



CHANCELLOR'S NEWSLETTER

FALL UPDATE 2024

Chancellor's Message

I want to take this opportunity to thank the university staff who worked tirelessly during Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton to keep students safe and campuses secure. Our System came together during this difficult time offering support and assistance to help universities reopen as quickly as it was safe to do so. My thoughts are with the university communities that are still working to recover.

Universities throughout the System have been recognized nationally by U.S. News & World Report, Forbes, and Washington Monthly. Additionally, The College Board recently recognized Florida's commitment to providing affordable higher education in their Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid 2024 report. Florida has the lowest undergraduate tuition and fees for the third consecutive year. These ongoing acclaims reflect the System's commitment to academic excellence, student success, and affordability.

Ray Rodrigues
Chancellor of the State University System of Florida

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The Florida Board of Governors approved the [2024 System Accountability Plan](#) that summarizes the data from each university's accountability plans.

Check out these highlights!

\$1,300

**COST OF A BACHELOR'S
DEGREE ONCE FINANCIAL
AID IS INCLUDED**

RECORD-HIGH

**FOUR-YEAR
GRADUATION RATE
OF 62%**

\$50,000

**MEDIAN WAGES OF
BACHELOR GRADUATES
ONE YEAR AFTER
GRADUATION**

2024-2025 Military Friendly® School designations in the SUS



Three SUS institutions have been recognized with a 2024-2025 Military Friendly® designation. This is the 15th consecutive year for UNF and the 6th consecutive year for UWF to earn this designation.

Chancellor Rodrigues presented at the Future of Florida Forum



The Florida Chamber of Commerce recently hosted its annual Future of Florida Forum. The event brought together business leaders, elected officials, state agencies, and community advocates, including several university presidents, to discuss Florida's progress toward increasing our economy.

Chancellor Rodrigues presented about the State University System of Florida's efforts to align programs to the critical workforce needs of our state. Additionally, he highlighted the innovative programs universities are utilizing to create partnerships with businesses and develop internship opportunities for students.



Universities rally together after hurricanes Helene and Milton

A few examples of how our universities provided recovery efforts



Nearly 200 members of FSU’s Interfraternity Council (IFC) community traveled to Perry, Florida to provide support with local clean-up efforts following Hurricane Helene.

FSU’s Center for Disaster Risk Policy drone team was dispatched to assist with assessing the damage, as well as search and rescue after Hurricane Helene.



USF launched the Tampa Bay Strong campaign, creating a special edition t-shirt with 100% of proceeds directly benefiting USF students impacted by hurricanes Helene and Milton through the USF United Support Fund.



Students from Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida Atlantic University volunteered to help reopen The Wonder Gardens in Bonita Springs less than a week after Hurricane Milton. The volunteers helped clear damage and debris from the hurricane.



FAMU professor helped provide mental health services to first responders handling the aftermath of the hurricanes.

Recent & Upcoming Office of Public Policy Events

October 30
Cancel Culture
University of Florida

October 30
Amendment 3 to the
Florida Constitution
University of South Florida

November 5
2024 Election Night
Watch Party
University of Florida

November 8
The Israel-Arab Conflict:
Origins, Impact, and
Paths Forward
Florida Atlantic University

Did U Know?



To address Florida's teaching shortage, UF's College of Education is offering a fully online program that helps equip current and future educators with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. To maximize engagement for online students, program leaders use technology to enhance the learning experience – ensuring courses are flexible while giving students even more opportunities to demonstrate competencies and gain practical experience.



This month, UCF and USF hosted the Florida Defense Science and Technology Symposium. The Symposium united academic experts in Florida who are working in areas related to defense science and technology. The program included lectures by program managers from different Department of Defense agencies including funding, opportunities and workshops.

FAU received a \$10M grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services to increase the capacity and participation of transition-age youths and working-age adults with disabilities in high-demand technology jobs. The five-year project will assist individuals with disabilities nationwide to acquire certified skills needed for entry into high quality technology sectors.



UNF's Laboratory of Applied Biomechanics and Engineering is recruiting pediatric patients with cerebral palsy for power mobility clinical trials. The clinical trials, funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Foundation for Physical Therapy Research, are looking at the impact that stand-on power mobility devices have on the physical function of children. These devices allow for self-generated, active control of mobility and maintaining posture to improve children's balance and lower extremity strength.

