



**FLORIDA  
CONSORTIUM**  
OF METROPOLITAN  
RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

SHARING IDEAS. DESIGNING SOLUTIONS. ENSURING SUCCESS.

# BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



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# AGENDA



Discuss University Competition vs. Collaboration



Explore Cross Profession Collaboration



Three “C’s”



Lessons Learned



## ABOUT US

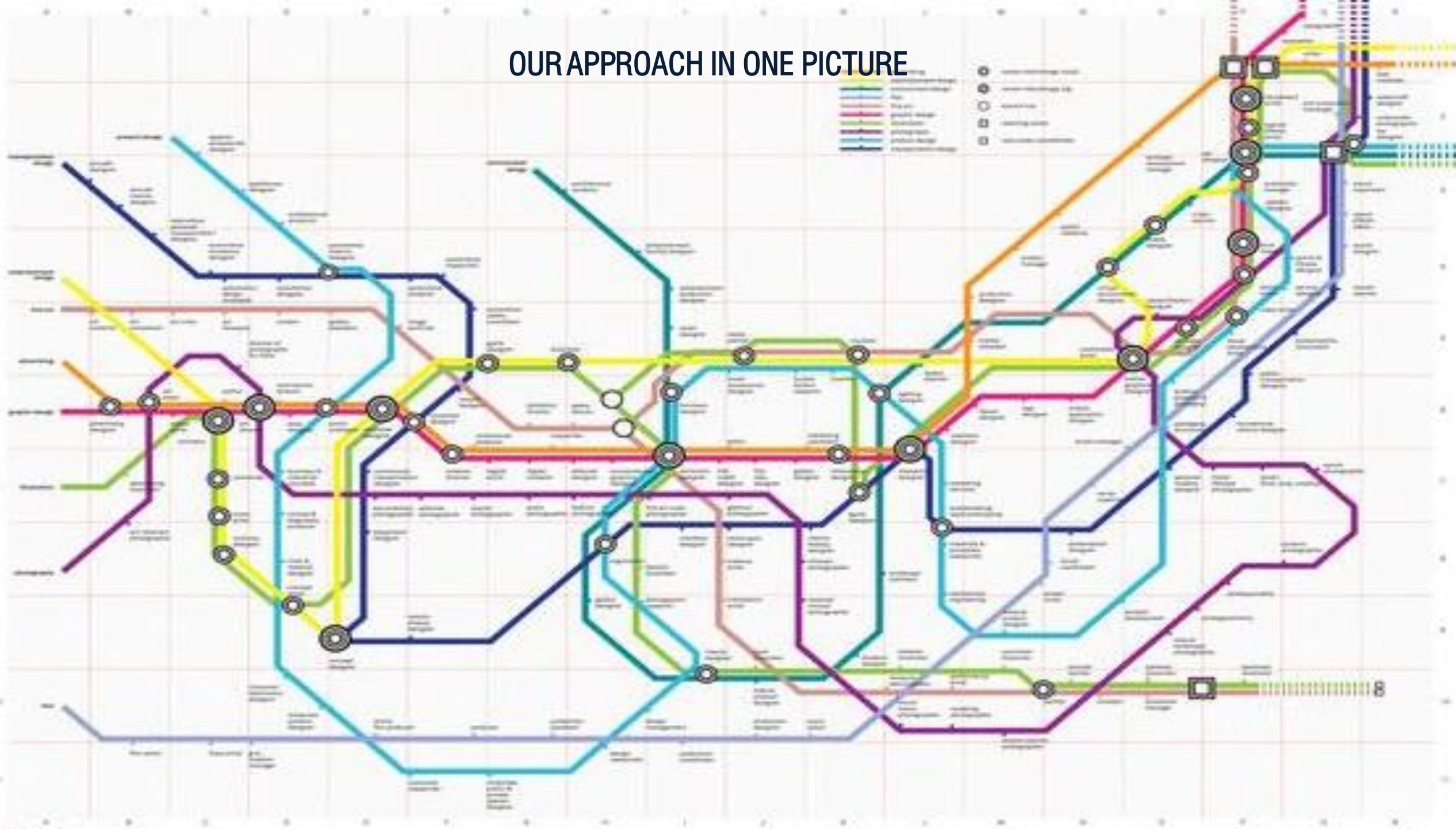
The Florida Consortium of Metropolitan Research Universities is a collaborative partnership between Florida International University, the University of Central Florida, and the University of South Florida, operationally formed with consultation and support from the Helios Education Foundation.

# THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH

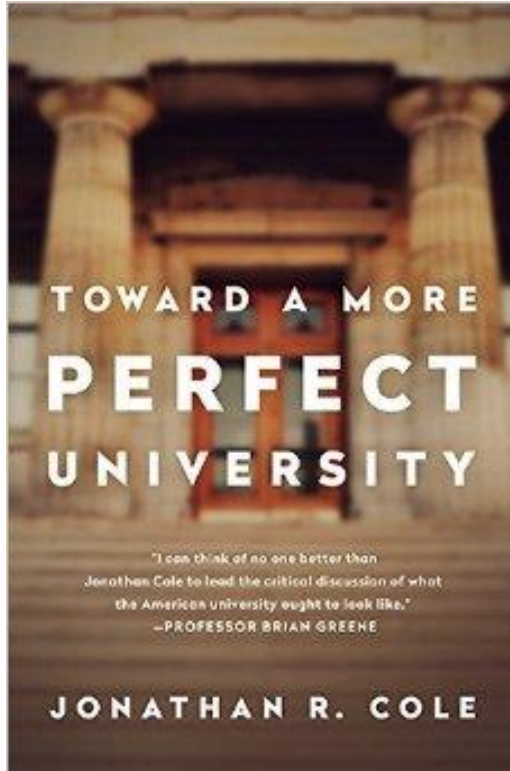
ONE UNIVERSITY, ONE DESTINATION



# OUR APPROACH IN ONE PICTURE



## UNIVERSITY COMPETITION VS. COLLABORATION



*“High-quality research institutions, especially the elite Eastern universities, have not thought about combining their strengths. The closures and mergers that have taken place have generally involved second- or third-tier institutions. Most of the great state universities have continued to expand, in response to growing populations of students and to the political pressures of geographic constituencies. Some joint programs have emerged, generally crafted by professional schools in different locations — including some in the United States and other nations. But I cannot think of a single large-scale merger of any portion of two great universities in the past 25 years other than attempts to unite university-affiliated or university-owned hospitals. Almost all of those attempts have failed.”*

*- Jonathan R. Cole*

## THE GREAT RELEVANCE DEBATE

“Technological innovation and industry demands are now moving too rapidly for higher education to adapt in its current form. The answer to the dilemma in higher education will not be found in incremental improvement. Rather, the solution involves a systemic transformation that prioritizes more practical and applied curricula, exploits disruptive technologies, and strengthens and expands ecosystem partnerships.” - The Pursuit of Relevance IBM





## MARKET VIEW:DELOITTE COLLABORATION SURVEY

- 75% of CEOs expect corporate collaborations, mergers, and acquisitions to increase in the future.
- 64% believe that the kind of collaborations, mergers, and acquisitions will feature larger firms and companies.
- 73% plan to divest in certain sectors of their business they believe can be strengthened with strategic collaborations
- Apple currently collaborates with 156 different companies to design, produce, sell, and ship its product line.
- Why can't universities do the same but take those relationships deeper?



## MAKING THE CASE: HIGHER EDUCATION COLLABORATION

- Fifty collaborative partnerships in Higher Education
- Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges, Quaker Coalition, Bi-Lo Consortium.
- Generally focus on cost sharing with items like health insurance, technology, and other contractual goods and services.
- Tend to be close proximity, benefit from small to scale work, and almost always private schools or 2 year colleges



# AMABLE MODEL: CROSS PROFESSION COLLABORATION

COMMUNICATION

COORDINATION



COOPERATION



## TRANSFORMING STEM EDUCATION ACROSS FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF METROPOLITAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

THE LEONA M. AND HARRY B.  
**HELMSLEY**  
CHARITABLE TRUST



Grant: \$500,000

Retention and completion in science, technology, engineering & math fields of study for underserved populations:

- First Generation
- Low Income
- Minority
- Women in STEM

Five STEM Faculty Learning Communities across Florida International University, University of Central Florida, and University of South Florida

# FLORIDA CONSORTIUM: CROSS PROFESSION COLLABORATION

A Collaborative Environment +

A Process +



Engaged Faculty +

A desire to be productive  
=  
Outcomes

## EARLY SETBACKS

1. Distance
2. Expectations
3. Scope of the work
4. Timing
5. Recruitment and project readiness
6. Collaboration



## THREE C's: COMMUNICATIONS

1. Scheduled in-person meetings
2. FLCs worked independently and leads reported back
3. Florida Consortium staff
  - Collected and collated data
  - Managed all logistics
  - Developed reports
  - Shared insights



## THREE C's: COORDINATION

1. Analyze retention, graduation, and course passage rates per discipline
2. Investigate innovative programs and policies that impact retention
3. Develop an implementation plan per discipline





## THREE C's: COOPERATION

1. We met in different places to showcase locations
2. We all agreed summit dates were the deadline dates to ease confusion
3. Proposals required buy in from at least two schools or disciplines to make the final report



## LESSONS LEARNED

1. Time away from each campus for face to face meetings in the same space worked for us
2. We managed logistics and infrastructure to eliminate barriers
3. Each university is different
4. Gaps in communication and lack of clear outcomes led to a slow start-up
5. We are changing the way universities work so in the end we needed to be patient



## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Design a formal onboarding process
2. Include time within the process to allow participants to develop relationships and build trust
3. Develop clear guidelines and set expectations at the onset
4. Communicate with key stakeholders often to get buy in



## TRANSFORMING STEM EDUCATION ACROSS FLORIDA CONSORTIUM OF METROPOLITAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES REQUIRED:

1. 15,000 Miles of Travel
2. 300 Hours of Phone Calls
3. 275 Hours of F2F Sessions
4. 100 Faculty Engaged
5. 95 Administrators / Leads Engaged

## FINAL RESULTS

1. Blueprint for inter-university collaboration
2. \$1.5 million follow-up grant from Helmsley Charitable Trust
3. College to Career Continuum/ Network Improvement Communities comprised of:
  - STEM Faculty
  - Two Year Community College Bridge
  - Business & Industry



THANK YOU

THE LEONA M. AND HARRY B.  
**HELMSLEY**  
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**Helios**<sup>®</sup>  
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