



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

June 3, 2025
9:00 A – 12:00 P

Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC) Room 2200 and
Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Dial in: 1-863-225-2351 | Conference ID: 175 072 80#

BOARD MEMBERS

Beth Kigel, Chair
Dr. Dorian Abbot
Cliff Otto
Dr. Edwar Romero-Ramirez

Jesse Panuccio, Vice Chair
Dr. Sidney Theis
Ilya Shapiro

Patrick Hagen
Lyn Stanfield
Colby Manrodt

MEETING AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| I. | Call to Order | Beth Kigel, Chair |
| II. | Roll Call | Kristen Wharton,
Corporate Secretary |
| III. | Public Comment | Beth Kigel |
| IV. | Trustee Recognitions | Beth Kigel |
| V. | 2024-2026 Board of Trustees Work Plan | Beth Kigel |
| VI. | Chair's Remarks | Beth Kigel |
| VII. | President's Remarks | Dr. Devin Stephenson
President |
| VIII. | Faculty Senate President's Report | Trustee Edwar Romero |
| IX. | Student Government Association President's Report | Trustee Colby Manrodt |
| X. | Career Services Presentation | Allison Pirpich, Director,
Career Services &
Professional Development |

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|--------|---|--|
| XI. | <u>Consent Agenda</u>
<i>*Action Required*</i> | Beth Kigel |
| XII. | Committee Reports | |
| | A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report | Dr. Sidney Theis |
| | B. Finance and Facilities Committee Report | Lyn Stanfield |
| | 1. <u>Facility Naming Opportunity</u>
<i>*Action Required*</i> | |
| | C. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee Report | Cliff Otto |
| | | Lauren Padova |
| XIII. | <u>Legislative Session Report</u> | |
| | | Dr. Tom Dvorske, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs |
| XIV. | <u>2025-2030 Strategic Plan Progress Report</u> | |
| | | Christin Strawbridge, President, Catapult Lakeland |
| XV. | <u>Partnership Presentation: Catapult Lakeland</u> | |
| | | Beth Kigel |
| XVI. | <u>Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar</u>
<i>*Action Required*</i> | |
| | | Beth Kigel |
| XVII. | <u>Board of Governors Meeting Calendar</u> | |
| | | Beth Kigel |
| XVIII. | Closing Remarks & Adjournment | |

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: Trustee Recognitions

Proposed Board Action

Approve the following Board of Trustees Resolutions:

- Resolution 2025-003 in recognition and profound appreciation of distinguished service by Trustee Dorian Abbot
- Resolution 2025-004 in recognition and profound appreciation of distinguished service by Trustee Lyn Stanfield
- Resolution 2025-005 in recognition and profound appreciation of distinguished service by Trustee Cliff Otto

Background Information

Trustees Cliff Otto, Lyn Stanfield, and Dorian Abbot will be recognized for their outstanding service on the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees.

Supporting Documentation: Resolutions 2025-003, 2025-004, and 2025-005

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Resolution

2025-003

In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service:

Trustee Dorian Abbot

The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Trustee Dorian Abbot has served on The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees from October 24, 2023, through June 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Abbot served as the Vice Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and served on the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Abbot demonstrated his commitment to the mission and vision of Florida Polytechnic University, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Abbot freely shared his insights with candor and diplomacy, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Abbot served with integrity and was held in high esteem by his fellow trustees, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Abbot was always willing to advocate for Florida Polytechnic University seeking to enhance the stature of the University.

Now, therefore be it resolved that The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees, at its regular board meeting on this 3rd day of June, in the year 2025, does hereby recognize and commend Trustee Abbot for his contributions to Florida Polytechnic University, and

Be further resolved that this resolution is included in the minutes of the meeting and a copy presented to Trustee Abbot as a token of the Board's appreciation and sincere thanks.

Resolution adopted by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on June 3, 2025.

BETH KIGEL, Chair



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Resolution

2025-004

In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service:

Trustee Lyn Stanfield

The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Trustee Lyn Stanfield has served on The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees from September 5, 2020, through July 15, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Stanfield served as the Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, Vice Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and served on the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Stanfield demonstrated her commitment to the mission and vision of Florida Polytechnic University, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Stanfield freely shared her insights with candor and diplomacy, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Stanfield served with integrity and was held in high esteem by her fellow trustees, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Stanfield was always willing to advocate for Florida Polytechnic University seeking to enhance the stature of the University.

