

Florida State College at Jacksonville
District Board of Trustees
Minutes of the August 11, 2026, Regular Meeting
Administrative Offices, Board Room 405, 1 p.m.

PRESENT:

Roderick D. Odom, Chair
Virginia H. Berg
April A. Carney
Steven F. Hughes
Daniel F. Martell
Thomas R. McGehee, Jr.
Alan S. Wachs
O. Wayne Young

ABSENT:

Andrew B. Shaw, Vice Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Roderick Odom called the meeting to order at 1:24 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance.

PLEDGE:

Chair Odom led the Board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMENTS BY THE
PUBLIC:**

Chair Odom opened the Public Comments portion of the meeting and invited members of the public to address the Board regarding matters under consideration.

Chair Odom reported that no requests to speak had been received from members of the public. He then invited comments from the Trustees; none were received.

MINUTES:

(Ref. Board Agenda for
August 11, 2026; Pages 5 –
53)

Chair Odom noted that, in the interest of efficiency, he would entertain a motion to approve the Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) District Board of Trustees (DBOT) meeting minutes as presented on pages 5 – 53 of the agenda, including:

- May 12, 2026, Deep Dive Workshop/Meeting (agenda pages 5 – 10);
- June 3, 2026, Orientation Session for Newly Appointed Trustees (agenda pages 11 – 16);
- June 8, 2026, Orientation Session for Newly Appointed Trustees (agenda pages 17 – 22);
- June 9, 2026, Workshop (agenda pages 23 – 28); and
- June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting (agenda pages 29 – 53).

MOTION: (Berg – Carney) The motion was made to approve the FSCJ DBOT meeting minutes as presented on pages 5 – 53, from the May 12, 2026, Deep Dive Workshop/Meeting; the June 3, 2026, Orientation Session for Newly Appointed Trustees; the June 8, 2026, Orientation Session for Newly Appointed Trustees; the June 9, 2026, Workshop; and the June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE
PRESIDENT:

Council of President's
Response to U.S. Secretary of
Education Linda McMahon's
Request:

College President John Avendano, Ph.D. shared information with the Board regarding the Council of President's Response to U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon's Request:

- He advised he would email the Trustees regarding U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon's request, noting the information contained in the request.

DBOT Terms of Office:

President Avendano shared information with the Board regarding the Trustees' terms of office:

- He advised he would email the Trustees a spreadsheet outlining each member's designated seat and term of office.

Upcoming College Events and
Visits:

President Avendano shared information with the Board regarding upcoming College events and visits:

1. City of Jacksonville
Proclamation:

- The City of Jacksonville will officially recognize the institution's 60th anniversary with a proclamation at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, August 25 at 5 p.m.
- Trustees were invited to attend the meeting and were asked to notify Board Liaison Kimberli Sodek if they planned to attend so that additional details could be provided.

2. Convocation:

- FSCJ Convocation 2026 will be held on Thursday, August 27, at the South Campus Gymnasium.
- A light breakfast will be served in the Café at 8:30 a.m., followed by the program at 9:30 a.m. in the Gymnasium.
- Following Convocation, Trustees and employees are invited to attend the College's 60th Anniversary Employee Luncheon, which will celebrate the conclusion of the anniversary year, highlight the events and activities held throughout the year, and recognize the faculty and staff who made them possible.

3. Foundation 60th Gala:

- The 60th Diamond Anniversary Gala is scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2026, at the Florida Blue Conference Center.
- Fundraising efforts and planning for the evening's program are well underway and progressing well.

- The response has been positive, and an additional progress report will be provided at the September 2026 Board meeting.
- Additional Gala information for Board members will be shared directly in the coming weeks.

4. Capitol Conversations:

- Representatives from FSCJ are expected to attend Capitol Conversations tomorrow at the University of North Florida (UNF). The event will feature Northeast Florida legislative delegates, including Speaker Sam Garrison and legislators who represent FSCJ and surrounding counties. The discussion will provide an opportunity to hear their perspectives on issues affecting the region.

5. Campus Visit from Ascension CEO:

- On Thursday August 20, Mr. Scott Kashman, President and CEO of Ascension Hospital, will visit the College's health care programs, including Nursing, at the North Campus.
- The team coordinated an impressive tour and experience last month for another hospital CEO, and a similar experience is anticipated for Mr. Kashman.

6. Semiconductor Lab Event:

- Trustees were reminded of the FSCJ Semiconductor Advanced Manufacturing Learning Lab Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, scheduled for Monday, September 21, at 1:30 p.m., at the Advanced Technology Center (ATC).
- The event will provide a preview of the state-of-the-art simulation lab, which features advanced manufacturing, automated logistics, automotive technology, and the nation's first microchip manufacturing technician training program. The lab's configuration is unique in the world.
- State, industry, and local leaders have been invited to attend, and a strong turnout is anticipated.

Past College Events and Visits:

President Avendano shared information with the Board regarding past College events and visits:

1. Barbering Lab Ribbon Cutting:

- On June 23, the College hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil the new Barbering Lab at Kent Campus. The new space will provide students with opportunities for personal and professional growth as they prepare for the required state licensing examination.
- The Barbering program was previously offered only at the North Campus. This expansion will allow the College to serve more students and extend the program to a new area of the city.

- The expansion was initiated, in part, through the efforts of an FSCJ leadership team that presented the concept during the 2024 National Association of Community College Skilled Trades competition.
- 2. CMC Steel Florida – 50th Anniversary:
 - A couple of weeks ago, Dean of Engineering Technology & Industry Dr. Doug Brauer and President Avendano had the privilege of visiting CMC Steel Florida as they celebrated their 50th anniversary.
 - Appreciation was extended to Trustee Steven Hughes for the opportunity to meet members of his team and other dignitaries associated with CMC.
- 3. Exploring Maritime:
 - Over the past few weeks, the College has had the opportunity to explore various career opportunities within the maritime industry.
 - The group visited Lambs Yacht Center, St. Johns Marine Group, and Captain Sandy from the popular show *Below Deck*.
 - The more the College explores the maritime industry, the more it becomes apparent that it offers a comprehensive range of career opportunities. Many of the components needed for maritime training are already available at FSCJ.
 - As this initiative progresses, the College will continue to explore the various career pathways and opportunities to collaborate with Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) and its maritime program.

Data Dashboard:

President Avendano shared information with the Board regarding the August 2026 Data Dashboard and high-level view of the institutional data sets:

- Summer Term College Credit Enrollment:
 - Positive variance of .3% credit hours for summer 2026 over summer 2025.
 - Positive variance of 10% compared to the same day in the enrollment cycle for Summer Term 2026 relating to clock hour enrollment.
- Fall Term College Credit Enrollment:
 - Positive variance of 9% credit hours when compared to fall 2025.
 - Positive variance of 19.7% compared to the same day in enrollment cycle for Fall Term 2025 relating to clock hour enrollment.

- Annual Unduplicated Headcount:
 - For the 2026-27 reporting year the headcount was 46,023, representing a 1.9% increase from the previous year.
 - Funded full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment also increased by 3.9% from the previous year.
- Dashboard Spotlight:
 - Athletics Program.
 - Fine & Performing Arts Programs.
- The Finance report reflects actual revenues and expenditures compared to budget for the period ending May 31, 2026, and May 31, 2025:
 - Unrestricted fund revenues were up approximately \$4.2 million compared to prior year, primarily due higher student fee revenues.
 - Expenditures were up approximately \$7.9 million, due to an increase in personnel expenses, educational data software, technology services and electricity.
 - Restricted fund revenues and expenditures reflect both student and grant activities. Revenues increased by approximately \$2.9 million, while expenditures also increased by about \$2.2 million.
- Grants Report:
 - For the 2026-27 award year, from July 1 and forward, the College has received two awards totaling \$490,000.
 - The grant writing team is developing a portfolio of grant proposals and has recently submitted additional applications, with award notifications anticipated soon.

STRATEGIC
PROGRAMMATIC
DISCUSSION:

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board regarding President Avendano's Report, the Data Dashboard, or other College strategic matters; none were received.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(Ref. Board Agenda for August 11, 2026; No items presented.)

Chair Odom noted that there were no Consent Agenda items to be presented at today's meeting. Therefore, the Board proceeded directly to the Action Items.

ACTION ITEMS:
(Ref. Board Agenda for August 11, 2026; Items 1 through 10, Pages 54 – 72.)

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 1, Administration: Board Rules – Non-Substantive Changes and Review, on agenda pages 54 – 56.

MOTION: (McGehee – Martell) The motion was made to approve the Non-substantive Changes and Review of Board Rule 6Hx7-3.3, Pay Plan, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 2, Human Resources: Salary Increase, on agenda page 57.

MOTION: (Carney – Young) The motion was made to approve the Salary Increase, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Odom stated that, as Chair, he would present the next three Action Items related to President John Avendano's employment contract.

There being no objections, Chair Odom proceeded with the presentation.

Chair Odom presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 3, Administration: Performance Evaluation – Dr. John Avendano, College President, on agenda page 58.

MOTION: (Berg – McGehee) The motion was made to approve the Performance Evaluation – Dr. John Avendano, College President, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Odom presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 4, Administration: Performance Incentive – Dr. John Avendano, College President, on agenda page 59.

MOTION: (McGehee – Young) The motion was made to approve the Performance Incentive – Dr. John Avendano, College President, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Odom presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 5, Office of General Counsel: College President's Contract of Employment; Amendment Eight, on agenda pages 60 – 63.

Chair Odom stated that, due to the need for further discussion and review, the item would be deferred to the September 2026 DBOT Workshop and subsequently presented for approval at the DBOT Regular Meeting.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

The item was deferred to the September 2026 DBOT Workshop and Regular Meeting.

President Avendano expressed his sincere appreciation to the Board for its continued confidence and support. He stated that it is an honor to serve the institution and noted that he recently celebrated his seventh year with FSCJ. He shared that it has been a rewarding experience and thanked the Board and the entire FSCJ community for their continued support.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 6, Purchasing: Annual Contract Extensions, on agenda page 64.

Prior to the motion, Trustee Thomas McGehee, Jr. declared a conflict of interest regarding Action Item A-6 and recused himself from discussion and voting on the item (*Appendix A*).

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

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 7, Finance: Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating Budget Amendment No. 1, on agenda pages 65 – 66.

MOTION: (McGehee – Wachs) The motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating Budget Amendment No. 1, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 8, Academic Affairs: Activation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Awareness Technical Certificate Program, on agenda page 67.

MOTION: (McGehee – Hughes) The motion was made to approve the Activation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Awareness Technical Certificate Program, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 9, Academic Affairs: Activation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Practitioner Technical Certificate Program, on agenda page 68.

MOTION: (Berg – Carney) The motion was made to approve the Activation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Practitioner Technical Certificate Program, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board. There was discussion by the Board regarding strategies for aligning unique degree paths with emerging artificial intelligence trends, focusing on workforce readiness and technological agility.

President Avendano shared members of the FSCJ leadership team recently attended the Alliance for Innovation and Transformation (AFIT) Summer Institute. He noted that the institute's curriculum focused extensively on AI, AI literacy, and AI fluency, which are increasingly demanded as core skill sets by business and industry employers.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any additional questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Avendano presented the administration's recommendation on Action Item 10, Academic Affairs: The Annual Institutional Review of General Education Courses, on agenda pages 69 – 72.

MOTION: (McGehee – Hughes) The motion was made to approve the Annual Institutional Review of General Education Courses, as recommended.

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:
(Ref. Board Agenda for
August 11, 2026; Items
A – C, Pages 73 – 77)

Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board regarding Information Items A – C, on agenda pages 73 – 77; none were received.

REPORT OF THE BOARD
CHAIR:

Chair Odom reported on the following matters:

- He extended his congratulations to President Avendano for his upcoming induction into the Class of 2026 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 4 Hall of Fame. The induction recognizes President Avendano's Lifetime Achievement across his career as a student-athlete, coach, and higher education administrator.
- He announced that FSCJ has been recognized as a "Great College to Work For" for the third consecutive year. Notably, the College achieved the prestigious "Honor Roll" designation for 2026. Chair Odom commended the faculty, staff, and leadership present, emphasizing that maintaining this standard of workplace excellence is a significant institutional milestone.
- He noted the tangible positive environment across the institution and expressed his appreciation to all employees for their dedication to fostering a supportive organizational culture.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES:

On behalf of FSCJ Foundation Board of Directions (FBOD), Trustee Wayne Young provided the Board with an overview of the written report, highlighting the FSCJ FBOD quarter-to-quarter meetings, as well as related committee meetings, activities, and initiatives (*Appendix B*).

ORGANIZATION OF THE
BOARD:

Chair Odom turned the meeting over to President Avendano to conduct the Board's annual election of officers and to consider the proposed Board meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

A. Election of Officers
for Fiscal Year 2026-
27:

President Avendano advised that the Board would elect officers for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. He then opened the floor for nominations.

Trustee Thomas McGehee, Jr. nominated the following slate of officers:

- Trustee Roderick Odom to continue serving as the officer position of Board Chair; and
- Trustee Andrew Shaw to continue serving as the officer position of Vice Chair.

MOTION: (McGehee – Young) To close nominations and approve the proposed slate of officers, as recommended.

President Avendano inquired whether there was any additional discussion on the motion; none was offered.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Meeting
Schedule for Fiscal
Year 2026-27:

President Avendano stated that the proposed DBOT meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2026-27 was before the Board for consideration, as reflected on pages 78 – 80 of the agenda materials.

MOTION: (McGehee – Berg) To approve the proposed FSCJ DBOT meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2026-27, as recommended.

President Avendano inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board; none were received.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Liaison &
Committee
Appointments for
Fiscal Year 2026-27:

President Avendano stated that the selection of the 2026-27 Liaison and Committee Appointments was before the Board for consideration, noting that these appointments would constitute the first two official actions of the Board Chair for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

He explained that the Board Chair would appoint one Trustee to serve as the Board Liaison to the FSCJ FBOD and five Trustees to serve on the Finance & Audit (F&A) Committee.

President Avendano then turned the meeting over to Chair Odom to proceed with the appointments.

1. Appointment of Liaison – FSCJ Foundation Board of Directors: Chair Odom appointed Trustee April Carney to serve as the Board’s Liaison to the FSCJ FBOD for Fiscal Year 2026-27.
Chair Odom extended his appreciation to Trustee Wayne Young for his dedicated service in the role during the previous months.
2. Appointment of Committee Members – Finance & Audit Committee: Chair Odom reappointed Trustees Thomas McGehee and Wayne Young, and appointed Trustees Virginia Berg, Steven Hughes, and Alan Wachs to the F&A Committee for Fiscal Year 2026-27.
Chair Odom inquired whether there were any questions or comments from the Board regarding the annual organization; none were raised. There being no further organizational business, the Organization of the Board for Fiscal Year 2026-27 was concluded.

REPORT OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND
PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATIVE:

Administrative and Professional Collaborative (APC) Chair Ashli Archer provided the Board with a written report outlining current APC initiatives and activities (*Appendix C*).

REPORT OF THE CAREER
EMPLOYEES’ COUNCIL:

Career Employees’ Council (CEC) Chair Rebecca Nelson addressed the Board and presented an overview of the written report outlining current CEC initiatives and activities (*Appendix D*).

REPORT OF THE FACULTY
SENATE:

Faculty Senate (Senate) President Dr. John Woodward provided the Board with a written report outlining current Senate initiatives and activities. (*Appendix E*).

REPORT OF THE STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION:

Collegewide Student Government Association (SGA) President Amadou Seck provided the Board with a written report outlining current SGA initiatives and activities (*Appendix F*).

NEXT MEETING:

Chair Odom announced that the Board’s next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at the College’s Cecil Center North.

TOUR OF ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY CENTER:

Chair Odom reminded the Board that a guided tour of the College’s Advanced Technology Center, specifically highlighting the Semiconductor Learning Lab and the Logistics Program would take place immediately following the conclusion of the meeting. He extended an invitation to all available Trustees to remain and participate in the tour.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

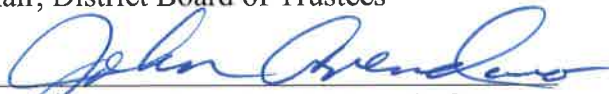
TOUR OF ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY CENTER:

Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. John Wall, Associate Provost of Baccalaureate, Career and Technical Education Dr. Tara Haley, and Dean of Engineering Technology and Industry Dr. Doug Brauer led a tour of the Advanced Technology Center. President Avendano, Chair Odom, and Trustees Hughes, McGehee, Wachs, and Young were in attendance. There were no decisions made, and no Board action taken during the tour. The tour convened from 2:19 – 2:59 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A blue ink signature of Doug Odom, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Chair, District Board of Trustees

A blue ink signature of John Avendano, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Executive Secretary, District Board of Trustees

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

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME McGehee, Jr. Thomas R.		NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees	
MAILING ADDRESS 501 West State Street, Suite 408		THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF:	
CITY Jacksonville	COUNTY Duval	☐ CITY ☐ COUNTY ☒ OTHER LOCAL AGENCY	
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED August 11, 2026		NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION: Florida State College at Jacksonville	
		MY POSITION IS: ☐ ELECTIVE ☒ APPOINTIVE	

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

* * * * *

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Thomas R. McGehee, Jr., hereby disclose that on August 11, 20 26 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- ☐ inured to my special private gain or loss;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, who are associated with W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractors, Inc. ;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by
whom I am retained; or
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which
is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

Action Agenda Item A-6
Purchasing: Annual Contract Extensions
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If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

August 11, 2026

Date Filed


Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.



REPORT OF THE BOARD LIAISON, TRUSTEE WAYNE YOUNG
AUGUST 11, 2026

FBOD Second Quarter Board Meeting – June 17, 2026:

- The Foundation Board held its Second Quarter Board Meeting in 2026 on Wednesday, June 17 at FSCJ's Advanced Technology Center, Room T-140.
- There were no formal actions taken; however, there were several reports including the following:
 - The Board welcomed Professor Paul Soar, Professor of Automotive Technology. He highlighted FSCJ's leadership in autonomous vehicle technology, workforce development, industry partnerships, and innovative academic programming.
 - Committee Chairs provided their respective updates.
 - President John Avendano reported on College accomplishments, strategic initiatives, enrollment growth, workforce development, and legislative activities. He highlighted continued enrollment growth, student success, and discussed several strategic initiatives supporting the College's continued growth. He also recognized the appointment of FSCJ's five new Trustees.
 - Scott Evans, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the FSCJ Foundation, provided a report on Foundation operations, campaign progress, financial management, staffing, and upcoming initiatives.
- Over the summer, the Foundation Board and staff have been working on several key initiatives, which you will be hearing more about them in the coming months. Three were highlighted as follows:
 - Major Gifts for the *Transforming Tomorrow Together Comprehensive Campaign* continue to lead the way with a new million-plus commitment from a well-known family in the FSCJ community for a capital project.
 - The Foundation anticipates a surplus above its budgeted amount for its fiscal year ending on September 30, 2026. The budget that is pending approval for 2026-27 looks even stronger with increased revenue, a reduction in operating expenses, and more dollars for institutional support to add to the Foundation's support from the endowment and other restricted gifts.

- Finally, the fundraising for the 60th Diamond Anniversary Gala coming up on October 2, 2026, is going better than expected. With less than two months to go, all sponsorships are sold out except for three tables. The 400 guests can expect a robust lineup of speakers from a variety FSCJ constituencies giving brief glimpses into FSCJ's history and a look to the future by President Avendano.
- The next quarterly meeting of the FSCJ Foundation Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

This concludes my report.



Date: August 11, 2026

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Monica Franklin, Chair, Administrative and Professional Collaborative, 2026-2027

Re: August 2026 Administrative and Professional Collaborative

Report Dear Chair Odom and Trustees:

The Administrative and Professional Collaborative (APC) is pleased to provide the following update since our last report.

The APC held its June meeting in person, during which members received a comprehensive recap of the accomplishments and ongoing initiatives of each APC task force. These task forces include:

- By-Laws & Outreach
- Events & Service
- Communications & Spotlight
- Professional Development
- Employee Benefits Advisory Council
- Sick Leave Pool

During the meeting, the newly elected APC officers were officially installed for the 2026-2027 term.

Officers:

- **Chair:** Monica Franklin
- **Chair-Elect:** Susan Mythen
- **Past Chair:** Ashli Archer
- **Secretary:** Kerri Burns

Representatives:

- **AO/URC:** Karen Acevedo, James Artley, Lori Cimino, Maggy Dartiguenave
- **Downtown Campus/ATC:** Le'Titia Parsons-Davis, Sha'Kia Riggins
- **North Campus/Nassau Center:** Brad Frick, Steven Gunter
- **Kent Campus/Cecil Center:** Jeff Hess, Patrice Williams
- **South Campus:** Phillip Delacruz, Doreen Sterling
- **Deerwood Center:** Brandi Bleak, Jody Taylor

August 2026 Administrative and Professional Collaborative Report

August 11, 2026

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In recognition of FSCJ's designation as a **Great College to Work For**, the APC has adopted the theme "**We're Great, but Let's Continue to Elevate**" for the 2026-2027 year. Under this theme, APC members have been challenged to identify college policies, procedures, and employment-related matters that can be *elevated* to further promote a collegial community focused on the effective pursuit of the College's mission and goals

These ideas and priorities will be discussed during the APC Strategic Planning Meeting scheduled for **August 6, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.**

The APC is also excited to partner with the **FSCJ Artist Series** and has reserved a block of seats for the performance of **Hamilton** on **December 5, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.** APC members, along with their family members and friends, will be invited to participate in this special event.

The next meeting of the Administrative and Professional Collaborative will be held on **August 6, 2026.**

Thank you for your continued support of the Administrative and Professional Collaborative and its efforts to enhance employee engagement, professional development, and institutional excellence.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica M. Franklin

Dean of Health Sciences

Chair, Administrative and Professional Collaborative 2026-2027



Date: August 11, 2026

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: Rebecca A. Nelson, Career Employees' Council Chair, 2026-2027

Re: August 2026 Career Employees' Council Report

Chair Odom and Trustees:

In accordance with the Council's By-Laws, an open call was issued inviting Career Employees' Council (CEC) representatives to submit nominations for service on the Executive Board. No nominations were received; however, members expressed support for the continued leadership of Chair Rebecca Nelson and Vice-Chair Ronny Elmore in their respective roles. The Council is pleased to welcome Lisa Reine as Treasurer and Nicole Kent as Parliamentarian and appreciates their willingness to serve. The terms for all Executive Board members began in May 2026 and will continue through April 2027. The Council also extends its sincere gratitude to former Treasurer Brandy Williams for her dedicated service prior to accepting a position outside the College. At the time of this report, the position of Secretary remains vacant.

The Council will resume its monthly meetings for the 2026-27 academic year with a kick-off meeting on August 25, 2026. Thereafter, meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month, subject to the College calendar. The meeting schedule will include Executive Board and representative sessions, as well as open forums that encourage participation from all Career employees. Additionally, the CEC has secured guest speakers for the September, October, and November sessions who will highlight their individual career pathways and discuss their role in relation to supporting academics and students. Overall, the CEC remains committed to fostering employee engagement through active participation in council activities, collaborative discussions, and volunteer initiatives that support colleagues across all campuses and centers.

As the Council prepares to launch the new academic year, it is important to address a matter of concern. The Council has become aware that some Career employees may not be receiving support to participate in Council activities or pursue leadership opportunities within the organization. While we recognize the need to maintain departmental operations and understand that workplace cultures and staffing needs may vary across departments, we believe it is essential that all employees have the opportunity to engage in shared governance, professional involvement, and leadership development.

Participation in the CEC provides valuable opportunities for employees to contribute to the College community, build meaningful connections across campuses, and advocate on behalf of their colleagues. Therefore, we respectfully encourage supervisors and leaders throughout the College to support and empower their staff members who wish to become involved in Council initiatives, volunteer efforts, or leadership roles. This includes serving as a campus representative or as a member of the Executive Board. By fostering and encouraging employee engagement, we strengthen not only the Council but also the collaborative and inclusive culture that contributes to the success of FSCJ and its employees.

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In closing, I would like to extend sincere appreciation to you and your colleagues for your ongoing support of the Career Employees' Council. On behalf of the College's Career Employees, thank you to all of the Trustees for your steadfast commitment, dedicated service, and thoughtful stewardship of FSCJ. Your leadership and advocacy continue to make a meaningful impact, helping to cultivate a welcoming, inclusive, and supportive environment where employees and students can thrive.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "RANelson", written in dark ink.

Rebecca A. Nelson
Career Employees' Council Chair, 2024-25, 2025-26, & 2026-27
Florida State College at Jacksonville
904-632-3274 / Rebecca.Nelson@fscj.edu



Date: August 11, 2026

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

From: John A. Woodward, PhD

Re: August 2026 Faculty Senate Report

Chair Odom and Fellow Trustees:

The Faculty Senate remains on hiatus until late August. My colleagues are mostly still engaged in teaching, researching, or preparing for the coming semester. It is a difficult time to be a faculty member in higher education. I have had many different conversations with my colleagues and the biggest concern in the classroom has been how we deal with honesty and the ever-present and ever-devastating and -demeaning influences of generative AI.

In my last letter, I spoke about the importance of our profession to the development of and preservation of democracy. I referred to James Madison's well known statement that "knowledge will forever govern ignorance: and a people who mean to be their own governors, must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives." Higher education is where students can begin to "arm themselves with the power knowledge brings." However, we struggle with understanding how this knowledge can be integrated into their lives if they are not actually engaging with anything but superficial judgments based on a narrow set of incomplete and simplified information from a machine. Generative AI can and does accomplish much in the world of coding; however, in the world of human thought study after study shows that it can only cause damage. Yet its ubiquity makes it all but impossible to avoid. In reproducing information, generative AI makes 'judgments' in that it reproduces what the person asking the question wants to hear. If that involves a task, then generative AI can usually accomplish it. If it involves the ability to gather and synthesize information in order to develop an idea or to inform someone about a problem in the world, then generative AI only inhibits the actions and judgments that are needed. Democracy, however, is a political system of collective judgment. Each citizen must "arm themselves with the power of knowledge" in order to effectively govern themselves. Governance means inevitably making informed judgments.

In each of our general education disciplines, we are tasked with giving the students the skill sets needed to research, inform, and make judgments. Our task in mathematics is problem-solving, some may say. However, it is really about learning the proper logical steps towards making an accurate judgment based on the information given—not turning that entire cognitive process over to a machine. The problem is 'solved' but the solution is a measured and carefully determined judgment that results from the accurate application of a specific methodology. The student does not just learn the techniques and algorithms, they learn a methodology for making an informed judgment. "The danger is in the neatness of identifications," says Samuel Beckett in "Dante...Bruno. Vico...Joyce." This is indeed the danger, because none of this process of attaining knowledge is neat, even when it involves concrete and universal algorithms such as mathematics. The educated student must have the ability to exercise judgment, which is a key feature of education, yet also do so with the understanding that judgments are usually not final and demand a certain level of flexibility based on new information. The proper methods for exercising judgment have been found in canonical literature throughout history; however, the methodologies for exercising judgment do not necessarily rely on a mastery of the canon, especially considering that mastering a canon can take a scholar decades of proper,

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almost obsessive dedication. In fact, without proper guidance, the canon itself can be one of the many “shackles of permanent immaturity” Kant mentioned in his essay on the Enlightenment: “If I have a book that thinks for me, a pastor who acts as my conscience, a physician who prescribes my diet, and so on—then I have no need to exert myself.” It is our task to give them the framework for believing in the power of reason and democracy and then applying the many methodologies for making judgments. The canon is very helpful in this, only in so far as it offers substance and meaning to the act, while also giving information about the historical and cultural information that highlights the limitations and inherent difficulties in making judgments. If it restricts the student to a narrow path and a narrow meaning or set of values, then it becomes the shackle binding them to the bench as in Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave.”

With this task of judgment, democracy all but demands a proper critical function, as well. “For nothing can be sole or whole/ that has not been rent,” as Yeats wrote in his poem “Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop.” Criticism is the rending which allows for a whole to be made. Criticism of policies, parties, or people is the beating heart of the democratic process, yet it works more effectively when bound to properly reasoned methodologies and well-expressed values. The ability to express one’s mind well comes from a knowledge and efficacy with language and a subtle understanding of history and literature, all of which is possessed by generative AI. And yet, since generative AI has no position itself it can have no values, and the exploration of values, their rending and their making whole, is a key feature of what a student can learn through general education. Does a mathematical formula which solves a social problem at the pain and suffering of members of that same society have the same value as a solution which does not rely on mathematical reasoning? One must judge between these systems, and in order to do that one must have the basic facilities in question. This very action is the constitution of the democratic process, not having the answer but seeking it.

Generative AI can perform some of the basic functions for us that Googling used to perform: answering simple questions about facts, words, etymologies, etc. It is pervasive, ubiquitous, and will be as permanent as Google became. To try to stop it is like trying to stop the tide. We must take to heart what the Coen Brothers and Cormac McCarthy wrote for *No Country for Old Men*: “What you got ain’t nothin’ new. This country’s hard on people. You can’t stop what’s comin’. It ain’t all waitin’ on you. That’s vanity.” Perhaps it is vanity to resist the dismal tide of generative AI. Or perhaps we need a sense of vanity to preserve our democracy and protect ourselves and our students from the predators who hunt us just outside the light of the campfire. All we can hope is that we can promote the values of higher education and its gateway to Enlightenment that it has long been and will continue to be.

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
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Date: August 11, 2026

To: Florida State College at Jacksonville District Board of Trustees

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

Re: August 2026 Student Government Association Executive Board Report

Greetings, Chair and Trustees:

The Student Government Association (SGA) serves as the official voice of the student body at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ). Throughout the Summer 2026 semester, the newly elected SGA executive board has focused heavily on initializing internal committee governance, expanding student engagement across campuses, and establishing collaborative volunteer programs within the Jacksonville community.

Internal Governance & Leadership Transition

To kick off the new academic cycle, student leaders have actively structured internal committees to ensure operational excellence and advocacy continuity:

- **Committee Organization:** Standing collegewide committees including History & Heritage, Communication, Policy, Judicial, Finance, and Student Feedback have successfully designated leadership heads and are operating on consistent monthly assembly schedules.
- **Statewide Frameworks:** Delegation planning is underway for the upcoming Florida College System Student Government Association (FCSSGA) state conferences, beginning with the November conference at Daytona State College.
- **Executive Training:** Following preliminary transition work, the comprehensive, full-board SGA leadership training event was scheduled on Tuesday, July 21, to align new members with core institutional governance procedures.
- **Welcoming Leadership:** SGA formally welcomed the College's new Director of Student Life, Dr. Alvin Davis, establishing a strong collaborative partnership for the upcoming year.

Civic Engagement & Community Service

SGA remains dedicated to localized community action, encouraging students to engage in service alongside their academic pursuits:

- **"Strollmates" Partnership:** Showcasing our dedication to city-wide engagement, SGA successfully mobilized student volunteers for local community service initiatives via the "Strollmates" opportunity, sending 7 attendees on June 27th and doubling participation to 14 attendees on July 11th.
- **Collegewide Feedback Platform:** The Student Feedback Committee is actively drafting an expansive, online collegewide student feedback sheet designed to seamlessly gather insight from the broader student populace regarding campus infrastructure, security, and student life.

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Summer 2026 Student Engagement Highlights

SGA successfully organized and supported vibrant on-campus programming across multiple campuses and centers, drawing significant student participation:

- **Cultural Milestones:** Broad student attendance marked multiple campus celebrations, led by a highly successful Juneteenth event at Downtown Campus with 209 attendees, 64 participants at North Campus, and 65 participants at Cecil Campus. South Campus also hosted a Juneteenth Cookout drawing 67 attendees.
- **Civic Traditions:** Commemoration of Independence Day brought out exceptional turnout, including a massive 161-student event at North Campus and 46 participants at South Campus.
- **Campus Life Builders:** Interactive programs kept students connected throughout the summer terms, including a North Campus Summer Bash (98 attendees), a Deerwood Campus National Cheese Day mixer (58 attendees), a South Campus Pride Dance (11 students), and a Kent Campus Pride event (28 students).

On behalf of the entire student body, we express our sincere gratitude to the District Board of Trustees and College President Dr. John Avendano for providing the SGA with a platform to highlight our students' summer achievements and leadership growth. Thank you for your continued dedication to the students of FSCJ.

Sincerely,
Amadou Doudou Seck
FSCJ Collegewide Student Government Association President