FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs Committee

MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

Thursday, August 27, 2026
1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

FSU Westcott Building
Conference Room 201
222 South Copeland St.
Tallahassee, FL 32306

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

Absent (committee): None

Staff: Provost Jim Clark

Others in attendance: First Lady Jai Vartikar, General Counsel Carolyn Egan, Vice President Joe O'Shea, Vice President Jonathan Fozard, Vice President Jeanette Taylor, 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 1:15 p.m.

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

II. Approval of Minutes

February 24, 2026, Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the committee meeting minutes from February 24, 2026, and June 18, 2026. Trustee Ballard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.

III. Informational Items and Updates

Dr. James Clark, Provost, and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Provost Clark provided brief personnel updates to the committee, including the appointment of three new academic deans and the status of current searches for Dean of the College of Law and Executive Director for the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art.

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

Dr. James Clark, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

a) **Action Item I: Request for Approval**: 2027-2028 Academic Calendar

Associate Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement Amy Guerette presented the 2027-2028 Academic Calendar for consideration by the committee. Trustee Roth asked whether, in the future, the University Calendar Committee might consider including additional holidays during the week of Thanksgiving, especially for students with travel obligations.

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the 2027-2028 Academic Calendar, Trustee Roth seconded the motion, and the item was unanimously approved for recommendation by the Committee to the full Board by all present at the meeting.

b) **Action Item II: Request for Approval:** 120 Credit Hour Exception Revision

Associate Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement Amy Guerette presented the request to approve the removal of the Music Performance degree from FSU's 120 credit hour exception list, as the program's credit hours have been reduced from 132 to 120 hours. There were no questions regarding the action item.

Trustee Ballard moved to approve the request for approval of the 120 credit hour exception revision, Trustee Hughes seconded the motion, and the item was unanimously approved for recommendation by the Committee to the full Board by all present at the meeting.

c) **Action Item III: Request for Approval:** 2025-2026 Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report

Associate Vice Provost, Chief Data and Analytics Officer, and Institutional Data Administrator James Hunt presented the annual textbook and instructional materials affordability report. The percentage of courses with no cost for textbooks and instructional materials was 71% in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. The percentage of courses with low-cost ($20 or less per credit hour) textbooks and instructional materials was 6% in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. There were no questions regarding the action item.

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Trustee Ballard moved to approve the 2025-2026 Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report, Trustee Roth seconded the motion, and the item was unanimously approved for recommendation by the Committee to the full Board by all present at the meeting.

d) **Action Item IV: Request for Approval:** 2027-2028 Legislative Budget Request

Provost Clark presented an overview of the 2027-2028 Legislative Budget Request for the committee's consideration and approval. There were no questions regarding the action item.

Trustee Hughes moved to approve the 2027-2028 Legislative Budget Request, Trustee Roth seconded the motion, and the item was unanimously approved for recommendation by the Committee to the full Board by all present at the meeting.

V. Open Forum for Trustees

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair

Committee Chair de las Cuevas-Diaz shared that she had met recently with the Office of the Provost's leadership team to learn about several areas of work, including Student-Athlete Academic Services and Information Technology Services. She asked Vice President for Information Technology Services and Chief Information Officer Jonathan Fozard to share a few updates with the committee. Vice President Fozard shared the success and impact of the ITS Student Internship Program, the launch of the AI Sparks Pilot, ongoing accessibility compliance efforts, the completion of Zoom phone migration across multiple FSU sites, and FSU's national recognition and upcoming campus events with major technology companies.

VI. Adjournment

Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair

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

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