

COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

July 9, 2003

SUBJECT: Changing Directions Grant

PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION

For Discussion and Action.

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 the final draft of the publication, *Trends in Student Aid and College Pricing, 1997-98 to 2001-02* will be discussed and acted upon by the Council.

Supporting Documentation Included:

- **Trends in Student Aid and College Pricing**

Staff:

Patrick Dallet