

## Graduation Task Force Staff Recommendation Action Plan

### Graduation Task Force

The report of the Graduation Task Force was officially received by the Chancellor in August 2004. The eight recommendations have been reviewed by the Office of Academic Affairs (in consultation with the Task Force chair) and by the office of Strategic Research and Analysis. These two offices agree on the following follow-up process and will be recommending this process to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

We **recommend** that USG use the six-year graduation rate as the standard measure for bachelor degrees in keeping with national norms. **System Response:** We concur and will report the data to institutions in this form. The Graduation rate at two-year colleges is established to be three years. We will also report several disaggregated parameters relating to retention and graduation rates. AVC Hudson (CMH) will be the lead.

We **recommend** a set of principles on institutional practices and we **recommend** that all institutions develop a plan for improving their disaggregated retention and six-year graduation rates by implementing these principles. **System response:** We will ask the Executive Committee of chief academic officers (RACAA) to review the principles from the Graduation Task Force Report forthwith. VC Frank Butler (FAB) will be the leads.

We **recommend** that each institution develop procedures to follow students who transfer to them, then analyze data to develop strategies for enhancing transfer student success. Many of the institutional practices recommended for support of freshman students should provide increased success for all students. **System Response:** With System guidance, we support this recommendation. Campus VPAs and Provosts (or designees) along with Tonya Lam, FAB and CMH will take collaborative responsibility. The Regents Advisory Committee on Registration and Admissions (RACRA) will also be involved.

We **recommend** that the University System Office (USO) require annual progress reports on disaggregated retention rates for years one through five and on disaggregated six-year graduation rates. **System Response:** We support this recommendation. CMH will be the lead.

Further, we provide a set of rubrics for self-assessment by institutions and we **recommend** that rubrics be used by institutions to monitor their progress on implementation of principles and results. **System Response:** We support the intent of the recommendation to have a common set of measurement parameters, against which institutions can assess their own progress, perhaps by sector or other grouping. CMH will be the lead.

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We **recommend** that the USO support institutions on a regular schedule to use the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) or the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) as a means of monitoring improvement of student learning and collegiate quality. **System Response:** We support the recommendation subject to available funding. The surveys have been approved for this fiscal year ('05)

We **recommend** that institutions develop stronger relationships with feeder high schools to help narrow the gap in expectations between high school and college. **System Response:** We support this recommendation. AVC Jan Kettlewell will be the lead with P-16 and the Education Academic Advisory and Policy Committee (EPAAC) directly involved. The high school feedback report is to be used to work with local high schools and in reporting to the System on graduation initiatives.