



# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Student Affairs Committee*



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## MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 30, 2025

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Augustus B. Turnbull Conference Center  
555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL 32306  
Room 103

*The agenda will be followed in subsequent order and items may be heard earlier than the scheduled time.*

- I. Call to Order and Welcome**  
*Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair*
- II. Approval of Minutes**  
*August 28, 2025, meeting minutes*
- III. Student Affairs Updates**  
*Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs*
- IV. Student Organization Highlight**  
*Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs*
- V. Open Forum for Trustees**  
*Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair*
- VI. Adjournment**  
*Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair*



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

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# MEETING MINUTES

## August 30, 2025



# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### *Student Affairs Committee*

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#### **MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)**

Thursday, August 28, 2025

2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Augustus B. Turnbull Conference Center  
555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL  
32306 Room 205

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Trustee Deborah Sargeant; Trustee Carson Dale; Board of Trustees Vice Chair Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz

**Committee Members Absent:** Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair

**Committee Staff:** Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs

**Others in attendance:** Vice President O'Shea and other University administrators and staff

#### **I. Call to Order and Welcome**

*Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, FSU Board of Trustees Vice Chair*

Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz called the meeting to order at 2:44 p.m.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

*June 12, 2025, meeting minutes*

***Trustee Dale motioned to approve the minutes from June 12, 2025. Trustee Sargeant seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously by all committee members present.***

### **III. Student Affairs Updates**

*Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs*

#### **a. VPSA Staffing Update:**

Dr. Hecht announced that Mr. Freddy Juarez, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, will also assume the role of Director of Strategic Initiatives. In this capacity, he will oversee task forces, lead special projects, and drive innovative initiatives aimed at enhancing the Division.

#### **b. Welcome Back Activities:**

- i. Dr. Hecht stated that Welcome FSU began on the first day of classes, August 25<sup>th</sup>. More than 4,000 students attended the annual Involvement Fair held at the Tucker Civic Center.
- ii. The Division of Student Affairs will continue to host a variety of welcome events throughout the week to help students navigate campus resources and foster a strong sense of community.
- iii. Ms. Chelsea Knight discussed the new Ready For campaign, which is a series of events designed to prepare students for key moments and challenges throughout the academic year. These events include Ready for the First Football Game, Ready for Hurricane Season, Ready for Finals Week, and more. The goal of the campaign is to ensure students feel prepared, informed, and supported for whatever they may encounter.
- iv. The Ready For logo is intended to become a recognizable symbol for students, representing helpful resources and timely support. Over 650 students attended the first Ready For events, which took place on Landis Green, Legacy Walk, and at the Leach Center.

#### **c. Housing Updates:**

- i. Dr. Shannon Staten provided a housing update, noting that FSU student housing is operating at near full capacity, with almost every bed occupied. The overall move-in process went smoothly, with approximately 75% of students moving in by Friday, August 22nd. Resident Assistants and Living-Learning Communities have been fully prepped and are ready to engage with students,
- ii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz inquired whether there were any changes made to this year's move-in process. Dr. Hecht responded by highlighting the implementation of a more staggered move-in schedule, with assigned days and times to ease congestion.
- iii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz inquired about whether students had any mandatory events during the move-in period to attend. Dr. Hecht. Clarifies that most students moving in early were participating in Panhellenic recruitment or the Marching Chiefs, and that there were no mandatory events interrupting the move-in process.
- iv. The NW District, the new FSU on-campus residential neighborhood, is currently in the design phase but remains on track. This development will expand student housing to 8,200 beds by the end of the construction process. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz clarifies that this expansion will happen in phases, to minimize disruption and maximize available bed space.

- v. Dr. Hecht shared that Student Affairs has created an off-campus housing office geared towards supporting students who are unable to secure on-campus housing. Dr. Staten added that housing staff are working to assist 282 first-year students who did not receive on-campus housing. These students were given ample time and support to find off-campus housing, including access to resources and coordination with apartment managers to waive application fees.
- vi. Dr. Hecht concluded by stating that photos and visual updates of the NW District will be presented at the next meeting.

