BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PERFORMANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

October 22, 2003

<u>Considerations for Potential Committee Action</u>

CONSIDERATION #1:

Endorse the State University System sector accountability measures currently under consideration by the K-20 Accountability Task Force. (See Attachment.) These recommendations include specific measures either directly or associatively related to STUDENT LEARNING.

CONSIDERATION #2:

The K-20 Accountability Task Force has recommended a State University System measure that would capture the "proportion of students retained between the sophomore and junior years who have met a defined threshold of learning as measured by an external assessment of student learning . . .." It is recommended that the Florida Board of Governors participate in the Department of Education analysis regarding the College Level Academic Skills Test and other potential options for assessing postsecondary student learning at the completion of lower-division coursework (e.g., potential recommendations to redesign the CLAST to be an achievement test that could be used to help make meaningful placements of students into various upper-division majors).

CONSIDERATION #3:

Implement a common written communication skills test to be taken by all baccalaureate students prior to graduation.

CONSIDERATION #4:

Develop comprehensive policies and procedures that would have the potential to raise the State University System to a position of national prominence in the area of student learning outcomes assessment. This endeavor would include process audits to certify that universities are ensuring accountability at the program level by mandating that all academic degree programs, as well as the general education programs:

- o Establish and articulate specific program purposes.
- o Identify and publicize expected student learning outcomes.
- o Develop assessment systems to measure how well students are meeting those stated objectives.
- o Analyze and use assessment results for continuous program improvement.
- o Provide key program information to the public.

Additionally, information of importance to the public would be included in a searchable, Web-based database. Over time, a complete SUS inventory of programs would exist that identifies program characteristics, expected learning outcomes, and learning measurement tools.