



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

February 12, 2025
8:30 A – 12:00 P

Florida Polytechnic University
Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC)
and Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Dial in: 1-863-225-2351 | Conference ID: 903 741 800#

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

Beth Kigel, Chair
Dr. Dorian Abbot
Cliff Otto
Dr. Brad Towle

Jesse Panuccio, Vice Chair
Dr. Sidney Theis
Ilya Shapiro

Patrick Hagen
Lyn Stanfield
Christos Tsetsekas

MEETING AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| I. | Call to Order | Beth Kigel, Chair |
| II. | Roll Call | Kristen Wharton
Corporate Secretary |
| III. | Public Comment | Beth Kigel |
| IV. | Board of Trustees Work Plan FY25 | Beth Kigel |
| V. | Resolution: President Emeritus
Action Required | Cliff Otto |
| VI. | Chair's Remarks | Beth Kigel |
| VII. | President's Remarks | Dr. Devin Stephenson
President |
| VIII. | Faculty/Student Presentation: "Role of 3D Printed Induced Microstructural Defects on the Service Life of Inconel 718 for Use in Aircraft Jet Engines." | Dr. Sanna Siddiqui,
Assistant Professor, and
Sydney Wickett, Graduate
Student |
| IX. | Legislative Update | Kelli Stargel |

- | | | |
|--------|--|---|
| X. | Faculty Senate President Report | Dr. Brad Towle |
| XI. | SGA President Report | Christos Tsetsekas |
| XII. | 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: Progress 2025 | Dr. Devin Stephenson |
| XIII. | Consent Agenda
<i>*Action Required*</i> | Beth Kigel |
| XIV. | Committee Reports | |
| | Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee | Cliff Otto
Committee Chair |
| | Finance and Facilities Committee | Lyn Stanfield
Committee Chair |
| | Academic and Student Affairs Committee | Dr. Sidney Theis
Committee Chair |
| XV. | Immersion Experience: ECE Design Labs | Dr. Onur Toker |
| XVI. | Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar
<i>*Action Required*</i> | Beth Kigel |
| XVII. | Board of Governors Meeting Calendar | Beth Kigel |
| XVIII. | Update on Feasibility and Use of 360-Acre Property | Dr. Allen Bottorff
Vice President and CFO |
| XIX. | Mechanical Engineering Highlight: Patent-pending Police Body Cam Device Presentation | David Fugett, Matthew DeCicco (alumnus), Mike Kalman, and Lakeland Police Chief Sam Taylor, |
| XX. | Closing Remarks and Adjournment | Beth Kigel |

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Board of Trustees Work Plan FY25

Proposed Board Action

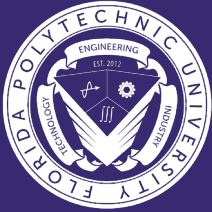
Information only. No action required.

Background Information

Chair Beth Kigel will review the Board's 2024-2026 Work Plan.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



BOT Annual Work Plan 2024-2025

Board of Trustees Work Plan 2024-2025 **DRAFT**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The following are strategic priorities which will be frequently discussed throughout the year:

- Strategic Plan 2025-2030
- Performance Based Funding (PBF) Metrics
- Enrollment Growth
- Student and Faculty Retention
- New Academic Programs (if proposed)
- Campus and Extended Campus Growth

SEPTEMBER

- Discussion of Strategic Priorities
- Board of Trustees FY25 Work Plan (*review and approve*)
- Annual Review and Endorsement of Statement of Free Expression (*review and approve*)
- Annual Financial Statements FY24(University and Foundation) (*review only*)
- Fixed Capital Outlay Budget FY25 (*review and approve*)
- Education & General (E&G) Carryforward Spending Plan FY25 (*review and approve*)
- Regulations and Policies (*review and approve as needed*)
- *Engagement: Strategic Planning Summit*

NOVEMBER

- Annual Board of Trustees Retreat
- Discussion of Strategic Priorities
- Annual Ethics Agreement Reviewed and Signed
- Legislative Advocacy Plan for 2025 Session
- President Avent's Annual Evaluation FY24 (*review and approve*)
- President Avent's Compensation Review (*review and approve*)
- Annual Report on Advanced Mobility Institute (AMI) (*review and approve*)
- Annual Report on FIPR Institute (*review and approve*)
- Regulations and Policies (*review and approve as needed*)
- *Engagement: event with major donors*

