representing provosts, deans, institutional research officers and budget officers will be convened to develop a model that will provide cost, capacity, efficiency, and quality information for all pilot programs. Each representative will be expected to serve as a liaison to their colleagues at the other universities.

A final report will be given to the BOG at its January 2007 meeting, with status reports being given in September and November.