

TICUA Policy Update

March 6, 2009

Senate Education Names Sub Committee

Delores Gresham, Chairperson of the Senate Education Committee, formed a sub-committee to review all the newly filed lottery bills. The committee will be chaired by Reginald Tate and will have two other Senate members: Jamie Woodson and Jim Tracy. Currently there are over 50 bills that have been filed to change the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship programs.

Governor Weighs-in on Public Higher Ed Merger

Governor Phil Bredesen met informally with lawmakers to discuss the possibility of rethinking public higher education governance. With the presidential vacancy at the University of Tennessee and the Chancellor's retirement announcement at the Board of Regents, the Governor believes it is a good time to consider a change.

The merger idea was explored in the late 1990's under the Sundquist administration but both systems were under rather strong stable leadership. With the current fluidity in leadership and the emphasis on budget cuts, the outcome could be very different this time.

Follow TICUA on Twitter

Patrick Meldrim, Director of Research and Public Affairs, announced this week the establishment of TICUA on the Twitter network. Twitter allows you to keep up-to-date on TICUA activities as they happen in short notes less than 140 characters. Breaking policy updates will be announced on Twitter throughout the week. TICUA will use the online tool to keep you informed on other staff work and TICUA events. Simply create a free account at twitter.com and choose to follow TICUA.