

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
November 6, 2025

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<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/11-6-25-florida-board-of-governors-meeting/>

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Ken Jones convened the meeting at 9:46 a.m., with the following Governors present: Jones, Oliva, Dale, Dunn, Good, Kamoutsas, Mateer, and Renner. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting

Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the Strategic Planning Committee meeting minutes from September 11, 2025, as well as the meeting minutes from the Performance-Based Funding workshop, held on September 10, 2025. Governor Kamoutsas moved to approve, Governor Dunn seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

3. Accreditation Update

Chair Jones recognized university presidents to provide updates on accreditation changes across the System.

Dr. Adam Hasner, President of Florida Atlantic University, stated that the university is currently preparing its application packet to submit to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) by January. Additionally, the university sent a letter of intent to the Commission for Public Higher Education. President Hasner noted that the university recently completed its ten-year reaffirmation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Mr. Manny Diaz, Interim President of the University of West Florida, stated that the university recently completed its SACSCOC accreditation visit and anticipates receiving approval in December. Interim President Diaz added that the Board of Trustees has affirmed the university's intent to switch accreditors to HLC. He reported that the university sent a notification to the United States Department of Education and has received a response.

4. SUS 30: Metric Goals

Chair Jones recognized Ms. Emily Sikes, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, to present an update on goals for certain metrics in the SUS 30 Strategic Plan.

Ms. Sikes presented recommended goals for degrees awarded in Programs of Strategic Emphasis. She provided a timeline for the recent updates to the list of Programs of Strategic Emphasis. The list of Programs of Strategic Emphasis was approved by the Board in 2023, and is narrower than previous iterations of the list. Board staff recommended setting the goal for bachelor's degrees in Programs of Strategic Emphasis at 45% and the goal for graduate degrees at 50%.

Ms. Sikes then presented a new metric, the six-year Pell graduation rate. This metric is included in the Board's Performance-Based Funding model but was not included in the new strategic plan. Board staff recommended a goal of 80% for the six-year Pell graduation rate.

Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the additional SUS 30 metrics and goals as presented. Governor Mateer moved to approve, Governor Oliva seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

5. SUS 30: Areas of Expertise

Chair Jones recognized Ms. Sikes to present an overview of the Areas of Expertise chosen by each of the institutions.

Ms. Sikes reported that the SUS 30 Strategic Plan calls for each university to select up to three areas of expertise to emphasize existing successes and provide a roadmap for excellence in these areas. Ms. Sikes shared the areas of expertise selected by each institution, which focus on supporting Florida's economy and workforce needs. She noted that quantum computing, a growing field, would be represented in at least two areas of expertise.

Ms. Sikes stated that areas of expertise could be used as a tool to grow business and industry partnerships that reflect institutional strengths. She added that the 2026 accountability plans will include a narrative section, where updates on benchmarks and metrics related to areas of expertise will be provided.

Chair Jones noted that areas of expertise may overlap across different universities. He expressed optimism about potential collaborations between universities with complementary areas of expertise.

Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the SUS 30 Areas of Expertise for each university. Governor Dunn moved to approve, Governor Dale seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

6. SUS 30: Iconic Companies

Chair Jones recognized Ms. Sikes to present an update on the list of iconic companies as part of the implementation of the SUS 30 Strategic Plan.

Ms. Sikes stated that earlier feedback from the Board on the iconic companies list emphasized highlighting more Florida companies and companies in finance and

engineering. She provided an overview of the proposed 18 companies to be added to the list. Ms. Sikes noted that the proposed list was not meant to be an all-inclusive list for the System and that overall success regarding post-graduate student outcomes could also be assessed with other Performance-Based Funding metrics.

Governor Dunn expressed concern about excluding companies from the iconic companies list that typically partner with the institutions. Board Chair Lamb reiterated the importance of establishing benchmarks and significant partnerships, and stated that he expects the iconic companies list to grow.

Governor Silagy expressed interest in measuring the percentage of a given company's new hires that are recruited from within the System. Governor Dunn noted that only two of the major accounting firms were included in the proposed list of iconic companies. Governor Dunn moved to amend the list to include the accounting firms Ernst & Young and KPMG. Governor Broxson commented that Navy Federal is the world's largest credit union, has a large presence in the Florida panhandle, and is recognized in Florida Trend's largest company list. He added that the Florida Governor and Legislature convinced Navy Federal to relocate its campus to Pensacola in 2013. Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the amended SUS 30 Iconic Companies list, to include Ernst & Young, KPMG, and Navy Federal Credit Union. Governor Dunn moved to approve, Governor Dale seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

7. MyFloridaFuture

Chair Jones recognized Mr. Zachary Reddick, Deputy Chief Data Officer, to provide an update on the MyFloridaFuture tool. Mr. Reddick explained that the MyFloridaFuture tool is a public-facing dashboard statutorily created to provide information regarding the cost and return on investment for various educational options. He reported that the tool has been updated every other year since its creation and has been enhanced with additional information about student loans and median earnings over time.

Mr. Reddick provided the results of a cross-comparison of bachelor's graduates in the System one year after graduation and high school graduates five years after graduation. Bachelor's graduates earn approximately \$11,000 more per year than high school graduates. Mr. Reddick noted that System graduates with a bachelor's degree earn an average of \$77,000 ten years after graduation, graduates with a master's degree earn approximately \$87,000, and those with a doctorate degree earn approximately \$120,000. Additionally, among the two most recent cohorts of bachelor's graduates in the System, 66% graduated with \$0 in student loan debt, and an additional 11% graduated with less than \$10,000 in student loans.

Students can use the MyFloridaFuture tool to input their major and student loan amounts, then compare their monthly payments to their expected monthly earnings over time.

8. Florida Alliance for Quantum Technology

Chair Jones recognized Dr. Stacey Patterson, Vice President for Research at Florida State University, for an update on the Florida Alliance for Quantum Technology.

Dr. Patterson explained that quantum computing significantly expands processing capabilities by enabling computers to operate in multiple states simultaneously. She discussed how quantum computing can be applied to encryption to enhance security in various sectors, including defense, banking, healthcare, transportation, aerospace, communications, and manufacturing. Dr. Patterson stated that on October 8, 2025, 14 universities and state colleges in Florida launched the Florida Alliance for Quantum Technology. She commented that this statewide coalition aims to advance research, education, and commercialization regarding quantum technology. Dr. Patterson stated that Quantum Coast Capital is launching a \$100 million fund to invest in quantum-based companies in Florida.

Chair Jones reaffirmed the urgency of developing quantum technology before modern encryption becomes vulnerable and outdated.

9. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Ken Jones, Chair

Vincent Scuteri, Policy Associate