

Florida State College at Jacksonville
District Board of Trustees
Minutes of the September 14, 2021, Regular Meeting
Advanced Technology Center, Rooms T-140 & 141, 1 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael M. Bell, Chair
 Laura M. DiBella, Vice Chair, Nassau County (via remote attendance)
 O. Wayne Young, Vice Chair, Duval County
 Shantel N. Davis
 D. Hunt Hawkins
 Thomas R. McGehee, Jr.
 Roderick D. Odom
 Andrew B. Shaw

ABSENT: Jennifer D. Brown

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Michael Bell called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. He acknowledged the presence of Trustee Laura DiBella via remote attendance.

Prior to getting the meeting underway, Chair Bell shared the following information with the Board and meeting attendees:

He noted that throughout the pandemic the College had regularly updated their mask wearing guidance to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines as to COVID-19.

Accordingly, FSCJ expects all faculty, staff, students and visitors to wear masks while on campus, especially indoors where social distancing cannot be maintained, regardless of vaccination status. This is not a mandate but a strong expectation, in order to help ensure the health and safety of everyone on campus.

Chair Bell noted that the guidelines for social distancing had been adhered to for today's Board meeting. Therefore, Trustees may remove their masks, if they so desire.

PLEDGE: Chair Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC: Chair Bell opened the public comments segment of the meeting wherein members of the public were invited to make comments on matters before the Board's consideration.

Chair Bell advised the Board that no member of the public had requested to speak. He asked if there were any comments by the Trustees, and there were none.

MINUTES:

(Ref. Board Agenda for
September 14, 2021; Pages
202200181 – 213)

Chair Bell asked the Board if there were any comments or recommended revisions to the Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) District Board of Trustees (DBOT) minutes – as a slate – of the July 13, 2021, Deep Dive Workshop, on agenda pages 181 – 184; August 10, 2021, Board Workshop, on agenda pages 185 – 188; and August 10, 2021, Regular Meeting, on agenda pages 189 – 213, and there were none.

MOTION: (McGehee – Hawkins) The motion was made to approve the FSCJ DBOT minutes – as a slate – from the July 13, 2021, Deep Dive Workshop; August 10, 2021, Board Workshop; and August 10, 2021, Regular Meeting, as recommended.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE
PRESIDENT:

2021 FSCJ Convocation
Recap:

College President John Avendano, Ph.D. thanked all those who attended Convocation on August 26. He was delighted to have the opportunity to welcome back many of FSCJ's faculty and staff to campus for this annual academic year kickoff celebration.

This year the College provided a hybrid option to faculty and staff, wherein attendance could be face-to-face or in a virtual environment. During the presentations, individuals from different areas across the College provided updates and discussed current topics such as FSCJ's Student Success Management System called myGradPlan; Single Stop, which is a one-stop shop that connects students with financial assistance and local resources needed to stay focused on their academic goals; and the ongoing focus on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging at FSCJ.

President Avendano shared his appreciation for the creativity and commitment of the faculty and staff throughout the pandemic, and how the College is prepared and well positioned for the exciting growth taking place here in our community. He is confident that this will be a wonderful school year and truly appreciates everyone's support in helping FSCJ reach its goals.

FSCJ Alumni Golf Classic
Update:

President Avendano shared with the Board that on August 25 the FSCJ Foundation hosted an FSCJ Alumni Golf Classic at The Golf Club at South Hampton. The event was held to raise funds for the FSCJ Strong program, which is dedicated to empowering FSCJ students to begin, sustain and complete their education.

President Avendano noted that while it was an incredibly hot day, everyone who participated really enjoyed themselves. He believes the College made great progress toward funding the FSCJ Strong program through this event and looks forward to other opportunities to further the impact of this program.

Additionally, he thanked Trustee Shaw for his attendance at the event as well as bringing a guest.