Now, therefore be it resolved that The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees, at its regular board meeting on this 3rd day of June, in the year 2025, does hereby recognize and commend Trustee Stanfield for her contributions to Florida Polytechnic University, and

Be further resolved that this resolution is included in the minutes of the meeting and a copy presented to Trustee Stanfield as a token of the Board's appreciation and sincere thanks.

Resolution adopted by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on June 3, 2025.

BETH KIGEL, Chair



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Resolution

2025-005

In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service:

Trustee Clifford K. Otto

The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Trustee Cliff Otto has served on The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees from March 24, 2016, through June 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto served as the Vice Chair of the Board from 2018-2020 and Chair of the Board from 2020-2024, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto served as Chair of the Audit & Compliance Committee, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, Chair of the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, and Vice Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto demonstrated his commitment to the mission and vision of Florida Polytechnic University, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto freely shared his insights with candor and diplomacy, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto served with integrity and was held in high esteem by his fellow trustees, and;

WHEREAS, Trustee Otto was always willing to advocate for Florida Polytechnic University seeking to enhance the stature of the University.

Now, therefore be it resolved that The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees, at its regular board meeting on this 3rd day of June, in the year 2025, does hereby recognize and commend Trustee Otto for his contributions to Florida Polytechnic University, and

Be further resolved that this resolution is included in the minutes of the meeting and a copy presented to Trustee Otto as a token of the Board's appreciation and sincere thanks.

Resolution adopted by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on June 3, 2025.

BETH KIGEL, Chair

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: Board of Trustees Work Plan FY25

Proposed Board Action

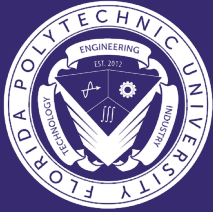
Information only. No action required.

Background Information

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

Supporting Documentation: Board of Trustees Work Plan FY25

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

June 3, 2025

Subject: Career Services Presentation

Proposed Committee Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

Allison Pirpich, Director of Career Services, will provide a brief update on department initiatives. Topics will include growth in student engagement and employer partnerships, highlights from recent successes such as the 2025 NASPA Excellence Award, ongoing challenges and strategies to address them, and future opportunities to enhance career outcomes for Florida Poly students.

Potential questions:

- *What specific strategies helped you earn the NASPA Excellence Award, and how are those being scaled or sustained?*
 - *What are your biggest barriers to growing employer partnerships, and how can the board or university leadership support you?*
 - *What skill gaps are you seeing in our student population compared to what employers are seeking, and how is Career Services helping to close that gap?*
 - *How is Career Services collaborating with faculty and academic departments to integrate career development more deeply into the student experience?*
 - *How are you tracking long-term student success, and what data or stories are you using to inform future program development?*
-

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Allison Pirpich, Director of Career Services

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 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. Academic and Student Affairs Committee
 - 1. Approve Florida Polytechnic University's 2025 Accountability Plan with amendments made to goals for Performance-Based Funding metrics 1, 4, and 5
 - 2. Approve Florida Polytechnic University's 2026-27 General Education Course List
- B. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee
 - 1. Approve the proposed revisions to FPU-2.001 Admission to the University and Appeal Process-General except for the addition of section (9)(b) Measles, Mumps, Rubella(MMR)
 - 2. Approve proposed amended regulation FPU-4.003 Special Fees, Fines and Charges
 - 3. Approve adoption of the Sixth Amended and Restated Bylaws to the Board of Trustees
 - 4. Approve the President's Administrative Action Plan for FY26
- C. Finance and Facilities Committee
 - 1. Approve the reappointment of John Curls Jr.; Travis Hills; Cady Johnson; Ryan Perez; Alen Tomczak, and Michael Tschanz to the Florida Polytechnic University Foundation Board of Directors
- D. Board of Trustees
 - 1. Approve Board of Trustees Retreat Meeting minutes from February 12, 2025
 - 2. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from February 18, 2025
 - 3. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from April 24, 2025

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 February 12, 2025
- 2. Board of Trustees meeting minutes from February 18, 2025
- 3. Board of Trustees Meeting minutes from April 24, 2025

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2025
8:30 A – 12:00 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 8:30 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, Bryan Brooks, Mike Dieckmann, Kelli Stargel, David Blanton, Maggie Mariucci, David Calhoun, Melaine Schmiz, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. 2024-2026 Board of Trustees Work Plan

Chair Kigel reviewed the Board of Trustees Annual Work Plan. There was no discussion on this agenda item.

