



CHANCELLOR'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023 UPDATE

Chancellor's Message

Trustees,

The 2023 Legislative Session begins this week and members are making their way to Tallahassee. It is critical, especially over the next 60 days, that we work together to amplify the State University System's transformational impact on the State of Florida's current and future economic success. To advocate on behalf of the System, I've been meeting with our legislative leadership, as well as many freshman members of the House and Senate. Moreover, I encourage you all to find ways to promote our legislative priorities and the many ways our universities are continuing to work to help students achieve their educational goals. I look forward to seeing you in the halls!

Ray Rodrigues

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome, New Trustees!	1
Governor's 2023-2024 Recommended Budget Highlights	2
Save the Date	2
Did U Know?	3
In Loving Memory	4



Welcome, New Trustees!

New Appointees

- Ryan Anderson (NCF)
- Ricardo Cardenas (UCF)
- Alonzie Scott (UWF)

Reappointments

- Richard Eide, Jr. (FGCU)
- Roger Tovar (FIU)
- Jim Henderson (FSU)
- Oscar Horton (USF)

Governor's 2023-2024 Budget Recommendations Highlights

Operating - \$5.7 billion. The Board's LBR was \$5.9 billion.

- **\$265M** for Performance funding State Investment- this continues funding at the current level
- **\$100M** Recruitment and Retention*
- **\$1.6M** Postsecondary Academic Library Network which matches the Board's request
- **\$72,500** Johnson Scholarships which matches the Board's request
- **\$10M** UF Hamilton Center (Board requested \$5M)
- **\$3M** UF Alzheimer's and Dementia Research
- **\$15M** NCF Operational Enhancements (\$10M recurring / \$5 M non-recurring)

*\$100,000,000 in nonrecurring funds is provided for the State University System Performance-Based Recruitment and Retention Incentive pursuant to section 1001.92(5), Florida Statutes. The Board of Governors is authorized to release these funds contingent upon the submission and approval of the required spend plan detailing how each institution will utilize their respective allocation.

Fixed Capital Outlay - \$263.8 M. The Board's LBR was \$700.9 M.

- **\$137M** Maintenance, Repair, Renovation & Remodeling (Board requested \$77 M)
- **\$45M** CITF which matches the Board's request
- **\$81M** for the following projects:
 - **\$5M** UCF Chemistry Building, Renovation (Board requested \$15M)
 - **\$1.9M** NCF Pritzker Marine Biology Remodel
 - **\$4.5M** FAMU Howard Hall
 - **\$4.8M** FGCU Reed Hall
 - **\$26.5M** FSU Dittmer Building Remodel
 - **\$2.5M** UNF Brooks College of Health Remodel
 - **\$9.3M** FAMU Chemical & Biological Research Center
 - **\$13.3M** UF Hamilton Center
 - **\$13.5M** FAU Wimberly Library

SAVE THE DATE

March 7

Regular Legislative
Session
Tallahassee, FL

May 5

Last Day of Regular
Session
Tallahassee, FL

June 20-22

Florida Board of
Governors Meeting
University of South Florida
Tampa, FL

March 28-29

Florida Board of Governors
Meeting
Florida Agricultural &
Mechanical University
Tallahassee, FL

May 10

Florida Board of
Governors Meeting-
Conference Call

August 29-30

Florida Board of
Governors Meeting
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Did **U** know?

Florida State University has reported a record high 99% retention rate. According to the Office of Institutional Research at FSU, the first-semester retention rate for last fall's freshman class was an impressive 99%. This retention rate is among the highest in the country for both public and private universities and is particularly notable given their class size, exceeding 6,000 students. Achievements such as this demonstrate how the SUS continues to be a national leader in student success.



The University of South Florida has been awarded the Patents for Humanity award by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for its patent of the 3D-printed nasal swab, created in the early part of the pandemic as a solution to disrupted commercial production of standard nasal swabs. USF collaborated with Tampa General Hospital, Northwell Health, and Formlabs to develop and test the prototype and were able to share the design with hospitals, health systems, the military, and clinics around the globe. Recognitions such as this demonstrate how the State University System collaborates to create impactful solutions for our communities.



Florida Atlantic University and Florida Power & Light Company, through its charitable arm the NextEra Energy Foundation, have agreed to a four-year collaboration to establish the FPL Center for Intelligent Energy Technologies (InETech). The primary focus of InETech will be research relating to smart technologies and workforce development, as well as enable students to participate in projects that are directly related to the current and future needs of the energy industry. Additionally, funding will also provide community outreach and K-12 activities related to the energy industry.

University of Florida scientists are using artificial intelligence technology to quantify damage to fruits and vegetables caused by extreme weather events, such as Hurricane Ian. When Ian struck, winds up to 155 mph caused as much as \$1.56 billion in damage to crops, livestock, and aquaculture products in its path. In an effort to help growers know the extent of crop loss and how to apply for recovery aid, UF/IFAS scientists Yiannis Ampatzidis developed Argoview and ArgoSense at his lab at the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center. His newest project is to develop a computer model to use his existing technology to count damaged or dead crops.



Bottom line? The SUS is a good return on investment.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



THOMAS DORTCH

who passed away on the 15th of February, 2023.

"Trustee Dortch was an outstanding leader, public servant, and businessman that sought out ways to share his expertise for the betterment of FAMU and its students. Throughout his life he consistently demonstrated his leadership through his work with 100 Black Men of America, his colleagues on the FAMU trustee board, and so many other lives that he touched. His loss is great but his legacy will live on."

Brian Lamb, Chair of the Board of Governors