



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

Thursday, November 21, 2024  
9:00 AM

Heritage Museum at Dodd Hall  
641 University Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32306

**Attended in Person:** Bridgett Birmingham, Jackson Boisvert, Peter Collins, Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Jorge Gonzalez, Jim Henderson, Justin Roth, Deborah Sargeant (arrived late), John Thiel (left early), and Drew Weatherford (left early)

**Attended via Zoom:** Maximo Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard

**Absent:** Bob Sasser

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Mr. Peter Collins, Chair*

Chair Collins welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

Heather Mayo called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

Chair Collins asked for everyone to take a moment of silent meditation.

Following the moment of silent meditation, Chair Collins asked for everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*September 13, 2024, meeting minutes*

*October 29, 2024, meeting minutes*

***Trustee Thiel moved to approve the September 13, 2024, and October 29, 2024, board meeting minutes. Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz seconded the motion, and both sets of minutes were approved unanimously by all present at the meeting.***

## **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

Chair Collins read the Ethics Conduct Policy.

## **IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*Dr. Richard McCullough, President*

President McCullough began his report by sharing events that will occur throughout Homecoming Weekend. He gave special congratulations to Gene Deckerhoff, who will be recognized Friday night with the Bernard F. Sliger Award, the highest honor given by the Alumni Association.

President McCullough announced that tomorrow afternoon, FSU will dedicate the Native American and Indigenous Study Center. This center will strengthen relationships with tribal nations, support Indigenous research and art, and offer educational opportunities. FSU created this center in partnership with the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Chairman Marcellus Osceola and other members of the Tribe will be at the ceremony. President McCullough commented that this is an important moment in FSU history, representing FSU's deepening connection with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and he thanked Provost Clark for his work on the center.

President McCullough also highlighted a ribbon-cutting for a new park near the Student Union that will recognize the nine historically black fraternities and sororities of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, otherwise known as the Divine Nine.

President McCullough announced that tomorrow evening, the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences will celebrate the naming of its college after an alumna and longtime supporter. He noted that FSU is thrilled about this exciting development and that this College continues to be one of the top in the nation.

President McCullough reported that he recently returned from Italy on a trade mission led by Governor Ron DeSantis and organized by Select Florida. He also commented that he was invited to speak at the Florida Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Future of Florida Forum in Orlando in October.

President McCullough commented on his recent trip to Miami and highlighted the engagement event hosted by University Advancement in collaboration with Seminole Boosters. He noted that He thanked Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz for driving FSU's growing

presence in South Florida and strengthening FSU's relationships. President McCullough also commented on the signing of the articulation agreement with Miami Dade College, which will strengthen the pipeline of transfer students from Miami-Dade to FSU.

President McCullough also highlighted FSU's Center for Hispanic Marketing 20th Anniversary Gala and was pleased to share that FSU is on the verge of being recognized as a Hispanic-serving institution, with 24% of FSU's student body identifying as Hispanic.

President McCullough discussed FSU's graduate rankings.

President McCullough discussed FSU's research enterprise and Vice President Patterson and her team's work. He noted the recent Discovery Days in October, and a symposium within this week highlighting FSU's Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases. The institute was championed by Representative Adam Anderson and established by Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature in 2023 with a \$1 million appropriation. At the symposium Representative Anderson presented FSU with a check for an additional \$5 million.

President McCullough shared updates on FSU Health, including updates on facilities in Panama City Beach and commented on the Interdisciplinary Research and Commercialization Building, and the rebranding of the North Florida Innovation Labs to IGNITE-Tallahassee.

President McCullough commented on University Advancement and noted that FSU's endowment is now at \$1.06 billion, aligning FSU with a new group of peer institutions. He also discussed the comprehensive campaign, and university campaign priorities.

President McCullough discussed governmental relations and that FSU's governmental relations team is preparing for the 2025 Session of the Florida Legislature.

President McCullough highlighted FSU's women's soccer team, which won the ACC Championship for the fifth consecutive season.

President McCullough noted his upcoming State of the University, hosted by the Faculty Senate in December.

President McCullough briefly commented on his goals for the upcoming year, which will be discussed later in the meeting.

President McCullough thanked Chair Collins for his partnership and all the Trustees for their support and individual contributions. He also thanked his leadership team and support staff for their work and dedication to the university.

