

**Florida State College at Jacksonville
District Board of Trustees
Minutes of the April 8, 2025, Regular Meeting
Kent Campus, Room D-120, 1 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Roderick D. Odom, Vice Chair, Nassau County
Andrew B. Shaw, Vice Chair, Duval County
Michael M. Bell
Thomas R. McGehee, Jr.

ABSENT:

O. Wayne Young, Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

On behalf of Chair Wayne Young, Vice Chair Roderick Odom called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

PLEDGE:

Vice Chair Odom led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS BY THE
PUBLIC:

Vice Chair Odom 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.

Vice Chair Odom 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
April 8, 2025; Pages 5 – 44)

Vice Chair Odom noted in efficiency of time, he would like to entertain a motion to approve the Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) District Board of Trustees (DBOT) minutes as presented on pages 5 – 44: The January 24, 2025, Deep Dive Workshop/Planning Meeting, on agenda pages 5 – 12; February 3, 2025, Business Dinner, on agenda pages 13 – 14; February 11, 2025, Finance & Audit Committee Quarterly Meeting, on agenda pages 15 – 17; February 11, 2025, Workshop, on agenda pages 18 – 21; and February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting, on agenda pages 22 – 44.

MOTION: (McGehee – Bell) The motion was made to approve the FSCJ DBOT minutes as presented on pages 5 – 44, from the January 24, 2025, Deep Dive Workshop/Planning Meeting; February 3, 2025, Business Dinner; February 11, 2025, Finance & Audit Committee Quarterly Meeting; February 11, 2025, Workshop; and February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting, as recommended.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE
PRESIDENT:

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)
Chapter:

College President John Avendano, Ph.D. shared with the Board information relating to FSCJ's PTK Chapter:

- He congratulated the College's PTK Chapter, led by Dr. Mary James, on their election to serve as the Florida Region Scholarship Chapter. The Chapter was chosen during the Florida Regional Convention.
- The Chapter will be responsible for assisting with the Florida Regional Honors Institute in July. They will also present a workshop on scholarship at next year's Florida Regional Convention.
- From the Chapter, FSCJ also had five students who were chosen as All-Florida Academic Team members: Danielle Fletcher, Nicole Gibson, Derek Gilbert, Genevieve Price, and Megan St. Lawrence. Of the five team members, Megan St. Lawrence was in attendance at today's meeting.
- He shared it was his great honor to present Megan St. Lawrence with a medallion on behalf of all the teammates.

Diplomacy Lab:

President Avendano asked Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. John Wall to provide the Board with an overview of FSCJ's Diplomacy Lab.

Provost/Vice President Wall shared with the Board information relating to the following:

- The Diplomacy Lab was launched by the Department of State in 2013 as a public-private partnership.
- As a part of sabbatical time spent at the U.S. Department of State, FSCJ Professor of Biological Sciences Dr. Lourdes Norman-McKay worked with College administration to bring this opportunity to FSCJ.
- FSCJ is the first open-access college to partner with the Department of State's Diplomacy Lab program, April 2024.
- The program enables the Department of State to course-source research related to foreign policy challenges through the minds of students and faculty experts at colleges and universities across the United States.
- He recognized Dr. Norman-McKay, noting his appreciation for her great efforts/actions and dedication to the program.

- Men's Basketball Team:
- President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to FSCJ's Men's Basketball Team:
- He congratulated the College's Men's Basketball Team, led by Coach John Putyrski, for another historic season.
 - After becoming the NJCAA Gulf South District Champions, the team earned a bid into the national tournament in Danville, Illinois. This remarkable team ended with a 7th place ranking nationally, the #1 defense in the county, and a winning record of 31-6.
 - Director of Athletics Jerry Thor, Coach Putyrski, Assistant Coaches Toriano Andrews and Colin Smith and several players from the team were in attendance and recognized. President Avendano shared his congratulations with them all.
- Recognition – Basketball Players:
- President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to the recognition of two FSCJ's Basketball Players:
- He congratulated Alex McCray from Men's Basketball and Alexia Talliferro from Women's Basketball for their Allstate National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Good Works Winter Team nominations, noting they were both in the audience today.
 - Alex was also selected to join the inaugural 20-member team. Alex mentors underprivileged students through Goodwill/Take Stock in Children Initiative and leads holiday donation efforts with the Salvation Army.
 - This is an initiative to recognize and honor student-athletes who demonstrate levels of volunteerism and civic engagement that are above and beyond their success and achievements in the classroom and competition. The final team was voted on from an impressive pool of nearly 200 nominees nationwide and Alex was honored alongside athletes from many prestigious universities including Duke, Saint Johns, Harvard, Penn State and more.
- Commencement:
- President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to FSCJ's Commencement:
- The College's Commencement Ceremony will be Wednesday, May 7 at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. FSCJ looks forward to this event each year to celebrate our graduates' great success. This year, the College is excited to welcome the Adult Education graduates into the program as well.