**d. Fraternity & Sorority Life Updates:**

- i. Mr. Juarez announced that it was a record-breaking year for FSU Panhellenic, with over 2,100 women participating in Panhellenic recruitment. This achievement is credited to the strength of the community, national recognition, and the continued growth of Greek life at FSU.
- ii. Mr. Juarez shared recruitment statistics, noting that 1,500 bids were extended, with the chapter quota set at 94. The largest chapter class reached 321 members. Additionally, 93% of participants receive their first-choice chapter, resulting in the lowest number of declines and highest placement rate in FSU Panhellenic history. The total Panhellenic membership now exceeds 5,000, setting an all-time high.
- iii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz inquired about the approximately 600 women who did not receive bids. Mr. Juarez explained that over 96% of those individuals voluntarily withdrew from the process, and only 50 women were released from the formal recruitment process representing the lowest number to date. Dr. Hecht clarified that those released were due to issues such as GPA requirements or other concerns.
- iv. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz commended Panhellenic for maintaining a selective recruitment process without being overly exclusive.
- v. Mr. Juarez noted a positive trend of more women listing a wider variety of chapters as top preferences, reflecting the inclusivity of the community, and demonstrating that there is a place for everyone.
- vi. Dr. Hecht concluded by emphasizing that as chapter sizes continue to grow, there will be a need for physical expansion of chapter houses, and future growth is expected.

**e. Boutique Fitness Updates:**

- i. Dr. Hecht presented recent photos showing the progress of the Boutique Fitness facility over the past month. The project remains on schedule for turnover to partners in October 2025, with marketing efforts set to begin at the same time.
- ii. The name of the fitness facility is still under consideration, but it is expected to be distinctive and engaging. Membership enrollment will open this fall for a grand opening proposed for January of 2026.
- iii. The fitness facility will be located in the former bookstore on Woodward, a highly central and accessible location. It will offer a class-only

membership model, with planned offerings including HIIT, Bootcamp, Pilates, cold plunge, and additional wellness-focused classes.

**f. Bound Program Updates:**

- i. Dr. Hecht shared that the Bound Program continues to be successful, recently launching its first event in Washington, D.C., to kick off internship season. The event was hosted by Student Veterans of America in a venue overlooking the White House. Additional events were held in Tampa and Miami. Each event was unique in structure but successful, with a strong attendance across the board.
- ii. Dr. Rob Liddell has hired a new position within the Career Center that will help support the continued growth and expansion of the Bound Program, including outreach to new cities. Dr. Hecht elaborated that potential future locations include Atlanta, Dallas/Fort Worth, and New York City, which will be determined based on data gathered from previous events.
- iii. The goal of the Bound Program is to ensure students feel supported by a network in the cities where they are interning or beginning their careers post-graduation, helping to drive student success.
- iv. Trustee Dale commented that he received positive feedback about the D.C. event.
- v. Ms. Knight announced that the Bound Program will collaborate with Honors students next year at Miami Bound, through a partnership with Miami Dade College. The plan includes inviting MDC President Madeline Pumariega to join the panel, helping to strengthen the relationship between FSU and MDC moving forward.
- vi. Trustee Dale inquired about the student selection process. Dr. Hecht explained that selection was based on internship data and student home addresses.
- vii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz asked about the class standing of participating students. Dr. Hecht responded that the events are primarily targeted toward sophomores and juniors actively seeking internships or job opportunities in those areas.
- viii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz also expressed interest in engaging graduate deans to include graduate students in future events. She also suggested separating the Miami and Fort Lauderdale events to better cater to each region. Dr. Hecht responded that there are plans to work with alumni in those areas to support the initiative.

**g. Post Incident Review & Updates:**

- i. A post incident review was provided to the Committee.

**h. New DSA Projects:**

- i. Dr. Hecht discussed the recent launch of her new podcast, which serves as an initiative to help students explore various aspects of campus life and college experiences. The podcast features highlights of different campus areas and includes guest appearances by various university staff members

- ii. Dr. Hecht also shared the idea of inviting President McCullough to appear on a future episode to discuss his passion for music, which has seemed to spark an interest in the students.

