Trustees,

The fall semester is now in full swing and the first Committee Week for the 2024 Legislature will begin next week. Thanks to the support of the Governor and state legislators, Florida has remained #1 in the nation for higher education for the last 7 years. The SUS has elevated its national profile through dedication to preeminence and performance-based funding, emphasizing the impact these funds have on continuing student success and fueling Florida’s future. I look forward to engaging in further discussions about the continued excellence of our System as we move through committee weeks and enter the 2024 Legislative Session. Thank you for all you do to advocate for your university.

Ray Rodrigues
2024-2025 Legislative Budget Request

Keep Florida #1 by funding excellence

Performance Based Funding
Focus on student success, accountability, & improvement

Performance Based Funding
Since implementation in 2013:
- 18% increase in the 4-year graduation rates
- 80.5% decrease in average cost to student
- More than half of degrees awarded are in programs of strategic emphasis

PBF Excellence
Recognition of universities that have the maximum excellence scores

PBF Improvement
Recognition of universities with at least 3% increase in total score

Preeminence/National Rankings
Improve national rankings, increase research, & hire world-class faculty

One of 3 states with at least 1 institution in the Top 5, 20, & 50

5 institutions in the Top 100 public universities in the nation

Top public Historically Black College & University (HBCU)

#5 Public Liberal Arts Institution

Other critical SUS initiatives

University & SUS Initiatives
Initiatives & programs critical to supporting student education, strengthening Florida’s workforce and economy, and meeting the needs of Floridians

$460 M

$350 M

$100 M

$10 M

$150 M

$8.7 M
During the 2023 session, the Florida Legislature allocated $6 million to the State University System for the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

The LINE Fund is intended to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and healthcare partners and to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors. The fund will increase the capacity of high-quality nursing education programs and increase the number of nursing education program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce.

The Board of Governors is responsible for administering the LINE Fund for the SUS, including evaluating and approving proposals to participate in the program. View full proposal summaries here.

Adopted:  
- Reg. 14.006, Educational Facilities Contracting and Construction Techniques

Amended:  
- Reg. 1.002, Presidential Search and Selection  
- Reg. 6.002, Admission of Undergraduate First-Time-in-College, Degree-Seeking Freshmen  
- Reg. 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Students  
- Reg. 6.006, Accelerated Mechanisms  
- Reg. 6.008, Postsecondary-College-Level-Preparatory Testing, Placement, and Instruction for State Universities  
- Reg. 7.008, Waivers and Exemptions of Tuition and Fees  
- Reg. 8.007, Articulation  
- Reg. 8.013, Specialized Admissions  
- Reg. 9.006, University Personnel Definitions and Compensation  
- Reg. 9.007, State University Operating Budgets & Requests  
- Reg. 9.012, Foreign Influence  
- Reg. 14.001, Construction Program Definitions  
- Reg. 14.002, Reserves for New Construction  
- Reg. 14.003, Fixed Capital Outlay Projects- University Budgeting Procedures  
- Reg. 14.004, Public Announcement Requirements  
- Reg. 14.005, Certification and Competitive Selection of Professionals  
- Reg. 14.006, Building Program and Fixed Capital Outlay LBR Procedures  
- Reg. 18.001, Procurement

Repealed:  
- Reg. 14.0055, Certification and Competitive Selection for Construction Management and Design Build Services  
- Reg. 14.007, Competitive Negotiations  
- Reg. 14.018, Contracting Authority for Construction Contracts  
- Reg. 14.020, University Supervision of Construction Program  
- Reg. 14.021, Procedures for Construction Contract Bidding and Award  
- Reg. 14.022, Disqualification Procedures  
- Reg. 14.023, Notice and Protest Procedures  
- Reg. 6.012, Access to Certain Electronic Library Resources by Accelerated Secondary Students  
- Reg. 8.016, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment
A team of UWF engineering students at UWF’s Emerald Coast location in Fort Walton Beach has developed an innovative battery charging system for soldiers training and operating in jungle environments. Members of the military approached Dr. Thomas Gilbar, chair, lecturer for electrical and computer engineering students on innovative solutions. Students were tasked with developing a better method of charging batteries for the electronic systems soldiers carry in their rucksacks. During the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters, students worked with their faculty mentor to develop an innovative system that reduced battery charging time, extended battery life and improved overall rucksack weight. The system uses soldiers’ motion as they walk through the jungle to help charge the systems.

Tapping into the expertise of UF and its AI initiative, the Florida Department of Education recently added a three-year program of study called AI Foundations to its Career and Technical Education Program (CTE), with three Florida school districts launching it this fall after specialized AI training was available to teachers over the summer. The framework for the public school coursework was designed with help from UF faculty. The state’s new high school program offer courses that provide an overview of the aspects of AI, programming, and machine learning to better prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an AI-based society.