V. Resolution: President Emeritus

Chair Beth Kigel delivered remarks on the recommendation from the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee to approve Dr. Randy K. Avent as President Emeritus of Florida Poly. Corporate Secretary Kristen Wharton read the resolution into the minutes, with a copy to be attached to the official written record of this meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Ilya Shapiro to approve the Emeritus Resolution, designating Dr. Randy K. Avent as President Emeritus of Florida Poly. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Following a photo taken with Board trustees, Dr. Avent provided a few brief remarks.

VI. Chair's Remarks

Chair Beth Kigel urged Board trustees to prioritize the key components of the 2025-2030 strategic plan in all interactions with their communities, and state and national legislators. She emphasized that this plan will be the central topic of discussions during Florida Poly Day in Tallahassee on March 20.

VII. President's Remarks

President Devin Stephenson provided a brief report on recent institutional activities including participation in local community events, meetings and speaking engagements with industry, interactions with students, and the work of faculty. He noted the renewed relationship with Catapult and the 70 companies that participated in Career Fair earlier in the week.

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 in Mechanical Engineering and Sydney Wickett, master's student in Mechanical Engineering, presented their research on 3D printed components for use in the aerospace industry.

IX. Legislative Update

Kelli Stargel, Vice President of Strategic Relationships, presented an update on state legislative activities. During this legislative session, Representatives Josie Tomkow and Jennifer Canady, along with Senator Colleen Burton, will request the funding as laid out in the University's Legislative Budget Request (LBR). Stargel also provided an overview of activities planned for Florida Poly Day on March 20, 2025.

X. Faculty Senate President Report

Trustee Brad Towle, president of the Faculty Senate, reported that the Faculty Representative Committee (FRC) is organizing a Florida Polytechnic Research Day on April 21, 2025. He also highlighted significant enhancements in both undergraduate and graduate curricula across all departments and mentioned that search committees for new faculty members are actively engaged in the recruitment process. Additionally, the FRC has been tasked with reevaluating certain committees and policies that may no longer be necessary.

XI. SGA President Report

Trustee Christos "Taki" Tsetsekas, SGA president, reported on the Florida Student Association's advocacy trip to Tallahassee, Student Senate achievements, an RFP initiative which aims to provide additional funding to RSOs, leadership development programs, progress on the remodel of "The Nest" student space, and plans for Florida Poly Day at the Capitol.

XII. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: Progress 2025

President Stephenson updated trustees on three specific areas of progress the University has

made since the Board met last November. The first area relates to relationship building activities with local, state, and national legislators as well as industry partners. The president also shared that he consolidated external and international relations, strategic initiatives, and development under one umbrella, led by Kelli Stargel, to create a more efficient and dynamic department.

In the area of Academic Affairs, President Stephenson noted the University is on-track to launch two new undergraduate majors in Physics and Applied Sciences, as well as an online master's degree in Engineering Management, pending review by SACSCOC. To prepare for the increase in enrollment, 12 full-time faculty have been hired, and the evaluation process is underway for 28 current faculty who are eligible for reappointment and/or promotion this year.

In the ITS division, President Stephenson stated that Ellucian considers Florida Poly an early adopter of their Banner SaaS program, a student information system. In April, Ellucian will host a global conference in Orlando, featuring Florida Poly staff and students as presenters in five sessions. Additionally, PhoenixAI, a ChatGPT-like environment tailored specifically for Florida Poly, will launch in late February to enhance the efficiency of operations and services. President Stephenson announced the upcoming launch of an administratively led, student-staffed security operations center in fall 2025, with a submission for federal funding scheduled for July 2025.

Vice Chair Jesse Panuccio raised questions about AI policies and protections. In response, Mike Dieckmann explained that several academic and non-academic university committees are actively addressing these issues. They are exploring questions such as 'How do our values align with AI?' and 'What is our AI strategy?' while also working on the development of guidelines and risk management principles.

Trustee Lyn Stanfield requested more details about the University's partnership with Ellucian. President Stephenson highlighted his prior collaboration with Ellucian leadership at his former institution. Dieckmann elaborated on his daily engagement with Ellucian during Florida Poly's transition to the Banner SAAS system, emphasizing the opportunity to influence other institutions, particularly on Florida-specific challenges.