Vice President of Finance and
Administration Search Update:

President Avendano shared with the Board that the Executive Leadership Team, along with members of the Administrative and Professional Collaborative (APC), Career Employees' Council (CEC) and Faculty Senate, recently interviewed two individuals who were provided to the institution by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) Consulting team. Both interviews went well, noting one candidate stood out based on qualifications and experience. As a result, the Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration position was offered to Dr. Wanda Ford.

Dr. Ford comes to FSCJ via the CFO position at Florida A&M University. She will begin her duties on September 27, 2021, and serve in the interim capacity through for the course of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. The official search process for the permanent position will begin towards the end of the calendar year.

Recent Visits at Cecil:

President Avendano shared with the Board that opportunities continue to arise at and near our Cecil Center. Along with a few others from the College, he recently held a tour with some local entrepreneurs where they discussed the future of the area.

Additionally, he toured the Jinko Solar plant near FSCJ's Cecil Center. Not only did he learn about the process of putting together solar panels, but also the many opportunities to help the company find new employees, as well as potential certification programs to enhance the skills of their current employees.

President Avendano shared he was excited to be a part of the conversations and looks forward to the collaboration opportunities with new companies as they look to the area for their expansions.

Return to Campus (RTC) and
Fall Term:

President Avendano shared with the Board that the College brought the majority of staff back to campus starting August 23, noting some of his best days to date at FSCJ were the first few days of these Fall Term classes. He enjoyed the numerous opportunities to walk around the campuses and talk with students and employees.

President Avendano noted while the institution continues to navigate what is required of quarantining and dealing with matters relating to the pandemic, he feels as though FSCJ is making great strides to ensure the institution is meeting the students where and when they need the College. He shared his appreciation for everyone's cooperation and compliance when it comes to mask-wearing inside the classroom and within the hallways. The College will continue to urge people to become vaccinated and hold vaccination opportunities on campus.

President Biden's Vaccine
Mandate:

President Avendano noted as everyone might have heard, President Biden announced last week his plans for mandating the vaccine for employers who employ more than 100 employees. At this point, he is not sure about the legalities of such a mandate. However, FSCJ is paying close attention to what can or cannot be required. The Board will be updated on this issue as more information is provided within the weeks and months to come.

President Avendano asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board relating to his President's Report up to this point. There was discussion by the Board regarding Convocation and their appreciation for the "First Day of School – Return to Campus" photos and the Convocation committee.

Data Dashboard:

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to the September 2021 Data Dashboard, noting this month begins the high-level view of institutional data sets. The College will feature various FSCJ programs for information/discussion at future Board meetings, workshops and/or Deep Dive Workshops.

- Enrollment Dashboard I: The first dashboard is the Fall Term College Credit Enrollment report as of August 24, 2021, which shows a negative variance of 10.6% credit hours for fall 2021 over fall 2020. That enrollment number is down 39,114 credit hours when compared to the same day in the fall 2019 enrollment cycle.
- Spotlight Dashboard: The second dashboard is a spotlight on the College's Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), which was administered in 2021 Spring Term. CCSSE is a nationally recognized assessment of student engagement, which is a key indicator of learning. The comparisons are to the top-performing colleges and extra-large institutions. The focus areas of student engagement are student-faculty interaction and active and collaborative learning.
- Spotlight Dashboard: The third dashboard is a spotlight on the College's Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree, which is the institution's largest academic program despite enrollment decline in recent years. This is the enrollment area of greatest concern. The decline in enrollment is also a national trend.
- Spotlight Dashboard: The fourth dashboard is a spotlight on the College's Associate in Science (A.S.) and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degrees, which are designed to prepare students for careers in a variety of different areas. This area has been holding strong in enrollments.
- Spotlight Dashboard: The fifth dashboard is a spotlight on the College's Bachelor's Degrees, where growth has been steady, excluding last year's enrollment decline due to COVID-19. This area has been steady, noting it is an area of opportunity.
- Spotlight Dashboard: The sixth dashboard is a spotlight on the College's Career Certificate (C.C.) programs, which are also often referred to as "clock hour programs." These certificates prepare students for the workforce with short-term training and connects them to the professional certifications and licensing they may require. This area has shown a slight decline, but again this is an area of opportunity.

- **Spotlight Dashboard:** The seventh dashboard is a spotlight on the College's key access points, which includes information on Continuing Workforce Education (CWE) and Adult Education programs, including Adult High School (AHS), GRE preparation, Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). The Adult Education programs were hit hardest by COVID.
- **Finance Dashboard:** The eighth dashboard illustrates the actual revenues and expenditures compared to budget for the period ending July 31, 2021 and July 31, 2020.
- **Grants Dashboard:** The final dashboard is a snapshot of the grants that have been awarded to the College in the first month of our 2021-22 fiscal year, which total \$1,145,934.

Also included is information on the two Trio Talent Search grant programs currently being led at FSCJ. The College is pleased to learn the grants have been renewed for five additional years of funding by the U.S. Department of Education.

STRATEGIC
 PROGRAMMATIC
 DISCUSSION:

President Avendano shared with the Board that beginning next month the College will feature various FSCJ programs for information/discussion, noting if Trustees wish to have a particular program(s) featured to please let him know.

There were requests for nursing and allied health programs to be part of the FSCJ programs highlighted in the coming months, especially with the growing needs in the health care industry and vaccine mandates by hospitals and clinical sites.

In reference to vaccine mandates, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. John Wall shared with the Board that the College does not require FSCJ students to be vaccinated, however, many of the health care facilities require students to be fully vaccinated prior to the start of their clinical rotation. There have been negotiations for exemptions and exceptions with educational partners and the process thereof.

Additionally, Chair Bell requested a future Deep Dive Workshop with the top five programs, which have the greatest opportunity for workforce needs/growth within our community/region.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
September 14, 2021; No
Consent Items)

Chair Bell shared with Trustees that there were no Consent Items on today's agenda. Therefore, the Board would move directly to the Action Item section of the agenda.

ACTION ITEMS:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
September 14, 2021; Items 1
through 7, Pages 202200214
– 244)

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 1, Purchasing: Annual Contract Extensions, on agenda pages 214 – 216.

MOTION: (Davis – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Annual Contract Extensions, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 2, Purchasing: Employee Group Plans for Health, Dental and Vision Insurance, on agenda pages 217 – 221.

MOTION: (McGehee – Hawkins) The motion was made to approve the Employee Group Plans for Health, Dental and Vision Insurance, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 3, Finance: Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating Budget Amendment No. 3, on agenda pages 222 – 223.

MOTION: (McGehee – Young) The motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating Budget Amendment No. 3, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 4, Finance: Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operating Budget Amendment No. 1, on agenda pages 224 – 225.

MOTION: (Hawkins – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operating Budget Amendment No. 1, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 5, Finance: Fiscal Year 2021-22 Carry Forward Spending Plan, on agenda page 226.

MOTION: (Young – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Carry Forward Spending Plan, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 6, Finance: Fiscal Year 2021-22 Capital Outlay Budget Amendment No. 1, on agenda pages 227 – 229.

MOTION: (Davis – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Capital Outlay Budget Amendment No. 1, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 7, Academic Affairs: Florida College System Affordability Report, on agenda pages 230 – 244.

MOTION: (Hawkins – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Florida College System Affordability Report, as recommended.

Chair Bell asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board, and there were none.

Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:
 (Ref. Board Agenda for
 September 14, 2021; Items
 A – C, Pages 202200245
 – 288)

Chair Bell asked the Board if there were any questions or comments related to Information Items A – C, on agenda pages 245 – 288, and there were none.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
 CHAIR:

Chair Bell noted President Avendano often speaks of the fact the Board serves a growing region. Therefore, he recently researched the population trends/projections for FSCJ's service area and today he wished to report on his findings. By 2030, it is projected that Jacksonville will have approximately 250,000 more residents and Nassau County had a 5% growth rate last year, which translates to another 30,000 residents. Therefore, the total population trend for 2030 will be a little less than 300,000 for the overall service area. This provides a huge demographic opportunity for FSCJ. However, it is more than just about demographics, it is all the work the College is undertaking to ensure the right programs are in place, connections are being made with community members and partners and the implementation of Six Sigma.