## V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Request for Approval:** FSU College of Medicine Graduate Medical Education Annual Institutional Review Executive Summary (Academic Year 2023-24) (Academic Affairs)
- B. Request for Approval:** Proposal to Implement New BA Degree in Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (Academic Affairs)
- C. Request for Approval:** Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.02421 Tuition and Fee Assessments and Remittance (Academic Affairs)
- D. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.0241 Tuition and Fees for Repeated Enrollment in College Credit Courses (Academic Affairs)
- E. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02410 Internet Payment of Tuition and Fees (Academic Affairs)
- F. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02412 Financial Aid and Tuition and Fee Payment (Academic Affairs)
- G. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02415 Late Fee Waivers (Academic Affairs)
- H. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02417 Refunds of Tuition and Fees (Academic Affairs)
- I. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.0242 Registrations for Zero Hour (Academic Affairs)
- J. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02423 Delinquent Accounts (Academic Affairs)
- K. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.0246 Tuition and Fee Deferments (Academic Affairs)
- L. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.0247 Tuition and Fee Liability (Academic Affairs)
- M. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 5.081 Tuition, Fees, Payment (Academic Affairs)
- N. Request for Approval:** Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.02419 Withdrawals and Return of Financial Aid (Academic Affairs)
- O. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02418 Student Withdrawals from Courses Due to Military Service (Academic Affairs)
- P. Request for Approval:** Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.0245 Tuition-Free Courses for Those Sixty Years of Age and Older (Academic Affairs)
- Q. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.0243 Auditing Courses (Academic Affairs)
- R. Request for Approval:** Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.0248 Cancellation of Student Schedule (Academic Affairs)
- S. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02411 Third Party Tuition and Fee Billings (Academic Affairs)
- T. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.02424 Dishonored Checks or Electronic Payments (Academic Affairs)
- U. Request for Approval:** Amended New Academic Programs for the 2024-25 Academic Year (Academic Affairs)
- V. Request for Approval:** Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of The Florida State University Foundation, Inc. (Advancement)
- W. Request for Approval:** New Regulation - FSU-5.101 Educational Locations (Finance & Business)

- X. Request for Approval:** Appointment to the Board of Directors of the Florida State University Magnet Research and Development, Inc. (Governance)
- Y. Request for Approval:** Repeal of FSU Regulation 2.004 – University Attorney (Governance)

*Trustee Birmingham asked about consent items P and Q. Vice President Egan clarified the matter, which was also discussed in the Academic Affairs Committee meeting, and confirmed that the board backup materials for consent item P were accurate.*

*Chair Collins requested a motion to approve Consent Items A-Y. Trustee Thiel made the motion to approve, Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS AND UPDATES**

### **A. Athletics Update**

*Mr. Michael Alford, Vice President and Director of Athletics*

#### **Information Item**

*Student Athlete Highlight*

Mr. Michael Alford, Vice President and Director of Athletics, introduced Ms. Lottie Woad, a current FSU student on the women's golf team and the world's #1 ranked women's amateur golfer.

Mr. Alford noted that Mr. Luke Clanton, a current FSU student on the men's golf team and #1 ranked men's amateur golfer, could not join the meeting. Mr. Alford noted through their research that FSU is the only university with a #1 ranked women's amateur golfer and #1 ranked men's amateur golfer simultaneously.

Ms. Lottie Woad expressed her gratitude to the Board for the invitation to the meeting and shared her experiences as a student-athlete at FSU.

Mr. Alford provided an update on Athletics after Ms. Woad's report. He discussed various items, including ticket sales, the stadium renovation, capital improvement updates, and information regarding the house settlement.

Following Mr. Alford's report, there were questions from Chair Collins, Trustee Weatherford, and Trustee Roth.

### **B. Faculty Senate Steering Committee**

*Dr. Roxanne Hughes, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate Steering Committee*

Dr. Roxanne Hughes, Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, began her report by expressing faculty concerns on the BOG Regulation 8.005 Review of General Education Courses. Dr. Hughes continued her report by highlighting the recent accomplishments of FSU faculty members.

Chair Collins thanked Dr. Hughes for bringing the faculty's concerns to the Board and said there would be a discussion during the Academic Affairs portion of the meeting on the BOG Regulation 8.005 Review of General Education Courses.

### **C. Student Government Association**

*Mr. Anthony Benn, Vice President, Student Government Association*

Mr. Anthony Benn, Vice President of the Student Government Association, highlighted student leaders, the FSU Student Foundation, Homecoming Week, SGA Volunteering with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Expanding Research and Academic Excellence, the Registered Student Organization Budget Fund, Ensuring Student Success on Campus and Beyond, and Enhancing Campus Safety. He concluded his report expressing the students' excitement for the upcoming spring semester and thanked the Trustees.

### **D. Legislative Affairs**

*Mr. Clay Ingram, Chief Legislative Affairs Officer*

*Mr. Josh Duncan, Director of Federal Relations*

Mr. Clay Ingram, Chief Legislative Affairs Officer, began his report by highlighting the president's recent speech at the October Florida Chamber of Commerce Annual Conference. He gave an update on the FSU legislative internship program.

