

Direct Support Organizations (DSO) and Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Minutes
Trustee John Crossman, Chair
Thursday, February 12, 2026

Trustee John Crossman called the meeting to order. Trustees Zayla Bryant, Emery Gainey, Deveron Gibbons, Roderick Harris, and Victor Young were in attendance and established a quorum.

Approval of December 4, 2025, DSO and Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes

Trustee Gainey motioned for approval; seconded by Trustee Bryant. The minutes were approved, unanimously.

Approval of Approve Intercollegiate Athletics' Employment Contracts

Atty. Iris Elijah informed the committee that pursuant to the Board's Operating Procedures Article 4.2.4; this committee is charged with recommending approval of Athletic employment agreements. She reminded the committee that the Board had approved changing this operating procedure, subject to approval by the Board of Governors (BOG). The BOG elected not to approve the change; however, they did encourage the Board to resubmit approval of the procedure change at a later BOG meeting.

Atty. Elijah stated that there were sixty-nine (69) employees as of July 1, 2025, in intercollegiate athletics whose employment contracts needed to be approved, excluding those already approved by the Board.

Trustee Gibbons motioned for approval of the Intercollegiate Athletics' Employment Contracts; seconded by Trustee Young. The contracts were approved, unanimously.

Update on Divisional Activities – Brandi Tatum-Fedrick, Ed.D.

A. FY 2025-26 University Advancement Updates

The FY 25-26 fundraising figures as of February 4, 2026, were as follows:

- Total Giving:
 - \$8,712,272.95
- New Cash
 - \$8,640,710.47 (99.2% of Total)
- Pledges & Planned Gifts
 - \$71,562.48 (.08% of Total)
- Year-to-Year Donor Constituent Comparison
- Historical Fundraising Trend

VP Tatum-Fedrick briefly highlighted the campaign data, detailing implications for the institution and about the broader philanthropic landscape. She emphasized that engagement is strong, relaying that donor participation has increased from 3,892 to 5,177 donors, which represents an increase of more than 30 percent.

However, total dollars declined year over year, largely because the average gift size decreased. This shift in giving behavior is familiar across higher education as donors are giving more frequently but at lower levels, and they are responding best to clearly defined, time-bound opportunities.

Alumni engagement is a particularly positive signal with over 900 additional alumni donors this fiscal year. The largest impact on total revenue came from corporate and foundation giving, where there is a decline, which mirrors national trends as institutional funders are reducing budgets and slowing decision cycles.

Overall, the data shows Advancement is successfully growing the top tier of the donor funnel, with opportunities to convert that engagement into concentrated levels of support by offering donors meaningful, well-aligned ways to give.

- Restore The Strike Campaign - \$250,000 Goal Exceeded
 - \$292,224 at January 31, 2026
 - \$325,252 at February 4, 2026

- Day of Giving – “1887 Strikes” “1,887 Minutes of Giving” (April 16-17, 2026)

Trustee Gibbons encouraged all Board members to contribute to the Day of Giving Campaign to reflect 100% participation.

- Dr. Frederick S. Humphries, Sr. Commemorative Statue Campaign
 - To honor the extraordinary legacy of Dr. Frederick S. Humphries, Sr., Florida A&M University will launch a limited campaign offering 100 commemorative miniature bronze statues, each priced at \$1,500.

 - The commemorative statue campaign will officially launch April 16–17 during Florida A&M University's “1887 Strikes” Day of Giving, providing the community a meaningful opportunity to participate in honoring Dr. Humphries while investing in student success.

 - Each statue is a handcrafted replica of the full-scale bronze statue dedicated in October 2025 in Dr. Humphries' honor.

 - Proceeds from each statue cover the cost of production and include a gift made in Dr. Humphries' name to the Life Gets Better Endowment.

 - Supporters who may not wish to purchase a statue will have the opportunity to contribute \$1,000 to the Commemorative Statue Campaign. Donors at this level will be recognized by name on a commemorative plaque placed near the full-scale statue, allowing them to be permanently associated with this historic tribute.

President Johnson was presented with the first commemorative statue, each are numbered, and Trustees Crossman, Gibbons, White, and Jones committed to purchasing a commemorative statue in support of the campaign.

B. DSO Updates

FAMU Foundation, Inc.

- 2026 Foundation Board Meetings:
 - Spring – May 28-30, 2026 – Atlanta, GA
 - Summer – FBOD Retreat – September 4-6, 2026 – Miami, FL
 - Fall – November 18-22, 2026 – Orlando, FL
- Investment Value - \$ 221,258,302.92 as of December 31, 2025, compared to \$ \$216,567,843 as of September 30, 2025.
 - **2027 Investment Value Goal per FAMU's Boldly Striking Strategic Plan - \$200,000,000 (Goal Reached)**
- Endowment Value - \$ 140,491,126.22 as of December 31, 2025, compared to \$136,655,687 as of September 30, 2025.
 - 2027 Endowment Value Goal per FAMU's Boldly Striking Strategic Plan - \$150,000,000

FAMU National Alumni Association (NAA)

- FAMU National Alumni Association continues to support the University by giving. The NAA welcomed our new head coach, Quinn Gray, back to the Hill and joined University Advancement, and other DSOs and Athletics support groups, to help promote Coach Gray's Restore The Strike Campaign.
- FAMU NAA supported the University as it planned and hosted FAMU Day at the Capitol 2026.
 - The FAMU NAA Governmental Relations Committee hosted two training courses for alumni who planned to meet with legislators and advocate for the University's legislative budget priorities.
 - Alumni leaders connected with FAMU scholars to schedule legislative meetings with them.
- The National Alumni Association President and other leaders participated in the Student National Alumni Association's "Life After the Tassel" virtual event, where students had an opportunity to gain insights from alumni on launching their career, balancing work-life, staying connected to the FAMUly, and other topics that were important to the scholars.
- FAMU NAA officers collaborated to begin clearing the 2-year backlog of disseminating credentials to new life members. We have secured and delivered life-member plaques and pins to members who were waiting for them. We continue to make progress until we are current.

- Collaborating with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the Alumni Association hosted two (2) Rattler Ready Student Recruitment Trainings for alumni to learn the latest admissions requirements and to earn Rattler Reach Alumni Training certification, upon completion of the course.
- In the first half of the 2025 – 2026 membership year, the FAMU NAA has recruited 122 new life members. Life membership in the National Alumni Association is \$750.00, excluding region and chapter dues. President Polk personally invites all University leaders and members of the Board of Trustees, who have not yet joined our dynamic association, to join today. Visit www.famunaa.org or contact us via email.

FAMU Rattler Boosters

- Completed the 2024-2025 Annual Audit by John Grayson Accounting Firm
- Elected Four (4) New Board Members:
 - Vicki Muse-Johnson
 - Lashawn Kinder
 - Keith Matthews
 - Vernae Randolph
- Furnished Muscle Milk for Fall Sports - Total \$15,576 For All FAMU Rattler Sports Programs
 - 8/16/2025 - \$5,192
 - 9/23/2025 - \$5,192
 - 12/30/2025 - \$5,192
- Completed FAMU Booster Bylaws Revision with Booster Board Unanimous Approval (10/17/2025)
- Donated \$7,180 to the “Restore The Strike” Campaign with a goal to generate \$10,000 by 1/31/2026
- Secured advertising on radio (96.1 FM) in collaboration with The Eddie Jackson 220 Quarterback Club for:
 - Booster Memberships
 - Florida Classic Luncheon (11/21/25)
 - Bus Trips during Homecoming and the final four home football games and for men's and women's sports during the winter and spring
- Elected new Board Officers (11/9/2025)
 - President Zachary Ansey
 - Vice President William Youmans
 - Treasurer Bill Woods
 - Recording Secretary Hattie Alexander
 - Financial Secretary Jenny Burie
 - Corresponding Secretary Sandra Lamar

Athletic Directors Report

VP/AD John Davis provided the Athletic Directors Report to the committee:

▪ **Key Outcomes (Fall 2025)**

- Department-wide GPA: highest in 4 years (up from 3.02)
- Reduction in holds through early-alert case management
- Football pilot GPA improved (+0.12) over Fall 2024 baseline
- Football pilot participation rate (eligible athletes) – 90%

Takeaway – Data confirms academic stability is strengthening and the high-touch support model is now ready to scale.

• **Athletics Compliance: Execution + Focus**

- 2024-25 Execution
 - Operational Wins
 - Executed comprehensive certification processes across sports
 - Delivered timely, accurate eligibility decisions through strengthened collaboration
 - Proactive monitoring of transfer legislation and NIL/House settlement impacts
 - Submitted external reports ahead of deadlines (GSR, Sport Sponsorship, EADA, APR, SWAC reports)
- 2025-26 Focus
 - Priority Actions
 - Student-centered compliance approach to support the student-athlete experience
 - Sport-specific monthly rules education for coaches, staff, and administrators
 - Cross-campus training and collaboration (Registrar, Advising, Provost)
 - Practical compliance tips to minimize risk amid evolving NCAA landscape

• **Athletics Communications: Highlights**

- Administration & Football
 - Introduced John F. Davis as VP & Director of Athletics
 - Announced Quinn Gray as FAMU's 20th head football coach
 - Gray was selected to coach in the HBCU Legacy Bowl (New Orleans)
- Basketball & Track
 - Men's Basketball: best SWAC start; Micah Octave named Impact Player of the Week
 - Women's Basketball: Tahnyjia Purifoy (Impact) and Shaniyah McCarthy (Player) earned weekly SWAC honors
 - Women's Track: Tara Bert and Amani Kinon earned weekly SWAC honors; 18 PRs and two school records

- Baseball & Softball (Preseason)
 - Baseball voted SWAC preseason No. 2; three named to All-SWAC preseason team (Campbell, Crews, Workman)
 - Softball voted SWAC preseason No. 2 in East Division; Amari Brown named preseason Pitcher of the Year; multiple All-SWAC selections
- Bowling
 - Qualified for 2026 SWAC Tournament
 - Huge achievement with nine freshmen and one senior

With there being no further business, Chair Crossman adjourned the meeting.

DRAFT