Chair Bell thanked everyone for all their work. He noted he was very goal orientated on the College's future, and although enrollment numbers were down, he was not worried long term. He believes the College is focused on the right things and eventually the pandemic will get behind us and enrollment numbers will increase.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES:

There were no reports provided by Trustees.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
 FINANCE & AUDIT
 COMMITTEE CHAIR:

FSCJ Finance & Audit Committee Chair Hunt Hawkins provided the Board with a summary of the September 2021 quarterly meeting, which included information regarding the Committee Charge and Process, to include information on College initiatives; selection of Committee Chair, which he self-nominated and was appointed by committee members; interim Financial Statement and Fiscal Prognosis, sharing that

the first two months of 2021-22 have been within expectations and HEERF Funds allow for revenue back stop ability to recover indirect costs and lost revenue due to COVID-19 pandemic; Annual Financial Report Summary, to include information on the College's net position, operating revenues and capital appropriations; and 2021-22 Budget Outlook, noting the pandemic effects and the role the HEERF Funds assist the College.

The next meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at FSCJ's Betty P. Cook Nassau Center. The Committee will meet at 10:45 a.m. in Room T-117.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
 LIAISON, FSCJ
 FOUNDATION BOARD OF
 DIRECTORS:

FSCJ Foundation Board Liaison Shantel Davis provided the Board with an overview of the written report relating to the FSCJ Foundation Board of Directors quarter-to-quarter Board meetings along with other committee meetings and activities. (Appendix A)

REPORT OF THE
 ADMINISTRATIVE AND
 PROFESSIONAL
 COLLABORATIVE (APC):

Administrative and Professional Collaborative Chair Dr. Mark Boese provided the Board with a written report relating to current APC initiatives and activities. (Appendix B)

REPORT OF THE CAREER
 EMPLOYEES COUNCIL
 (CEC):

Career Employees Council Chair Matt Wetzels provided the Board with a written report relating to current CEC initiatives and activities. (Appendix C)

REPORT OF THE FACULTY
 SENATE (Senate):

Faculty Senate President Dr. John Woodward addressed the Board and presented an overview of the written report relating to current Senate initiatives and activities. (Appendix D)

Trustee Davis shared her appreciation for Dr. Woodward's energy and what he presents to the Board as it culminates exactly what they wish to see.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT
 GOVERNMENT
 ASSOCIATION (SGA):

Collegewide Student Government Association President Breana White provided the Board with a written report relating to current SGA initiatives and activities. (Appendix E)

NEXT MEETING:

Chair Bell announced the Board will meet on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at the College's North Campus for a Deep Dive Workshop. The workshop will convene at noon in Room A-236.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at the College's Betty P. Cook Nassau Center.


ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chair Bell declared the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:



Chair, District Board of Trustees



Executive Secretary, District Board of Trustees

Submitted by: Kimberli Sodek, Secretary to the Board



REPORT OF THE BOARD LIAISON, TRUSTEE SHANTEL DAVIS SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

I participated in my first "Regular Meeting" of the Foundation Board on Wednesday, September 1st. There was a more than ample number of the members present to deal with what was a very robust agenda.

In addition to a number of committee reports rendered by committee chairpersons, the agenda included the approval of the Foundation's 2021-22 budget, the election of its 2022-23 slate of officers, and the renewal of term limits for several of its members.

The Foundation's budget includes a projected \$5.8 million in restricted and non-restricted funds to be made available to the College for student scholarships, academic programs, and institutional support. This compares to last year's availability of \$4.5 million. The nearly 30% increase can be largely ascribed to fund raising successes for programs such as the Northeast Florida Jobs Initiative, Blue Foundation Mobile Pantry, Dental Hygiene Clinic renovation project, and various gifts to address digital literacy, financial literacy, and student emergency assistance.

