

THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2004
FIU, UNIVERSITY PARK
PC 521
11:00 A.M.

MEMBERSHIP

MIRIAM LÓPEZ, *CHAIR*
SERGIO PINO, *VICE-CHAIR*
CLAUDIA PUIG, *VICE-CHAIR*

BETSY ATKINS
RAFAEL CALDERÓN
ALBERT DOTSON
PATRICIA FROST
ADOLFO HENRIQUES

CLAYTON SOLOMON
DAVID PARKER
MARCEL ESCOFFIER
ROSA SUGRAÑES
HERBERT WERTHEIM

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE, *PRESIDENT*
DONALD E. LEFTON, *FIU FOUNDATION LIAISON*
MARTA PELAEZ-NOGUERAS, *FIU FACULTY LIAISON*

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| I. | CALL TO ORDER | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| II. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| III. | CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| IV. | LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW | <i>PRESIDENT MAIDIQUE</i> |
| | 1. 2004 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT | <i>PAUL GALLAGHER</i> |
| | 2. ADOPTION OF STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| | 3. FEDERAL CONGRESSIONAL REPORT | <i>STEVE SAULS</i> |
| | 4. ADOPTION OF FEDERAL FY 2005 PRIORITIES | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| | 5. MEDICAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE UPDATE | <i>PRESIDENT MAIDIQUE</i> |
| | 6. GOVERNANCE ISSUES REPORT | <i>PAUL GALLAGHER</i> |
| V. | OTHER BUSINESS (IF ANY) | <i>CHAIR LOPEZ</i> |
| VI. | ADJOURNMENT | |

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, 10 APRIL 2003
FIU, UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS
GL 835
MIAMI, FL 33199**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Miriam Lopez convened the meeting of The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Governmental Relations Committee at 3:15 p.m. at Florida International University, University Park Campus, Room GL 835, Miami, FL.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present:

Miriam López, *Chair*
Sergio Pino, *Vice-Chair*
Claudia Puig, *Vice Chair*
Albert Dotson, Sr.
Jessica Morffi
Howard Rock
Rosa Sugrañes
Donald Lefton

Excused:

Betsy Atkins
Rafael Calderón
Patricia Frost
Adolfo Henriques
David Parker
Herbert Wertheim

University Staff Present:

President Modesto Maidique
EVP Paul Gallagher
VP Telles-Irvin
Vice Provost Steve Sauls
Jim Mau, Executive Director Academic Affairs
Cristina Mendoza, General Counsel
Clayton Solomon, FIU SGA President-Elect
Martha Pelaez-Nogueras, FIU Faculty Liaison
Nery Suarez, FIU Governmental Relations Staff
Mayra Beers, FIU BOT Staff
Tina M. Vidal, FIU BOT Staff

A silent roll was taken by Tina Vidal.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Chair Miriam Lopez recommended that the minutes of the 13 February 2003 Governmental Relations Committee meeting be approved as submitted. The recommendation was MSC.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Committee Chair Lopez welcomed everyone to the Governmental Relations Committee meeting. She reported that the Florida Legislature was approaching the end of its 60-day session. She noted that the House and Senate would be passing their versions of the State's budget, indicating that the Senate's version would be most beneficial to FIU. Steve Sauls noted that the legislature could be called into special session to finish the budget. Chair Lopez noted the importance for the Trustees to communicate the needs of the University to representatives in Tallahassee.

Chair Lopez reported that the University's governmental relations team concluded a successful funding cycle in Washington and was busy laying the groundwork for FY 2004 funding of priority research initiatives. She expressed her gratitude to Steve Sauls and his staff, Debi Gallay, Anitere Flores, and Susan Moya in Tallahassee and Washington.

Several Trustees voiced opinions on the need to inform and educate the Community regarding the budget situation. Steve Sauls reported that the 2003-2004 budget cuts were the largest FIU has had. It was requested that the University schedule an FIU Day in Tallahassee in January 2004 for the students to lobby in FIU's interest.

After a discussion on how best to get the message about the State budget out to the South Florida community, Trustee Sergio Pino volunteered to buy an informational page in the *Miami Herald* and *El Nuevo Herald* on behalf of the University. Chair Lopez volunteered to buy an informational page in the *New Times*. Trustee Claudia Puig volunteered broadcast support on behalf of the University to educate the community regarding the budget situation.

