



CHANCELLOR'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023 UPDATE

Chancellor's Message

Trustees,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for pivoting from an in-person meeting to two virtual meetings in September. We were fortunate that Hurricane Idalia only caused inconvenience and minimal damage at some of our campuses—hats off to all campus university leaders, faculty, and staff for keeping our students safe. Florida’s State University System continues to lead nationally in providing a high-quality education and path to success for all students. Here are a few updates on our Nursing Initiatives, Office of Public Policy events, and a few campus happenings.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Trustee Summit on November 8th.

Ray Rodrigues

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REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

WHAT: Trustee Summit 2023

WHO: Board of Governors Members, Trustees, Presidents

WHERE: UCF Main Campus, Student Union, Pegasus Ballroom

WHEN: November 8, 2023 from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

For more information, visit our webpage at: www.flbog.edu/trustees/trustee-orientations-summits/

Florida universities rankings improved in the 2024 U.S. News & World Report rankings

All Florida universities eligible for inclusion in the national universities category improved their rankings. The success of our universities is proof that Florida's focus on merit, academics, and affordable higher education provides students with a variety of world-class educational options.

Continuing to raise the bar for excellence

Changes in the State University System of Florida national overall rankings from 2023-2024:

- Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University improved 31 spots.
- Florida Atlantic University improved by 53 spots.
- Florida Gulf Coast University improved by 80 spots, shifting from regional to national rankings.
- Florida International University improved 27 spots.
- Florida Polytechnic University ranked in the top 20 among public engineering programs in the nation without a Ph.D.
- Florida State University improved 2 spots.
- University of Central Florida improved 13 spots.
- University of Florida improved by 1 spot.
- University of North Florida improved by 26 spots.
- University of South Florida improved by 8 spots.



#1 in
Higher
Education



6 institutions in the
Top 100
public universities
in the nation



Top public
Historically Black
College &
University (HBCU)



#6 Public
Liberal Arts
Institution



State University System institutions help to close nursing shortage gap



The Helene Fuld Health Trust has committed a \$5.5 million gift to the UCF College of Nursing’s new education and teaching facility in Lake Nona. This funding will specifically support the creation of the state-of-the-art simulation center in the new building, a critical component to education and innovation.

The University of West Florida received approval for a \$6.6 million Triumph grant that will expand and improve delivery of nursing credentials and related health science certifications administered. The University will use award funds to assist in the expansion of programs, including two new nursing programs.



The University of South Florida and Tampa General Hospital are partnering to develop a new nursing simulation lab at the USF Health College of Nursing to offer advanced training for nurses as they prepare to join the health care workforce. TGH is investing \$4.4 million over six years to support the planning, construction and implementation of the new lab.

Upcoming University Office of Public Policy Events



Tuesday, October 3rd @ 3:30 p.m.

Artificial Intelligence: ChatGPT - Its Ethics and Use in Education



Monday, October 16th @ 2:00-3:30 p.m.

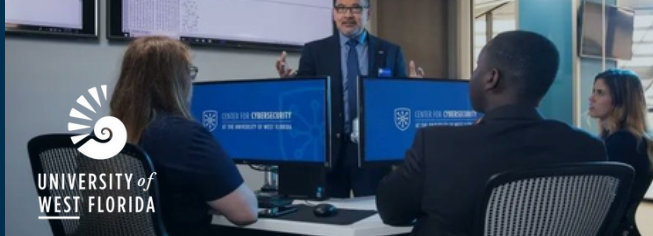
Affirmative Action in University Admissions and the Cost of Higher Education



Wednesday, October 25th @ 2:00 p.m. - Thursday, October 26th @ 2:00 p.m.

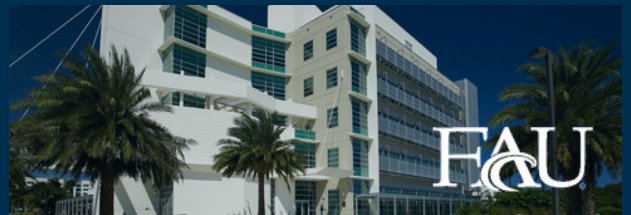
No Defense PFAS Symposium

Did U Know?



The UWF Center for Cybersecurity received an \$8.3 million grant to launch the UWF Florida Cybersecurity Training Program to provide free cybersecurity training for state and local government personnel. The program is part of the CyberSecureFlorida program led by CyberFlorida and funded by the Florida legislature, which aims to bolster cybercrime prevention in Florida and equip state and local government personnel with up-to-date cybersecurity knowledge, skills, and credentials. Upon completion, participants earn industry certifications, digital badges, and UWF certificates to document skills and competencies.

FAU's College of Engineering and Computer Science conducted a two-day basic electricity workshop for non-electrical engineers at Florida Power & Light (FPL). FPL personnel had the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the various core concepts of electricity, three-phased systems, transformers, motors, and other important topics. The workshop incorporated interactive exercises and the application of concepts related to AFPL engineering roles.



FAMU has accepted an invitation to join the Florida LambdaRail (FLR) Board of Directors, setting the stage for a tenfold increase in campus wireless connectivity and research capacity. With its elevation to board member, FAMU intends to establish a 100Gbps connection to FLR's advanced fiber-optic network infrastructure, providing the university's faculty, staff, and student with lightning-fast connectivity and seamless communication channels. A FLR connection facilitates data-intensive research, supports remote collaboration, and enables the exchange of large datasets critical for cutting-edge scientific investigations.

Florida Polytechnic University announced the new Gary C. Wendt Engineering Building that will begin construction next spring. The \$15 million, two-story building will house research and development labs for a variety of engineering disciplines, staff, and faculty offices, collaboration spaces, and a conference room. The facility will also feature an open courtyard on the exterior, which will connect to the Barnett Applied Research Center, providing additional recreation space.

