

# **Critical Issues Facing Student Affairs in the State University System As Reported by Vice Presidents for Student Affairs September 2003**

University student affairs vice presidents were asked to identify their top issues for student affairs. Below is a combined list of concerns:

## **Funding**

- Removing the existing caps on student Activity & Service fees.
- Clarifying and streamlining the process and timetable for the distribution of Capital Improvement Trust Fund dollars.
- Adequate general revenue funding (funding to support services for an increasing and diversified student population).
- An appropriate funding formula that recognizes each university's individual mission and its unique characteristics.
- Enhanced funding for ADA-related services.
- Enhanced funding for safety and security issues.
- Resources to improve the uses of technology in delivering programs and services.
- Financing the increasing costs of higher education (from a student perspective).
- Resources to facilitate student wellness.
- Resources to facilitate expansion of bridges from community colleges.
- Financial resources for retention programs, mentoring, and tutoring.

## **Facilities**

- Facilities for career needs (career preparation in an increasingly tight economy and labor market).
- Facilities and resources for the growing number of students with mental health needs.
- Facilities and resources for complying with federal mandates (e.g., Student and Exchange Visitor Information System).
- Expanded childcare resources.
- Expansion in residence halls and other needed student centers.
- Adequate parking facilities.
- Adequate class spaces to meet rising enrollment numbers.

## **Other Issues**

- Student health (including mental health) and continuing case management in college.
- Infusion of character values.
- Potential from alcohol and other drug abuse leading to undesirable outcomes for the person and others.
- Student diversity – adapting programs and services to a student population that is changing in ethnicity and socio-economic background, and is growing older.