Dear Conference Attendee:

Welcome to FAEDS/SDCCMIS 2002!. Here we are in the 38th year of FAEDS for what promises to be one of our best conferences yet. You are commended in making the commitment to participate in this “K-20 educational technology summit” along with your colleagues and “experts” from not only Florida, but nationally. This year’s program includes sessions on some of the most important challenges to us all: network security, Internet filtering and services continuity, distributed systems, web content management, user training and labs management technology, networked storage options, imaging and workflow, and data warehousing. All sessions are chaired by district/college/university staff who have worked with the actual implementations and dealt with the problems first-hand. Along with the vendors and other invited experts, our time together should be very well spent.

A continuing emphasis is reflected in the involvement of and presentations by key state department officials and legislative representatives, which will also allow us to address mandated initiatives and “opportunities” as we work more closely with these state leaders.

As we have always well appreciated, the value of the informal contacts and meetings is as significant as the scheduled sessions. Based upon our record level pre-registrations and – barring any more of these hurricanes coming too close – we expect to have very strong representation from all school districts, community colleges, and universities. The opportunity to personally meet, share, and commiserate with colleagues who face or have already faced many of the same challenges and deadlines on your "short list", this is what FAEDS/SDCCMIS is about, and we are sure you will find it worthwhile.

This type event does not happen without much planning, preparations, and plain hard work. Both the Florida Association of Educational Data Systems Board and the Steering Committee of the School Districts' MIS Council have been instrumental in guiding and supporting the overall conference. The specific preparations are the result of hard work by all of the Program Committee. Please let them know what you liked and your ideas for continued successful meetings as we are already planning for next fall.

I look forward to our time together, and I commend your commitment to excellence in educational technology as reflected in your being part of this event.

Sincerely,

William D. Piotrowski, FAEDS President
Leon County Schools