XIII. Consent Agenda

Chair Kigel brought forward the consent agenda for trustee approval.

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. Board of Trustees Meetings

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

XIV. Committee Reports

A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee

Committee Chair Cliff Otto reported that the Committee heard David Blanton provide summaries on the various audits that have been conducted. They also received the bi-annual review of employment practices from President Stephenson, and reviewed, approved, and recommended Board approval for the following items which were approved on today's consent agenda:

1. FPU-1.003 Use of University Facilities and Property
2. FPU-1.007 Campus Free Expression
3. FPU-5.003 Textbook and Instructional Materials Selection and Affordability

B. Finance and Facilities Committee

Committee Chair Lyn Stanfield stated that the Committee received the University's and the Foundation's second quarter financial update for the period ending December 31, 2025. They also received updates on the Florida Poly Student Housing System for Fall 2024, the five major campus construction projects currently underway, and Advancement and Foundation activities. In addition, the Committee recommended Board approval for the reappointment and appointment of two Foundation board directors, which were approved on today's consent agenda.

C. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Sidney Theis summarized the items presented by Vice President and Interim Provost Brad Thiessen and Vice President Bryan Brooks. He highlighted the Committee's discussions on Florida Poly's 2025 performance-based funding score projection, Fall 2024 academic performance, and regional and program accreditation. Additional topics included Fall 2025 admissions numbers, the new online tutoring platform Knack, and initiatives for student leadership development.

XV. Immersion Experience: Lab with Dr. Onur Toker

At this point, Chair Kigel adjourned the meeting, and the Board trustees left the room to participate in a demonstration in the Electrical Computing Engineering (ECE) Lab with Professor Onur Toker. Upon their return, Chair Kigel reconvened the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

XVI. Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar

Chair Kigel reminded trustees of a virtual Board meeting on Tuesday, February 18, to review and approve the firm for the Student Achievement Center design services. She also highlighted the upcoming Board calendar, including a virtual Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday, April 24, and Committee and Board meetings in late May and early June 2025. Due to a scheduling conflict for both President Stephenson and Chair Kigel with the June 4 Board meeting, Chair Kigel proposed moving it to June 3.

A motion was made by Trustee Patrick Hagen to approve moving the June 4, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting to June 3, 2025. Trustee Sidney Theis seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Kigel also reviewed the proposed 2026 Board meeting schedule. Kristen Wharton will poll trustees again to help determine if Wednesday or Friday is the best weekday to hold Board meetings.

XVII. Board of Governors Meeting Calendar

Chair Kigel shared that the next Board of Governors meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, February 20. The next in-person BOG meeting will be held at FAMU on March 25-26.

XVIII. Update on Feasibility and Use of 360-Acre Property

Dr. Allen Bottorff, Vice President and CFO, presented the findings of a feasibility study on the University's 360-acre property, conducted by civil engineering firm Kimley Horn and Associates.

Based on preliminary findings, Bottorff outlined that bringing the property to full site pad-ready status would cost over \$204.25 million, while normalizing the site conditions alone would cost approximately \$190.5 million. He also reviewed two alternative options focused on developing only a small portion of the property.

Trustees engaged in discussions about the study, the potential for a land swap, and other possible uses for the property. President Stephenson noted that the Williams Company likely expects the University to conduct its own due diligence. He requested the Board's approval for University staff to meet with the Williams Company again to share the study's findings and explore potential options.

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

David Fugett, Vice President and General Counsel, introduced an inspiring team behind an innovative police body cam device. Matthew DeCicco ('24), a visionary student, Mike Kalman, a skilled fabrication specialist, and Lakeland Police Department (LPD) Assistant Chief Hans Lehman shared the journey of this groundbreaking device—from its initial concept to its current patent-pending status and successful implementation by LPD officers.

