

FLORIDA **A&M** UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2026

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Deveron Gibbons, Chair

Chair Gibbons called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. Trustees Brown, Bryant, Crossman, Figgers, Gainey, Gibbons, Harris, Jones, Shah, Vazquez, White and Young established a quorum. Afterwards, Chair Gibbons extended a warm welcome to the new board members, Trustees Roderick Harris, Trustee Kenneth Jones, Trustee Prerak Shah and Trustee Victor Young.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The meeting opened with the public comment period.

Devin Nobles opened his remarks by urging the Board to reconsider the proposed consolidation and termination of degree programs that, in his view, threaten the University's mission, identity, and future. He cautioned that consolidation weakens departments, diminishes faculty capacity, and constricts academic pipelines. It signals to students that these disciplines are no longer a priority for the institution.

He emphasized that these programs cultivate the thinkers, organizers, scholars, and creators who challenge the systems that attempt to confine and limit us. Undermining them—and any other academic programs—risks depriving the world of the next generation of innovators and change agents.

Next, Amani Hilario addressed the Board regarding the proposed program consolidations and terminations. He shared that, upon first learning of the recommendations, he did not support them. However, after meeting with the Office of the Provost and Trustee Bryant, he gained a clearer understanding of the University's intent to broaden academic offerings without diminishing the value of existing disciplines.

He emphasized that hosting a public information session for students before making decisions would strengthen transparency, encourage open dialogue, and build trust across the campus community. When students feel informed, he noted, the University is stronger.

In closing, he thanked the Office of the Provost, the Student Government Association, and the President's Office for taking the time to engage in conversations and providing clarification.

Justin Jordan addressed the Board regarding the proposed consolidation or termination of degree programs. He expressed agreement with the previous speaker and conveyed deep disappointment in what he described as a lack of transparency and communication surrounding the issue. He noted that his concerns extend beyond the University, reflecting broader events occurring across the state and the nation. He emphasized that students have many unanswered questions and would like to see more public dialogue, along with open and clear communication from the University about the decision.

Following the students' comments, Chair Gibbons departed from the usual meeting protocol and invited Provost Watson to clarify the misunderstanding surrounding the program consolidations and terminations. Provost Watson outlined the rationale for consolidating certain degree programs rather than eliminating them outright, noting low enrollment in some areas and the requirement to meet academic standards established by the Florida Board of Governors. Trustee Bryant emphasized the importance of ensuring the University's primary customers, the students, understand its operations. The Board acknowledged the students' concerns and underscored the importance of transparency in future decision-making processes.

ANNUAL BOARD ETHICS TRAINING

Here is a polished, concise, and well-structured rewrite that preserves the full substance of the training while making it clearer, more readable, and more suitable for Board documentation. I've organized it into coherent sections so trustees can easily follow the key concepts and obligations.

Rewritten Summary of Annual Board Ethics Training

The Annual Board Ethics Training was conducted by Kerrie Stillman, Executive Director of the Florida Commission on Ethics. She opened with an overview of the Commission, noting that it is a bipartisan body composed of nine members: five appointed by the Governor (with no more than three from the same political party) and two each appointed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, with those legislative appointments required to be from different political parties. Members may serve two terms, and the Governor's appointees are subject to Senate confirmation. As members of the FAMU Board of Trustees, you are considered appointed state officials and are therefore bound by Florida's Code of Ethics.

Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Stillman emphasized that understanding conflicts of interest is central to complying with the Code of Ethics. Under statute, a conflict of interest exists when a private interest could reasonably be expected to interfere with the proper performance of public duties. Financial disclosure requirements, gift restrictions, and statutory prohibitions are designed to ensure that public officials avoid such conflicts and prioritize the public's interest over personal interests.

Misuse of Public Position

One of the most common bases for ethics complaints involves allegations of misuse of public position. The law prohibits public officers and employees from using their official position with corrupt intent to secure a special benefit, privilege, or exemption for themselves or others. A related constitutional provision also prohibits the abuse of office for a disproportionate benefit.

