

INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES OF FLORIDA



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BARRY UNIVERSITY
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BEACON COLLEGE
Leesburg

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COLLEGE
Clearwater

ECKERD COLLEGE
St. Petersburg

EDWARD WATERS COLLEGE
Jacksonville

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL
UNIVERSITY
Daytona Beach

FLAGLER COLLEGE
St. Augustine

FLORIDA COLLEGE
Temple Terrace

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE
OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Orlando

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY
Melbourne

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Miami

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Lakeland

HODGES UNIVERSITY
Naples

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Jacksonville

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Boca Raton

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY
Ft. Lauderdale

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UNIVERSITY
West Palm Beach

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AND DESIGN
Sarasota

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Saint Leo

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY
Miami

SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Lakeland

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DeLand

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Tampa

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Coral Gables

WARNER UNIVERSITY
Lake Wales

WEBBER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Babson Park

December 5, 2012

Board of Governors
Strategic Planning Committee
State University System of Florida
Board of Governors
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1614
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Dear Committee Members:

We have followed the Board of Governor's On-Line Strategy for the State University System's Development with much interest. The passage of the Florida Virtual Campus last year signaled a new commitment to develop on-line learning in Florida. That challenge is critical but Florida's state and independent institutions have impressive resources that can be enlisted. The state should be careful to not develop new options that impede the already robust market driven options in place.

The 20 independent colleges and universities that have fully on-line degree programs would welcome opportunities to partner with state universities and state colleges to boost on-line learning in Florida. Currently, ICUF institutions have nearly 300 fully on-line programs and more than 30,000 fully on-line degree seekers. Those degree programs are composed of thousands of courses that could be offered to high school advanced placement and dual enrolled students. Those degree programs can be tailored for working Floridians and degree completers. The ICUF on-line capacity could be offered in partnerships with school districts and state colleges throughout the state, reaching the currently higher education under-served. Along with the SUS and FCS on-line capacity, Florida has more than 600 fully on-line degree programs. It is an impressive and comprehensive inventory.

We were initially enthusiastic in our discussions with the Parthenon Group. As time passed and drafts evolved, we were disappointed that the final Parthenon Group's Report outlined no role for independent higher education in the options described and did not explore deeply what is really going on already in Florida.

Notwithstanding that, we will continue to hope for options and opportunities to participate. We are enthusiastic and committed to support broader on-line learning opportunities for Floridians, especially for those who are place-bound

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or cannot relocate to pursue a degree because of costs, their jobs or their family responsibilities. Because I believe that the Board of Governors shares that goal, we will continue to expect that a plan for all of Florida's on-line resources will emerge. We would welcome a role in an innovative and inclusive Florida On-Line Strategy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed H. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ed H. Moore

EHM/mca