



HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COUNCIL

December 15, 2011

The Honorable Mike Haridopolos
The Honorable Dean Cannon
The Florida Legislature
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1000

SUBJECT: 2011 Report of the Higher Education Coordinating Council

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

We are pleased to provide you with the enclosed copy of the 2011 report of the Higher Education Coordinating Council. The report was prepared in accord with the Council's statutory responsibility to provide recommendations for your consideration for the 2012 Session and to provide recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Governors of the State University System on matters involving higher education.

This is the first such report compiled by the Council since it was created in 2010 and presents the results of more than one year's work involving all of Florida's education delivery systems, the public and business and industry. The Council has been examining how best to strengthen the state's higher education system. These recommendations reflect what we have learned.

Recognizing Florida's priority to provide quality work force and higher education, the Council will continue to assess the opportunity to most efficiently assign and leverage state resources. We are prepared to address the many complex issues with a collaborative focus. Concerns regarding adequate, dependable funding, the structure of higher education in the state, and measurable performance and accountability are shared widely by the citizens of Florida. The Council believes that the state can be better positioned to succeed in the competitive world economy with our delivery sectors and individual institutions having clearly defined missions and scope.

If you have questions regarding the report or would like to discuss it further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Marshall M. Criser, III Jon Moyle, Co Chair Gerard Robinson Randy Hanna

Sam Ferguson Dr. Ed Moore Frank T. Brogan

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The Council was created by the Florida Legislature (F.S. 1004.015) to serve as an advisory body regarding higher education in Florida. It is comprised of the chief executives of the Florida Department of Education, State University System of Florida, Florida College System, Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida and Commission for Independent Education, plus representatives of the business community – appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House.