- The Grad Bash event is being held at South Campus on Saturday, May 3. Graduates have been invited to this celebration to pick up honors and military cords, take photos with their families, visit the alumni team and more.
- In the coming weeks, communications will be shared with additional details.

Golf Tournament:

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to FSCJ's Golf Tournament:

- The College is excited for the FSCJ Golf Classic, once again presented by First Florida Credit Union, on Monday, April 28 at Queen's Harbour Yacht and Country Club. This event benefits FSCJ Manta Rays Athletics program.
- Trustees should have received an invitation from the Foundation via email. Please join us if you are available. Even if you are unable to participate, there are a variety of ways you can show your support.
- He asked that Trustees reach out to him or Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the FSCJ Foundation Scott Evans, if they would like to learn more.

Federal Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE):

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to the Federal DOGE and its impact on the U.S. Department of Education:

- He noted the three primary focus areas for public colleges and universities:
 1. Student Financial Aid.
 2. Federal Grants and Programs.
 3. Accreditation.

Florida DOGE:

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to the Florida DOGE:

- All presidents met with Florida Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr. last month, March 2025.
- As of now, what we know is this is something the state is looking at to gain efficiencies and to ensure there is responsible spending. Florida DOGE will review the College's expenditures using AI and, should something show up, they will give FSCJ the opportunity to explain and correct that moving forward.
- The College is doing a great job with our diligence and responsible spending so FSCJ is confident we will have no issues.

Legislative Update:

President Avendano asked Director of Government and Community Relations Taylor Mejia Roberts to provide a legislative update.

Director Mejia Roberts shared with the Board information relating to the following:

- Legislative Committee Weeks in January and February 2025.
- Special Session on Illegal Immigration.
- Important Legislation – highlights two “agency bills,” both are sponsored by Florida State Senator Alexis Calatayud and have House companions:
 - SB 1624:
 - Updates various sections of state statute that reference “minority and gender diversity” by replacing it with “underrepresented groups.”
 - Creates a new definition in state statute of a “nonresident online student.”
 - Changes the required publishing date of the annual report on apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs from September 1 to November 30.
 - Removes the specific reference to “naloxone hydrochloride or any similarly acting” drug and instead broadly defining an emergency opioid antagonist as any FDA-approved drug that blocks the effects of opioids and is used for opioid overdose treatment.
 - Updates GATE (Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education) program.
 - Updates CAPE (Industry certifications) program.
 - PIPELINE:
 - Specifies that funds under the PIPELINE Fund must be used for healthcare industry-related programs.
 - Removes the provision related to the option of setting aside 10 percent of allocated funds for construction contracts with minority business enterprises.
 - SB 1726:
 - Establishes term limits for members of the State Board of Education (SBE). Members may serve only two 4-year terms, and the Chair may serve only a single 2-year term.

- Limits Florida College System (FCS) Board of Trustee members to serve a maximum of 8 years, two 4-year terms. Limits Trustees to serve a single 2-year term as Chair.
 - Clarifies that the SBE does not have the authority to approve or confirm a FCS Board of Trustees appointment, reappoints, suspension, or contract negotiations of a President.
 - Eliminates the public records exemption for applicants seeking a presidency at a state university or FCS institution, thereby making applicant information subject to public disclosure under Florida's open records laws.
 - Establishes criteria for FCS presidential search committees.
 - Requires FCS and state university institutions to post information on supplemental textbooks prominently, including those that are open access or free of cost, for at least 95 percent of all courses and course sections offered during the upcoming term.
 - Calls for additional transparency in costs related to course materials.
 - Requires course syllabi to be current and posted in the same location as the textbook and instructional materials.
 - Requires the SBE and Florida Board of Governors (BOG) to set deadlines for instructors to notify bookstores of required, recommended and supplemental materials, and to consider strategies for providing materials to students who cannot afford them, including the use of open-access resources.
- Budget Highlights:
 - \$4.4B difference in House and Senate proposed budgets. Just under \$113B in House, and just over \$117B in Senate. Last year's budget was \$117.46B:
 - Senate Proposal:
 - FCS General Program Funding (Including \$100M increase over last year) - \$1,690,810,108.
 - House Proposal:
 - FCS General Program Funding (Including 40M increase over last year) – \$1,386,303,745.
 - FCS PECO (Public Education Capital Outlay):
 - ❖ FSCJ Burn Building – \$1,750,000.

