

MINUTES  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
June 18, 2025

*Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors and its committees are accessible at:*

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/6-18-25-florida-board-of-governors-meeting/>

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Cerio convened the meeting at 1:40 p.m. with the following Governors present: Cerio, Bell Barnett, Diaz, Dunn, Edge, Frost, and Haddock. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the committee meeting minutes for March 26, 2025. Governor Edge moved to approve, Governor Frost seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

3. SUS 30: 2+2 Targeted Pathway Agreements

4. Chair Cerio reported that the SUS 30: 2+2 Targeted Pathway Agreements item was removed from the agenda and would be presented at the next meeting. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.017, Criteria for Awarding a Baccalaureate Degree

Chair Cerio recognized Ms. Sikes to provide an overview of the proposal to amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.017, Criteria for Awarding a Baccalaureate Degree.

Ms. Sikes explained that the regulation outlines the minimum requirements that students must meet to be awarded a baccalaureate degree at a state university. She noted that staff were proposing a strike-all amendment to the regulation as part of a broader effort to streamline language, promote consistent implementation, and ensure alignment with Florida Statutes.

Ms. Sikes explained that the first substantive change incorporates the civic literacy competency as a clearly defined graduation requirement. She noted that the second substantive change prohibits a state university from imposing an institution-wide graduation requirement that conflicts with section 1007.25(3)(c), Florida Statutes, consistent with the statutory provision that also applies to general education courses.

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.017, Criteria for Awarding a Baccalaureate Degree. Governor Diaz moved to approve, and Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

## 5. Articulation Coordinating Committee Items

- A. Policy for the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Military Training and Education Courses
- B. Policy for the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Military Medic Training and Education Courses

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Lynn Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Innovation, to provide an overview of the Articulation Coordinating Committee's (ACC) recommended revisions to its policies for evaluating and awarding postsecondary credit for training and education completed through military and military medic service.

Dr. Nelson stated that Florida Statutes allow eligible servicemembers and veterans to earn uniform postsecondary credit for college-level military training and education across Florida's public institutions. She noted that the Board previously approved policies to support this process, which have now been revised to improve efficiency in the review process. Dr. Nelson explained that under the revised approach, the Office of Articulation will annually identify potential military training courses and then review them for equivalencies using the Statewide Course Numbering System. Once established, the faculty discipline coordinators would review the identified courses and make recommendations to the ACC for consideration of approval.

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the Articulation Coordinating Committee Policy for the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Military Training and Education Courses. Governor Dunn moved to approve, and Governor Diaz seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Chair Cerio entertained a separate motion to approve the Articulation Coordinating Committee Policy for the Evaluation and Awarding of Postsecondary Credit for Military Medic Training and Education Courses. Governor Dunn moved to approve, and Governor Diaz seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

### C. Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Nelson to provide an overview of changes to the Credit-by-Exam Equivalency List approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) at its June 11, 2025, meeting.

Dr. Nelson reported that Florida Statutes require the ACC to review and establish passing scores and course credit equivalencies for exams used to award postsecondary credit. She noted that discipline area committees recommended four additional exams, including Environmental Science and Mathematics, which would allow students to earn equivalent course credit with a passing score.

Dr. Nelson also highlighted the Florida Advanced Course and Test (FACT), a new acceleration option established by the Florida Legislature in 2023, which authorizes the Florida Department of Education to collaborate with public postsecondary faculty to develop advanced courses. The first FACT offering is for College Algebra and is aligned with the course currently taught at state universities and colleges. She reported that this is currently being piloted and is expected to be available statewide beginning in fall 2026.

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the Articulation Coordinating Committee's 2025 Credit-by-Exam Equivalency List. Governor Dunn moved to approve, and Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

## 6. Academic Program Actions

### A. Specialized Admissions Request, University of West Florida

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Nelson to provide an overview of the University of West Florida's (UWF) specialized admissions request.

Dr. Nelson reported that the University of West Florida has requested specialized admissions status for its proposed Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy program based on limited resources and accreditation, including specific faculty-to-student ratios limits for clinical sites and limited clinical instructors. She noted that students must complete supervised clinical hours in accredited facilities, and UWF currently partners with six sites, each able to accommodate up to four students. The university plans to expand faculty and clinical placements over the next two years.

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the University of West Florida's request for specialized admissions status for the Bachelor of Science and Respiratory Therapy degree program. Governor Dunn moved to approve, Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

### B. Special Purpose Center Request, University of Florida

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Nelson to provide an overview of the University of Florida's (UF) request to establish a new special purpose center.

Dr. Nelson stated that in 2022, the University of Florida (UF) began a partnership with the Scripps Institute in Jupiter, Florida, to advance human health through biomedical research, drug discovery, and clinical studies. She reported that the university is requesting to reclassify the location from a university research center to a special purpose center to offer a Ph.D. in Medical Sciences with a concentration in Biomedical Sciences, an approved program already offered on the main campus.

Dr. Nelson noted that the University of Florida Board of Trustees approved the proposed reclassification on March 27, 2025. If approved by the Board of Governors, the special purpose center will be operational beginning in fall 2026.

Chair Cerio requested a motion to approve the University of Florida's request to establish the Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute as a special purpose center. Governor Diaz moved to approve, and Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

## 7. Academic and Student Affairs Updates

### A. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Chair Cerio reported that Governor Carson Dale, Chair of the Florida Student Association, is traveling out of the country and is unable to provide an update on the recent activities of the FSA.

### B. Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)

Governor Kimberly Dunn, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, reported that the Council held a productive meeting focused on faculty contributions to institutional improvement and key systemwide priorities. She emphasized the Council's commitment to academic excellence and collaboration, and recognized Dr. Amanda Phalin for her service as outgoing chair.

## 8. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Michael Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President at the University of Central Florida and outgoing Chair of the Council of Academic Vice Presidents, for his 35 years of service and leadership in the State University System.

Having no further business, Chair Cerio adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

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Tim Cerio, Chair

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Rajendra Indar  
Academic and Student Affairs Intern