NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SYSTEM HEADS
and
LOUISIANA’S PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMS

Statement of Commitment and Action Regarding Student Access and Success

In an effort to reinforce America's longtime leadership position in higher education, the National Association of System Heads (NASH), working in conjunction with The Education Trust, proposes the creation of a voluntary and aggressive initiative to expand access and success, especially for low-income and first generation college students at our colleges and universities.

On this 22nd day of February, 2007, the four public higher education systems of the State of Louisiana agree to join NASH in this important initiative. In doing so, systems will:

- Devote leadership time and resources to an aggressive effort to increase access and success for all students
- Establish and collaboratively communicate five-year stretch goals designed to enhance student access and success
- Identify and mount powerful action strategies to achieve goals
- Collaborate with each other as well as systems within NASH to improve data quality and develop and institute a common set of metrics that will be used to measure goal achievement
- Publish progress (results) on an annual basis

Systems will work closely with NASH and its members in sharing critical actions, experiences, resources, and data throughout this process.

For Louisiana's Public Higher Education Systems:

Joe May, President
Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Sally Clausen, President
University of Louisiana System

Ralph Slaughter, President
Southern University System

William Jenkins, President
Louisiana State University System

National Association of System Heads:

Janis Somerville
Executive Director