

# **POLICY EVENTS** **REPORT**

Fall 2024 – Spring 2025



**STATE UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	3
<b>2024-25 Office of Public Policy Events Activities</b> .....	3
<b>Office of Public Policy Events 2024-25</b> .....	4
<b>Promotional Items</b> .....	7
<b>OPPE – University Webpages</b> .....	8

## Introduction

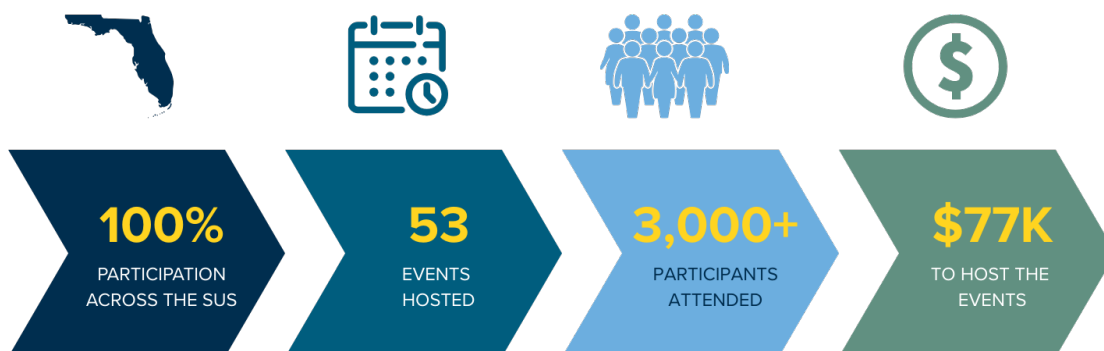
The Florida Legislature established the Office of Public Policy Events within the State University System of Florida (SUS) for the advancement of knowledge, and that such advancement is facilitated by the fearless sifting and winnowing of a wide diversity of views, and that the open discussion and debate of contested public policy issues from diverse perspectives provides essential preparation for mature citizenship and an informed exercise of the right to vote.

Florida Statutes 1001.93 requires each state university within the SUS to establish an Office of Public Policy Events and appoint a Director of Public Policy Events who is responsible for organizing, publicizing, and staging debates or group forums at their university. These events must address, from multiple, divergent, and opposing perspectives, an extensive range of public policy issues widely discussed and debated in society at large. Speakers and presenters can be selected from within the state university community or invited to present a different perspective. Universities are required to host two events during the fall semester and two events during the spring semester.

Universities are required to maintain a permanent, publicly accessible, searchable, and up-to-date calendar in print, on the office website, and on the state university's website listing all the events sponsored by the office and all other debates, group forums, and events open to the entire campus community at the state university that address public policy issues. Additionally, calendars must be kept in the library system of each university. Video recordings of the events must also be posted onto the site and preserved within the library of the state university that hosted the event.

## 2024-25 Office of Public Policy Events Activities

The State University System of Florida continued to see tremendous success in its second year. In accordance with statutes, each university was required to host two events in the fall and two events in the spring with speakers representing a diversity of perspectives.



NOTABLE SPEAKERS INCLUDE JOURNALISTS, FACULTY, AND NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS. TOPICS RANGED FROM FREE SPEECH, FOREIGN CONFLICTS, TO IMMIGRATION.

## Office of Public Policy Events 2024-25

### August 2024

- **UNF** – Powering the Future: The Geopolitics of Clean Energy
- 

### September 2024

- **FAMU** – A Seat at the Table: The Right to Vote
  - **FAU** – High Stakes: Should Weed be Legal in Florida?
  - **FGCU** – Let's Agree to Disagree | 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reaffirmation to Civil Discourse
  - **FPU** – Guardians of Democracy: An Interactive Panel on Election Security
  - **UCF** – Florida Constitutional Amendments Process: Focus on Amendment 3  
Marijuana Legalization Initiative
  - **UNF** – TikTok on Trial: The Future of Social Media Regulation
  - **UWF** – Should Voting Be Mandatory?
  - **NCF** – Can Science Save the World? An Evening with Bill Nye and Michael  
Shellenberger
  - **UF** – 2024 General Election Candidate Forum
- 

