4.009 Institutes and Centers

(1) As defined in Board of Governors (BOG) Policy Guideline 04.07.27, “Institutes and centers are entities established to coordinate intra- and inter-institutional research, service, and/or educational/training activities that supplement and extend existing instruction, research, and service at the universities. In some cases, institutes and centers are established to provide the infrastructure needed to coordinate support activities across the State University System.” Institutes and centers are classified as either (a) State of Florida institutes or centers or (b) University institutes or centers. There are entities with “institutes” or “centers” within their title which do not fall within the purview of this policy. Examples are outlined in the BOG Policy Guideline. In addition to the policies outlined within this document, matters relating to institutes and centers shall also be subject to the BOG Policy Guideline 04.07.27.

(2) The Provost, as designated by the Board of Trustees, may approve the development, implementation and dissolution of institutes and centers, as provided for in this policy.

(3) Florida A&M University will establish an Institutes and Centers Committee, which will include broad participation from faculty. At a minimum, the membership will include one director of an institute or center, two Faculty Senate representatives, one representative from the Division of Sponsored Research, and one representative from the Office of Academic Affairs.

(4) The Florida A&M University Institutes and Centers Committee will be responsible for the following:

(a) Establishing a format, guidelines and criteria for the approval of new institutes and centers, consistent with Board of Governors policy guideline PG 04.07.27;
(b) Establishing a format and guidelines for the dissolution of institutes and centers;

(c) Making recommendations for the action of the Provost regarding the approval or dissolution of institutes and centers; and

(d) Establishing guidelines for the periodic review of institutes and centers, conduct such reviews and make recommendations to the Provost with respect to their continuation.

(5) The Provost, as designated by the Board of Trustees, shall have the responsibility to create a new institute or center, or to disband an existing institute or center. Upon action of the Provost, notification will be provided to the Board of Governors, the director of the institute or center, and the dean of the affected college or school. As required in BOG Policy Guideline 04.07.27, a State of Florida institute or center shall be disbanded at the recommendation of the Council of Academic Vice Presidents and upon the approval of the Board of Governors. In disbanding an institute or center that has been funded by the Legislature, the University will provide documentation to the Board of Governors demonstrating that Legislative intent has been achieved and that the institute or center is no longer required. Active university institutes or centers will be given a minimum of 6 months notice prior to disbanding, provided the institute or center has sufficient funding resources to operate prior to the disbanding. Otherwise, the University may disband a center due to financial exigency with appropriate notice to institute or center personnel and advisory groups.

(6) Annually, the director of each approved institute or center will submit a report to the Provost or designee, who, in turn, will submit the report to the Board of Governors as required in the policy guidelines.

(7) The Institutes and Centers Committee will review the annual reports and inform the Provost of trends and issues that warrant further scrutiny or action. The Committee will also conduct periodic reviews in accordance with the established guidelines.