FEBRUARY

- Discussion of Strategic Priorities
- Regulations and Policies (*review and approve as needed*)
- *Engagement: event with students and faculty*

APRIL

- University Accountability Plan FY25 *(review and approve)*

JUNE

- Discussion of Strategic Priorities
- Legislative Session Report on 2025 Session
- University Operating Budget FY26 *(review and approve)*
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) FY27 *(review and approve)*
- Legislative Operating Budget Request (LBR) FY27 *(review and approve)*
- Performance Based Funding (PBF) Metrics FY25 *(review only)*
- Regulations and Policies *(review and approve as needed)*
- *Engagement: event with University Foundation Board of Directors*

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Resolution: President Emeritus

Proposed Board Action

Approve the Emeritus Resolution, designating Randy Avent as President Emeritus of Florida Poly.

Background Information

At its February 5, 2025, meeting, the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee unanimously approved the Emeritus Resolution, designating Dr. Randy K. Avent as President Emeritus of Florida Poly. This now comes before the Board of Trustees for final approval.

The President Emeritus designation is an honorary title that may be granted to a retiring or former president of the University in recognition of their distinguished service. This designation does not involve specific administrative duties but serves as a symbolic acknowledgment of the individual's contributions to the University.

As the inaugural President of Florida Polytechnic University, Dr. Randy K. Avent was instrumental in establishing Florida Polytechnic University as a premier institution for education in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and played a pivotal role in shaping the vision, growth, and success of the University. As such, the President Emeritus is an appropriate designation to recognize Dr. Avent's contributions to the University.

Supporting Documentation: Emeritus Resolution

Prepared by: Melaine Schmiz, Associate General Counsel

**RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DESIGNATING FORMER PRESIDENT RANDY K. AVENT AS
PRESIDENT EMERITUS**

WHEREAS, Former President Randy K. Avent (hereinafter, Former President Avent) has served with distinction as the founding President of Florida Polytechnic University (Florida Poly) from 2014 to 2024, playing a key leadership role in the establishment and development of the University; and

WHEREAS, under Former President Avent’s leadership, Florida Poly has grown into a respected institution of higher education, renowned for its focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education and its commitment to innovation, research, and the advancement of technology; and

WHEREAS, Former President Avent has demonstrated exceptional dedication to Florida Poly, guiding the institution through its critical formative years, establishing its academic programs, expanding its campus, and cultivating partnerships with industry leaders, thereby enhancing the University’s reputation locally, nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Former President Avent’s vision, leadership, and commitment to excellence have made an enduring impact on Florida Polytechnic University, ensuring its continued success and position as a leader in higher education; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees wishes to honor Former President Avent for his exemplary service and commitment to the University’s mission and values.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Florida Polytechnic University, that:

1. **Randy K. Avent is hereby designated as President Emeritus of Florida Polytechnic University**, in recognition of his outstanding contributions, leadership, and dedication to the growth and success of the University.
2. **As President Emeritus**, Randy K. Avent shall be entitled to all honors, privileges, and recognition appropriate to this position, and the University will continue to value and appreciate his counsel and support in the years to come.
3. **This resolution** shall be duly entered into the minutes of the Board of Trustees and a formal copy provided to Former President Avent as a lasting symbol of the University’s gratitude for his service.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on this ___ day of _____, 2024.

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Faculty/Student Presentation: Role of 3D Printed Induced Microstructural Defects on the Service Life of Inconel 718 for Use in Aircraft Jet Engines

Proposed Board Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

Dr. Sanna Siddiqui, Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering and Sydney Wickett, master's student in Mechanical Engineering, will present their research. Sydney is part of Florida Poly's 4+1 Program and will complete her master's thesis and graduate this semester.

Presentation Summary:

Metal additive manufacturing, or 3D printing, has captured interest within the aerospace industry, attributed to its rapid prototyping capabilities and ability to produce complex part geometries. These advantages over traditional manufacturing methods make it particularly appealing in the manufacture of aircraft gas turbine engine blades, typically made of a nickel-based metal superalloy named Inconel 718. While in service, a gas turbine engine blade is subject to a combination of repetitive cyclic axial (tensile and compressive loads) and torsional (twisting loads), referred to as a multiaxial fatigue stress state, at extreme operating temperatures. The primary concern surrounding metal additively manufactured parts manufactured through the laser powder bed fusion process, is the introduction of microstructural defects that arise during the manufacturing layer-by-layer deposition process. These microstructural defects range from porosity due to entrapped gas, lack of fusion between layers, and un-melted powder particles, all of which can act as stress concentrations that serve as failure sites, consequently negatively effecting the fatigue performance or service life of these parts. This National Science Foundation funded study is novel in that has investigated the torsional fatigue behavior and service life of 3D printed Inconel 718 at an elevated temperature characteristic of operating environments experienced by gas turbine engine blades, including the role of these microstructural defects and evolution on torsional fatigue life. Overall, the rise of the additive manufacturing technology necessitates an understanding of the ability of 3D printed components to safely withstand in-service operational conditions, insight that this study has provided.

