

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Strategic Planning Committee  
March 23, 2021**

**SUBJECT:** 2020-21 Pillars of Excellence, Quarter 2 Spending Report

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

For information

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At its August 29, 2019 meeting, the Board of Governors identified three Pillars of Excellence as a framework for funding System initiatives. The Pillars included: Performance Based Funding, Universities of Distinction, and Preeminence/National Rankings. Universities of Distinction is designed to support the nine non-preeminent institutions in the State University System. In the fall of 2019, institutions submitted proposals to the Board of Governors that identified a program or program area that is a core competence capable of reaching national or state excellence. Universities of Distinction was formally established by the 2020 Legislature, in section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes.

The 2020 Legislature provided \$6 million to the University of North Florida and \$3 million to Florida Gulf Coast University to support the Universities of Distinction Pillar. Additionally, the legislature provided \$15 million to the University of Florida and \$15 million to Florida State University to support the Preeminence/National Rankings Pillar.

At its July 21, 2020 meeting, the Board of Governors approved spending plans for the 2020-21 Pillars of Excellence funds for the University of North Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University, the University of Florida, and Florida State University. As part of this process, these institutions are required to submit quarterly spending reports to the Board office.

Dr. Christy England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, will provide an overview of Pillars of Excellence spending through December 31, 2020.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

Pillars of Excellence Quarter 2  
Spending Reports

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

Dr. Christy England