

COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

May 14, 2003

**SUBJECT: Changing Directions Grant**

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**PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION**

For Information and Discussion.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Florida is one of five states selected to participate in the **Changing Direction Project** initiated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education with funding from the Lumina Foundation for Education. The project is designed around an integrated approach to restructuring appropriations, tuition, and financial aid policies and practices. Over a four-year period, the project will examine the socio-economic-political environment in order to foster the kinds of major changes needed in the near future at multiple levels (campus, system, state, and national) and to initiate and promote those changes through public policy.

CEPRI has used its grant to obtain external consultant assistance for two purposes related to this initiative. First, with additional financial support from the Department of Education, to complete a current inventory of all sources of aid available to Florida students at all public and private institutions in the state. Second, to model the interaction among Florida's current financial aid, tuition, and appropriations policies and consider possible alternatives that could more effectively support the goals of the K-20 system in a way that promotes excellence, efficiency, and equity. At this meeting staff will review preliminary results from the inventory which will be included in the publication, Trends in Student Aid and College Pricing, 1997-98 to 2001-02. The policy alternatives model will be discussed at a future Council meeting.

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

- Power Point overview of the student aid inventory

**Staff:**

*Patrick Dallet*