XX. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kristen Wharton
Corporate Secretary

**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 12th day of February 2025.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2025
2:00 P – 3:00 P

Florida Polytechnic University
Virtual via Microsoft Teams

I. Call to Order

Chair Beth Kigel called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Beth Kigel, Vice Chair Jesse Panuccio, 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: Trustee Ilya Shapiro

Staff Present: President Devin Stephenson, Interim Provost Brad Thiessen, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, Bryan Brooks, Mike Dieckmann, Kelli Stargel, David Blanton, David Calhoun, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. RFQu 25-013 Student Achievement Center Design Services: Recommended Architect-Engineer Team

Dr. Allen Bottorff presented the four design firms recommended and ranked by the internal selection committee to design the Student Achievement Center (StAC). In ranked order, the list includes the following:

1. Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK) / Workshop
2. Baker Barrios
3. Perkins & Will
4. Ikon.5

Upon Board approval, University staff will begin to negotiate with the top-ranked firm. If unable to reach a mutually agreeable contract, staff will terminate that negotiation and begin to negotiate with the second-ranked firm, and so on.

Trustee Sidney Theis inquired what made the top firm stand out to the committee. Bottorff responded that the first and second-ranked firms were remarkably close. The committee considered how well they thought the firm would work with the University. Each firm developed three design options, however only two discussed their collaborative process with the University.

Trustee Patrick Hagen asked if any of the firms are local. Bottorff stated all firms are located in Florida with the exception of Ikon.5 who did partner with a local team so they would have a presence in Florida.

Trustee Theis asked if these firms could do their design work within budget. Bottorff replied that this question was asked of each firm, and they all stated they could do so.

Trustee Brad Towle inquired if any of the four firms designed any buildings currently on campus; HOK designed the Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC). Bottorff clarified that the StAC should be designed for the student experience not an academic one, and he does believe that HOK can accomplish this. Twenty nationally renowned firms responded to the RFQ for the design of the StAC. HOK's proposal also includes "Workshop" which specializes in looking at the institution's individual needs and includes engagement with the University's students. Bottorff stated HOK had an exceptionally strong presentation.

Trustee Towle expressed concern about the issues encountered with the Barnett Applied Research Center (BARC). Bottorff confirmed that David Calhoun, AVP Facilities and Safety Services, did inquire about this, however, many of the issues post-occupancy were a result of material and equipment sourcing problems during the pandemic and not necessarily a design issue.

A motion was made by Trustee Brad Towle to approve the final ranking of Architect-Engineer Teams for the Florida Polytechnic University Student Achievement Center. This recommended ranking is as follows:

- 1. Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK) / Workshop**
- 2. Baker Barrios**
- 3. Perkins & Will**
- 4. Ikon.5**

With this approval, university staff are authorized to negotiate a contract with the top ranked firm for compensation which the agency determines is fair, competitive, and reasonable. If the negotiation with the top ranked firm does not result in a contract, then university staff must formally terminate the negotiations and move on to the next ranked firm. Similarly, if those negotiations fail to result in a contract, the agency will then proceed to negotiate with the third ranked firm – and so on.

Trustee Christos Tsetsekas seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Student Achievement Center Project – Design Phase

With the approval of the top-ranked firms, Bottorff stated the Board must next approve authorization for the President to sign official documents relating to the hire of the design firm. Included in the motion is a "budget not to exceed" statement in the amount of \$5.7M from Public Education and Capital Outlay (PECO) funds.

A motion was made by Trustee Sid Theis to authorize the President to sign instruments, documents, and contracts as necessary to effectuate the design and preconstruction services for the Student Achievement Center project within a budget not to exceed \$5,700,000 using Public Education and Capital Outlay (PECO) funds. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Towle asked for clarification on what the \$5.7M covers. Bottorff replied that the \$5.7M is solely for design work and allocated from the University's Legislative Budget Request (LBR) which was received last year. Trustee Theis inquired if it includes bringing services like utilities and other infrastructure to the site. Bottorff said it includes the design of the infrastructure, but not the actual physical infrastructure.

VI. Main Campus - Parking Lot 6 Expansion Project

The Board had asked for staff to review the parking situation and determine the need for additional parking on campus. Bottorff noted that the University was able to set aside \$2.5M from Carryforward funds to build a new 250-space parking lot. He showed the proposed location for the expansion lot location on the campus map as well as on an aerial photo. Bottorff stated that the lot could be built over the summer and ready for use by fall 2025.

Trustee Towle asked if there would be room for another building between the proposed lot and the International Flavors and Fragrances (IFF) building. Calhoun responded that the parking lot will be adjacent to south end of the IFF building. A site on the north side of IFF is designated for another P3 building.

