Full Board
February 26, 2026
FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center 243

MINUTES

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1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks
Board Chair Carlos A. Duart convened the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees at 4:01 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2026.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Florida International University Board of Trustees and verified a quorum. Present were Carlos A. Duart, *Board Chair*; Noël C. Barengo; Francesca Casanova; Tila Falic-Levi; Alan Gonzalez; George Heisel; Jesus Lebeña; Patrick McDowell; Alexander M. Peraza; Nestor Plana; Yaffa Popack; Alberto R. Taño; and Fred Voccola *(Zoom)*.

Board Chair Duart welcomed all Trustees, members of the University administration, and the University community. Board Chair Duart welcomed Trustees Nestor Plana and Tila Falic-Levi, newly appointed by the Florida Board of Governors for terms starting January 7, 2026. Board Chair Duart remarked that Trustee Patrick McDowell, appointed by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis for a term beginning January 13, 2026, takes over Mr. Marc D. Sarnoff's seat.

Board Chair Duart extended a special welcome to Mr. Marc D. Sarnoff, who after having served on the FIU Board of Trustees for nearly 10 years, concluded his service in January. On behalf of the FIU Board of Trustees, Board Chair Duart, extended his gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Sarnoff for his leadership, commitment, and strategic vision. Mr. Sarnoff expressed his gratitude and appreciation to President Jeanette M. Nuñez, the University's leadership, Board Chair Duart, and members of the FIU Board of Trustees.

Board Chair Duart pointed out that Section 1004.28, Florida Statutes, provides, in relevant part, that the chair of a university board of trustees must appoint to a direct support organization at least one representative to the board of directors and executive committee, if any. He indicated that he requested that Trustee Plana serve as the FIU Board of Trustees Chair-appointed representative to the Board of Directors and its Executive Committee of the Health Services Support Organization, referred to as the FIU Health Care Network. Board Chair Duart pointed out that he is currently servicing as the Board of Trustees representative to the FIU Research Foundation Board of Directors and its Executive Committee.

Board Chair Duart commented that the Florida Board of Governors Trustee Summit will be held at FIU on November 12, 2026 and encouraged full Trustee participation.

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2. Public Appearances
At the request of Board Chair Duart, General Counsel Castillo addressed the public appearance requests. General Counsel Castillo explained that Section 9 of the Board of Trustees Bylaws governs public appearances before the Board of Trustees and sets forth registration procedures, time limits for speakers, and rules of decorum. He delineated the rules of decorum. General Counsel Castillo commented that, pursuant to Section 9.1 of the Bylaws, a person who desires to be heard on a matter before the Board must register by 11:00 AM on the business day before the subject meeting by completing a public comment form. General Counsel Castillo indicated that as of 11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, five (5) requests to address the Board was received. The following individuals addressed the Board after their names were called:

Andrew Caro, representing the Wertheim Performing Arts Center, addressed agenda item AP3 and spoke in opposition of the proposed program termination for the Bachelor of Arts in Global Educational Studies.

Board Chair Duart reminded the speaker that comments are to be confined solely to the proposition before the Board they have asked to speak on.

Joncarlo Ospina, addressed agenda item AP2 and spoke in opposition of the proposed program termination for the Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Toni Calafell, addressed agenda item AP2 and spoke in opposition of the proposed program termination for the Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Board Chair Duart noted that there are currently only seven students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and no students are enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Global Educational Studies. He commented that the proposed terminations of said programs respond to declining student demand and that coursework will continue to be offered as part of other University degree programs.

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1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks *(Continued…)*
Board Chair Duart also extended a special welcome to Ms. Chanel T. Rowe, who served on the FIU Board of Trustees for one (1) term and concluded her service in January. On behalf of the FIU Board of Trustees, Board Chair Duart, extended his gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Rowe for her ongoing relationship with FIU and for inspiring others to give back, serve with purpose, and remain engaged long after their formal studies have concluded. Ms. Rowe shared her personal experience with the opportunities and impact that FIU provided.

3. Election of Board Vice Chair
Board Chair Duart commented that the conclusion of Mr. Sarnoff's term on the FIU Board of Trustees resulted in a vacancy in the Board's Vice Chair position. He explained that the Board's Bylaws provide that in the event of a vacancy in the Chair and/or Vice Chair positions, an election should be held as soon as practical after the vacancy occurs to select a member of the Board, by majority vote, to the applicable vacant position(s). Board Chair Duart stated that the Board is to

elect a Board Vice Chair, by majority vote, from the appointed members for a two-year term that is effective immediately. He opened the floor for nominations of Board Vice Chair.

Board Chair Duart nominated Trustee Alan Gonzalez for the office of Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Gonzalez accepted the nomination and he was unanimously elected to the Office of Board Vice Chair. Board Vice Chair Gonzalez stated that he is honored to serve as the Board's Vice Chair and expressed both his dedication to the University and his commitment to the Board of Trustees.

4. Foundation Report
FIU Foundation Inc. Board of Directors Chair Adalio T. Sanchez presented key highlights from the February FIU Foundation Board of Directors meetings. He commented on alumni events. He indicated that, to date, $71.4M has been raised towards the 2025-2026 fundraising goal of $90M. He added that commitments accepted and awaiting signatures total $4.6M, and that, to date, pipeline proposals delivered total $51M and projected pipeline proposals total $53M. Chair Sanchez commented on major gifts closed during the current fiscal year. He remarked on FIU Give Day and provided updates on staffing and recruitment. He indicated that, for the three (3) months ending December 31, 2025 philanthropy totaled $31.2M. He pointed out that, as of December 31, 2025, the FIU Foundation has total assets of approximately $538.7M and that on a fiscal year-to-date basis, performance of the main investment portfolio is estimated to be 7.52% net of fees.

2. Public Appearances *(Continued…)*
Nicholas Saballos, representing the College of Arts, Sciences and Education, addressed agenda item AP2 and spoke in opposition of the proposed program termination for the Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

5. President's Report
President Nuñez commented on fall commencement ceremonies. She reflected on her first year as University President, highlighting internal and external engagements. She thanked the Trustees that participated in FIU Day. President Nuñez stated that earlier in the month, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida Secretary of State Cord Byrd, dignitaries, and Trustees joined together at the Ronald W. Reagan presidential house to celebrate the unveiling of the Ronald W. Reagan statue. She thanked Board Chair Duart and Tina Vidal-Duart for their generosity and added that the ceremony was held on what would have been President Reagan's 115th birthday. President Nuñez noted that during the unveiling, FIU announced the formation of a Cuba transition initiative, reflecting FIU's unique role as a public research University deeply connected to the Cuban American community and to the broader work of democracy and institutional development.

President Nuñez mentioned that Florida's state universities have been encouraged to find unique ways to celebrate America 250. She indicated that on February 14, 2026, FIU hosted its first ever presidential 5k to kickoff President's Day weekend and to celebrate America's semi quincentennial. She commented on the 25th anniversary of the Food Network South Beach Wine & Food Festival presented by Capital One (SOBEWFF®). She added that the first ever Presidential Horizon Summit took place on February 19-20, 2026 in conjunction with SOBEWFF® and that the Summit was a national convening of university presidents, government officials and corporate leaders to discuss

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how to work together in shaping the future of higher education through innovation and technology. She expressed her appreciation to Board Chair Duart and Trustees Casanova, Falic-Levi, Heisel, Peraza, Popack, and Voccola for their participation throughout the two-day Summit. President Nuñez presented a brief video recapping the gathering. She provided an overview of upcoming University events, including the groundbreaking ceremonies for Sunblazer Hall and CasaCuba, two Presidential Speaker Series lectures in the spring, and alumni reunions and events.

6. Action Items – Consent Agenda

Board Chair Duart indicated that, in addition to Full Board minutes, the Consent Agenda includes action item AC1 recommended for Board approval by the Audit and Compliance Committee, action items FF1 – FF7 recommended for Board approval by the Finance and Facilities Committee, AP1 – AP5 recommended for Board approval by the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee, and G1 recommended for Board approval by the Governance Committee.

A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the Consent Agenda, and members of the Board approved the following actions:

- **AC1. Acceptance of Performance-Based Funding and Preeminent Metrics Data Integrity Audit Report and Approval of Data Integrity Certification** – FIU Board of Trustees acceptance of the Audit Report - Audit of Performance-Based Funding and Preeminent Metrics Data Integrity and approval of the Performance Based Funding and Preeminence Status – Data Integrity Certification, as executed by the University President.

- **FF1. Proposed Amendment to Regulation FIU-1101 Tuition Fees Schedule for the 2026-27 Academic Year** - FIU Board of Trustees approval of the proposed amendments to Regulation FIU-1101 Tuition and Fees Schedule and delegation of authority to the University President to approve any subsequent non-material amendments based on comments to the Regulation received from the Florida Board of Governors and as a result of the regulation-making process.

- **FF2. Auxiliary Facilities Income and Expenditure Statements** – FIU Board of Trustees approval of the Auxiliary Facilities Income and Expenditure Statements, as specified in the Board materials.

- **FF3. Seventh Lease Amendment with BP Land Holdings, LLC for the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC)** - FIU Board of Trustees approval of the delegation of authority to the University President, or her designee, to (1) negotiate the Amendment; and (2) execute the Amendment on behalf of the FIU Board of Trustees, and such other documents that may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated therein for NFSTC.

- **FF4. Campus Development Agreements between the FIU Board of Trustees and Miami-Dade County and the City of North Miami** – FIU Board of Trustees approval of (1) a Campus Development Agreement between The Florida International University Board of Trustees (BOT) and Miami-Dade County; (2) a Campus Development Agreement

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between the BOT and The City of North Miami; and (3) the delegation of authority to the University President, or her designee, to negotiate, finalize and execute said agreements, and all other documents that may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated in said agreements, as applicable, on behalf of the BOT.

- **FF5. Ground Lease between the FIU Foundation, Inc. and the FIU Board of Trustees for the expansion of the Wolfsonian-FIU** – FIU Board of Trustees (BOT) (i) approval of terms and authorization to negotiate and execute a ground lease between the FIU Foundation and the BOT for the expansion of the Wolfsonian-FIU museum, and (ii) the delegation of authority to the University President, or her designee, to negotiate, finalize and execute the Ground Lease, and all other documents that may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated therein, on behalf of the BOT.

- **FF6. Authorization to Purchase or Lease a Facility for Student Housing in Washington DC** – FIU Board of Trustees (BOT) (i) authorization to purchase or lease a facility for student housing in Washington DC; (ii) the delegation of authority to the BOT Chair to approve the terms and conditions for any such purchase or lease, on behalf of the BOT and to report timely to the BOT on the results thereof, including whether any such purchase or lease is consummated; and (iii) the delegation to the University President, or her designee, to offer, negotiate, finalize and execute letters of intent, purchase and sale agreements, and all other documents that may be necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated therein, on behalf of the BOT.

- **FF7. Investment Policy Amendment** - FIU Board of Trustees adoption of revisions to the University's Investment Policy, as specified in the Board materials.

- **AP1. Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nomination** - FIU Board of Trustees approval of one (1) candidate for Tenure as a Condition of Employment, as specified in the Board materials .

- **AP2. Program Termination: Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies** - FIU Board of Trustees termination of the Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

- **AP3. Program Termination: Bachelor of Arts in Global Educational Studies** - FIU Board of Trustees termination of the Bachelor of Arts in Global Educational Studies.

- **AP4. Proposed Amendment to Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Harassment (Title IX) and Sexual Misconduct** - FIU Board of Trustees approval of the proposed amendment to Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Harassment (Title IX) and Sexual Misconduct, and delegation of authority to the University President to approve any subsequent non-material amendments based on comments to the Regulation received from the Florida Board of Governors or as a result of the regulation-making process.

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- **AP5. Proposed Regulation FIU-1302 Florida Residency Status for Tuition Purposes** - FIU Board of Trustees approval of the new proposed Regulation FIU-1302 Florida Residency Status for Tuition Purposes, and delegation of authority to the University President to approve any subsequent non-material amendments based on comments to the Regulation received from the Florida Board of Governors or as a result of the regulation-making process.

- **G1. Board Appointments, Florida International University Foundation, Inc.** – FIU Board of Trustees approval of the appointments of the individuals, as specified in the Board materials, to the Florida International University Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors.

7. Action Item
G2. Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the FIU Board of Trustees
Board Chair Duart pointed out that the Governance Committee met earlier and recommended Board approval of the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the FIU Board of Trustees. There were no further questions from the Trustees.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees approve the amendments to the Bylaws of the FIU Board of Trustees.

8. Status Reports, Board Committees
Audit and Compliance Committee Report
Trustee Yaffa Popack, Audit and Compliance Committee Chair, provided highlights from the Committee's earlier meeting. She stated that Ms. Jennifer LaPorta, Chief Compliance and Privacy Officer, provided updates and information regarding second quarter activities and initiatives. She added that Ms. Vivian F. Gonzalez, Interim Chief Audit Executive, reported on recently completed audits, commented on work in progress, and provided a follow-up status report on prior audit recommendations.

Finance and Facilities Committee Report
Trustee Jesus Lebeña, Finance and Facilities Committee Chair, provided highlights from Committee's earlier meeting. He noted that Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer David H. Snider reported that University operating revenues were above budget by $15M or 1.5% and operating expenses were below budget by $15M or 1.9%, resulting in a net favorable variance of $30M. Trustee Lebeña added that University and University Organizations' investment earnings of $60M were $35M above plan. He indicated that the financial audit of FIU's Children Alliance for Research and Education, Inc. (FIU CARE) received an "Unmodified Opinion" meaning the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, as of June 30, 2025. Trustee Lebeña stated that Mr. Ben Watkins, Director of the Division of Bond Finance, presented the State University System Efficiency Study, completed in response to an executive order from Governor DeSantis.

Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Report
Trustee Albert Taño, Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Chair, provided highlights from the Committee's earlier meeting.

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Governance Committee Report
Board Chair Duart provided highlights from the Governance Committee's earlier meeting.

9. New Business
Board Chair Duart indicated that the composition of the FIU Board of Trustees has changed since the adoption of the most recent exclusion resolution on July 30, 2025, particularly with the election of the Board Vice Chair and the appointment of new Trustees.

G3. Updated Continued Exclusion of Trustees other than the Board Chair, Vice Chair and Corporate Secretary, exclusion of the President, continued appointment of the Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer as the Interim Senior Management Official and reaffirmation of the composition of the Key Management Personnel
Provost and Executive Vice President Elizabeth M. Bejar presented the updated Exclusion Resolution for the Boards' review. She explained that the updated Exclusion Resolution reflects the following: current membership of the FIU Board of Trustees, which has changed since the latest exclusion resolution dated July 30, 2025; continues the exclusion of the University President and Corporate Secretary as they do not require access to classified information and the President has not yet obtained the necessary clearance; continues the appointment of the Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer as the Interim Senior Management Official, pending the President receiving the required clearance; and reaffirms the composition of the Key Management Personnel group, ensuring that FIU remains compliant with federal government requirements for classified contracts.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees (BOT) adopt a Resolution that updates the exclusion of the named members of the FIU BOT and excludes the President and the BOT Corporate Secretary from the requirements for a personnel security clearance, continues the appointment of the Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer as the Interim Senior Management Official and reaffirms the composition of the Key Management Personnel.

Trustee Lebeña congratulated the students that participated in SOBEWFF®.

10. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment
With no other business, Board Chair Carlos A. Duart adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Full Board on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 5:18 PM.

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