Prohibited Employment and Business Relationships

Trustees are prohibited from holding employment or contractual relationships with entities doing business with FAMU, or from entering into relationships that create frequently recurring conflicts or impede the proper performance of public duties. Trustees were encouraged to consult the Commission or the University's Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer, Rica Calhoun, before engaging in any business relationships that could overlap with their official responsibilities.

Ms. Stillman also reviewed prohibitions related to self-dealing. Trustees may not, in their official capacity, purchase, rent, or lease goods, services, or real property for FAMU from any business in which

they, their spouse, or their child is an officer, partner, director, or holds more than a 5% ownership interest. Likewise, trustees may not act in their private

capacity to sell, rent, or lease goods, services, or real property to FAMU. While limited exceptions exist—such as sealed competitive bidding, emergency purchases, sole-source situations, or transactions under \$500—these exceptions are narrow and often require additional disclosure. Trustees were advised to seek guidance before relying on any exception.

Voting Conflicts

Ms. Stillman explained that voting conflicts arise when a measure before the Board would result in a special private gain or loss to a trustee, certain relatives, a business associate, an employer, or a parent or subsidiary of a corporate principal that employs the trustee. A “special private gain or loss” refers to an economic benefit or harm that is distinct from that experienced by others in the affected class.

When a voting conflict exists, trustees must:

- 1. Publicly disclose the conflict prior to participating in the matter,**
- 2. Abstain from voting** if the measure will inure to their own special private gain or loss, and
- 3. File Form 8A** with the Board’s recording officer within 15 days of the meeting.

If the special private gain or loss affects someone other than the trustee (e.g., a relative or business associate), the trustee must still file Form 8A but may vote. Trustees were encouraged to review meeting agendas in advance and consult legal counsel when potential conflicts arise. Ms. Stillman also clarified that abstaining from a vote does **not** cure other types of conflicts, such as prohibited business or employment relationships.

Ethics Opinions

Ms. Stillman outlined the process for requesting ethics opinions. The Commission’s legal staff fields daily inquiries from public officers and employees seeking guidance on how the ethics laws apply to specific circumstances. Staff may issue guidance letters or provide informal advice based on prior opinions.

Formal opinions, however, are legally binding on the requester. These opinions are drafted by Commission staff and then considered by the full Commission in a public meeting. The Commission may adopt, revise, or rewrite the draft opinion. Requesters may appear before the Commission to speak on their own behalf. To request an opinion, an individual must have legal standing, which includes seeking guidance about one’s own contemplated conduct or, for supervisors with hiring and firing authority, the conduct of a subordinate. The Commission does not investigate facts for opinion requests; opinions are based solely on the facts provided by the requester.

Gift Laws and Expenditure Ban

In closing, Ms. Stillman highlighted the importance of transparency and compliance with ethics laws and directed trustees to the Commission’s website for prior opinions, financial disclosure forms, training materials, and information on the complaint process.

Although time did not permit a full discussion of gift laws, she noted that because trustees file Form 1, they are subject to the expenditure ban, which prohibits accepting any expenditure from an executive branch lobbyist or principal. Trustees are also subject to Florida's gift laws, which prohibit accepting gifts over \$100 from vendors or lobbyists. Executive branch lobbyists and their principals are prohibited from giving trustees any expenditure of any amount. Trustees must report gifts valued at more than \$100 from individuals other than lobbyists, vendors, or relatives on Form 9, filed quarterly when applicable.

FAMU-TSC ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

President Johnson opened her presentation by emphasizing that this moment is about momentum, access, and opportunity—about what becomes possible when institutions unite around a shared vision and a shared purpose centered on student success. She proudly introduced the revised Memorandum of Understanding between Florida A&M University and Tallahassee State College (TSC), describing it as a partnership intentionally designed to strengthen student transition, readiness, and completion.