Acknowledgments: This study is supported under the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant No. (2055027), awarded to Dr. Sanna F. Siddiqui.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Dr. Sanna F. Siddiqui, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Sydney T. Wickett, Master's (4+1) Graduate Student

**Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025**

Subject: Legislative Update

Proposed Committee Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

This item is to provide the Board of Trustees with an overview of recent and upcoming legislative activities affecting Florida Poly. The 2025 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature is set to begin on March 4, 2025, with committee weeks having commenced in January.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Kelli Stargel, Associate Vice President of Strategic Relationships

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: *Progress 2025*

Proposed Board Action

Information only. No action required.

Background Information

Dr. Stephenson will provide an update on the progress of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Consent Agenda

Proposed Board Action

Approve the consent agenda.

Each of the following items comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the respective Committees, and, as such, there is no need for a second.

- A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee
 - 1. Approve Performance Based Funding (PBF) Audit and Data Integrity Certification
 - 2. Approve FPU-1.003 Use of University Facilities and Property (Amended)
 - 3. Approve FPU-1.007 Campus Free Expression (Amended)
 - 4. Approve FPU-5.003 Textbook and Instructional Materials Selection and Affordability (Amended)

- B. Finance and Facilities Committee
 - 1. Approve Foundation Board Member Appointment of Cory Petcoff, and Re-Appointment of Cindy Alexander

- C. Board of Trustees
 - 1. Approve Board of Trustees Retreat Meeting minutes from November 19, 2024
 - 2. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from November 20, 2024

Background Information

For additional information about any of the items listed above, please see that committee's meeting materials.

Supporting Documentation:

- 1. Board of Trustees meeting minutes from November 19, 2024
- 2. Board of Trustees meeting minutes from November 20, 2024

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024
1:00 – 4:30 P

Florida Polytechnic University
Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC)
and Virtual via Microsoft Teams

I. Call to Order

Chair Beth Kigel called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Beth Kigel, Vice Chair Jesse Panuccio, Trustee Ilya Shapiro, Trustee Patrick Hagen, Trustee Dorian Abbott, Trustee Lyn Stanfield, Trustee Cliff Otto, Trustee Sidney Theis, Trustee Christos Tsetsekas, and Trustee Brad Towle were present (Quorum).

Board Trustees not present: n/a

Staff Present: President Devin Stephenson, Interim Provost Brad Thiessen, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, Mike Dieckmann, Kathy Bowman, Kelli Stargel, David Blanton, Melaine Schmiz, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan

Chair Beth Kigel opened the meeting stating her experience with President Stephenson and his team in the Strategic Planning process has been spectacular. She provided a high-level recap of the process to date. She also stressed that this is a working retreat; any edits that trustees have to the draft of the Strategic Plan will be incorporated into the final draft tonight in anticipation of the Board approving it during tomorrow's Board meeting.

President Devin Stephenson reviewed two printed documents: a full-color booklet which is a draft of the strategic plan, and a wire-bound, internal-only document that will assist staff in tracking progress via hard data and metrics.

President Stephenson underscored the collaboration that occurred throughout the writing process, with both internal and external stakeholders. He presented the three priorities that were identified from the Strategic Planning Summit; these priorities form the driving force behind the strategy that will be used to achieve desired outcomes.

A. Mission and Vision Statements

At Chair Kigel's directive, President Stephenson's leadership team reviewed the University's mission and vision statements. Both were re-written and brought forward for the trustees' consideration:

Mission Statement:

We serve students and industry through educational excellence and the discovery, advancement, and application of knowledge in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Vision Statement:

Highly desirable graduates and solutions for a resilient high-tech economy.

B. Guiding Principles

President Stephenson continued by reviewing the six principles that will guide the work of the staff and faculty. They are as follows:

1. Excellence and Opportunity
2. Student Focus
3. Steadfast Integrity
4. Community Collaboration
5. Fearless Curiosity
6. Forward Thinking

C. Three Priorities

President Stephenson reviewed the methodology used to formulate the top three priorities which included hiring Dr. Craig Collins of Sterling Consultants who facilitated a day-long summit comprised of 35 internal and external stakeholders. The three priorities are as follows:

1. Comprehensive Institutional Growth

Dr. Brad Thiessen, Vice President and Interim Provost, presented goals 1 and 2. Bryan Brooks, Vice President, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Strategic Communications, presented goals 3 and 4. The goals under priority one include:

Goal 1: Maximize Florida Poly and industry collaboration by establishing a robust framework for corporate engagement.

Goal 2: Strengthen the reputation and influence of Florida Poly by positioning the University as a leading economic driver in the region.

Goal 3: Cultivate a rich Florida Poly Experience for students, staff, and faculty.

Goal 4: Bolster the University's financial sustainability and infrastructure.

Initiatives for each goal were presented as well.

2. Advancement through intentional resource development

Dr. Allen Bottorff, Vice President and CFO, presented goals 1 and 3. Mike Dieckmann, Vice President and CIO, presented goal 2. The goals under priority two include:

Goal 1: Enlarge financial assets and streamline operational efficiencies.

Goal 2: Improve teaching, elevate student learning, and boost research productivity while strategically leveraging resources to strengthen and promote the University's brand as a leader in technology and innovation.

Goal 3: Strengthen public and private partnership management and promote accessibility and transparency across all areas of the institution.

3. Academic and Industry Collaborative Partnerships

Kelli Stargel, AVP Strategic Relationships, presented the two goals for the third priority. They are as follows:

Goal 1: Formulate and execute a plan to establish a University Research Park and a Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, creating a hub for cutting-edge research, industry collaboration, and entrepreneurial development.

Goal 2: Strengthen industry collaboration across all divisions and strategically utilize the University's brand to foster impactful public and private partnerships that support educational excellence and the discovery, advancement, and application of knowledge in STEM.

D. Questions and Answers

David Fugett, Vice President and General Counsel, facilitated the question-and-answer portion of the meeting.

Trustee Dorian Abbot stated that the draft document is well-written. His primary feedback is to ensure both quantitative and qualitative metrics for success are built into the document. He provided three examples of initiatives that are too vague and how they could be improved. He also encouraged staff to think more about the statement on page 4 of the draft that reads, "Through these efforts, we are laying the groundwork for a future where Florida Poly is ranked as the top STEM university in the South..." Who is the University comparing itself to and what specific ranking is the administration trying to achieve? Trustee Abbot advised staff to go through each item and ensure there are metrics. President Stephenson pointed Trustee Abbot to the internal workbook which contains the metrics for each initiative under each goal.

Trustee Ilya Shapiro commented on the Mission statement where it says, "we serve students and industry." Do we also serve the development of new knowledge? Academia? The mission is tripartite, and we should consider including the development of new knowledge. Trustee Shapiro also asked if the Vision statement lacks a verb at the beginning of the statement. Brooks replied that it is an implied verb.

Trustee Shapiro recommended including a statement about developing a national brand at the bottom of page 7 so that the University becomes well-known across the country. He noted that "president's speaker series" should be capitalized.

Trustee Patrick Hagen reviewed minor scrivener's errors, including proper handling of acronyms.

Trustee Cliff Otto inquired if administration is committing to having a doctoral program by 2030. Brooks clarified it says "explore" but Trustee Otto replied that is too conservative. He believes the University should make that a priority by 2030. Provost Thiessen responded that four faculty Chairs are ready to begin a doctoral program. Market research is required, however, standing up a doctoral program within five years is achievable. President Stephenson pointed Trustee Otto to the internal tracking document where it states we will stand up a doctoral program by fall 2029.

Trustee Brad Towle inquired about Initiative 2.3 where it discusses expanding FIPR's research footprint. He asked if this includes research outside of the office of patent and technology and if the University can better align faculty research with FIPR. Fugett encouraged trustees to hold administration accountable to have a specific plan in one year. He shared that with the most recent patents filed, Florida Poly has become the standard across the state of Florida.

Trustee Taki Tsetsekas asked about Initiative 1.2 on the criteria for identifying research park mega partners. President Stephenson responded that there is one partner that administration has been vetting for over eight months. Criteria such as quality, sustainability, and the benefit they bring to our students and faculty are considered.

Chair Kigel noted that Priority 3's descriptor only mentions acquiring or developing current property, but nothing beyond that which includes academic or industry partners. These should be added along with a mention of Florida Poly's collaboration with other higher ed institutions.

Chair Kigel stated that the internal workbook has a lot of metrics and asked if the staff team felt they were manageable. President Stephenson responded that he believes they are ambitious but achievable.

XIII. Florida Poly and BOG Legislative Budget Requests (LBRs)

After a fifteen-minute break, Dr. Allen Bottorff, Vice President and CFO, reviewed both the University's Legislative Budget Request (LBR) and the BOG's request.

Florida Poly's LBR for FY25 is comprised of three primary requests, all of which are for recurring funding:

1. Student Recruitment to Elevate Enrollment: Appropriation in the amount of \$3.5M is being requested for personnel and operations to reach a goal of doubling enrollment to 3,000 FTE by 2030.
2. Student Success Enhancement: Appropriation in the amount of \$5M is being requested for personnel and operations with a goal of enhancing the quality of student success programs to attract top-tier students and faculty while also facilitating groundbreaking innovations and collaborative projects that drive technological advancement. Two desired outcomes directly affecting Florida Poly's PBF are increasing the academic progression rate from 70% to more than 80% over the course of two years and improving the four-year graduation rate from 40% to more than 50% over the course of the next three years.
3. Academic Program Innovation and Enhancement: Appropriation in the amount of \$13M is being requested for personnel and operations with a goal of enhancing its existing programs and developing new academic programs to produce highly competent graduates that meet the needs of Florida's innovation economy.
4. Public Education and Capital Outlay (PECO): Non-recurring appropriation in the amount of \$ 44.5M is being requested to fund the construction of the Student Achievement Center (SAC).

Bottorff then reviewed the LBR for the State University System (SUS). The SUS is requesting a beginning base of \$4.1M with additional performance incentives and other initiatives for a grand total of \$4.84M.

Legislative Plan and Advocacy

Kelli Stargel, AVP Strategic Relationships, presented the FY2025 Legislative Session goals and strategies which include setting intentional meetings with key legislative influencers, educating new members, and broadening support from the Governor's office and BOG. Stargel reviewed key dates during Session which includes Florida Poly Day at the Capitol March 19-20. She shared details of that day and encouraged all trustees to be there to participate.

Trustee Jesse Panuccio asked what the elevator pitch is for the \$44.5M to build the Student Achievement Center (SAC). Stargel responded the primary message is that the Institution is out of space for faculty, staff, and students. While academic buildings are being added, buildings that provide support services to students are desperately needed. Stargel will provide an updated talking points card for trustees to keep and use when the need arises.

Trustee Lyn Stanfield stated the SAC is about student engagement and retention. Stargel added that the University will need this additional space as we grow to 3,000 students.

XV. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kristen J. Wharton
Corporate Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024
9:30 – 11:30 A

Florida Polytechnic University
Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC)
and Virtual via Microsoft Teams

I. Call to Order

Chair Beth Kigel called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Beth Kigel, Vice Chair Jesse Panuccio, Trustee Ilya Shapiro, Trustee Patrick Hagen, Trustee Dorian Abbott, Trustee Lyn Stanfield, Trustee Cliff Otto, Trustee Sidney Theis, Trustee Christos Tsetsekas, and Trustee Brad Towle were present (Quorum).

Board Trustees not present: n/a

Staff Present: President Devin Stephenson, Interim Provost Brad Thiessen, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, Mike Dieckmann, Kathy Bowman, Kelli Stargel, David Blanton, Melaine Schmitz, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. 2024-2025 Board of Trustees Work Plan

Chair Kigel reviewed revisions to the Board of Trustees Annual Work Plan. These revisions reflect two changes to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee's Work Plan which was revised to reflect recent amendments to Florida Board of Governors' regulations. Items that are no longer required by BOG regulation were removed from the Committee's Work Plan. They include:

- (a) Annual report and Seven Year Review for FIPR (removed from November)
- (b) Annual report for the Advanced Mobility Institute (removed from November)

As such, the Board needs to remove these same reports from the Board of Trustees' Annual Work Plan. There were no questions by the Board on the revisions to the Work Plan.

A motion was made by Trustee Patrick Hagen to approve the revised Board of Trustees Work Plan for FY25. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Chair's Remarks

Chair Beth Kigel expressed her appreciation to the trustees and to President Stephenson and staff for their engagement in yesterday's Board retreat. She also stated her interactions with Florida Poly partners and investors at last night's Thankful Celebration event as well as at this morning's faculty breakfast were very meaningful.

VI. President's Remarks

President Devin Stephenson expressed his gratitude that the Board has entrusted him to lead the Florida Poly. He stated that the right organizational structure is being put into place to support the institution. He also highlighted that the success of our students is paramount.

VII. Faculty Senate President Report

Trustee Brad Towle, Faculty Senate President, reported on faculty's productive discussions with Provost Thiessen on lab management, curriculum changes, process concerns, and document management. He announced a new initiative for spring, Florida Poly Research Day, which will showcase the University's research to institutional stakeholders.

VIII. SGA President Report

Trustee Christos "Taki" Tsetsekas, noted key SGA initiatives in regard to student clubs and organizations. This includes providing seed money to clubs to establish new campus traditions and facilitating discussions on the development of intercollegiate sports teams. Tsetsekas also noted the continued renovations of the "Phoenix Nest;" shared about the campus' "space tree;" announced newly elected SGA senate leaders; and announced a mentorship program for military veterans and international students to help them adapt to campus life.

Trustee Abbot inquired how many veterans Florida Poly has as students and what support they currently receive. Trustee Tsetsekas responded that the University has approximately 50 veterans as students, but there are no current resources. Trustee Cliff Otto recommended Trustee Tsetsekas contact his counterparts in the local colleges and universities as there may be programs for veterans that Florida Poly can engage with.

IX. Consent Agenda

Chair Kigel brought forward the consent agenda for trustee approval.

A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee

- 1. Approve Regulation FPU-2.006 Application Fee and Admissions Deposit**

B. Finance and Facilities Committee

- 1. Approve the HES Facilities Management Contract - Custodial Services**
- 2. Approve the amended rental rate thresholds in the Florida Poly Student Housing System from fiscal year (FY) to Fall of the indicated year**
- 3. Approve the Residence Hall III Retail Space Remodel Project**

C. Board of Trustees

- 1. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from November 6, 2024**
- 2. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from November 30, 2024**

As each of the consent agenda items comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the respective Committees, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

X. Committee Reports

A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee

Committee Chair Cliff Otto stated at the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting, David Blanton provided updates on external and internal audits. Blanton also reported that all concerns, deficiencies, and weaknesses in the Foundation audit have been resolved, and he is collaborating with the President to strengthen enhanced monetary controls.

Committee Chair Otto said David Fugett discussed amended Regulation FPU-2.006 Application Fee and Admission Deposit which was approved by the Committee and is on today's consent agenda for Board approval.

The Committee brought two items forward that require action by the full Board:

1. Composite of the Trustees' Evaluation. One hundred percent of the trustees participated in the survey regarding the immediate past President's Annual Review. Upon discussion of the outcome, the Committee recommended that the Composite of the Trustees' evaluations be approved as the document reflecting the immediate past President's annual evaluation for 2023-24. Chair Kigel offered favorable comments from her conversation with Board of Governors Chair Lamb.

As this item, approval of the "President's Annual Review, July 2023 to June 2024, Composite of the Trustees' Evaluations" as the document reflecting the President's Evaluation, comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Immediate Past President's Compensation Bonus. Committee Chair Otto stated the Committee then discussed the immediate past president's compensation bonus and recommends the compensation bonus be 28% of the ending annual base salary. This percentage is based on the composite of the President's Evaluation in which 5 out of 10 Trustees gave an overall rating of "Exceeded", while 4 trustees gave an overall rating of "Achieved," and 1 gave an overall rating of "Partially Achieved," and is aligned with the requirements in the President's Employment Agreement.

Committee Chair Otto then stated his desire to see past president Avent receive the full 30% compensation bonus based on Avent's contribution over his ten-year tenure.

Trustee Ilya Shapiro reflected that the numbers, based on the trustees' ratings, suggest a 25% bonus.

For context, Chair Kigel added that one of the opportunities the Board will have is consideration of emeritus status for Dr. Avent. A policy exists in the Faculty Handbook which states faculty and the university president may be considered for emeritus status once they officially retire; however, Dr. Avent is returning to the faculty, not fully retiring. Chair Kigel is currently researching options with staff for Board consideration at a future meeting.

Trustee Abbot questioned whether the Board is evaluating Dr. Avent's work in FY24 where a 25% bonus makes sense versus evaluating Dr. Avent's body of work over the past 10 years. He said there should be a balance between setting a precedent and recognizing a body of cumulative work.

Trustee Sid Theis stated his support for awarding Dr. Avent the full 30%. Trustee Lyn Stanfield concurred. She suggested for the future the Board consider refining what the evaluation encompasses to eliminate any bias.

A motion was made by Trustee Cliff Otto to award the immediate past president, Dr. Randy Avent, a performance compensation bonus in the amount of 30% of his fiscal year 2024 base salary. Trustee Dorian Abbot seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Finance and Facilities Committee

Committee Chair Lyn Stanfield stated the Finance and Facilities Committee received the University's Q4 financial update for the period ending June 30, 2024, which highlighted continued strong financial ratios and a growth of 8.4% in net position to \$223 million. In addition, the Committee also received the University's Q1 financial update for the period ending September 30, 2024, which again highlighted continued, strong financial ratios and a growth of 5.9% in net position over last year same period, to \$226.3 million.

The Committee received an update on the five major campus construction projects that are underway, followed by an update on the Advancement and Foundation activities. In that update, they reported on the Alumni Relations and Annual Giving Programs, the Corporate Impact Network & Parent Network, Donor Acquisition and Retention, an update on the Changemaker Campaign, and giving benchmarks for other universities. The Foundation presented their year-end financial report for FY24 and their FY25, first quarter financial update.

In addition, the Committee reviewed, approved, and recommended Board approval for three items, which were approved on today's consent agenda.

C. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Sidney Theis stated the Academic and Student Affairs Committee received a report from Interim Provost Brad Thiessen who projected a Performance-Based Funding score of 77, which would earn Florida Poly full funding for 2025-26. Provost Thiessen shared additional details on the University's four-year graduation rate, including comparisons with other engineering programs within the State University System; an update on faculty recruitment efforts; and a notice about the upcoming ABET re-accreditation visit in January 2025.

Committee Chair Theis also reported that Vice President Bryan Brooks provided a report on Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Strategic Communications. In this report, the Committee was introduced to new leadership in Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. The Committee was also updated on successful student events, including the 2024 SGA Transition Ceremony, the Career Fair, and the Dale Carnegie leadership sessions.

XI. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: Approval

Vice President Bryan Brooks reviewed all of the substantive changes to the draft of the Strategic Plan since the trustees reviewed it at the Board Retreat the prior day. He also identified where the metrics are located within the document per Trustee Stanfield's request.

A motion was made by Trustee Cliff Otto to approve the revised University mission statement to read, "We serve students and industry through educational excellence and the discovery, advancement, and application of knowledge in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics." Trustee Sidney Theis seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Lyn Stanfield to approve the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan as revised from yesterday's presentation at the 2024 Annual Retreat of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Dorian Abbot seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

XII. Faculty Panel

Chair Kigel welcomed the five faculty panel members and moderator David Fugett. Dr. Sanna Siddiqui, Dr. Ala J. Alnaser, Dr. Ayesha Dina, Dr. Artem Malinin, and Dr. Nathan Dawson participated on the panel. A robust exchange of information occurred between faculty and trustees. Faculty recommended adding degrees in aerospace engineering, biomedical engineering, applied statistics, information technology, biotechnology, and artificial intelligence. One suggested turning the most popular concentrations into majors and turning the less popular concentrations into technical offerings. Faculty stated the need to research the job market for the next 5-10 years to determine what programs are most needed. There was also strong consensus for establishing a Ph.D. program and capitalizing on undergraduate research.

XIII. Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar

Chair Kigel reviewed the upcoming Board calendar noting that the next round of Committee and Board meetings will occur in February 2025.

XIV. Board of Governors Meeting Calendar

Chair Kigel shared that the next Board of Governors meeting will be held January 29-30, 2025, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

XV. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Kigel recognized Kathy Bowman, Vice President of Advancement and CEO of the University Foundation, for her outstanding work over her five-year tenure. She wished Bowman well in her retirement.

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kristen J. Wharton
Corporate Secretary

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar

Proposed Board Action

Approve the proposed Board of Trustees meeting calendar for 2026.