#### **IV. Student Organization Highlight**

##### **a) FSU Club Rugby Team & Rec Board President:**

- i. Director of Campus Recreation, Chris Morris, introduced Tanner Smith, President of FSU Men's Club Rugby, and Cassie Hyatt, Chair of the Campus Recreation Board, to share their experiences with FSU Club Sports and Campus Recreation.
- ii. Tanner Smith spoke about his leadership role, emphasizing efforts in player recruitment and retention. He expressed deep gratitude for the opportunities provided by alumni players, such as the team's recent trip to Ireland to compete internationally. He also thanked his coach for his continued guidance and support.
- iii. Trustee Sargeant commended Tanner's story, noting how inspiring it was and what an incredible opportunity the Ireland trip had been for the team.
- iv. Chris Morris highlighted the significance of leadership within sports clubs, especially among student-athletes and executive board members. He also stressed the growing need for increasing funding to support essential resources and enhanced competitive opportunities.
- v. Cassie Hyatt shared her experience serving on the Campus Recreation Board, describing how it gave her a strong sense of belonging and personal fulfillment during her time at FSU. She emphasized the importance of student feedback in driving meaningful changes and ensuring student voices are heard.
- vi. Dr. Hecht inquired about the specific change students are seeking. Cassie responded that expanded recreational space is a top priority, noting that the Leach Center no longer adequately supports the current student population. She advocated for a facility expansion to better meet student needs.
- vii. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz inquired about potential future spaces for student recreational activities, while Trustee Dale asked about additional improvements students would like to see in club sports.
- viii. Tanner reiterated the need for increased funding and access to athletic trainers. Chris Morris added that these challenges are not unique to FSU but are common across collegiate club sports programs nationwide.
- ix. Dr. Hecht concluded by asking how more students could be involved in board meetings to ensure their needs and concerns are heard and addressed effectively.

#### **V. Action Items for Consideration of Recommendation to the Board of Trustees**

*Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs*

##### **a) Action Item I: Request for Approval: Amend FSU Regulation 3.004 Student Conduct Code:**

- i. The proposed updates include removing reliance on the Seminole Creed, updating references and terminology to enhance clarity, revise the chain of

command for improved understanding, adding a definition of prohibited harassment unrelated to sex, and clarifying the role of the university-provided advisor.

- ii. ***Trustee Dale motioned to approve the request, Trustee Sargeant seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.***

**b) Action Item II: Request for Approval:** Amend FSU Regulation 3.0041 Student Organization Conduct Code

- i. These updates include clarification that an advisor for conduct processing may differ from an organization's chapter or alumni advisor, and clarify that an organization cannot be charged with a Title IX violation, only an individual.
- ii. ***Trustee Dale motioned to approve the request, Trustee Sargeant seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.***

**c) Action Item III: Request for Approval:** FSU Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee Charter

- i. Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz inquired about the origin of the proposal. Dr. Hecht explained that this approach aligns with past practices and those followed by partner institutions.
- ii. Trustee Dale asked for clarification of what a charter is and what its implications are.
- iii. Dr. Hecht responded that a charter serves as a mission statement for the committee. It provides context and guidance for incoming trustees to better understand the committee's purpose and function.
- iv. ***Trustee Dale motioned to approve the request, Trustee Sargeant seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.***

## **VI. Open Forum for Trustees**

*Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, FSU Board of Trustees Vice Chair*

Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz asked the Board if there was anything they would like to discuss in the Open Forum.

- i. Trustee Deborah Sargeant attended her final board meeting, as she will be stepping down due to other commitments. She expressed hope that the position will be filled by someone who can dedicate the necessary time and energy to the Board's work.
- ii. Trustee Sargeant shared her sincere gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to serve and expressed her continued support for FSU. She hopes to encourage others in her community to recognize the importance of supporting the university moving forward.

**VII. Adjournment**

*Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, FSU Board of Trustees Vice Chair*

***Board Vice Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz motioned to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:42pm.***

DRAFT