Trustee Jesse Panuccio inquired if this lot is indeed temporary or permanent. Bottorff stated it is temporary at the moment; however, in the future, the University could build a parking garage over top of the parking lot. Bottorff also identified two other locations on campus where parking garages could be built.

Trustee Towle asked if the expansion of Lot 6 would adequately meet the University's needs for next five years. Bottorff stated it would only solve the immediate need for the next two years, not solve the University's long-term parking problem.

President Devin Stephenson assured trustees that he and his staff are sensitive to the issue of not having enough land to expand the campus contiguously as desired.

A motion was made by Trustee Brad Towle to authorize the President to sign instruments, documents, and contracts as necessary to effectuate the Surface Parking Lot 6 Expansion project to be designed and constructed within a total budget not to exceed \$2,500,000 using carryforward funds. Trustee Cliff Otto seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Kristen Wharton
Corporate Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees **DRAFT** Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2025
3:45 – 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 3:34 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 Christos Tsetsekas, and Trustee Brad Towle were present (Quorum).

Board Trustees not present: Trustee Sidney Theis

Staff Present: President Devin Stephenson, Interim Provost Brad Thiessen, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, Bryan Brooks, Mike Dieckmann, Kelli Stargel, David Blanton, Maggie Mariucci, David Calhoun, Melaine Schmiz, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There was one request for public comment. Mike Sanderson addressed agenda item VI, University FY25 Accountability Plan.

IV. Recognition of Service

Chair Beth Kigel recognized Trustee Brad Towle whose term ends May 5, 2025. Kristen Wharton read Resolution 2025-001, a proclamation honoring Trustee Towle's service, which is attached to these minutes. Trustee Towle then expressed his appreciation to the Board for their support and for the knowledge he gained in his year of Board service.

Trustee Jesse Panuccio made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-001 in recognition of and in profound appreciation for the distinguished service of Trustee Brad Towle. Trustee Taki seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Kigel then recognized Trustee Christos "Taki" Tsetsekas whose term ends April 27, 2025. Wharton read Resolution 2025-002, a proclamation honoring Trustee Tsetsekas's service, which is attached to these minutes. Trustee Tsetsekas remarked that his collaboration with fellow

trustees has been exceptionally positive and rewarding and thanked them for their work in ensuring Florida Poly remains such a great institution.

Trustee Dorian Abbot made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-002 in recognition of and in profound appreciation for the distinguished service of Trustee Christos “Taki” Tsetsekas. Trustee Brad Towle seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Compass Group USA, Inc. (Chartwells) Food Services Contract Amendment No. 8

Dr. Allen Bottorff, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the amendment which addresses the increases in labor and food costs by adjusting the meal plan prices for the 2025-26 academic year. This Amendment also includes minor modifications to the Block 50 and Block 25 meal plans, which will be revised to the Block 60 and Block 30 plans; these plans will now also be opened to commuter students.

A motion was made by Trustee Cliff Otto to approve Amendment Number Eight to the Food Services Agreement with Compass Group, USA, Inc. (Chartwells). Trustee Christos Tsetsekas seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. University Accountability Plan FY25

Trustee Dorian Abbot asked Provost Brad Thiessen to address the public comment that was made at the beginning of the meeting. Thiessen explained both the “accountability” and the “plan” parts of the document, stating that it serves a dual purpose. The accountability plan is measured against the metrics of the Performance-Based Funding system as well as reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors. The plan forecasts goals for the next five years and is informed by data as it comes in. If the data are higher or lower than projected, then the goals are updated. Making these adjustments helps the BOG know what to expect at the system level. Thiessen also pointed out that the latest data informing this plan are from September of 2024.

Chair Kigel brought forward the University Accountability Plan FY25 for trustee approval.

As this item comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Kigel shared comments from the BOG in support of Florida Poly’s strategic plan. She also recognized the number of trustees who participated in advocacy this spring.

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Kristen Wharton
Corporate Secretary



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Resolution

2025-001

In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service:

Trustee Bradford A. Towle, Jr.

The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Trustee Brad Towle has served on The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees from May 6, 2024, through May 5, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Towle served on the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and the Finance and Facilities Committee, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Towle served as the Chair of the Faculty Representative Council from May 2024 through May 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Towle currently serves as an associate professor of computer science.