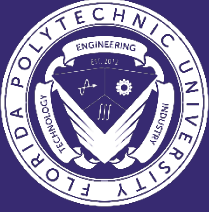
Background Information

Chair Kigel will review the 2025 Board meeting calendar and make note of upcoming meetings. She will also present the proposed Board of Trustees meeting dates for 2026 for approval.

Supporting Documentation:

1. Board of Trustees 2025 Meeting Calendar
2. Board of Trustees 2026 Meeting Calendar

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



2025 Meeting Schedule

2025

February

Wednesday, Feb 5: Committee Meetings (*virtual*)
Wednesday, Feb 12: Full Board Meeting (*in-person*)(*student engagement*)

April

Thursday, April 24: Academic & Student Affairs Committee (*to approve Accountability Plan (AP) only*) and brief Full Board Meeting (*to approve AP only*) (*virtual*)

June

Wednesday, May 28: Committee Meetings (*virtual*)
Wednesday, June 4: Full Board Meeting (*in-person*)(*BOT/Foundation Board Event*)

September

Thursday, Sept 18: Committee Meetings (*virtual*)
Wednesday, Sept 24: Full Board Meeting (*in-person*)(*faculty engagement*)

November ***ANNUAL BOARD RETREAT***

Monday, Nov 10: Committee Meetings (*virtual*)
Tues/Wed, Nov 18-19: Full Board Meeting & Annual Board Retreat (*in-person*)
(*industry engagement/annual Board dinner*)



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Proposed 2026 Board Meeting Schedule

2026	
February 11	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
February 18	Full Board Meeting (In-person)
April 23	Academic and Student Affairs Committee and Full Board Meeting (Virtual)
May 27	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
June 3	Full Board Meeting (In-person)
September 16	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
September 23	Full Board Meeting (In-person)
November 10	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
November 17-18	Annual Board Retreat and Full Board Meeting (In-person)



2025 Meeting Schedule

January 29-30	University of North Florida, Jacksonville
February 20	<i>Virtual Meeting via Zoom</i>
March 25-26	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee
May 15	<i>Virtual Meeting via Zoom</i>
June 17-18	Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton
September 10-11	Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers
October 9	Committee Workshop University of Central Florida, Orlando
November 5-6	University of Florida, Gainesville ***TRUSTEE SUMMIT***

2026 Meeting Schedule

January 28-29	Florida State University, Tallahassee
February 23	<i>Virtual Meeting via Zoom</i>
March 25-26	University of West Florida, Pensacola
May 14	<i>Virtual Meeting via Zoom</i>
June 24-25	University of South Florida, Tampa
September 2-3	New College of Florida, Sarasota
September 30	Committee Workshop University of Florida, Gainesville
October 28-29	Florida International University, Miami

**Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025**

Subject: Update on Feasibility and Use of 360-acre Property

Proposed Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

As part of the university's establishment, two significant land donations were made by the Williams Company: a 171-acre parcel where the J.D. Alexander Campus now thrives, and a 360-acre parcel located approximately one mile west of the main campus that has been left undeveloped. The development of the 171-acre site was crucial to the formation of the university, and this area was transformed with minimal additional costs to achieve a pad-ready status. Conversely, the 360-acre parcel has remained undeveloped, primarily due to its challenging condition as an unreclaimed phosphate mine.

In the fall of 2024, aligned with our new strategic plan and the vision to expand by developing a research park, we initiated a comprehensive feasibility study on this larger parcel. This study, conducted by a local civil engineering firm, Kimley Horn and Associates, covered several critical aspects: an assessment of subsurface conditions, environmental impacts, a conceptual development plan, utility access, traffic planning, and a preliminary cost analysis for preparing the site, or a portion of it, for development. This proactive step marks a significant move towards realizing our broader ambitions for enhancing the university's infrastructure and research capabilities.

An update on the progress and current findings will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Dr. Allen Bottorff, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; David Calhoun, Ass't. Vice President

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
February 12, 2025

Subject: Mechanical Engineering Highlight: Patent-pending Police Body Cam Device Presentation

Proposed Board Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

From the press release, “Mechanical engineers at Florida Polytechnic University have put their skills to the test for the Lakeland Police Department, inventing a device to help make turning on their body cameras effortless in situations when they must draw their firearm.”

Matthew DeCicco '24, Mike Kalman, fabrication specialist, and Lakeland Police Chief Sam Taylor, will discuss the project from concept to its current patent-pending status and use by officers from the Lakeland Police Department.

Supporting Documentation: [Link](#) to press release on this device

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary