FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 24, 2026
1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Westcott Building, Room 201

Attended (committee): Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz (Committee Chair and FSU Board of Trustees Vice Chair), Trustee Roxanne Hughes, Trustee Justin Roth, and Trustee Kathryn Ballard

Absent (committee): None

Staff: Provost Jim Clark

Others in attendance: President Richard McCullough, Chief of Staff Marissa Langston, General Counsel Carolyn Egan, and other Academic Affairs Staff

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz (Committee Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chief of Staff to the Provost Leslie Reithmiller conducted roll call and confirmed quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

October 30, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Trustee Roth moved to approve the committee meeting minutes from October 30, 2025, Trustee Hughes seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.

III. Informational Items and Updates

A. Visitors Center Update

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for Budget and Finance Paul Harlacher presented a progress update on the new FSU Visitors Center. Moore Auditorium has been selected as the future location of the Visitors Center, and a professional design firm has been selected. The preliminary timeline for this project includes stakeholder meetings commencing in Spring 2026, and a potential construction phase beginning in summer 2027.

B. Social Media Policy

Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement Jeanette Taylor presented an update on the development of a social media policy for FSU employees. Over the Fall 2025 semester, a Social Media Policy Advisory Committee comprised of 21 faculty members and co-chaired by VP Taylor and Trustee Roxanne Hughes, met and developed recommendations for consideration by Provost Clark. Their recommendations included clarifying existing policy language, developing a standalone policy on social media, and making the policy more accessible to employees. The committee also recommended the creation of a companion document that will emphasize best practices.

IV. Action Items for Consideration of Recommendation to the Board of Trustees

A. Action Item I: Request for Approval: Tenure Upon Appointment

Vice President Jeanette Taylor presented the list of newly hired faculty members that were recommended for tenure at the start of their appointment to FSU. The list included six (6) scholars, five of whom were hired from other universities, and one who was hired from Mayo Clinic. All 6 of the faculty members joined FSU as Associate or Full professors and have met FSU's rigorous standards for tenure and successfully passed reference and background checks.

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the roster of Tenure Upon Appointment candidates, Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

B. Action Item II: Request for Approval: Tenure Report

Vice President Jeanette Taylor presented information about the promotion and tenure process at FSU, including its strategic importance to talent recruitment, retention, and the university's research enterprise, as well as tenure pathway requirements, evaluation, and metrics. The 2025-26 Tenure Report included the President's recommendation of forty (40) candidates for tenure, effective Fall 2026. All recommended tenure candidates met FSU's rigorous expectations for performance in teaching, research/creative activity, and service. One candidate withdrew themself from the evaluation process, and two candidates were not recommended for tenure.

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the recommended candidates for tenure, Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

C. **Action Item III: Request for Approval: Proposal to Implement B.S. in Civics and Liberty Studies**
Associate Vice President Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to implement the Bachelor of Science in Civics and Liberty Studies in the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy. The proposed degree will be implemented in Fall 2026. This degree will be in CIP Code 30.5101.

Trustee Roth moved to approve the proposal to implement the proposed BS in Civics and Liberty Studies, Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

D. **Action Item IV: Request for Approval: Proposal to Implement M.S. in Hospitality Management**
Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to implement the Master of Science in Hospitality Management in the Deadman College of Hospitality. The proposed degree will be implemented in Fall 2027. This degree will be in CIP Code 52.0901.

Trustee Ballard moved to approve the proposal to implement the proposed MS in Hospitality Management, Trustee Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

E. **Action Item V: Request for Approval: Proposal to Implement Ph.D. in Hospitality Management**
Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to implement the Ph.D. in Hospitality Management in the Dedman College of Hospitality. The proposed degree will be implemented in Fall 2027. This degree will be in CIP Code 52.0901.

Trustee Ballard moved to approve the proposal to implement the proposed Ph.D. in Hospitality Management, Trustee Hughes seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

F. **Action Item VI: Request for Approval: Proposal to Implement Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship**
Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to implement the Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship in the Jim Moran College of Entrepreneurship. The proposed degree will be implemented in Fall 2026. The degree will be in CIP Code 52.0701.

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the proposal to implement the proposed Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship, Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

G. **Action Item VII: Request for Approval: Proposal to Terminate B.S. in STEM Teaching**
Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to terminate the Bachelor of Science in STEM Teaching due to continued low student demand. Much of the degree content will be offered in the newly created FSU-Teach STEM Teaching undergraduate certificate program.

Trustee Ballard moved to approve the proposal to terminate the BS in STEM Teaching, Trustee Roth seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.

H. **Action Item VIII: Request for Approval: Amended FSU Regulation 5.098**
Amy Guerrette presented the proposal to amend FSU Regulation 5.098. The proposed amendments will bring FSU Regulation 5.098 into compliance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.003 and will require faculty to post course syllabi at least 45 days prior to the first day of classes for each term.

Trustee Roth moved to approve the proposed amendments to FSU Regulation 5.098, Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by a majority vote - 3 yea's (Ballard, Cuevas-Diaz, Roth) and 1 nay (Hughes).

V. Open Forum for Trustees

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair

Trustee Roth expressed interest in learning more about the university's strategic academic planning considerations as shifts occur in the professional landscape due to the increasing prevalence of artificial intelligence.

VI. Adjournment

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair

Trustee Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Roth seconded the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.