STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

November 9, 2023

SUBJECT: Public Notice of Approval of Amendment of Board of Governors Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of Public Notice of Approval of Amendment of Board of Governors Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board of Governors Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access, outlines the State University System's anti-discrimination policy and describes the Board's expectations that each university implements policies, programs, and practices to promote and ensure equal access and opportunity for all students and current and prospective employees. Board staff propose an amendment to Regulation 2.003 to align with section 1000.05, Florida Statutes, Florida Equity in Education Act; section 1006.71, Florida Statutes, Gender Equity in Intercollegiate Athletics; section 110.112, Florida Statutes, Affirmative Action: Equal Opportunity Employment; and section 760.10, Florida Statutes, Unlawful Employment Practices.

The proposed amendment changes the name of the regulation from "Equity and Access" to "Equal Access and Opportunity." It also adds that discrimination based on pregnancy is prohibited on university campuses. The proposed amendment also reduces the number of items institutions must annually report, including information on specific initiatives and performance related to equity and access in academic services, programs, and student enrollment. It also removes the requirement to report the representation by race and sex in student enrollment, senior-level administrative positions, and faculty rank and tenure status. The proposed amendment also implements an annual assessment by the Chancellor on the progress of each university's plan in support of equal opportunity in intercollegiate athletics. Finally, the proposed amendment eliminates the Florida Equity Report Guidelines review by the Council on Equal Opportunity and Diversity.

The Board of Governors approved the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access, at its September 20, 2023 meeting. Following the approval of the public notice of intent, no public comments were received, and the amended regulation is ready for final approval.