

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**January 28, 2009 – Austin, Texas** – The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will hold its regular quarterly meeting in the agency board room beginning at 8:30 a.m. on January 29, 2009. Highlighted agenda items up for Board consideration are listed below. The entire agenda may be found at [http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/GeneralPubs/Agenda/AG2009\\_01/](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/GeneralPubs/Agenda/AG2009_01/).

### **What can higher education do to improve the quality in secondary school teaching**

Since the adoption of the College Readiness Standards (CRS) on January 24, 2008, the THECB has initiated a number of activities to implement these standards. Among the challenges for implementation of the CRS is the need to prepare teachers to deliver classroom instruction that ensures post secondary success for students. Not only is there a need to ensure academic and education coursework consistent with the rigor of the CRS, but also a need to ensure a supply of high quality teachers as the number of credits increases for recommended high school plan.

### **Consideration of adopting the staff's recommendation relating to new Sections 5.8 through 5.10 of Board rules, concerning Uniform Grade Point Average**

RECOMMENDATION: Postpone consideration until next quarterly or special called Board Meeting, as determined by the Board.

### **Projecting the Need Reports**

The following Projecting the Needs reports will be up for consideration and adoption:

- Improving Undergraduate Education in Texas
- Pharmacy Education
- Veterinary Medical Education
- Increasing the Number of Initial Licensure Registered Nurses and Nursing Faculty

### **Presentation on the Participation and Success Goals of Closing the Gaps by 2015**

After the fall institutional data submissions, the staff report to the Board on progress towards the participation and success goals of Closing the Gaps by 2015. The report updates data provided in the annual Progress Report issued each July.

**Note:** The January Board meeting will be broadcast live at <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Events/>.