The updated agreement deepens the collaboration between FAMU and TSC through the FAMU–TSC Ignite Program, which provides a seamless pathway for TSC students to complete their bachelor's degrees at FAMU. Key enhancements include early and proactive advising, stronger degree alignment, improved data sharing, and clearly defined milestones to ensure students arrive prepared, confident, and supported.

President Johnson and TSC President Jim Murdaugh underscored the student-centered nature of the partnership and its importance in advancing enrollment, graduation, and workforce readiness across the region. President Johnson expressed gratitude to Tallahassee State College for its collaboration and unwavering commitment to students and the broader community. She also recognized the leadership of both institutions' Boards of Trustees, noting the critical role they play in advancing the mission of access and opportunity. She thanked Board Chair Deveron Gibbons for his guidance and context, and honored Eugene Lamb, Jr. for his long-standing dedication to TSC and to expanding educational pathways in the community.

In closing, President Johnson invited President Murdaugh to join her at the table to begin the formal signing ceremony—marking the next chapter of this impactful partnership and reaffirming their shared commitment to ensuring every student's pathway is clear, supported, and achievable.

Afterwards, President Murdaugh expressed his appreciation to the University for the opportunity to participate and noted that this is an exciting moment for Tallahassee State College as well. He acknowledged President Johnson's leadership and the shared commitment to creating intentional pathways that allow TSC students who aspire to become Rattlers to begin that journey even before they arrive at the University.

He highlighted one aspect of the partnership he values deeply: FAMU's plan to assign a full-time staff member to the TSC campus to support students interested in attending FAMU. He added that the prospect of offering special scholarships to those students is equally impactful.

President Murdaugh thanked members of his leadership team—the Provost, the Vice President of Student Affairs, and the Chief of Staff—who were present. He also expressed gratitude to President Johnson for her kind remarks about their Board chair and to the FAMU team for working collaboratively to identify clear, intentional steps to advance the partnership.

BAND PROGRAM UPDATES

Before proceeding, Chair Gibbons invited Dr. Shelby Chipman, Director of Bands, to address the Board. Dr. Chipman provided the Board and President Johnson with the spring semester performance schedule for the FAMU Marching Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble. He expressed his appreciation for the continued support of the Board, President Johnson, Dean Matthews, the Office of General Counsel, the FAMU Foundation, the Budget Office, and others who contribute to the success of the University's band program.

Dr. Chipman also shared the scholastic accomplishments of band students for the Fall 2025 semester, noting an overall program GPA of 3.0. He highlighted several major upcoming events, including the President's Concert, Summer Band Camp, and a recently completed production at Bragg Stadium that will be formally announced at a later date.

President Johnson expressed her pride in the Marching 100's performance on the first day of the legislative session in the Senate Chambers. She also informed Dr. Chipman that the Governor has invited the Marching 100 to perform at the Governor's Mansion in celebration of Black History Month.

MISSION MOMENT

Dylan Ford, a Miami native and graduate student in the College of Agriculture and Food Sciences with a specialty in Plant and Food Science, delivered the Mission Moment. He expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to share his journey—both as an alumnus and as an aspiring scholar committed to higher education. He reflected on how his story began in middle school, when a growing passion for agriculture took root and shaped his determination to become an active contributor to food production.

Dylan's path at the University began in 2021 when he was admitted as a transfer student. Since then, his collegiate accomplishments have been wide-ranging: he served as a Royal Court Escort during the 2023–24 academic year, held roles including Chapter Vice President and National Graduate Student Parliamentarian, and now serves as the graduate student advisor within the Society of Manners.

He shared that his growth—as both a student and a leader—was nurtured within the College of Agriculture and Food Sciences (CAFS). Yet, through his leadership roles and his own student experience, he recognized a gap: The University lacked strong advocacy and visibility for agriculture, particularly in showcasing the depth and importance of CAFS to the broader campus community. Noting that there was no dedicated space on the main campus to apply, demonstrate, or highlight agricultural work, he and his colleague, Aaron Francis, an undergraduate Plant and Food Science major, co-founded an initiative to re-establish agriculture at the heart of campus life.