Mr. Ingram commented that Dr. Stacey Patterson spoke at the inaugural meeting of the Florida Healthcare Innovation Council, which Florida Lieutenant Governor Núñez chairs. He highlighted FSU's Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases and the recent Florida Legislature organizational session.

Mr. Ingram provided an overview of the new 2025 Seminole Caucus House Members, the new 2025 Seminole Caucus Senate members, the 2025 Cabinet, the 2025 House Leadership, the 2025 House Committee Chairs,

Mr. Josh Duncan, Director of Federal Relations, began his report by highlighting the 2024 elections and president-elect appointments. He also provided an overview of alumni serving in U.S. Congress. Mr. Duncan concluded his report by providing a fiscal year funding update and appropriation wins

### **E. Academic Affairs Committee**

*Trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair*

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

Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, began her report by summarizing their committee meeting. She highlighted the process of repealing and rewriting university regulations, provided an update on the progress of establishing the Student Ombudsman Office, and noted that they've begun the audit and review of promotion and tenure policies, as well as free speech and social media policies, with the hiring of an outside consultant.

Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz introduced Dr. Harrison Prosper, the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor for the 2024-2025 academic year.

**Information Item**

*Dr. Harrison Prosper, 2024-2025 Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor  
Professor, Department of Physics*

Dr. Harrison Prosper gave an inspirational report discussing his professional background and thoughts on FSU and what makes it unique. He noted the importance of the people at the university – the faculty, staff, administrators, and students. He highlighted FSU’s student body and their desire to build a better future. Dr. Prosper noted his work at the university, and how it allows him to pursue two of his passions – research at the absolute frontier of knowledge and inspiring young people to build the future they want.

**Action Item I: Request for Approval:** BOG Regulation 8.005 Review of General Education Courses – Amended (Academic Affairs)

Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz introduced their action item, and Chair Collins gave a brief introduction. Provost Clark provided introductory remarks on the action item.

Dr. Amy Guerette reviewed the action item and provided an overview of Florida Statutes 1007.55 and 1007.25. She also discussed the timeline for the review of the General Education Course Offerings for 2025-2026 at FSU, highlighting changes that have occurred since the staff initially presented the General Education course slate to the Trustees in June 2024. A new list was presented to the Trustees at the meeting as follows:

*571 courses consisting of the following:*

*Courses removed from General Education Offering – 432*

*Courses Updated & Pending BOG Staff Review\* - 13*

*Courses Reviewed & Approved by BOG staff to be added to the BOG Agenda for final approval – 126*

*\*The amended slate of the FSU Academic 2025-2026 General Education Course Offering Spreadsheet includes 13 courses still pending initial review by BOG staff. Any of the courses not recommended by BOG staff for submittal to the BOG will be removed from the General Education Course Offerings.*

Dr. Amy Guerette clarified that these courses are not being removed entirely from the course offerings; they will only be taken out of the General Education Course offerings. The courses will now be classified as electives.

Further discussion and questions occurred regarding the action item.

*Chair Collins asked for a motion to approve BOG Regulation 8.005 Review of General Education Courses – Amended as presented in the meeting.*

*Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz made the motion to approve, Chair Collins seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

#### **F. Advancement Committee**

*Trustee John Thiel, Chair*

*Dr. Marla Vickers, Vice President for University Advancement and President, FSU Foundation, Inc.*

Trustee John Thiel, Chair of the Advancement Committee, reported on their committee meeting. He noted that FSU's endowment has now surpassed \$1 billion and mentioned that fundraising efforts are going well. He also discussed the comprehensive campaign and expressed gratitude to Dr. Prosper for his inspiring report at the meeting, stating that stories like Dr. Prosper's should be highlighted in the upcoming campaign.

Trustee Thiel then introduced the action item and provided an overview of the changes.

**Action Item I: Request for Approval:** Florida State University Policy 8-2 - Naming Policy (Advancement)

*Trustee Thiel requested a motion to approve the Florida State University Policy 8-2 – Naming Policy. Trustee Weatherford made the motion to approve, Trustee Alvarez seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

#### **G. Student Affairs Committee<sup>1</sup>**

*Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair*

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

Trustee Drew Weatherford, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, reported on their committee meeting. He discussed the recent hurricanes and their impact on student housing on campus. Trustee Weatherford noted that their committee also discussed the “Round Up” campaign, E-Sports on campus, and the FSU circus.

Chair Collins asked a question on the boutique fitness project, and Trustee Weatherford provided an update.