Now, therefore be it resolved that The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees, at its regular board meeting on this 24th day of April, in the year 2025, does hereby recognize and commend Trustee Brad Towle for his contributions to Florida Polytechnic University, and

Be further resolved that this resolution is included in the minutes of the meeting and a copy presented to Trustee Towle as a token of the Board's appreciation and sincere thanks.

Resolution adopted by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on April 24, 2025.


BETH KIGEL, Chair



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees **Resolution** 2025-002

In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service:

Trustee Christos “Taki” Tsetsekas

The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Trustee Christos Tsetsekas has served a one-year term on The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees from April 28, 2024, through April 27, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Tsetsekas served on the Board of Trustees’ Academic and Student Affairs Committee and the Finance and Facilities Committee, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Tsetsekas served one term as the student body president, and

WHEREAS, Trustee Tsetsekas received from Florida Polytechnic University a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration in aerospace.

Now, therefore be it resolved that The Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees, at its regular board meeting on this 24th day of April, in the year 2025, does hereby recognize and commend Trustee Tsetsekas for his contributions to Florida Polytechnic University, and

Be further resolved that this resolution is included in the minutes of the meeting and a copy presented to Trustee Tsetsekas as a token of the Board's appreciation and sincere thanks.

Resolution adopted by the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees on April 24, 2025.


BETH KIGEL, Chair

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: Facility Naming Opportunity

Proposed Board Action

Approve the naming of the Barnett Applied Research Center, Room 1141, as the Boring Business Systems Conference Room.

Background Information

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

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: 2025 Legislative Session Report

Proposed Board Action

Information only – no action required.

Background Information

This item provides the Board of Trustees with an update on the 2025 Legislative Session. Lauren Mariano will present key developments and outcomes of significance to Florida Polytechnic University. Although the session was originally scheduled to conclude on May 2, it has been extended and remains in progress as negotiations continue on the state budget, conforming bills, and other critical legislative matters.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Lauren Padova, Legislative Affairs Officer

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

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

Proposed Board Action

Information only. No action required.

Background Information

Dr. Tom Dvorske, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs, will provide an update on the progress of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Dr. Tom Dvorske, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs; Dr. Devin Stephenson; Vice Presidents Thiessen, Brooks, Fugett, Stargel, and Bottorff

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: Partnership Presentation: Catapult Lakeland

Proposed Board Action

Information only. No action required.

Background Information

Christin Strawbridge, President of Catapult Lakeland, along with several Florida Polytechnic University students, will deliver a presentation on the organization's partnership with Florida Poly. The presentation will highlight student internships and current projects utilizing Catapult's facilities. Trustees will also have the opportunity to engage in a discussion about these initiatives, as well as a pilot program involving Florida Poly, Catapult, and Lakeland Regional Health.

Supporting Documentation: N/A

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees
June 3, 2025

Subject: Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar

Proposed Board Action

Approve changing the September 24, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting date to September 26, 2025.

Background Information

Chair Kigel proposes rescheduling the September Board meeting for two reasons: September 24 falls on Rosh Hashanah, a Jewish holiday, and there is interest in testing a new day of the week for Board meetings, based on trustee feedback received this spring.

Supporting Documentation: Board of Trustees 2025-2026 Meeting Calendar

Prepared by: Kristen Wharton, Corporate Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2025-2026 Board Meeting Schedule

Proposed Date: Friday, September 26

2025

Wednesday, May 28	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
Tuesday, June 3	Full Board Meeting (In-person) (<i>BOT/Foundation Board Event</i>)
Thursday, September 18	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
Wednesday, September 24	Full Board Meeting (in-person) (<i>faculty engagement</i>)
Monday, November 10:	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
Tuesday-Wednesday, November 18-19	Annual Board Retreat and Full Board Meeting (in-person) (<i>industry engagement/annual Board dinner</i>)

2026

Wednesday, February 11	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
Wednesday, February 18	Full Board Meeting (In-person) (<i>student engagement</i>)
April 23	Academic and Student Affairs Committee and Full Board Meeting (Virtual)
May 27	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
June 3	Full Board Meeting (In-person) (<i>BOT/Foundation Board Event</i>)
September 16	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
September 23	Full Board Meeting (In-person) (<i>faculty engagement</i>)
November 10	Committee Meetings (Virtual)
November 17-18	Annual Board Retreat and Full Board Meeting (In-person) (<i>industry engagement/annual Board dinner</i>)



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