The result was the First Roots Garden—an interactive space designed to engage all students in hands-on agricultural learning. Through activities such as greenhouse cleanups, watermelon tastings featuring melons grown on campus, and collaborative projects with students from majors like architecture and business, the founders created a space that reflects the spirit and interdisciplinary strength of FAMU.

Dylan noted that working with limited resources to establish the First Roots Garden and support student-driven research underscores a broader need: upgraded facilities at the George Conley Greenhouse and enhanced research labs focused on food safety, hydroponics, biological control, and other critical areas. As the University strives toward R1 status, he emphasized the importance of

investing in the infrastructure necessary to continue producing high-quality research and fulfilling the mission of a land-grant institution—advancing knowledge, addressing complex challenges, and empowering communities.

Looking ahead, Dylan plans to use his degree to educate the next generation about the importance of growing their own food and understanding its impact on personal and societal well-being. He also envisions creating an agricultural utopia—an environment where his community can experience a healthier, more sustainable, and more abundant way of life.

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Chair Gibbons honored outstanding alumni and civic community leaders that have left an indelible mark on Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

The first recipient of the Chairman’s Award was Attorney Bishop Holifield—a servant leader, proud “baby Rattler,” and summa cum laude graduate of the University. He went on to earn his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1970. In his early career, Attorney Holifield dedicated himself to public service, representing clients who could not afford legal counsel in high-profile civil rights cases, economic development matters, and community organizing efforts.

Upon returning to FAMU, he established the University’s first Office of General Counsel. In that role, he played a pivotal part in the successful effort to re-establish the FAMU College of Law in Orlando, Florida.

His accolades are extensive. He has been inducted into the Tallahassee NAACP Civil Rights Hall of Fame and the FAMU Sports Hall of Fame as a community trailblazer. In 2004, he was prominently recognized as a Gideon Celebration Civil Rights Hero by the Public Defender of Florida’s Ninth Judicial Circuit.

Chair Gibbons also acknowledged several individuals in attendance whose lives and careers have been profoundly shaped by Attorney Holifield’s mentorship and example: Dean of the College of Law Cecil Howard, Attorney Reginald Mitchell, General Counsel Avery McKnight, and Chair Gibbons himself.

Attorney Holifield spoke briefly thanking everyone for the kind words. He thanked President Johnson for her leadership and the General Counsel’s office for their support throughout the years.

The second awardee was Chief Audrey Alexander. She was honored the Leadership Award for her unwavering commitment to the University and over 30-years of service.

Chief Alexander thanked President Johnson, Chair Gibbons and the Board for the honor. She also thanked God, her family and her team members that have supported her on this journey and stated that the award was for them also.

Finally, Chair Gibbons acknowledged and thanked former Board members Jocelyn Dopson-Rodriguez, Kristin Harper, Belvin Perry and Craig Reed for their service. Trustee Reed spoke virtually and thanked the Board of Governors, the University for the opportunity to serve.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Deveron Gibbons, Chair

Chair Gibbons reflected on the significant University activities over the past 30 days, highlighting the tremendous success of FAMU Day at the Capitol. He thanked President Johnson and Vice President Robinson for orchestrating an exceptional day of engagement. Delegations had the opportunity to meet with legislators and showcase the strengths of the University's schools and colleges. He also praised the Marching 100 for their phenomenal performance at the opening session of the legislative session, noting that he has heard nothing but positive feedback. He emphasized that these types of efforts demonstrate the momentum being brought forward and reaffirmed the need to continue advancing the University.

He recognized Trustee Bryant for the outstanding work she has done, expressing appreciation for her commitment and seriousness in fulfilling her responsibilities. He noted that she has consistently stood up for students and demonstrated strong leadership.

Finally, he addressed recent miscommunication regarding Black History Month. He stated for the record that since President Gerald Ford officially designated February as Black History Month, every Republican and Democratic president has recognized it. He also noted that the Governor has an upcoming Black History Month celebration planned at the Governor's mansion. To correct the misinformation, he affirmed that references to Black History Month may be used on documents at the law school and throughout the University.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Marva B. Johnson, President

President Johnson began her report by announcing that she received an invitation earlier today for the Marching 100 to perform at the Governor's Mansion for the Black History Month celebration. She also shared that she invited Trustee Bryant to join the University delegation for this special occasion.

In response to the College of Law students' request for stronger connection to the main campus, members of the University's leadership team and the Student Government Association—along with Trustee Bryant—have volunteered to travel to Orlando to meet with students and campus leaders. President Johnson thanked Provost Watson for listening and responding to student concerns, and she expressed appreciation to the students for voicing their needs.

President Johnson welcomed the newest members of the Board: Roderick Harris, Kenneth Jones, Prerak Shah, and Victor Young. She then highlighted several recent accomplishments, including:

- The celebration of more than 600 graduates at the Fall 2025 Commencement, where immediate past Board Chair Kristin Harper served as commencement speaker.
- The appointment of Dr. Brandi Tatum-Fedrick as the permanent Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of the FAMU Foundation.
- The addition of Vice President and Director of Athletics John Davis and Head Football Coach Quinn Gray to FAMU Athletics.
- The School of Nursing's 90th anniversary celebration, which included the graduation of 26 Master of Science in Nursing students—the largest cohort in recent program history.
- The Marching 100's performance of the national anthem at the opening of the 2026 Florida Legislative Session.
- FAMU Day at the Capitol, where stakeholders engaged with lawmakers and showcased the University's academic excellence, research initiatives, workforce development efforts, and commitment to student success.

- The inclusion of artifacts from the Meeks–Eaton Black Archives in a new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture exhibition titled *At the Vanguard* in Washington, D.C.

President Johnson also highlighted several academic and institutional achievements. The 2025 graduates of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Institute of Public Health achieved an 89.8% first-time pass rate on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination—exceeding both state and national averages—and a 62.1% overall score on the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination. The FAMU–FSU College of Engineering earned national recognition in the 2026 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Online Programs rankings.

She announced FAMU’s selection for UNCF’s Project Acclaim, an innovative initiative expanding career pathways for HBCU students in asset and investment management. She also highlighted the launch of the Digital Rattler Initiative 2.0, which provides iPads to all first-year students and expands the integration of artificial intelligence across classrooms, research environments, and student experiences—ensuring Rattlers are prepared for an increasingly technology-driven world. This work is further strengthened by a \$5 million Hewlett Packard Foundation grant establishing a cyber policy institute to support interdisciplinary research on the societal impact of AI.

In closing, President Johnson thanked Vice President Robinson, her team, Trustee Kenneth and Mrs. Hope Jones, and their family for their contributions to the success of FAMU Day at the Capitol.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

Trustee Zayla Bryant, SGA President

SGA President and Trustee Bryant reported that the Student Government Association has operated this semester with a clear emphasis on strategic execution aligned with the University’s Boldly Striking priorities. She noted that SGA has intentionally moved beyond traditional programming, ensuring every initiative is tied to measurable outcomes in retention, recruitment, fiscal stewardship, governance reform, or institutional brand evaluation.

January Student Engagement Highlights

- **FAMU Day at the Capitol:** More than 85 students participated in lobbying efforts and met with legislators to advocate for University priorities.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day Convocation:** President Johnson presented Trustee Bryant with the M.L.K. Presidential Leadership Award.
- **Florida Student Association Day at the Capitol:** Students met with legislators, including Representative Boyd, to discuss statewide student issues.
- **College Girl Check-In Mental Health Symposium:** Trustee Bryant collaborated with NYU, Penn State, Howard University, and Spelman College on a mental health initiative aligned with SGA’s strategic priorities.
- **A&S Budget Committee:** The committee has been formed and is currently conducting interviews to compile agency budgets for the upcoming fiscal year.

February Focus Areas: Student Support & Inter-Institutional Collaboration

- **Grocery Shuttle Initiative (February 1):** In partnership with the Resident Housing Association, SGA provided transportation to local grocery stores such as Aldi and Publix.
- **Visiting Universities Tour:** SGA Vice President Williams hosted a campus visit for institutions including Florida Memorial University.
- **Campaign Season:** Election activities for the upcoming SGA cycle are underway.
- **Town Hall with Congressman Jim Clyburn:** SGA hosted a campus conversation featuring Congressman Clyburn, with Texas Southern University also in attendance.
- **Career Expo Blitz:** A collaboration with the Career and Professional Development Center and Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, Inc.
- **Housing Survey Partnership:** SGA and the Resident Housing Association worked with University liaisons to complete a comprehensive housing survey.

Upcoming March Events

- **Born to Bloom Women's Summit** in celebration of Women's History Month.
- **Across-the-Aisle Political Discourse Event** to promote dialogue among students with diverse political perspectives.
- **State of the Black Student Summit.**
- **Academic Excellence Ceremony** recognizing top academic performers.

April Events

- **FAMU–Morehouse Visit.**
- **Be Out Day (April 4):** This year's theme is *The Best of FAMU: What It Was, What It Is, and What It Will Be.*
- **Relay for Life (April 17).**

Trustee Bryant noted that each of these events requires sponsorship to ensure they receive the level of support and visibility they deserve. She invited trustees to consider contributing financially.

Legislative and Governance Reform

Trustee Bryant highlighted significant progress within the legislative branch, including:

- **Early Launch of the A&S Budget Process:** Initiated 3–4 months earlier than in previous years to ensure full compliance with funding timelines.
- **Governance Modernization:** A comprehensive, 100% review and update of outdated SGA statutes is underway and will be completed before the fiscal year ends.
- **Institutional Transparency:** The branch is presenting formal ratification packets to the Board within the academic year.
- **Showcase of New Governing Documents:** In May, SGA will present all newly ratified legislation and governing documents from the current and prior academic years.

She also asked trustees to reconsider removing the recreation fee from SGA's annual budget and placing it within the broader student fee structure. Additionally, she recommended reviewing the declining need for a health fee as certain federally mandated vaccines become optional. SGA intends to conduct a full impact and feasibility study before making a formal recommendation.

Closing Remarks

Trustee Bryant concluded by emphasizing that SGA has advanced fiscal discipline, strengthened governance structures, elevated institutional partnerships, expanded leadership development pipelines, and invested strategically in retention and recruitment. In alignment with Boldly Striking, she affirmed SGA's commitment to execution, accountability, and meaningful institutional impact.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Trustee Jamal Brown, Faculty Senate President

Trustee Brown began his report by announcing the Curriculum Conference, a faculty-senate hosted initiative with President Johnson and the leadership team. The theme is built on six pillars of excellence that strategically aligns with Board of Governors and University goals. The idea concept is an annual showcase and a display of aligning FAMU's curriculum and programs. The six pillars of excellence are:

1. **SUS30 Strategic Alignment.** This pillar aligns programs with SUS30 priorities and programs of strategic emphasis including the identification of growth and realignment opportunities by packaging existing programs.
2. **Program Optimization and Online Expansion.** This pillar would help to review our structures and remove bottlenecks to continue reducing excess credits and expand online pathways which, in turn, improve the 4-year and 6-year graduation rates.
3. **Artificial Intelligence.** Integrate AI into curriculum, advising, assessment, research to ensure that graduates are prepared for workforce demands, AI curriculum mapping tools and other data-driven options.
4. **Performance-based funding.** There will be opportunities for different colleges and schools for at least three performance-based funding metrics that they can directly impact and align them with strategies, metrics, benchmarks and timelines for improvement.
5. **DRS Pipeline Integration.** Strengthening the alignment of DRS through AA,AS,CTE pathways, different pre-programs, early exposure, research collaborations and dual enrollment.
6. **Workforce Alignment and Internships.** Since FAMU's performance-based metric of choice is Internships and working with VP Tatum-Fedrick and others on the team, we can make sure we leverage out partnerships, public and private, to continue to boost internships and opportunities for our students.