IV. STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A. Current House and Senate Budget Comparison

Chair Lopez reported that critical issues in the State budget included proposed cuts to the University's base budget, enrollment growth funding, including equitable funding of new enrollment, flexibility to raise tuition, PECO funding for new facilities, and State matches for private contributions. She noted that neither the House nor the Senate budget proposals provided for enrollment growth funding.

Chair Lopez indicated that the Senate provided a more generous PECO allocation and proposed funding State matches for Facility matching grants and challenge grants totaling \$14 million, which is not funded by the House version. She reported that the House authorized up to a 12.5% increase in undergraduate tuition, and an unlimited increase for all other tuition. Further, the Senate authorized a 7.5% increase in undergraduate tuition, and an additional 10% increase for all other tuition.

V. FEDERAL UPDATE

A. FY '03 Federal Priorities Accomplishments

Chair Lopez reported that Congress completed work on FY 2003 funding and FIU had an excellent year. She noted that in addition to almost \$10 million in earmarks, governmental relations is actively involved in securing substantial additional funding with Congressional support.

B. FY '04 Federal Priorities and Champions

Chair Lopez reported that a matrix of FY 2004 federal projects were included in the Trustees packets which included the following priorities approved by the Trustees: Florida Hurricane Mitigation Alliance, Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology, Center for Energy and Technology of the Americas, National Policy and Resource Center of Nutrition, Army Environmental Solutions Program, and Center for Transportation Mobility and Safety of Special Populations. She indicated that a delegation of student leaders presented the priorities to the Congressional Delegation and were well received.

VI. GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS WEBSITE OVERVIEW

Steve Sauls provided an overview of the new Governmental Relations Web Site (www.government.fiu.edu). He noted some of the important information available on the site and showed the Trustees several key pages that they might find useful.

VII. Strategy Discussion

Chair Lopez encouraged each Trustee to write and call their legislators and key South Florida Congressional members involved in University funding.

VIII. Other Business

No other business was raised.

IX. Adjournment

With no other business brought forward, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was MSC. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

TRUSTEE REQUESTS:

1. Trustees requested the University to schedule an FIU Day in January 2004 (Steve Sauls and the Governmental Relations staff will prepare as requested).

4/11/03 TMV

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governmental Relations Committee**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: 2004 State Legislative Session Report

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

None.
Discussion Item

Supporting Documentation Included:

- Governor's Proposed Budget for Universities – FIU Issues
- SUS Proposed 2004 Priorities
- Key Dates 2004 Session

Facilitators/Presenters:

Chair Lopez

GOVERNOR' S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR UNIVERSITIES

SUMMARY OF FIU ISSUES

1/20/04

- No Equity Funding Provided
 - The Governor does provide parity for future lower level undergraduate students by providing that increased lower level enrollment is calculated at the system standard of \$7,118 per FTE. (Last year, FIU received \$6,489 per lower level FTE, and last year's SUS lower level FTE average was \$7,118.)
- No Reduction to University's Base Budget
- Enrollment Growth Funding of \$68M – systemwide
 - \$30M recurring + \$20M nonrecurring + \$18M from student fees
 - This is 60% of the BOG's enrollment growth request
 - No information on how this funding is distributed per institution
 - Additional enrollment may be funded from \$58M mandated tuition increase.
 - Mandatory tuition increase = 7.5% for instate undergraduate, 12.5% for everyone else – This generates \$76.1M, \$18M of which must be used to fund enrollment.
- Each university received an increase to their base budget. Included in this increase is the \$50M for enrollment growth, \$2.7M to annualize facilities operating costs (new space was not funded), \$3M for universities to spend on the increased FRS requirements.
- BOG receives an additional \$10M to allocate as incentive awards to individual university BOTs for establishing “programs, policies, and procedures which lead to increased degree production in critical needs. For 04-05 critical needs = nurses, teachers, engineers and information technology.
- BOG will allocate an additional \$20M to NEW university Centers of Excellence. This will be distributed on a competitive basis.
- \$25M provided for the matching gifts program. No information on how it will be distributed. FIU is owed \$5.1M.