In keeping with the Board's By-laws, the new slate of officers will serve 2-year terms beginning January 1, 2022, and ending December 31, 2023. The new slate of officers includes: Mr. Brian Parks, Florida Market President Ameris Bank as Chairperson; Mr. Brent Lister, President First Florida Credit Union as 1st Vice Chairperson; Ms. Valarie Hendriex-Jenkins, Vice President and Senior Community Development Officer Wells Fargo Bank as 2nd Vice Chairperson; Mr. Wilson Studstill, Senior Vice President Investments Raymond James & Associates as Treasurer; and Mr. Danny Berenberg, Managing Partner at GiftCounsel.com as Secretary.

The cohort of Board members whose 4-year terms expire on December 31, 2021 were all re-elected to additional 4-year terms which will expire on December 31, 2025.

The meeting agenda included some encouraging reports by FSCJ Foundation Major Gifts Officer Mr. Socrates River, Alumni Relations and Annual Campaigns Officer Ms. Danielle Thompson, and Artist Series Executive Director Dr. Milt Russos.

Mr. Rivers reported that \$325k of the \$1M fund raising goal for the Dental Hygiene Clinic Renovation Project was now confirmed, and a total of \$2.9 million in gifts and pledges had been received by the Foundation as of the date of the meeting.

Ms. Thompson reported a nearly 13% increase in employee and alumni giving of \$57,551 year-to-date. Movement in these numbers is reflective of the “constant contacts” being made with various constituent groups via the Alumni Relations Office.

The Alumni Relations Office also completed the inaugural FSCJ Alumni Golf Classic on August 25th held at the Golf Club at South Hampton. Major sponsors for the event included First Florida Credit Union, PFM Asset Management, Warden Construction, and Teitjen Technologies. There were more than 80 participants in the event. Net proceeds from the event benefit the FSCJ Strong Scholarship Fund.

A big shout out is due to the FSCJ Retirees Association for their volunteer participation in the event. Members of the Retirees Association are also members of the FSCJ Alumni Association.

The final publication of the Foundation 2019-20 Donor Report will be released soon. Be on the lookout for an electronic version of the report to be delivered to you via email in the next few weeks.

The Alumni Office is also in the troughs of completing plans for the Annual Power of Possible Scholarship Gala. This year’s gala will be held at the Cummer Art Museum on Thursday, October 21st. The Gala will be followed by the inaugural President’s Forum to be held at Epping Forest on Wednesday, November 10th. Both events will feature national speakers sponsored by local interest.

The Artist Series reported Hamilton tickets sales, 5 weeks out from the date of the show, are at 45,611 tickets. This compares to 42,121 tickets for the 5-week period ahead of the show when it was cancelled due to the advent of the pandemic in 2020. Hamilton ticket revenues of roughly \$7.5 million are up nearly \$1 million year-over-year. “The Hamilton Affect” on Artist Series net results for the 2021-22 fiscal year should have a very positive effect on the growth of the Foundation’s Quasi-Endowment balances.

That concludes my report.



Date: September 8, 2021

To: Florida State at College District Board of Trustees

From: Marc Boese, Chair of the Administrative and Professional Collaborative, 2021-2022

Re: September 2021 Administrative and Professional Collaborative Report

Chair Bell and Trustees:

The Administrative and Professional Collaborative (APC) is excited to get rolling during this new academic year. Our goal is to continue to build active engagement between our members and across all areas of the College. Planning is underway for Administrative and Professional (A&P) professional learning opportunities, brown bag lunch panel discussions, events, and various networking events.

We began the year with a survey to our APC representatives to set our priorities for the year. The main themes that emerged include more Collegewide involvement, increased participation and visibility of the APC, employee advocacy, increasing student resources, and more engagement and networking opportunities. The Professional Development, Events and Service, and Communications and Spotlight task forces have been hard at work planning toward these efforts.