- Both chambers include identical funding for:
 - 2+2 Student Success Incentive Fund – \$17,000,000.
 - Work Florida Student Success Incentive Fund – \$13,000,000.
 - PIPELINE (Nursing Incentive Funding) – \$40,000,000.
 - GATE Program Performance Fund – \$1,000,000.
- Burn Building still in play. In addition to the meeting, President Avendano and Trustees attended in February 2025; Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department Chief Keith Powers will be lobbying for the project in Tallahassee next week.

President's Circle:

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to FSCJ's President's Circle:

- He thanked all those who attended FSCJ's annual President's Circle event. The College was pleased to have many new and potential donors, as well as longtime partners, there to discussion the direction of the Foundation moving forward and some of FSCJ's successes over the previous year, which were made possible because of their support.
- It was his honor to present the Visionary Award to Mr. Carl Cannon for the foresight and direction he brings as a member of FSCJ's Foundation Board of Directors and plans to serve as the Chair for the Comprehensive Campaign Leadership Team.
- He was also pleased to present the Partnership Award to the Scheidel Foundation for their long-time support of FSCJ's students through the Herbert W. Scheidel Leadership in Action Award.
- FSCJ held their annual luncheon late last month to present this year's awards to the honorees who were recognized for their commitment to service and philanthropy.

Data Dashboard:

President Avendano shared with the Board information relating to the April 2025 Data Dashboard/high-level view of the institutional data sets:

- Spring Term College Credit Enrollment:
 - Positive variance of 8.5% credit hours for spring 2025 over spring 2024.

- Positive variance of 18.9% compared to the same day in the enrollment cycle for Spring Term 2024 relating to clock hour enrollment.
- Summer Term College Credit Enrollment:
 - Positive variance of 11.8% credit hours for summer 2025 over summer 2024.
 - Positive variance of 16.4% compared to the same day in enrollment cycle for Summer Term 2025 relating to clock hour enrollment.
- Spotlight on Two Programs that Align with Financial Services:
 - Financial Services B.S.
 - Accounting Technology A.S.
- Finance Report shows actual revenues and expenditures compared to budget for the period ending February 28, 2025 and February 28, 2024:
 - Unrestricted fund revenues were up approximately \$2.9 million compared to prior year, primarily due to an increase in student fee revenues.
 - Expenditures were up approximately \$4.7 million, due to an increase in personnel expenses.
 - The restricted fund revenues and expenditures reflect both student and grant activities:
 - Revenues from restricted fund revenues remained constant in year-over-year comparison. Expenditures decreased by about \$3.4 million, primarily in current expenses and capital outlay. Year-over-year differences are attributed to varying grant types and cycles.
- Grants Report:
 - For the 2024-25 award year, FSCJ received close to \$16.3 million in grants.
 - The total received for the 2023-24 fiscal year was more than \$11.6 million.

STRATEGIC
PROGRAMMATIC
DISCUSSION:

Vice Chair Odom asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board related to President Avendano's Report, Data Dashboards and/or any other College Strategic matters, and there were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
April 8, 2025; Items 1 through
5, Pages 45 – 50)

Vice Chair Odom noted the Trustees had fully reviewed the Consent Agenda items prior to today's meeting and had the opportunity to discuss any questions and/or concerns with the College President. As a result, questions and concerns regarding

agenda items were addressed and resolved in advance of the Board meeting. He then asked if there were any items the Trustees wished to remove from the Consent Agenda for individual consideration/discussion under Action Items, and there were none.

ACTION ITEMS:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
April 8, 2025; Items 1 through
10, Pages 51 – 68)

MOTION: (McGehee – Bell) The motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom 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, Administration: Strategic Plan 2025-2028 (Transforming Tomorrow: A Strategic Vision for FSCJ) and College Mission, Vision and Values, on agenda pages 52 – 53.

