

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Strategic Planning Committee
September 2, 2015

SUBJECT: State University System Affordability

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

For information

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This year, the Board's Strategic Planning Committee is undertaking a year-long study that examines the major components of affordability and explores whether the State University System is affordable for all students who are qualified and motivated to attend. At the last several meetings of the Strategic Planning Committee, Chancellor Criser made presentations on several aspects of university affordability in the State University System and nationally. In addition, the Committee was assisted by a presentation by Dr. Donald E. Heller, Dean of the College of Education at Michigan State University and a national expert in the area of higher education finance and affordability.

The affordability study has been guided by four questions:

1. What is the cost of attending an SUS institution?
2. How does that compare to other states? Other sectors?
3. Is the cost of attending an SUS institution affordable for all income groups?
4. If not, what can we do to enhance affordability?

Building on the data analyzed thus far and the materials presented by Dr. Heller, Chancellor Criser will turn the discussion to question #4, "What can we do to enhance affordability?" Previous data presented to the Board showed that there are some gaps in affordability for Florida SUS students and the Committee now begins the process of exploring possible policy recommendations to address the gaps. In November, the Committee will be presented with draft recommendations to address gaps in affordability.

Supporting Documentation Included: None

Facilitators/Presenters: Chancellor Marshall Criser III