



### **Four States and FIPSE:**

Defining Best Practices for Responsible  
Accountability Models in Higher Education

### **Participants**

South Carolina (CHE - Lead State)  
California (Center for Studies in Higher Education,  
UC Berkeley)  
Connecticut (Connecticut Department of Higher  
Education)  
Oklahoma (Oklahoma Board of Regents)  
State Higher Education Executive Officers  
(SHEEO)

### **Purpose**

- Define, document, evaluate, and disseminate best practices for responsible accountability for higher education.

### **Three Areas of Focus**

Accountability Measures to Document and  
Encourage:

- Cost Containment
- Student Achievement
- Public Trust in Higher Education

## Areas of Primary Focus

- South Carolina
  - Cost Containment
  - Dissemination
- California
  - Public Trust
- Connecticut
  - Student Achievement (Employer Satisfaction)

## Areas of Primary Focus

- Oklahoma
  - Student Achievement (Student Learning)
- SHEEO
  - National Research
  - Dissemination

## Specifics

- Budget
  - \$800,000 over 3 years
    - SC portion - \$270,000
- Time-Frame
  - September 2002-August 2005
- Fiscal Agent
  - South Carolina Higher Education Foundation

## Progress

- California
  - Detailed content analysis of 300 news articles representing over 6000 higher education related articles
- Connecticut
  - Draft best practices report on documenting workforce success of college graduates

## **Progress**

- Oklahoma
  - Expanded participation in Measuring Up study on student learning
- SHEEO
  - National Commission on Higher Education Accountability
  - Accountability data-base

## **South Carolina**

- Staff
  - Project Director – 20%
  - Coordinator – 75%
  - Administrative Assistant – 25%

## **South Carolina**

- Funded public agenda portion of “Foundations for the Future” report
- Web-based research of existing accountability systems
- Literature research

## **South Carolina**

- Provided background material for Accountability Workgroup
- Testified before National Commission on Higher Education Accountability

## **South Carolina**

- Focus groups
  - Institutional research/effectiveness coordinators
  - Business and finance officers
  - Public information officers
- Interviews
  - 51 potential interviewees identified
    - Legislature
    - Higher education
    - State agencies
    - Business

## **Future**

- Meeting of project participants
  - Oklahoma City
  - August 2004
- National survey
  - Conducted through SHEEO
- National conference
  - August 2005

## **Questions**

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