### October 2024

- **FIU** – Ecosystem vs. Economy: Can We Find Common Ground in South Florida's  
Growth?
- **NCF** – Stoicism vs. Epicureanism: How Should We Live?
- **UF** – UF Speech and Debate Society: "Cancel Culture"
- **UNF** – Trust in Justice: Debating Supreme Court Ethics
- **USF** – Panel Discussion on Social Media and Society: The Impact and Implications  
of Accessible and Personal Technology  
Panel Discussion on Amendment 3 to the Florida Constitution: The Adult  
Personal Use of Marijuana
- **UWF** – Civic Conversations: A Forum on the Florida Constitution

## November 2024

- **FAMU** – After the Vote: Our Future Our Move
  - **FAU** – The Israel-Arab Conflict: Origins, Impact and Paths Forward
  - **FGCU** – Post-Election Panel: How to Navigate Conversations About Politics
  - **FIU** – The TikTok Ban: A Debate on Government Regulation of the Net
  - **FSU** – Development in Florida: What is the Role of Government in Managing Growth
  - **NCF** – Is America Still a Capitalist Country?  
The Steamboat Institute Debate: Should the U.S. Reinstate the Draft for Mandatory Military Service?
  - **UCF** – The Role of Immigration in Florida’s Economy and Society
  - **UF** – 2024 Election Night Watch Party
  - **FPU** – Human Settlement of Other Planets
- 

## December 2024

- **FSU** – The Evolving Landscape of Collegiate Athletics: Compensation to Compliance | Is There a Legislative Solution?
  - **NCF** – The Government’s Role in the Censorship Industry
- 

## January 2025

- **USF** – Panel Discussion on Abolishing the U.S. Department of Education  
*\*Highest student attendance across the SUS*
- 

## February 2025

- **FGCU** – Student Government Candidates’ Forum
- **FPU** – Academic Freedom and the Crisis in Higher Education
- **UNF** – Crossing Borders: Immigration in a New Administration
- **USF** – Panel Discussion on Public Service and Public Policy
- **NCF** – A Conversation on the Value of a Liberal Arts Education Today  
A Conversation on Gender: Culture and Academia

## March 2025

- **FAMU** – From Legislative Interns to Striking Your Career in the Political Realm: A Forum on Pathways from Legislative Internships to Careers in Politics
  - **FIU** – Big Data, Big Brother: AI and the Future of Freedom
  - **FPU** – Morals, Skills & Service: A Discussion on Working in Defense and the Military
  - **FSU** – Tension Between Free Speech and Efforts to Stop ‘Misinformation’
  - **NCF** – The Politics of Medicine: Who Controls the Future of Medical Education?  
Borders, National Sovereignty, Rule of Law: What’s Next for U.S.  
Immigration Policy?  
Defeat, Hope, and the Creation of the Hebrew Bible
  - **UCF** – Should We End Birthright Citizenship in the USA?
  - **UF** – What NIL Means for the College Experience: A Panel Discussion
- 

## April 2025

- **FAU** – The October 7<sup>th</sup> Attacks: Political, Social, Economic, and Media Implications for Israel and the World
  - **FGCU** – Substance Abuse: Criminal Justice or Public Health Issue? An Interactive Discussion
  - **FIU** – Miami: The Next Tech Capital
  - **FSU** – Religious Liberty at the Supreme Court
  - **UCF** – Home Front: Navigating Florida’s Housing Crisis and the Future of Our Communities
  - **UF** – The Value of a College Degree: Is It Worth It? – A Panel Discussion
  - **UNF** – Trade Wars: A Conversation on Tariffs
  - **UWF** – Higher Learning, Higher Earning: What Should Colleges Prioritize?  
Higher Ed for All? A Forum on the Future of Free College
- 

## May 2025

- **FAU** – Should South Florida Be the Next Silicon Valley of the Ocean?
- **NCF** – Justice or Politics: The Weaponization of Law in Modern America  
*\*Highest staff attendance across the SUS*



## OPPE – University Webpages

- [Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University](#)
- [Florida Atlantic University](#)
- [Florida Gulf Coast University](#)
- [Florida International University](#)
- [Florida Polytechnic University](#)
- [Florida State University](#)
- [New College of Florida](#)
- [University of Central Florida](#)
- [University of Florida](#)
- [University of North Florida](#)
- [University of South Florida](#)
- [University of West Florida](#)

 STATE UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA



**STATE UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**