Other issues:

- 1) Governor announced increases: K-12=7.1%, CC=7.6%, SUS=5.7%
- 2) FSU Medical School-\$4.3M
- 3) FAMU Law School-\$1M
- 4) Annualization of Salary/health insurance incr-\$22.7M
- 5) Alec Courtelis Facilities Matching- 0
- 6) Public Education Capital Outlay-The Governor allocated the additional \$192.9M PECO revenues that were estimated by the PECO Estimating Conference in September. Universities received an additional \$50.8M. In allocating funds to the universities, the Governor followed the second year of the 3-year PECO Request.
- 7) Tuition Policies-
 - a. Mandatory Increases- Generates \$58 M
 - i. In-state undergraduate- 7.5%
 - ii. All other- 12.5%
 - b. Discretionary Increases: 0
 - c. Block tuition for full-time students authorized at a rate of 15 credit hours
 - d. Non-degree seeking students to pay out-of-state tuition rates
 - e. Students taking greater than 110% of degree requirements to pay out-of-state tuition
 - f. Each student's tuition bill must delineate true cost of student's education by fund source and entity bearing the cost.
- 8) Administered Funds (Salary bonuses)- universities not included
- 9) Included in Economic Development part of the budget(SA 1876)
 - a. Alzheimer's- \$11M
 - b. FSU Chiropractic- \$5.4M
 - c. FSU/UF High Magnetic Field Lab- \$5.4M
- 10) Programs funded from non-recurring for 2003-04 funded for 2004-05: MPLE-\$.7M, FI Center for Teachers \$.4M

STATE UNIVERSITIES PROPOSED 2004 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

**House of Representatives Education Appropriations Subcommittee
January 13, 2004**

INCREASE AVAILABLE REVENUE

- **Support the Florida Board of Governors 2004-05 Legislative Budget Request, specifically including the requested funding levels for enrollment growth, new space, major gifts, and funding for initiatives designed to meet state critical needs and enhance research, economic development and graduate education.**
- **Tuition increases should be used for local discretionary university board of trustees initiatives – should not be used to replace General Revenue**
- **Tuition “flexibility” means the authority for the local university boards of trustees to determine whether to charge block tuition, differentiate tuition among degree programs, or offer tuition incentives for night and weekend courses, and removal of the 40% cap on the Activity & Service, Health and Athletic fees.**
- **Authorize each board of trustees to charge a discretionary technology fee. This discretionary fee would remain with each university and be used for high demand technology access and support projects in keeping with student input. Using the transportation access fee as a model, we are proposing that this fee remain outside of Bright Futures, with the fee established and spent in a collaborative decision-making process with student leaders on each campus.**
- **Authorize an increase in the CITF and building fees by \$2.00 (\$1 mandatory; \$1 discretionary).**
- **Eliminate the requirement that universities must use the SUNCOM Network communications services allowing for less expensive solutions for these services.**

INCREASE LOCAL CONTROL

- **Pass legislation to authorize the university boards of trustees to name university buildings for living persons.**
- **Streamline the bonding process for the universities - (1) Transfer authority from the State Board of Education to the university boards to approve DSO-issued bonds, and (2) eliminate legislative approval for projects which are supported by user fees (such as parking and dormitory fees) but do not require state funds for maintenance.**
- **Transfer the several university “glitch” issues from the 2003-04 Implementing Bill into law, including the updated version of UMIFA which conforms it to the uniform act.**

ESTABLISH BRIGHT FUTURES VOUCHERS

KEY DATES FOR 2004 SESSION

Tuesday, 3/2 - FIRST DAY OF SESSION

Tuesday, 3/16 - FIU DAY at the Capitol

3/17 - 18 - GMCC Tallahassee Initiative

Thursday, 3/25 - BOG meets

3/31 - 4/1 - DADE DAYS in TALLAHASSEE

Thursday, 4/22 - BOG meets

Thursday, 4/29 – FIU BOT Governmental Relations Committee meets

Friday, 4/30 - LAST DAY OF (regular) SESSION

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governmental Relations Committee**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: 2004 State Legislative Priorities

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Recommend Board Approval of 2004 State Legislative priorities.

Supporting Documentation Included:

• 2004 State Legislative Priorities

Facilitators/Presenters:

Chair Lopez



Priorities for the 2004 Legislative Session

March 2 – April 30, 2004
Draft

I. BASE FUNDING

It is essential for state universities to be fully funded in 2004. The most important issue for universities in 2004 is ensuring that our base funding is not cut. The Board of Governors has requested \$38 million to fund cost-to-continue issues such as salary increases and phased-in space that began in late 2003 and must continue in 2004. The Governor has included some of the cost-to-continue issues in his 2004 budget request.