#### **H. Audit and Compliance Committee**

*Trustee Maximo Alvarez, Chair*

*Mr. Undra Baldwin, Chief Audit Officer*

*Mr. Robert Large, Chief Compliance Officer*

Trustee Maximo Alvarez, Chair of the Audit and Compliance Committee, welcomed Chair Collins as a new member of the committee. He also thanked Dr. Harrison Prosper for his report earlier in the meeting.

Trustee Alvarez reported on their committee meeting. He mentioned that Mr. Robert Large, Chief Compliance Officer, presented three informational items during the meeting. Additionally, Trustee Alvarez noted that the Office of Audit and Advisory Services shared

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<sup>1</sup> Chair Collins moved the Student Affairs Committee report up in the agenda.



four informational items, which were presented by Mr. Undra Baldwin, Chief Audit Officer. He also highlighted the guest presenters who presented to their committee.

Trustee Alvarez and Chair Collins commended Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Large and their staff for their work, specifically in Risk Management. Chair Collins also thanked Trustee Alvarez for his leadership.

## **I. Finance and Business Committee**

*Trustee Jim Henderson, Chair*

*Mr. Kyle Clark, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration*

Trustee Jim Henderson, Chair of the Finance and Business Committee, provided an overview of their committee meeting. He noted their consent item on today's agenda - Consent Item W: New Regulation - FSU-5.101 Educational Locations. Trustee Henderson reported that Senior Vice President Clark, Vice President Patterson, and Dean Littles provided an update on FSU Health and the potential opportunity to finance and build a hospital in Panama City Beach.

Trustee Henderson invited Mr. Kyle Clark, Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration, to present on their action item. Mr. Clark provided an overview and background information, noting Board of Governors Regulation 9.013, which provides the Board of Trustees the authority to consider using unreserved cash from a non-athletic auxiliary for Athletics, with BOG approval.

**Action Item I: Request for Approval:** Internal Loan in Support of the Lacrosse Program (Finance & Business)

*Chair Collins requested a motion to approve the Internal Loan in Support of the Lacrosse Program. Trustee Weatherford made the motion to approve, the motion was seconded, and it was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

Mr. Clark invited Mr. Kevin Graham with the Office of Real Estate to present the developments in Real Estate to the Board at FSU. Mr. Graham presented on campus expansions, notable acquisitions, projects and prospects, FSU's leasing portfolio, property management (specifically developing a new model), and other real estate matters.

Ms. Sadie Greiner, chief construction officer at FSU, presented on various university capital construction projects, including large construction projects, deferred maintenance projects, and smaller construction projects.

## **J. Governance Committee**

*Mr. Peter Collins, Chair, Board of Trustees*

*Ms. Carolyn Egan, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel*

Chair Collins reported on the Governance Committee meeting in the absence of Trustee Sasser, who chairs the committee.

Ms. Carolyn Egan, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, introduced the action item and provided an overview of the proposed changes to the FSU Board of Trustees Operating Procedures. She noted that the Board had met as a whole during the Governance Committee meeting the previous day, where these changes were also discussed.

**Action Item I: Request for Approval:** Changes to FSU Board of Trustees Operating Procedures (Governance)

*Chair Collins requested a motion to approve the changes to the FSU Board of Trustees Operating Procedures. Trustee Henderson made the motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Trustee Weatherford, and it was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

Chair Collins moved the action item from his Chair's report to the Governance Committee section concerning the request to approve the President's goals for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. He commented that the president's goals had been discussed in the Governance Committee and that they have been shortened, are more specific, and more metric-oriented compared to previous years.

President McCullough gave a high-level overview of his goals, emphasizing that his goals are metric-driven and measurable.

**Action Item II: Request for Approval:** President's FY 2024-2025 Goals

*Chair Collins requested a motion to approve the President's FY 2024-2025 Goals. Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz made the motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Trustee Henderson, and it was unanimously approved by all present at the meeting.*

#### **K. University Research Committee**

*Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Chair*

*Dr. Stacey Patterson, Vice President for Research*

Trustee Jorge Gonzalez, Chair of the University Research Committee, provided a report on their committee meeting. He noted that there were no action items on their committee agenda, but that Dr. Patterson presented an update on the university's research enterprise. Dr. Patterson also highlighted an increase in NIH funding for the university, updated the committee on ASPIRE and provided an update on the FSU Health building on TMH's campus. Additionally, Dr. Nicole Patton Terry, the director of the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCCR), gave an overview of FCCR to the committee.

#### **VII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Mr. Peter Collins, Chair*

Chair Collins had no further items for his report.

**VIII. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Mr. Peter Collins, Chair*

There was no further discussion.

Chair Collins discussed upcoming important dates for the Board.

He thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Peter Collins, Chair*

*Chair Collins adjourned the meeting at 12:37 pm.*

DRAFT