

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2026

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Deveron Gibbons, Chair

Chair Gibbons called the informal committee meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Trustees Brown, Crossman, Figgers, Gainey, Gibbons, Shah, Washington, and White were present, establishing a quorum. He noted that the purpose of the meeting was to review agenda items in preparation for the June 11 Board of Trustees meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The meeting opened with the public comment period. No individuals registered to speak.

COMMITTEE OVERVIEWS FOR THE JUNE 11 BOARD MEETING

Academic and Student Affairs

Trustee Washington provided updates on two Academic and Student Affairs agenda items, including:

- Tenure reviews
 - General education course lists
 - Specialized admission requirements
 - A proposed Ph.D. program in Biology
 - Updates on student and academic affairs initiative.
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Budget, Finance, and Facilities

Trustee Gainey outlined a full agenda for the Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee, including:

- Operating and fixed capital budgets
- Meal plan regulation
- Continuing services contracts
- Construction management
- Athletic debt forgiveness
- A multi-year contract approval

He expressed concern about being fully prepared without the necessary documentation, which is expected soon. Chair Gibbons emphasized the importance of providing committee chairs with complete materials in advance to support informed discussion and decision-making. President Johnson agreed to implement additional preparatory briefings with committee chairs.

Direct Support Organizations and Athletics

Trustee Crossman reported progress on several refinements to his upcoming presentation, which he anticipated completing within 48 hours. Survey items will be included, with minor adjustments still underway. Chair Gibbons highlighted Trustee Crossman's work on aligning direct support organizations through a FAMU initiative to standardize databases and systems, supported by a consultant.

Governance Committee

Trustee Shah discussed the timeline for the President's evaluation. Chair Gibbons and President Johnson agreed to meet before the end of June to review goals, with a target submission date of July 1.

Trustee Gainey recommended beginning the evaluation period after July to allow adequate time for discussion. The group agreed that using July as the baseline would provide the President with a full 11–12 months to meet goals, rather than the current 7-month window.

President Johnson noted that established metrics from the prior year's goals would support the development of new targets. Trustee Shah also shared that he would be unable to attend the upcoming retreat due to his wife's expected childbirth.

Special Committee on the Developmental Research School

Trustee Brown presented findings related to improving the FAMU Developmental Research School (DRS), including school performance data and potential partnerships with Tallahassee State College. He reported the following school grades:

- High School: B
- Middle School: D
- Elementary School: C
- Overall: C
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He noted that six teams have been formed to address key areas such as KPIs, accountability, and integration with the College of Education. President Johnson added that of the five DRS students accepted to FAMU as of April 27, three had committed to enrolling. Chair Gibbons suggested involving Trustee Nicole Washington as a subject-matter expert to support the committee's work.

Audit, Risk, and Compliance

Trustee White previewed several items for the upcoming meeting, including:

- Approval of prior meeting minutes
- Annual audit and ERM work plans
- Updates on compliance and ethics programs

He also proposed reviewing the university's procurement function and nepotism policy, emphasizing the need for Board input and collaboration with President Johnson. Chair Gibbons and committee members supported these initiatives and underscored the importance of involving the President in policy development.

Strategic Planning and Performance Measures

COO Lawson provided updates on the strategic planning process with JP Morgan Chase and the status of the Workday implementation, noting ongoing negotiations for the financial and student modules.

Before adjourning, Trustee Washington informed the committee that she would be absent for the June 11 Board meeting. President Johnson confirmed that tentative legislative budget requests would be ready for Board action at the June meeting to meet the July 15 Board of Governors deadline.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

DRAFT