

**MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
New College of Florida
September 11, 2025
Full Board**

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

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/9-11-25-florida-board-of-governors-meeting-part-2/>

1. Call to Order.

Chair Brian Lamb called to order the Full Board portion of the meeting. Amanda Gay called the roll. Governors Lamb, Levine, Bell Barnett, Cerio, Dale, Funn, Frost, Good, Haddock, Jones, Kamoutsas, Lydecker, Mateer, Oliva, and Renner were present. A quorum was met.

2. Chair's Report.

Chair Lamb thanked the New College of Florida President and staff for their work on the meeting and complimented the meeting and campus improvements. Chair Lamb also commented on Florida State University's recent success in football, New College's investment in sports, collegiate athletics, and student athletes, and system-wide sports.

Chair Lamb also recognized the system-wide progress in academics, noting the five universities that have been recognized in the top 100: the University of Florida, Florida State University, the University of South Florida, the University of Central Florida, and Florida International University. He also congratulated FIU, UCF, and New College for their rankings in the Best Bang for the Buck Rankings published by Washington Monthly. Chair Lamb then highlighted Forbes' recognition of the University of Florida as the number five public university in the nation and its significant milestone with \$1.33 billion in research funding.

Chair Lamb commended the university presidents with their work and involvement in driving these outcomes and gave credit to the staff and students and the legislature and Governor.

3. Chancellor's Report.

Chancellor Ray Rodrigues echoed the Chair's comments regarding the success of our universities and the recognition of that through national rankings and publications. He thanked the faculty and administrators for their work.

Chancellor Rodrigues then addressed the legislative budget request that was approved in an earlier committee and provided information from the state's economists and projections.

4. Public Comment.

Amanda Gay introduced public comment. The commenters were as follows:

Rodrigo Diaz provided public comment on New College faculty and voting.

Mike Sanderson provided public comment on the budget.

Judy Burns provided public comment on auxiliary funding.

Gary Howell's name was announced for public comment but did not appear.

Jono Miller provided public comment on PECO.

Robyn Davis provided public comment on the budget and oversight.

Gary Howell was again called for public comment but did not appear.

5. Board of Governors Resolutions.

Chair Lamb then recognized two colleagues for their dedication to public service and higher education. Chair Lamb recognized Dr. Timothy Beard, the outgoing Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Interim President, acknowledging his time with FAMU as well as Pasco Hernando State College and thanking him for stepping in and successfully handing off the responsibilities to President Johnson. Chair Lamb then recognized Dr. Kent Fuchs, the outgoing UF Interim President, acknowledging him both as Interim President and President, and thanking him for his many years of service.

Chair Lamb then called for a motion to approve the resolutions. Governor Cerio made the motion, which was seconded by Governor Levine. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Confirmation of UF Interim President.

Chair Lamb then introduced the next agenda item, the confirmation of the UF's Interim President, Dr. Donald Landry, and turned the floor over to the University of Florida Board of Trustees Chair Mori Hosseini. Chair Hosseini introduced the appointment of UF's Interim President, Dr. Donald Landry, by describing Dr. Landry's experience in higher education, his qualifications, and contributions.

Dr. Landry then provided remarks regarding UF and his focus while serving as Interim President.

Various members of the Board offered questions and support, to which Dr. Landry provided responses. Chair Lamb then called for a motion to approve the confirmation of Dr. Landry as UF's Interim President. The motion was made by Vice Chair Levine and seconded by Governor Bell Barnett. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Presidential Search Updates.

Chair Lamb then turned the floor over to Governor Jones for an update on the University of South Florida's presidential search process. Governor Jones updated the Board on the search process, including that multiple listening sessions were held for stakeholders to provide input on qualities that they would like to see in the next president at USF. The update also included information on the committee meeting, wherein the committee finalized the criteria for the position and the marketing plan. The Board of Trustees subsequently approved the position criteria and marketing plan. USF Board of Trustees Vice Chair Mike Griffin thanked the Board for its support.

Governor Levine then provided an update for the University of West Florida's presidential search process. The update included that the 15-member search committee was announced, and the University engaged a search firm, which has gathered input on presidential qualities and profile. UWF Board of Trustees Chair Rebecca Matthews shared that the presidential profile and compensation ranges would be brought before the UWF Board next week.

8. Consent Agenda.

Chair Lamb then moved to the consent agenda and called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was made by Vice Chair Levine and was seconded by Governor Dale. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment.

Chair Lamb thanked everyone for their time and attendance then adjourned the meeting.