



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

# Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Meeting Agenda

September 18, 2025  
2:45 p – 3:45 p

Florida Polytechnic University  
VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Dial in: 1-863-225-2351 | Conference ID: 214 201 66#

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Beth Kigel, Chair  
Eliot Peace

Sumanth Neelam, Vice Chair  
Colby Manrodt

Jesse Panuccio

## MEETING AGENDA

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| I.   | Call to Order  | Beth Kigel,<br>Chair                    |
| II.  | Roll Call  | Kristen Wharton,<br>Corporate Secretary |
| III. | Public Comment   | Beth Kigel                              |
| IV.  | <a href="#">Approval of the Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Charter</a><br><i>*Action Required*</i>   | Beth Kigel                              |
| V.   | <a href="#">Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Report</a>  | Kelli Stargel                           |
| VI.  | <a href="#">Approval of the 2025-2026 Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Work Plan</a><br><i>*Action Required*</i> | Beth Kigel                              |
| VII. | Closing Remarks and Adjournment  | Beth Kigel                              |

Florida Polytechnic University  
Strategic Initiatives & External Relations Committee  
Board of Trustees  
September 18, 2025

**Subject: Approval of the Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Charter**

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**Proposed Committee Action**

Recommend to the Board of Trustees approval of the proposed committee charter for the creation of the Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee.

**Background Information**

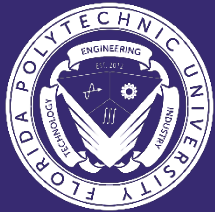
The Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee is a newly established committee designed to keep the Board of Trustees informed and actively engaged in the initiatives and activities of this division.

The Committee's purpose is detailed in the attached charter statement.

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**Supporting Documentation:** DRAFT Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Charter

**Prepared by:** Kelli Stargel, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, External Affairs and Development;  
Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



# Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Charter

## CHARTER STATEMENT

### I. Purpose

The Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee is a standing committee of the Board of Trustees to support the University's mission and long-term success by providing strategic guidance and informed recommendations regarding the University's key strategic initiatives, external partnerships, and institutional reputation. The Committee will assist the Board in identifying emerging opportunities and challenges in higher education, evaluating long-range plans, and strengthening the University's engagement with government, industry, alumni, and the broader community.

### II. Composition and Meetings

- A. The Committee shall consist of at least three Trustees, appointed by the Board Chair.
- B. The Committee shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently as determined by the Committee Chair.
- C. The Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Development, and External Relations shall serve as the University staff liaisons to the Committee and attend meetings to provide updates and analysis.
- D. The Committee may invite other University personnel or external experts to participate as needed.

### III. Reporting

- A. The Committee shall report regularly to the full Board of Trustees.
- B. The Committee shall collaborate with other standing committees when initiatives span multiple areas of governance.

### IV. Charter Review

This Charter shall be reviewed by the Committee at the conclusion of its first year and biennially thereafter. Recommended changes shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Florida Polytechnic University  
Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee  
Board of Trustees  
September 18, 2025

**Subject: Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Report**

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**Proposed Committee Action**

Information only – no action required.

**Background Information**

Vice President Kelli Stargel will deliver a report on recent external relations activities. The presentation is expected to inform discussion regarding the current state of engagement, outline strategic next steps, and identify emerging opportunities in STEM fields that may warrant further exploration.

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**Supporting Documentation:** N/A

**Prepared by:** Kelli Stargel, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, External Affairs and Development

Florida Polytechnic University  
Strategic Initiatives & External Relations Committee  
Board of Trustees  
September 18, 2025

**Subject: Approval of the Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Annual Work Plan**

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**Proposed Committee Action**

Approve the proposed annual work plan for the Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee.

**Background Information**

The Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee is a newly developed committee of the Board of Trustees. As it begins, the Committee presents its inaugural annual work plan for the Committee members' consideration and approval before forwarding to the Board of Trustees for approval. This initial work plan is intended to establish a clear framework for the Committee's activities over the coming year, aligning its efforts with institutional priorities and ensuring meaningful engagement with strategic initiatives and external partnerships.

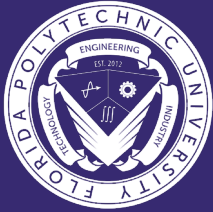
The work plan outlines key focus areas, anticipated discussion topics, and a proposed timeline for Committee meetings and deliverables. Its purpose is to guide the Committee in fulfilling its charter, promote transparency in its operations, and support the Board's governance role in overseeing strategic and external relations functions.

Approval of this work plan will enable the Committee to move forward with a shared understanding of its goals and responsibilities, laying a strong foundation for its contributions to the institution's long-term success.

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**Supporting Documentation:** DRAFT 2025-2026 Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Work Plan

**Prepared by:** Kelli Stargel, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, External Affairs and Development



# Committee Work Plan

## Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Work Plan 2025-2026

### SEPTEMBER

- Strategic Initiatives and External Relations Committee Charter *(review and approve every two years)*
- Strategic Initiatives
  - Receive updates on university strategic plan initiatives related to external relations
- External Relations and Economic Development
  - Review progress on key industry partnerships and identify opportunities for expansion
- Government Relations
  - Preview state and federal legislative and funding priorities for the upcoming sessions

### NOVEMBER

- External Relations and Economic Development
  - Status report on corporate and industry partnerships, and economic development involvement
- Government Relations
  - Report status of legislative committee meetings
  - Review updates on federal funding requests and appropriations process

### FEBRUARY

- Strategic Initiatives
  - Review University initiatives with significant external impact (e.g., research park collaborations, possible program funding)
- External Relations and Economic Development
  - Discuss advancement of new partnerships and external collaborations
- Government Relations
  - Assess progress in the legislative session (state and federal)
  - Review alignment of funding results with the university strategic priorities

### JUNE

- Strategic Initiatives
  - Conduct an annual review of committee performance against the work plan
  - Recommend updates and goals for the next academic year
- Government Relations
  - Final report on state legislative session outcomes
  - Receive update on federal appropriations and grants status
  - Discuss future goals
- External Relations and Economic Development
  - Review fiscal year outcomes for partnerships and set priorities for the coming year