II. PARITY FUNDING/Faculty Salaries

Year after year FIU students at every level receive less funding than students at other state universities. Funding parity is not only essential to provide similar basic services for students, but also to be able to compensate faculty on a competitive basis. FIU competes nationally to attract quality faculty to our campus. This challenge is aggravated by FIU's continued low level of funding. The Governor's budget provides parity for future lower level undergraduate students by providing that increased lower level enrollment be calculated at the system standard of \$7,118 per FTE. FIU urges our legislative delegation to pursue policies and funding that will ensure FIU's students are funded equitably.

III. ENROLLMENT GROWTH

FIU asks the Legislature to support the Board of Governors request to fund an additional 11,496 FTEs. This requires \$82 million in funding. The Governor has requested \$50 million to fund enrollment growth. While this is a start, it must be noted that \$20 million of the Governor's enrollment growth request is funded with nonrecurring dollars.

The funding of enrollment is required to maintain access to universities especially in light of continued success in raising the high school graduation rate around the state. Additionally, in order to avoid further exacerbating the parity funding issue, it is important that the Legislature fund enrollment growth in a fair manner.

IV. FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS

The Board of Governors has requested \$115 million from the Public Education Capital Outlay Trust Fund for university projects. The Governor's budget funds \$107 million for universities out of PECO. In both budgets, \$5 million is allocated to FIU for building maintenance. Neither budget includes FIU's request for \$15.6 million to build a Molecular Biology building on the University Park Campus. This building would support FIU's science programs and would serve as an important step in the further development of FIU's medical education initiative. FIU's capital outlay request also

included \$8.75 million for a Social Science building that would support the College of Arts and Sciences. Funding for this building is not included in either the Board of Governors request nor the Governor's recommendation.

A tremendous shortfall in revenue collections in the PECO trust fund leaves the state facing dramatically reduced funds available for capital outlay projects. FIU urges the Legislature to pledge other available nonrecurring dollars to support university capital outlay projects.

V. MAJOR GIFTS MATCHING PROGRAM

FIU asks the Legislature to support the Board of Governors request to fund \$60 million to alleviate the backlog of private gifts waiting to be matched. The Governor's budget request is for \$25 million to alleviate the backlog.

FIU is owed \$5 million in state matching funds. The Matching gifts program is a powerful incentive that FIU has been able to use to encourage large donations which enhance the universities' ability to attract recognized scholars, provide scholarships, and enable the improvement of our libraries.

VI. BOARD OF TRUSTEES TUITION AND FEE AUTHORITY

The state universities welcomed the creation of strong, local Boards of Trustees. Our trustees are keenly aware of the needs and concerns of the community. For this reason, the universities request that the Legislature devolve to the local boards the authority for establishing tuition and fee policies. For example, some universities may be better suited for block fees while others may wish to charge lower tuition for night and weekend classes.

VII. STUDENT FEE ISSUES

The universities request that the Boards of Trustees be authorized to establish a technology fee to meet the ever increasing reliance on technology and the expansion of distance learning. Students would pay this fee as a component of their registration fees.

FIU and the other state universities request that the Legislature increase or remove entirely the 40% cap on fees and the 5% increase limitation on the Activity and Service, Health, and Athletic Fee. These limitations unfairly limit those universities whose fees were low when the caps were put into place. The 40% cap prohibits FIU from raising its athletic fee to pay for the costs associated with our recently announced transition from NCAA Division I-AA to I-A for our two year old football team. Failing the removal or increase of the 40% cap, FIU requests that this cap be lifted for universities changing athletic competitive divisions so that we can increase our athletic fee. Any increase would be approved by a student committee.

VIII. ENHANCEMENT FUNDS

The Governor's budget requests \$10 million in enhancement funds for universities that establish policies leading an increased number of degrees in the state's critical needs: nursing, teaching, engineering, and information technology. FIU requests that the Legislature support the Board of Governors request of \$33 million in enhancement funds to meet the state's critical needs. FIU's portion of this money is \$3.5 million: \$1 million for addressing the Teacher shortage, \$1 million for addressing the Nursing shortage, and \$1.5 million for Graduate studies enhancement. These funds will be a boon for FIU and all of Miami-Dade County. FIU will use these funds to further impact the quality of teaching and enhance the learning experience for the student.

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governmental Relations Committee**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: Federal Congressional Report

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

None.
Discussion Item

Supporting Documentation Included:

- FY 2004 Year-end Priorities Report

Facilitators/Presenters:

Steve Sauls

Office of Government Relations
FY '04 Federal Priorities Year-End Report

Total: More than \$16,000,000

FIU Individual Projects and FIU-Led SUS Proposal

ISSUE	AMOUNT REQUESTED	APPRO/AUTHORIZATION	CONGRESSIONAL ACTON	FINAL
HCET Base Funding*	\$7 million	Energy and Water Appropriation	\$7 million earmark in House Report	\$6,958,700
HCET Base Funding	N/A	DOD Authorization	Senate Committee Report Language	Report Language
CETA*	\$5 million	H-Interior and Energy and Water S-Energy and Water		Not Funded
CETA	N/A	Energy Bill	CETA Amendment in Conference Report	Senate kills bill. Further consideration by Senate next year.
Army Environ. Solutions*	\$5 million	DOD Appropriations	\$5 million earmark in House Report \$4.5 million in Senate Report.	\$2,500,000, to be reduced by undetermined % cut.
SUS Hurricane Mitigation*	~\$7 million	CJS Appropriations	\$2 million earmark in House Report. \$3,750,000 in Senate Report.	\$3,727,875
SUS Hurricane Mitigation	~\$7 million	Homeland Security	House Committee Report Language	Report Language
Nutrition Center	\$1 million	Labor/HHS Appropriation		Not Funded
Nutrition Center*	\$485,000 per year, for 3 years		Congressional support letter	Administration. on Aging: Awarded \$460,000 per year for three years.
Nursing Center (HRSA)	\$1.2 million	Labor/HHS Appropriation		Not funded
Multi-Media Teaching Lab	\$435,000	Labor/HHS Appropriation		Not funded.
Transportation University Research Center*	Seeking \$1 million	Transportation/Treasury Appropriation	\$1 million earmark in House Report.	\$397,640
Everglades	\$3.5 million	Energy and Water Appropriation	Nothing	Not Funded
TOTAL				\$14,044,215

SUS Proposals in Which FIU has a Role

SUS Proposal	Lead University	Total	FIU share
Center for Intermodal Safety	FAU	\$6,958,700	~\$1,000,000
Hydrogen Research Initiative	UF	\$7,952,800	~\$250,000
Community Based Early Learning HUBS	UNF	\$497,050	TBD
Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats	USF	\$7,350,000	~\$574,000
Bioterrorism Facilities	USF	\$5,000,000	TBD
		TOTAL:	~\$2,000,000

Combined total for FY '04 -- Individual and SUS Proposals -- more than \$16,000,000

BOT approved priorities*

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governmental Relations Committee**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: Federal FY 2005 Priorities

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Recommend Board Approval of 2005 Federal Priorities.

Supporting Documentation Included:

• FY 2005 Federal Priorities

Facilitators/Presenters:

Chair Lopez

Florida International University

2004 Government Relations Priorities

Federal Priority Issues for FY '05 - Draft

I. Florida Hurricane Alliance (Continuation)

Continuing the second year of a proposed five-year effort, the Florida Hurricane Alliance, led by Florida International University, with seven additional Florida public research universities, seeks \$7.5 million in support of hurricane research. The funding will allow Alliance researchers to build upon prior findings, to develop credible data on the effectiveness of various methods and techniques for hurricane damage reduction, and to transfer the knowledge gained to policy-makers, practitioners in many fields and the community at large through programs of education and outreach.

The Florida Hurricane Alliance will have the single focused goal of reducing the cost of hurricanes to federal, state and local government, as well as to businesses and households. The work and solutions developed by the Alliance will benefit not only Florida, but also every hurricane-vulnerable community in the country and abroad. The Alliance will focus on three areas: basic and applied research, infrastructure development, and education and outreach.

Florida is the most hurricane-vulnerable state in the country. Research offers the promise of reducing potential damages, best achieved through increased multidisciplinary research and testing, vulnerability assessments, and education and outreach to build a solid foundation for policy-making, and building practices.

II. Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology (Continuation)

HCET is seeking \$7 million to continue providing the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management invaluable assistance in meeting the goals and objectives of the largest, most complex environmental restoration program in the world. Over the past eight years of this program, HCET has amassed significant capabilities and assets that directly support the goals of the DOE EM Program. These assets, which include radiological and chemical analytical laboratories, design and fabrication tooling and equipment, as well as unique EM issue-oriented research facilities, would be cost prohibitive to duplicate at any other institution.

FIU now provides applied research, technology development and demonstration, and advanced engineering support to DOE-EM in the execution of its responsibilities to the nation as it cleans up the legacy of the nuclear weapons program. With EM's recent commitment to accelerate the program completion by 35 years, HCET's support to this program becomes significantly more critical to the EM Program's success. FIU has a demonstrated track record of providing exceptional value to the mission of the EM Program by solving real-world problems with state-of-the-art innovative technologies and methodologies.

III. Bio/Nano Electronic Devices and Sensors (New)

Advancements in bio/nano devices and sensors have the potential to significantly advance our nation's electronic, health care, warfare, and environmental pollution technology base. Florida International University's (FIU's) defense endeavors in the area of bio/nano technology are well positioned to help meet these challenges. FIU is seeking \$5 million to develop innovative bio/nano electronics and sensors, with special emphasis on bio/nano electronic devices, bio/nano sensors, and novel multi-functional bio/nano materials, process and characterization.

Development of these technologies and devices will not only revolutionize the field of bio/nano-technology but will also change the landscape of high technology in Florida, particularly South Florida, making it among the most highly advanced in the nation. It will spur tremendous economic growth by creating new businesses and attracting major electronics and bio-technology companies to Florida in addition to expanding the technology base of existing companies.

IV. National Policy and Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging (Continuation)

FIU's National Policy and Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging is seeking \$1 million to continue to provide technical training, policy analysis, best practices and outcomes research to Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs (a.k.a. meals-on-wheels) and to nursing homes at the local, state, regional and national levels. The Center's goals are to help older adults remain independent and at home; to demonstrate the effectiveness of congregate and home-delivered meals in reducing hospital admissions and readmission, and delaying nursing home placement; to reduce malnutrition and dehydration in nursing homes; and to reduce Medicare and Medicaid costs through better nutrition. The Center currently works closely with the US Administration on Aging (AoA) under a Cooperative Agreement and wants to expand its role with that agency.

V. Western Hemisphere Military Environmental and Energy Technology Information Program (Continuation)

FIU is seeking \$5 million to augment and accelerate the existing agreement between Florida International University's Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology (HCET) and the Department of the Army, Installations and Environment, to develop and implement Information Exchange Agreements. These agreements cover the areas of environmental sustainability, renewable energy utilization, and installations management between the U.S. military and military organizations of countries throughout the Western Hemisphere. In 2003, FIU received \$5 million to begin the program. The new funds will enable the program to include more of the countries of interest to US military needs and to develop agreements and information exchange projects for many of the countries not currently included.

VI. National Center for Transportation Needs of Special Populations (TRANSPO) (Continuation)

Continuing the second year of a proposed five-year effort, the National Center for Transportation Needs of Special Populations (TRANSPO), an FIU-led center partnered with the University of Miami and FAMU, seeks \$1.5 million to support research on transportation needs of special populations. Special need populations include seniors, the physically impaired, school-age children, young drivers, immigrants, foreign visitors, and the economically disadvantaged.

These sectors of our population have special transportation needs due to their physical, physiological, language, social-economical, and cultural barriers. Recognizing the need for such a center, Congress appropriated \$400,000 in FY '04 to establish the National Center for Transportation Needs of Special Populations (TRANSPO). The center will conduct research on a wide range of topics, including emergency preparedness, transit accessibility, highway safety and design, economic development, emerging technologies, environmental justice, and urban planning, with a focus on the transportation needs of special populations. With a disproportionately high percentage of special populations, the State of Florida is a natural test bed for such research.

VII. Western Hemisphere Energy Cooperation (New)

It is important that the US Government support activities to foster the development of additional energy supplies, especially oil, in countries outside of the Persian Gulf, as well as the more efficient use of energy throughout the world. The more this occurs, the less leverage the Middle East will have in world energy markets.

The Department of Energy should aggressively promote the development and transfer of technologies to Western Hemisphere nations, take steps to increase cooperation on energy issues among the nations of our Hemisphere, and make this a significant, long-term departmental priority. To that end, Congress should provide \$8 million to fund the Western Hemisphere Energy Cooperation program authorized by Sec. 965 of the Energy Policy Act of 2003, H. Rept. 108-375. This new program promotes cooperation on energy issues with Western Hemisphere countries and directs the Secretary of Energy to fund program activities, to the extent practicable, with universities such as FIU.

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES'
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: Medical Education Initiative Update

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Review and discuss the Medical Education Initiative Update as presented.

Facilitators/Presenters:

President Maidique

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES'
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

28 January 2004

SUBJECT: Governance Issues Report

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Review and discuss the Governance Issues Report as presented.

Facilitators/Presenters:

EVP Gallagher