The overall purpose of the conference is to improve graduation, retention and completion rates. The programming would include:

- An opening session with University and faculty leadership having a keynote on workforce, internships, AI, college and school presentations;
- Posters
- A digital showcase
- Industry Cluster Engagement Session

Program outputs:

- Annual printed publication of FAMU's programs for external stakeholders, parents, legislators, and Board of Governors;
- Possible research pilot with DRS to showcase the academic program offerings at the University.

Faculty Spotlight:

- The academic advisors attended the 2025 National Academic Advising Association Conference where they showcased innovative strategies and research practices. Their presentation, *Bridging the Gap: Enhancing Communication between Leadership and Academic Advisors at HBCUs*, was awarded one of the highest honors for their organization.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Nicole Washington, Chair

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee met today. The following trustees were present: Jamal Brown, Zayla Bryant, Kenneth Jones, and Nicole Washington. A quorum was established.

The Committee recommended approval of the following items:

- Minutes for December 4, 2025; and
- Consolidations and terminations of academic programs with low productivity.

The Committee also heard updates on the enrollment management plan, the leak at FAMU Village, Hazing Prevention, and textbook affordability for professional programs.

Chair Gibbons, this concludes my report.

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

Trustee Michael White, Chair

Earlier today the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee met. The Committee took up two action items. The first item was approval of the minutes from the December 4, 2025 meeting.

The second item was approval of the Performance Based Funding, Data Integrity audit and related certification document. This item is included in the full Board consent agenda for consideration of approval.

We also received informational updates from Compliance, Risk and Audit.

Chair Gibbons, this concludes my report.

Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee

Trustee Emery Gainey, Chair

The Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee met on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The February meeting agenda consisted of five (5) action items and one (1) information item.

Action Items:

The action items consisted of **(1) Minutes from the September 17, 2025, Committee Meeting, (2) Minutes from the December 4, 2025, Committee Meeting, (3) Policies Update; 2005-23 Benefits and Leaves, (4) Approval of Contract Amendment for Consulting Together, LLC, and (5) Banking Resolution.**

Information Items:

The Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee heard presentations by Acting SVP Nichole Murry, one (1) information item: **a) Quarterly Financial Report – Budget to Actuals.**

The February 2026 Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee meeting report concludes.

Direct Support Organizations and Athletics Committee

Trustee John Crossman, Chair

The Direct Support Organizations and Intercollegiate Athletics Committee convened on February 12, 2026.

The Committee approved the following action items:

- 1) December 4, 2025, committee meeting minutes.
- 2) Intercollegiate Athletics' Employment Contracts.

The Committee was presented with the following informational items:

- 1) Divisional Updates for University Advancement and the Direct Support Organizations.
- 2) Athletics Department updates from AD John Davis.

This concludes the Direct Support Organizations and Intercollegiate Athletics Committee report.

Governance Committee

Trustee Prerak Shah, Chair

The Governance Committee met today, and approved the following action items:

- December 4, 2025 minutes
- The amendment to President Johnson's contract and
- President Johnson's goals.

Afterwards, Vice President McKnight presented the Division of Legal Affairs report and Vice President Michelle Robinson provided an update on Government Relations.

This concludes my report.

Special Committee on the Developmental Research School

Trustee Jamal Brown, Chair

The Special Committee on the Developmental Research School held its inaugural meeting today, and approved the committee charter.

Afterwards, I presented the committee update outlining the framework, guardrails, timeline and key deliverables, peer comparisons and board action alignment of the committee.

This concludes my report.

Strategic Planning and Performance Measures Committee

Trustee Kenneth Jones, Chair

The Strategic Planning and Performance Measures Committee met on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The meeting was attended by Chair Jones, Vice Chair Washington, Trustee Brown, Trustee Shah, Trustee Young. A quorum was present.

Action Items:

Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2025 meeting.

The committee approved the minutes from the September 17, 2025 meeting.

Information Items:

“Aligning Institutional Priorities with Long-Range Strategy”

Summary:

- Entering the 2028–2033 strategic planning cycle with a focus on aligning institutional priorities across the State University System, research, the Developmental Research School, and enterprise risk management.
- Advancing key presidential priorities, including student success, research growth, fiscal health, brand reputation, workforce stability, and operational excellence.
- Implementing a structured planning timeline (Spring 2026–Spring 2027) that includes environmental scanning, stakeholder engagement, goal setting, metric development, and campus-wide review.
- Strengthening focus on Performance-Based Funding by linking institutional outcomes and continuous improvement directly to funding and competitiveness.
- Enhancing data-informed decision-making through improved data governance and a new data stewardship operating model to support accountability and long-term success.

Dr. Roddrick Jones, Vice President for the Division of Strategic Planning, Analysis & Institutional Effectiveness, presented an overview of strategic planning and performance measures in support of the university's long-range strategy. The presentation highlighted FAMU's entry into the 2028–2033 strategic planning cycle and the effort to align priorities across the State University System,

the Developmental Research School, the research enterprise, and enterprise risk management. Emphasis was placed on advancing student success, research growth, financial strength, brand impact, and operational excellence while ensuring readiness for performance-based funding metrics.

The committee received an overview of the structured strategic planning timeline spanning Spring 2026 through Spring 2027. The process includes review of the current strategic plan, environmental scanning, stakeholder engagement, development of goals and success indicators, campus-wide feedback, and finalization of the new strategic plan. Presidential priorities were highlighted, including enhancing student success, strengthening fiscal health, increasing brand reputation and engagement, advancing the R1/Aspire research strategy and graduate growth, and promoting workforce stability and operational excellence.

Dr. Jones also provided an overview of the State University System's Performance-Based Funding model, explaining how institutional outcomes and year-to-year improvement drive funding results. The presentation emphasized the importance of data-informed decision-making, noting the complexity of the university's data ecosystem and the need for strong data stewardship across campus. A data stewardship operating model was introduced to strengthen governance, collaboration, and accountability in the management and use of institutional data.

Overall, the committee was informed of the university's progress in aligning strategic planning, performance metrics, and data governance to support institutional effectiveness, accountability, and long-term success.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **Items Approved Unanimously:**
 - Board Minutes.
 - December 4, 2025
 - December 23, 2025
 - Program Consolidation and Termination
 - Performance-based Funding Data Integrity Audit/Certification
 - Policies Updates
 - 2005-23 Benefits and Leave
 - Approval of Contract Amendment Consulting Together LLC
 - Banking Resolution
 - Ratify Intercollegiate Athletics' Contracts (1 Year or Less)
 - President Johnson's Employment Contract Amendment
 - Approval of the Special Committee on the Developmental Research School Charter

The Board addressed President Johnson's Goals separately and approved them unanimously.

CLOSED SESSIONS

Board of Trustees member and select University administrators exited and conducted closed sessions on cybersecurity, IT/Cybersecurity Risk Corrective Action Plan Update, Cybersecurity Audit Matters and Collective Bargaining.

Upon returning to open session, Trustee Vazquez moved that the Board ratify the FAMU Board of Trustees and Graduate Assistants United tentative agreements of Articles 2, 7, 11, 12, 21 and 23 that collectively represents the full book of the collective bargaining agreement between FAMU Board of Trustees and the GAU, and authorize the President to sign the agreement on behalf of the board as the public employer. Trustee Crossman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting adjourned.

DRAFT