

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
September 15, 2011**

SUBJECT: Organizing the System for Success: Intent to Notice Regulation 8.009

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve Notice to Amend Regulation 8.009 - Educational Sites.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board's current policies regarding educational sites are assumed to be reflected in Board Regulation 8.009 - Definition and Process for Establishing Educational Sites. However, this regulation was initially a rule of the former Board of Regents and, as such, does not reflect the new governance structure of the State University System and does not delineate the planning and approval processes the Board expects of itself and the individual university boards of trustees.

Changes were drafted to the regulation after Board staff solicited input from the university general counsels, members of the Council of Academic Vice Presidents, academic contacts, and other state university staff. The proposed regulation was noticed at the June 2011 Board meeting to begin the process of obtaining public input.

To address questions and concerns expressed by some university representatives during the June 2011 Strategic Planning Committee meeting, Chair Parker created a workgroup consisting of three Board members and four university representatives. The charge to Governor Martin was to bring back to the Committee recommendations for addressing the issues discussed by the Workgroup.

The Workgroup discussed the issues in Tallahassee on Monday, August 22, and Governor Martin's recommendations were presented to the Strategic Planning Committee at its August 26, 2011, meeting. The Committee accepted the edits and recommended that the Board re-notice the proposed regulation at its September meeting.

Pursuant to the regulation procedure adopted by the Board at its meeting on March 23, 2006, the Board is required to provide public notice by publication on its Internet Web site at least 30 days before adoption of the proposed regulation. If approved for re-noticing in September, the proposed regulation would be on the Board's agenda for approval at its November meeting.

The proposed updates to the regulation address identified gaps in the current regulation by:

- Establishing an updated typology for system structure planning and data reporting;
- Providing a role for the boards of trustees;
- Clarifying approval processes;
- Requiring Board approval prior to additional campuses seeking separate accreditation;
- Providing flexibility for universities to offer lower-level courses on educational sites, while ensuring presidents collaborate with institutions in the Florida College System.

If the final regulation is approved in November, Board staff will coordinate the development of an updated inventory to ensure current sites will be correctly classified.