MOTION: (Bell – Shaw) The motion was made to approve the College's Strategic Plan 2025-2028 (Transforming Tomorrow: A Strategic Vision for FSCJ) and College Mission, Vision and Values, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom 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, Human Resources: Award of Continuing Contracts, on agenda page 54.

MOTION: (McGehee – Bell) The motion was made to approve the Award of Continuing Contracts, as recommended.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano noted he was pleased to recognize the full-time faculty members receiving continuing contract status at today's meeting. He asked Provost/Vice President Wall to introduce the members.

Provost/Vice President Wall thanked President Avendano for recognizing the faculty who successfully completed the application process for this year. He shared that each member had demonstrated a standard of excellence and commitment to the College and its philosophy and mission, consistent with established criteria for the award of continuing contract. He thanked the members for their dedication to FSCJ.

Provost/Vice President Wall introduced the members present at today's meeting, Dr. Stacey Legler and Dr. Kalia Toro-Sepulveda. He asked each faculty member to share with the Board the length of time they had been with the College and the most rewarding aspect of their teaching position at FSCJ. The faculty members did so, accordingly.

The names of the six full-time faculty members receiving continuing contract status, effective with the 2025-26 faculty contract year are as follows:

- Dr. David Buchman, Professor of Culinary and Hospitality Management.
- Mathew Keyes, Professor of Finance.
- Dr. Stacey Legler, Professor of Business.
- Julie Pactor, Librarian.
- Christy Bisson, Professor of Physical Therapy.
- Dr. Kalia Toro-Sepulveda, Professor of Humanities.

President Avendano thanked the members, noting their commitment to the institution, students and community.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 4, Human Resources: Faculty Sabbatical, on agenda page 55.

MOTION: (Bell – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Faculty Sabbatical, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom 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: Fees and Charges, on agenda pages 56 – 63.

MOTION: (McGehee – Shaw) The motion was made to approve the Fees and Charges, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board.

Trustee Thomas McGehee, Jr. stated that the Finance & Audit (F&A) Committee discussed various Action Items from today's agenda, noting there was consensus among committee members to provide the full Board with a brief overview of the item as the items were brought forward for action.

Therefore, as Committee Chair, he shared the following information relating to Action Item A-5:

The F&A Committee recommends the approval of the fee changes effective Summer and Fall Term 2025. These fees do not exceed the cost of the goods or services provided and shall only be charged to students receiving those goods or services. The fee changes are adjustments needed due to an increase in the cost of materials and supplies, implementation of new training or software, the elimination of a courses, material and supplies no longer needed, or an increase in the cost of insurance.

The F&A Committee supports approval of this item.

Vice Chair Odom asked if there were any additional 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: FSCJ ACCESS Program, on agenda page 64.

MOTION: (Bell – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the FSCJ ACCESS Program, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board.

F&A Committee Chair McGehee shared the following information relating to Action Item A-6:

The F&A Committee recommends approval of this item by the Board as students enrolled in FSCJ ACCESS classes for Fall 2024 had a total savings of over \$950,000. Additionally, 67% of FSCJ classes have digital materials.

The F&A Committee supports the approval of this item.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 7, Finance: Financial Statements Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, on agenda page 65.

MOTION: (McGehee – Shaw) The motion was made to approve the Financial Statements Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board.

F&A Committee Chair McGehee shared the following information relating to Action Item A-7:

During the February 2025 F&A Committee meeting, Controller Lindsey Thomas provided an update on the Financial Statement Audit for fiscal year ended 2023-24. The auditors reported no audit findings, which indicated that the financial records and processes reviewed were in compliance with the relevant standards and regulations. The auditors released the audit report after the previous Board meeting. Therefore, this action item is to approve the final report.

The F&A Committee is in full support of the Board approving this action item.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chair Odom congratulated Vice President of Finance and Administration Dr. Wanda Ford for the exceptional audit.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 8, Academic Affairs: Inactivation of Medical Assisting Advanced Associate in Science Program, on agenda page 66.

MOTION: (Bell – Shaw) The motion was made to approve the Inactivation of Medical Assisting Advanced Associate in Science Program, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom 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 9, Academic Affairs: Inactivation of Medical Assisting Specialist Technical Certificate Program, on agenda page 67.

MOTION: (Shaw – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Inactivation of Medical Assisting Specialist Technical Certificate Program, as recommended.

Vice Chair Odom 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 10, Academic Affairs: Inactivation of Adult High School Adult Education Program, on agenda page 68.