The Professional Development task force, led by Tara Haley, Kerri Burns, and Von Nell Baggett, has been scheduling guest speakers for our monthly meetings and quarterly brown bag lunch events for all A&Ps, including our October event featuring Jennifer Petersen to discuss our Resource Development and Grants office. Our Events and Services task force, led by Kerry Roth, Trina McCowan, and Jennifer Mullings, has been planning future A&P networking events, volunteering opportunities, Speed Networking, and promoting participation in the Heart Walk.

Our Bylaws and Outreach task force, led by Jametoria Burton, Sondra Evans, Jefferson Everett, and Karen Howard, will review and revise our APC bylaws and look for ways to expand our visibility and participation with all our A&P employees. Another critical group in increasing our visibility is our Communications and Spotlight task force, led by Robin Herriff, Karen Arlington, and Ashli Archer. This group will continue to build our APC "brand," update our website and continue to spotlight our A&P employees.

As we move forward in the year, I look forward to updating our progress on these goals and increasing our engagement in all areas of the College.

Respectfully,

Marc Boese, Ph.D.

Executive Director of Organizational Development

Administrative and Professional Collaborative Chair, 2021-2022



Date: September 8, 2021

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Matt Wetzel, Career Employees' Council Chair

Re: September 2021 Career Employees' Council Report

Chair Bell and Trustees:

The Council in partnership with the Association of Florida Colleges' (AFC) FSCJ Chapter created a team to support a local service project for the American Heart Association Heart Walk taking place on Saturday, September 11th. Our team's name is ***The Heart and Pulse of FSCJ***. The team has collectively raised over \$1,300 to date. We look forward to supporting such a special cause to our community on a monumental day and most importantly to many of us who have lost loved ones due to heart disease. We thank everyone for their continued support of the Council.

On behalf of the career employees, we express our appreciation to the District Board of Trustees for your time, effort and support that you bring to the College community, staff and our students.

Respectfully,

Matt Wetzel

Matt Wetzel
Career Employees' Council Chair 2021-22
Florida State College at Jacksonville
904-381-3707 / matt.wetzel@fscj.edu



Date: September 8, 2021

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees.

From: John A. Woodward, PhD

Re: September 2021 Faculty Senate Report

Chair Bell and Fellow Trustees:

As I said in my previous letter to the Board, I think many of us thought the pandemic was behind us and we would have a smoother semester with a more engaged on-campus culture. That has not quite worked out like we planned. Our mitigation strategy seems to have worked so far, however, and I for one am enjoying being back on campus. And I want to applaud Drs. Avendano and Wall again for working with us to prepare for the return to campus even as the pandemic took a turn for the worse over the late summer. My students have been convivial and respectful of our attempts to prevent outbreaks. I think it is clear they also want to be on campus and in the classroom. So, as someone who is vaccinated, I anticipate a semester with few interruptions and am comfortable in our ability to transition online if need be – even as we continue to grapple with questions of rigor, rapport, and honesty in the online environment.

Faculty are looking forward to some fairly big tasks this year. One of the largest is our general education review. We are tasked with re-evaluating our general education offerings and curriculum and we are in a good place to make a few connections across the College and programs. First, and perhaps most importantly, we need to engage with our Achieve the Dream partnership and see if there are ways by which we can indirectly address success gaps or questions of equity through our general education curriculum outcomes. Second, we have been tasked by the state to re-evaluate our general education requirements for our AS programs. This provides us with some ground to bridge any gaps we might discover. It will involve a lot of work, much of that from our wonderful staff in Curriculum Services, and I want to applaud them in advance.

We also continue several projects oriented towards equity and inclusion at the College – such as the Bridges grant and promoting Open Educational Resources (OER). The Bridges grant has produced the “Bridges to Student Success Certificate” program which will allow us to erode some of the interior ‘silos’ that are an unfortunate component of many academic institutions. This is part of a larger move towards making connections easier to build and sustain across the institution – connections between faculty and students and faculty and staff. It seems a simple problem, but we still struggle with being able to direct our students to the appropriate resources on campus and online. We can help students as well by lowering the costs of their education. Promoting the use of OER, and perhaps even looking into leveraging OER to create better internal products, are on our list of projects as well. OER is already saving students money on books. But some OER resources are poorly written, inconsistent, and alienating in tone or content. Our faculty are in a position to leverage those resources while building on to them with our own work. This is a still-nascent area in higher education, but an important one to explore.

