

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Funding Formula Committee

FROM: Debra Austin, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Follow-up from Tuesday's Conference Call Meeting

Thank you for your excellent participation in our conference call meeting on Tuesday. We have much to accomplish between now and the December 2 Board of Governors' meeting deadline for our recommendations, but I believe we can be successful.

Let me recap a few points from the meeting:

The charge of this workgroup as provided by Carolyn Roberts, Chair of the Board of Governors, is to develop a university funding formula that provides for the different missions and programs of the universities and, at the same time, achieves adequate and stable funding for the universities. I sincerely appreciated Chairwoman Roberts' participation in the beginning of the conference call to lend her support and enthusiasm to the work ahead of us.

The characteristics of a funding formula as proposed should be as follows:

1. Mission driven.
2. Fair and equitable.
3. Simple to understand; not overly complicated.
4. Uses easily obtained data or data that has already been submitted to DOE.
5. Flexible and easy to adjust during economic change.

We agreed that the plan of action is to submit recommendations for a funding formula based upon work already done (or discussions you've already had) at your institutions. In other words, the assumption is that you have already developed a funding formula model (or models) that you would like considered by the system or that you have had serious discussions internally about the desired characteristics of a model.

Please submit your suggested model(s) no later than October 15 to Chancellor@fldoe.org <<mailto:Chancellor@fldoe.org>>. In turn, we will route this information to all other universities and to the Board of Governors' Finance Committee on October 16. Although the plan should meet the litmus test of the five characteristics mentioned earlier, please be sure that the presentation of your proposal is clear and concise.

Two to three face-to-face meetings are scheduled after the October 15 date. The possibilities for the first meeting are:

1. Monday, October 20, Orlando Airport, 2:30-6:30 p.m.
2. Tuesday, October 21, Orlando Airport, 8 a.m. - noon (during the workshop portion of the State Board of Education's meeting)
3. Wednesday, October 22, 8 a.m. - noon, Tallahassee, FAMU, during the committee meetings of the Board of Governors

Please let me know as soon as possible of your availability relative to these three options and we will attempt to accommodate as many schedules as possible.

The other two dates considered for subsequent meetings are as follows:

1. Monday, November 3 in Tampa

2. Since November 17 would not work for a number of you, please check your availability on these dates:

- a. Thursday, November 13 in the early afternoon (remember the Governor's State of Education address is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. in Orlando on this day);
- b. Friday, November 14 in the morning; or
- c. Thursday, November 20 in the morning.

There are three attachments to this e-mail: first, a copy of the study that provides 50-state information conducted a couple of years ago by MGT of America for the state of Pennsylvania, and its appendix. Many thanks to Kent Caruthers for participating on the call and for providing this important information. The second attachment is an explanation of the current funding model provided by staff members in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Thanks to them as well.

I sincerely appreciate your involvement in this effort and look forward to working with you in the coming months. We can be effective in this process if we all work together. Should you have any questions or concerns, please be sure to let me know.

DA/emc

Attachments

c: Ray Monteleone
Tim Jones
Annie Rosier