Prior to the motion, Provost/Vice President Wall shared with the Board information pertaining to FSCJ's Adult High School Adult Education program, noting the program was originally designed as an option for students to offer a curriculum that enables an adult, no longer enrolled in public high school, to complete the required courses and state assessments to earn a standard high school diploma. However, total program enrollment has experienced a significant decline over the past several academic terms with only 11 students currently enrolled. Also, the College currently offers a similar adult education program titled GED® Preparation: High School Equivalency.

MOTION: (McGehee – Bell) The motion was made to approve the Inactivation of Adult High School Adult Education Program, as recommended.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
April 8, 2025; Items
A – F, Pages 69 – 79)

Vice Chair Odom asked the Board if there were any questions or comments related to Information Items A – F, on agenda pages 69 – 79, and there were none.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
CHAIR:

On behalf of Chair Young, Vice Chair Odom shared a brief report, noting how proud he is to be a part of the organization with serving as a Board member since 2019. He congratulated the Men's Basketball Team for their accomplishments both on the courts and academically. The team demonstrates the values of FSCJ and makes us all very proud.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES:

No reports were provided.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
FINANCE & AUDIT
COMMITTEE CHAIR:

FSCJ F&A Committee Chair McGehee provided the Board with an overview of the written report relating to the April 2025 quarterly meeting. (Appendix A)

The next meeting of the FSCJ F&A Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the College's Deerwood Center as part of the DBOT Budget Workshop. The Committee will meet at noon.

REPORT OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND
PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATIVE (APC):

Administrative and Professional Collaborative Chair Terence Wright 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 Rebecca Nelson addressed the Board and presented an overview of the written report relating to current CEC initiatives and activities. (Appendix C)

REPORT OF THE FACULTY
SENATE (Senate):

Faculty Senate President Dr. John Woodward provided the Board with a written report relating to current Senate initiatives and activities. (Appendix D)

REPORT OF THE STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION (SGA):

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

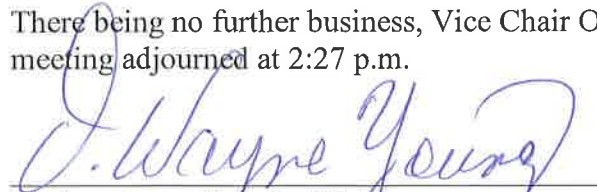
NEXT MEETING:


Vice Chair Odom announced the Board will meet on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the College's Deerwood Center for a Budget Workshop. The workshop will convene at noon. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at the College's Administrative Offices.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Vice Chair Odom declared the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:


Chair, District Board of Trustees


Executive Secretary, District Board of Trustees

Submitted by: Kimberli Sodek, Administration Support Manager – Office of the College President



REPORT OF THE FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE CHAIR, TRUSTEE THOMAS MCGEHEE, JR.
APRIL 8, 2025

Director of Government & Community Relations Taylor Mejia Roberts provided an overview of the current legislative session. Both the Senate and House introduced their proposed General Appropriations Act bills. Over the next few weeks, the budgets proposed will be reviewed and refined through budget conference between the two chambers. A final agreement on the budget must be reached before the session ends. Upon agreement, the budget will be forwarded to the governor for review and approval. We are hopeful for an additional state allocation for the colleges as well as the funds needed to cover the cost for the state group insurance plan. Director Mejia Roberts also discussed other proposed bills and possible implications to the colleges.

Vice President of Finance & Administration Dr. Wand Ford and Associate Vice President of Administrative Services Steve Stanford provided a preliminary budget outlook for fiscal year 2025-26. The estimates were based on several assumptions and showed the projected available funds with the proposed additional state appropriations introduced in the governor's budget as well as the House and the Senate. The assumptions also included the state providing funding for the cost of the state group health insurance. Receiving additional state appropriations and reimbursement of the insurance is an ask by the Council of Presidents (COP) and is imperative for the College to continue remaining financially stable.

The committee also received an overview of the Interim Financial Statement as of February 28, 2025. Total liabilities, deferred inflows and net position is \$69m. Student fees are trending upward, and other revenues and expenses are trending as anticipated. The estimated fund balance is 9.3%. The current unknown is whether the College will be required to fund the transition to the state group insurance plan, which could cost approximately \$4.1m.

Chief Officer of Organizational Cultural and Engagement Lisa Moore provided an overview of several pending projects including those with CSX, San Jose Academy, River City Science Academy and the leases for 20 West. She is currently working with outside counsel and representatives from CSX to finalize the proposed language for the proposed agreement and has held several meetings to address terms and concerns. A response from CSX is pending.

FSCJ District Board of Trustees

Report of the Finance & Audit Committee – Committee Chair, Trustee Thomas McGehee, Jr.

April 8, 2025

Page 2

Regarding the San Jose Academy project, the school has not met their previous enrollment goals, which is resulting in a delay in the construction of the separate entrance on Cecil's campus. Additional discussions are forthcoming. The College will keep the board informed of any future updates.

The proposed contract language for a River City Science Academy location at South Campus has been submitted by the College and comments/feedback was received from the school. These comments and suggested revisions are under review by legal counsel. The school's opening is currently scheduled for August 1, 2026.

Regarding the lease of the restaurant and residential housing at 20 West, the College is currently notifying the landlord of its decision to not renew the lease after its expiration in 2027. The College recently received an inquiry from a potential vendor for the restaurant space. However, the vendor is seeking a long-term lease. The College has communicated this information to the landlord for review and consideration.

This concludes my report.



Date: April 8, 2025

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Terence L. Wright, Chair of the Administrative and Professional Collaborative, 2024-2025

Re: April 2025 Administrative and Professional Collaborative Report

Chair Young and Trustees:

The Administrative and Professional Collaborative (APC) is proud to share the following updates since our last report.

Since our last report, the APC has met twice for monthly meetings, in February and March. As part of our meetings, we invite leaders from the College to provide updates on their areas and address higher-level issues and concerns. In February, our guest speaker was College President, Dr. Avendano. Dr. Avendano shared information and updates about College and campus initiatives and projects. Lastly, we hosted an Administrative and Professional Collaborative social offsite on Friday, February 28th at Cooper's Hawk. It was well attended and had good participation by A & P employees from all over the College. This event provides APC employees an opportunity to come together, fellowship, and network outside of the College and work hours.

Constituent engagement is our identified priority for this year. APC is hosting other events throughout the remainder of the fiscal year to provide opportunities for engagement for its members. We also hosted the second of a three-part Brown Bag Professional Development series titled Leadership Journeys: Navigating Paths in Higher Education, where we are exploring and discussing different paths to leadership. The three parts are:

Part 1: Rising from Within: Leaders Who Grew at Our College


Part 2: New Perspectives: Leaders Who Came from Beyond

Part 3: Beyond Our Walls: Leaders Who Took the Next Step

The second PD, **New Perspectives: Leaders Who Came from Beyond**, was held February 25th and was another huge success. It was again attended by more than seventy A&P employees, which is unprecedented attendance for a PD. Interest remains at a high level for this topic. Part three of the series is still in the planning phase. However, it will be held before the end of the term. We are planning many other events and experiences for APC employees for the remainder of the school year. The social committee has monthly networking events for the remainder of the academic year. Finally, we are in the process of reviewing and updating our By-laws to ensure alignment with the College's mission, vision, strategic plan, and APMs, as well as, current APC goals. Members also shared leadership/organizational updates from various areas and departments throughout the College (Academic Affairs; Baccalaureate, Career, and Technical; Business Services; Institutional Effectiveness & Advancement; Online and Workforce Education; and Student Services).

The APC will continue to invite College leaders to our monthly meetings to address higher-level issues and provide us with timely updates. We look forward to keeping our members informed and updated with the latest information. We will continue highlighting members through monthly spotlights and promoting professional growth by hosting Brown Bag Professional Development events.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terence L. Wright". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Terence L. Wright
Director of Campus Enrollment and Student Services
Kent Campus Dean
Administrative and Professional Collaborative Chair, 2024-2025



Date: April 8, 2025

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Rebecca A. Nelson, Career Employees' Council Chair, 2024-2025

Re: April 2025 Career Employees' Council Report

Chair Young and Trustees:

The Career Employees' Council (CEC) continues to hold monthly meetings and serve as a representative voice for all of the College's career employees. Overall participation in the monthly meetings is an average of 45-60 career employees or approximately 7% of the 800 +/- in this employee group. Our goal as a Council is to increase participation to 10-15% over the next year.

Since my last report, we are pleased to share that the CEC will hold its annual rose sale at the upcoming FSCJ Commencement on May 7, 2025. It is with sincere appreciation to the FSCJ marketing team for its partnership this year to create exterior signage, which will be placed near the parking garages in order to advertise the rose sale to those attending the ceremony. Additionally, the marketing team's design of the Razor Ray floral stems and Grad Crew apparel has allowed for the career employee rose sale volunteers to enjoy a cohesive and inclusive experience thus far. With a dedicated team of individuals who are spearheading this fundraiser, we are looking forward to a smooth sales process for all. As shared in my prior report, as a Council we also look forward to our continued partnerships with marketing along with other college departments in future collaborations and events.

As we approach the month of April, the Council historically holds its annual Executive Board elections process. In an effort to promote transparency for all CEC representatives, a communication was transmitted with a request for those who were interested in serving in an Executive Board position, and meet the criteria as outlined in the CEC By-Laws, to share the same within a given deadline. At this time, the Council did not receive any submissions of interest. It was further shared during the March CEC meeting that the current Executive Board Members are committed to serving for another one-year term, which begins in May 2025 and commences at the end of April 2026. At the time of this report, it has been shared by current CEC representatives that their desire is to have the current Executive Board members continue in their roles for another one-year term. For next steps, the current Executive Board members will provide an update during the CEC meeting scheduled for April 29, 2025, and document the reason for a non-election cycle (unless an election is deemed appropriate in the coming weeks).

With the College's ongoing development of its Artificial Intelligence (AI) policies and procedures, the CEC, in conjunction with the institution's Council on AI, is currently conducting a survey of all full-time and part-time Career employees to gather input on the draft AI and Institutional Integrity Statement. The survey consists of ten (10) questions with five (5) required Likert scale response and five (5) optional, open-ended questions. The survey opened on March 28, 2025 and will close on April 4, 2025. The Council would like to extend a special thank-you to CEC Publicity Coordinator, Vanessa Gordon, for her willingness to serve on the College's Council on AI and for her integral part in designing the survey. We look forward to sharing survey results in a future report to the Board.

Career Employees' Council Report

April 8, 2025

Page 2

Finally, the Council continues gather ideas on how to increase participation in the monthly meetings as well as campus events. During our last meeting, we discussed an opportunity to offer a volunteer option for interested Career employees either through Animal Care and Protection Services (ACPS) or the Jacksonville Humane Society. This idea sparked much interest and we look forward to coordinating this opportunity with more details coming soon. With several CEC members already having involvement in these organizations, we are excited to give-back to our community through service by the College's wonderful career employees.

As always, we thank you, and your colleagues for your continued support of our governance group. On behalf of all career employees, we express our gratitude to the District Board of Trustees for your time, determination, and care that you bring to the FSCJ community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. A. Nelson", written in a cursive style.

Rebecca A. Nelson

Career Employees' Council Chair, 2024-2025

Florida State College at Jacksonville

904-632-3274 / Rebecca.Nelson@fscj.edu



April 8, 2025

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

From: John A. Woodward, PhD

Re: April 2025 Faculty Senate Report

Chair Young and Fellow Trustees:

As the semester comes to a close, proctored exams, academic rigor, and the transition to a new bookstore are at the forefront of the faculty's mind. We have some brewing difficulties with proctoring so many students in our assessment centers; the continual threat of a pervasive ecosystem of AI tools designed seemingly exclusively for the purposes of cheating; and a transition the scale of which we have not seen since the ERP implementation.

Senate heard a report from Dr. Rich Turner and a joint faculty-staff committee on testing that we simply do not have the capacity to handle all of the students who will need to be tested for their final exams. Senate promotes proctored exams in the face of mass cheating and the ease with which students can game various online methods of proctoring. From Senate's point of view, this is a high-risk threat to our integrity and to the value of our degrees; hence, we pushed for the removal of all online proctoring options in favor of face-to-face proctoring (including synchronous proctoring using Zoom) to combat cheating. We have also strongly recommended to all faculty that they consider a proctored final exam for online courses. Since it seems clear that we will run out of seats for the students, faculty have begun to discuss other routes. I think we will make it through this crisis with faculty and staff banding together to come up with solutions. We hope, however, that we can work on building more permanent solutions in the near future.

One of the reasons we are so concerned about integrity is the large ecosystem of AI tools that are freely available for students and that can even read the screen to give answers to multiple choice questions. These tools can be integrated in the browser, making it very difficult to track in some cases. And while this easy flow of information might be useful in some setting, when we are asking students to work on problems or find solutions using their own thought, such AI tools can be very disruptive. Faculty are working with AI tools in many ways to see how we can implement such tools while also accomplishing the tasks of education. Tool manipulation is but a very small component of education. We do not offer classes on how to use a graphing calculator, after all, because the development of such tool usage is not our concern. Instead, students must learn how to learn. They must learn where to find information, but also how to supplement the information they do find using the incredibly unintelligent generative AI tools currently on offer. That is our task. As we move into this new world at breakneck speed, we need to teach our students that it is sometimes necessary to use the brakes. I have written so much about generative AI recently because of its pervasiveness, but also because it remains outrageously stupid in so many areas. I find joy in reading my students essays, because they remind me of the creativity inside of us that cannot be destroyed. Give us tools and we will build; give us brushes and we will paint; give us books and we will read and write. AI can accomplish none of this with any modicum of humanity.

April 2025 Faculty Senate Report
April 8, 2025
Page 2

Which brings me to our bookstore transition. I think the faculty are a bit worried about switching, while we also anticipate better levels of service for our students. Serving on the steering committee established by the inimitable Dr. Ford and managed by our consultant, I am aware of the many challenges but see just how dedicated and dogged my colleagues are to make sure this goes right. I believe there may be some hiccups along the way, but I also believe we made the right choice and will emerge a better institution with a better partner in the end.

I will close with a reminder that April is the birth month of Gao Zhisheng, who was disappeared by the Chinese government for the crime of tracking state abuses and speaking out about the treatment of oppressed populations. To my knowledge, we are still uncertain of his whereabouts or whether he is alive at all. I wonder at the passion of someone who would risk their life and freedom to speak out against the bad actions of the state or political regime, even when they know they or a loved one might be deported (like the Cuban nationals deported to Spain under the Castro regime after the Black Spring in 2003), suffer the opprobrium of a political and social machine, or torture, or even death. We should reflect on our values in a world where the values we hold dear are undermined, whether out of fear or out of fervor. Liberty is a responsibility, a responsibility to an ideal that President Reagan famously called the “shining city upon a hill,” and a responsibility we all bear, heavy though it may be.

As always, we deeply appreciate all of your support for FSCJ and thank you for your service on the Board.

That concludes my report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Woodward", with a stylized flourish 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: April 8, 2025

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

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

Re: April 2025 Student Government Association Executive Board Report

Greetings Chair Young and Trustees:

The Student Government Association (SGA) is the voice of the student body at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ). Please see the following updates and accomplishments for the period between March 2025 and April 2025. All of the Student Life and Leadership programming is led by students and for all students.

Since the last report, the SGA would like to share the following:

- Throughout March, multiple campuses and centers hosted student-led Women's History Month programming and Spring Fling celebrations.
- Between March 21-22, three students on the Forensic Team participated in the virtual Phi Rho Region V Speech and Debate Tournament.
- On March 25, nearly all campuses and centers hosted the FSCJ Collegewide Video Game Tournament – Dragon Ball Sparkling Zero.
- On March 26, eight FSCJ Respiratory Care students participated in the Florida Society for Respiratory Care Annual Student Sputum Bowl in Daytona Beach. FSCJ was represented by two teams that competed against other Florida College System institutions, with one placing 3rd overall.
- From March 28-29, eight students on the Brain Bowl Team traveled to Valencia College – Winter Park Campus for the State Tournament. FSCJ placed 5th in our first appearance at the event in over ten years.
- From April 4-5, ten students traveled to the College of Central Florida for the Florida College System Student Government Association April Conference, where they attended personal and professional development workshops, voted on the incoming officers, submitted an entry into the scrapbook competition, and saw if any of their award nominations won.
- On April 5, eight students in the Math Club traveled to Santa Fe College to participate in the Math Olympics and compete against other Florida College System institutions.
- On April 9, South Campus will host FSCJ Collegewide AAPI Unity Festival, where students will have the opportunity to participate in student-led programming that includes food, dancing, and information about Asian cultures.
- From April 9-13, members of the Student Nursing Association will attend the National Student Nursing Association Convention in Seattle, WA.
- From April 21-24, all campuses and centers will host student-led Stress Relief programming where students will take a little break from studies and enjoy activities before their final exams.

On behalf of the student body, we would like to thank the District Board of Trustees and College 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,
Vlad (Uladzislau) Sadouski
FSCJ Collegewide Student Government Association President