Another project that will take a bit longer, I imagine, is the return of our students and academic events to campus. In my address to the faculty at our plenary session, I asked our faculty to consider being more intentional in offering events on campus. We have many truly interesting opportunities to address such questions as democracy and bodily autonomy, civic responsibility, the history of race in the south, achieving equity in society, among other pressing concerns to our civilization, and to do so in a civic and respectful fashion. Unfortunately, online discourse has not proven to be beneficial to these conversations – indeed, I think if anything it has proven to be detrimental to them. Face-to-face meetings are the only really effective means of engaging this discourse – which means bringing these discussions on campus through community-engaging events. I hope we will see more of these events and maybe even longer-term projects that will carry over into future semesters. They add to the vibrant campus culture and encourage students to think that academics and education does not end as they exit the classroom, but rather are communal and inform our very concepts of civic responsibility and duty.

That concludes my report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Woodward". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Arrington Woodward, PhD
Professor of Humanities and Film Studies
Faculty Senate President
C2326B, DWC
Florida State College at Jacksonville
john.a.woodward@fscj.edu
904-997-2703



Date: September 14, 2021

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Florida State College at Jacksonville Student Government Association Executive Board

Re: September 2021 Student Government Association Report

Chair Bell and Trustees,

The Student Government Association (SGA) is the student body voice at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ). Please see the following updates and accomplishments since our last report.

Since the last report, the SGA has accomplished the following:

- During the first week of the 2021 fall term, members of the SGA participated in Welcome Week, which consisted of students, faculty, and staff greeting students, providing directions, as well as passing out information on ways to get involved in co-curricular activities, refreshments, and distributing FSCJ branded swag items. Caricature artists also provided free student illustrations during this week.
- On September 9 and September 10, the SGA hosted 9/11 Remembrance Tables where students and employees that visited the tables were provided a red, white, or blue piece of paper that they could use to write down words of thanks to first responders, veterans, and active duty service persons, as well as reflections on how 9/11 affected them. The SGA will gather the words of thanks and reflections, laminate them to poster boards, and deliver the boards to first responder stations.
- Each campus SGA donated to the 2021 Hearth Walk out of their respective Fund 6 accounts and members participated in the Riverside location walk on September 11.
- Each campus SGA will host Constitution Day Trivia on September 16 from 11-12 p.m.
- On September 17, the SGA Presidents and Vice Presidents will attend the virtual Florida College System Student Government Association (FCSSGA) Presidents Assembly. The attending officers will receive an overview of the year, attend professional development sessions, and vote to help determine the planks of the FCSSGA Legislative Platform.
- Members of the SGA have volunteered to participate in the recording of a High Impact Welcome Video as part of our new student orientation efforts.
- In-person campus tours have started back and members of the SGA have joined Student Ambassadors in showing potential students our facilities and sharing our experiences as students at FSCJ.
- The SGA will work with Duval County and Nassau County Supervisor of Elections Offices on voter registration efforts for the fall term.
- Member of the SGA will assist with carrying out Hispanic Heritage Month events during September and October as part of the History & Heritage Celebration series.
- On October 16, members of the SGA will join FSCJ staff in volunteering at the Armed Forces Half Marathon, by providing water runners as they pass the FSCJ sponsored Water Station 2, on Riverside Avenue in front of the Haskell Building.

On behalf of the student body, we extend our deepest gratitude to the District Board of Trustees and FSCJ President Dr. John Avendano for continuing to provide the SGA the opportunity to share updates and accomplishments of our students. Thank you for your time and all that you do for the students of FSCJ.

Sincerely,

Breana White

FSCJ Collegewide Student Government Association President