BACKGROUND

The Florida Constitution (Article IX, Section 7) created the Board of Governors (BOG) to “operate, regulate, control, and be fully responsible for the management of the whole university system.” The responsibilities of the Board also include “defining the distinctive mission of each constituent university and its articulation with free public schools and community colleges, ensuring the well-planned coordination and operation of the system, and avoiding wasteful duplication of facilities and programs.”

The Board of Governors has been developing a comprehensive planning and accountability framework to help fulfill this constitutional responsibility and help maximize the State University System’s capacity to meet state economic development needs through education and research and development. Related procedures include the development of multi-year university work plans and annual reports that reflect each institution’s unique mission and focus on core strengths within the context of State University System (SUS) goals and regional and statewide needs. The resulting processes and products will inform institutional and System-level strategic planning, budgeting, and other policy decisions. The Board of Governors has adopted related regulations to codify these expectations.

This 2009 Annual Report is the first installment in the process. It provides an overview of the System’s historical performance on a range of measures, with an emphasis on performance during the last five years for which data are available on any given metric. The full report contains the following: (1) key 2008-09 developments in the SUS; (2) a graphic “dashboard” that highlights System-level performance on key measures; (3) a narrative outlining the System’s progress on indicators related to the Board of Governors Strategic Plan; (4) more detailed System-level data; (5) dashboards and contextual narratives for each of the SUS institutions; and (6) more detailed data for the individual institutions.

Over time, the annual reporting process will be refined, and Web-based interactive versions will be designed to provide various constituents with data at the level of detail they need. These annual reports will demonstrate how well the SUS is meeting its goals, document the return on investment of public funds, and promote and reflect the commitment of the Board of Governors and the System to transparency and accountability.

Data in this report also meet certain statutory reporting requirements. Specifically, the State University System Annual Report, in conjunction with work plans to be completed each summer, encompasses the following statutorily required information:

- Annual accountability report (Section 1008.46, F.S.).
- Florida 21st Century Technology, Research and Scholarship Enhancement Act (Section 1004.226, F.S.).
- Tuition differential fee (Section 1009.24(16), F.S.).
- Enrollment planning and budgeting information (Section 1011.90, F.S.).
**Vision Statement**

FGCU's Vision is student success, including 100% employment or continuing education after graduation.

**Mission Statement**

FGCU's Mission is to ensure that its students graduate! In addition, it is to provide graduates with the best possible life outcomes and career opportunities by (a) focusing on a limited number of quality degree programs aligned with the jobs of today and tomorrow, supported by a deep curriculum offered internally and in collaboration with other Florida universities and online resources, offered at below average cost; (b) setting the curve for competency based student acceleration and self-paced distance learning; (c) achieving full employment or continuing education after graduation, with above average median salaries; (d) hatching tomorrow's entrepreneurs and leaders; and, finally, (e) ensuring that the right incentives and resources are in place to achieve this Mission while remaining fully accountable to students, parents and supporters.

Go, Eagles!!