



**October 20, 2008 – 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 Oct. 23, 2008. 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/AG2008\\_10/](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/GeneralPubs/Agenda/AG2008_10/).

### **Board discussion of Phase II of the Texas College Readiness Standards (CRS)**

The Board will discuss a gap analysis study conducted by the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) concerning the CRS and entry-level academic courses offered at Texas public institutions of higher education. The study involved more than 800 faculty and more than 80 Texas community colleges and universities. Dr. David Conley, founder and Chief Executive Officer of EPIC, and principal investigator of the gap analysis, will discuss the findings of the study and explain how the results will be disseminated and used in the development of Texas Reference Courses.

### **Higher Education Insight Associates (HEIA) Feasibility Study on Financial Aid**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) contracted with HEIA to conduct a review of state financial aid programs and to report the findings to the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board (LBB). The HEIA issued their final report, which was transmitted to the Governor and the LBB on July 31, 2008. The Coordinating Board (CB) took no position on the recommendations of the report at that time. The CB will consider 15 of the 16 HEIA recommendations, excluding the Need + Merit recommendation, which will be discussed at a special called meeting scheduled for November 15, 2008.

### **Fall 2008 Preliminary Enrollment Report**

Preliminary fall 2008 enrollment numbers will be reported at the Oct. 23rd Coordinating Board meeting.

### **Uniform Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation Proposal**

The Board will consider the proposed rules for the uniform GPA calculation for admission to general admission teaching institutions required by HB 3851, 80th Texas Legislature, including:

- Procedures for calculating the high school GPA average for students seeking admission to a Texas general academic teaching institution
- GPA scale
- Courses included in the GPA calculation
- Additional weight proposal for certain courses
- Implementation dates

For more information, or to arrange interviews on any of the above topics, please contact De J. Lozada at (512) 427-6119 or contact the External Relations department at (512) 427-6111.