Approved 2.24.26

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

University Research Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 30, 2025
2:45 – 3:45 pm.
Augustus B. Turnbull Conference Center
555 W Pensacola St.
Tallahassee, FL 32306
Room 101

Committee Members Attended in Person: Trustee Roxanne Hughes, Trustee Brian Murphy, and Trustee Justin Roth.

Committee Members Attended Via Zoom: Trustee Jorge Gonzalez.

Committee Members Absent: None

Committee Staff: Stacey Patterson

Other Trustees in attendance: Trustee Jim Henderson and Trustee Peter Jones.

Staff and Others: President Richard McCullough, Todd Adams, Undrea Baldwin, Jim Clark, Leslie Crosdale, Josh Duncan, Carolyn Egan, Jenn Garye, Deborah Gautier, Kathleen Haughney, Glenn Ladwig, Joe O'Shea, Amy Farnum Patronis, Kelly Starke, and Jeanette Taylor.

I. Call to Order and Welcome
Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Chair

Trustee Gonzalez welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 2:45 pm. A quorum was confirmed.

II. Approval of Minutes

August 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously and without objection.

III. Office of Research Informational Items and Updates

General Research Update

Dr. Stacey Patterson, Vice President for Research

Dr. Patterson reported that Florida State University has demonstrated consistent growth in research activity over the past four fiscal years. The university has significantly increased its research proposal volume, reflecting a robust and expanding research enterprise. Award totals reached their highest point in FY 2024, with a slight projected decline in FY 2025; it was noted that the FY 2024 figure excludes the TGC Award. Research expenditures have steadily risen, underscoring strong implementation and utilization of awarded funds.

FSU continues to lead the state of Florida in funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), maintaining strong annual support. Meanwhile, funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has nearly doubled during the reporting period, aligning with the university's strategic emphasis on health-related research. The upward trajectory in both proposals and expenditures highlights FSU's ongoing commitment to innovation and academic excellence. Continued growth in NIH funding reflects successful strategic targeting, while sustained NSF support reaffirms FSU's leadership in scientific research across the state.

Over the past eighteen months, 164 milestones have been achieved under the ASPIRE plan, marking significant progress toward institutional goals.

Dr. Patterson also addressed the challenges posed by evolving government policies and outlined FSU's proactive approach to navigating these changes. She discussed the White House R&D Priorities memo, emphasizing how the university's investments are aligned with national research priorities.

Finally, she highlighted the success of Discovery Days, celebrating its impact on fostering collaboration, innovation, and engagement across the research community.

Commercialization

Valerie McDevitt, Assoc. Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation

Valerie McDevitt discussed the process by which FSU transforms academic innovations into real-world impact through strategic partnerships with industry and support for entrepreneurial ventures. The goal is to bridge the gap between research and application, ensuring that discoveries made within the university lead to tangible benefits for society.

Florida State University continues to demonstrate strong performance in research expenditures and innovation output. Key metrics from 2022 through 2026 reflect both growth and variability in commercialization activity. These metrics underscore FSU's commitment to translating research into real-world impact through invention, licensing, and start-up formation.

National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (MagLab) Renewal Proposal
Dr. Kathleen Amm, MagLab Director

Dr. Amm provided an update on the National Science Foundation (NSF) Renewal Proposal for the 2028–2032 funding cycle, which is currently underway. The proposal process officially begins in Fall 2025, with a planned submission in Summer 2026.

FSU plays a central role in high magnetic field research by offering scientists access to the world's most powerful magnetic fields. This capability enables transformative discoveries that benefit society, strengthen national security, and advance scientific frontiers. FSU also leads in developing magnet technologies for fusion energy, quantum computing, healthcare, and other sectors, while training the next generation of researchers and technical experts. The MagLab is a national resource for American science. This proposal is critical to keep the United States at the forefront of 21st century technology.

IV. Open Forum for Trustees

Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Chair

Chairman Gonzalez expressed his appreciation to the presenters for their insightful contributions and extended his thanks to all attendees for their time and engagement.

V. Adjournment

Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Chair

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm.