

Governing Boards - Florida State University's Board of Trustees

Florida State University's Board of Trustees

Peter Collins (Chair), of Tampa, is Co-Founder and Managing Principal of Forge Capital Partners, LLC ("Forge"). Mr. Collins directs all private equity activities for Forge and is the CEO of Forge's real estate private equity fund business. Over the last 20 years, Mr. Collins has overseen more than \$1.5 billion of real estate and corporate transactions including over eight million square feet of commercial and residential real estate development/acquisitions/dispositions. Peter is a Trustee of the Florida State University ("FSU") Foundation and recently completed a 2-year term as Chair of the FSU Endowment. Peter is a member of the Executive Committee of the FSU College of Business Board of Governors.

Maximo Alvarez, born in Havana, Cuba, received his bachelor's degree from Florida State University in 1969 and his master's degree in 1970. Maximo founded Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc, and grew the company from four gas stations to over 300 locations and supplies another 250 branded retail facilities. Because of his humble beginnings, Maximo has always believed in helping the community as well as the industry in which he has spent most of his career. Maximo has been involved in the Florida Petroleum Marketers Association and was elected Chairman of the Board in 2000 and inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2005. Maximo has been married to his wife, Esther, for over forty years, and they have three children.

Kathryn Ballard, of Tallahassee, has a long history of charitable and community work, including service on the Board of Directors of the Florida Special Olympics, the Florida State University College of Human Sciences Board, and the Board of Trustees of the Maclay School of Tallahassee. She also served as Chairman of the Maclay School Capital Campaign. Mrs. Ballard has been honored for Outstanding Achievement by the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation and the Tallahassee/Leon County Historic Preservation Commission for her efforts to restore Tallahassee's historic Lively House. Mrs. Ballard graduated from Florida State University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Human Sciences.

Eric Chicken, of Tallahassee, joined the faculty of Florida State University in 2002 as a professor of statistics focused primarily in the fields of function estimation and statistical process control. His research is broadly interdisciplinary, with applications and collaborations in engineering, medicine, hydrology, education, and operations research. He has been funded by the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Florida Geological Survey. He is a Fellow of the Institute for Defense Analyses (2016) and an Elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association (2015), the main professional association for statisticians, and he has been awarded two Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Fellowships (2015, 2018). In 2016, he received the Outstanding Graduate Mentor award from FSU.

Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, of Miami, was appointed to the Florida State University ("FSU") Board of Trustees by Governor Ron DeSantis on June 10, 2021. She works as an attorney at the Holland & Knight law firm and serves as the firmwide deputy section leader of the Real Estate Section. She received her bachelor's degree from FSU and her law degree from Tulane University. Outside of FSU, de las Cuevas-Diaz serves on the board of the Coral Gables Community Foundation and as a board member of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council.

Jorge Gonzalez, of Walton County, is the president and chief executive of The St. Joe Company, a Florida-based real estate development and operating company with additional interests in resorts, leisure, and forestry. Jorge holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Florida State University. He serves or has served on various community, civic, and business-related organizations including the Florida Chamber Board of Directors, Enterprise Florida Board of Directors, Bay Economic Development Alliance (current Chairman), Northwest Florida Manufacturer's Council, Gulf Coast Regional Medical Center, FSU Panama City Development Board (former President), The St. Joe Community Foundation Board of Trustees, and Panama City Beach Chamber Board of Directors. Jorge is married to Pamela, who is also a proud FSU graduate, and they have one son, Jake.

Jim Henderson, of Longwood, is Chairman, CEO, and Founder of AssuredPartners, a national insurance brokerage firm. Prior to establishing AssuredPartners in March of 2011, Jim Henderson brought his insurance expertise to Brown & Brown when he joined the company as its CFO in 1985. Jim served in a variety of roles including President and Chief Operating Officer as well as Vice Chairman. Jim is a graduate of Florida State University with a BSBA in Accounting and Economics. Jim and his wife, Carole, have three children and eight grandchildren that all reside in Florida.

Deborah Sargeant, of Gulf Stream, is a Florida native who spent three years at Florida State University before finishing her bachelor's degree in accounting at California State University Long Beach. She is a former member of the Governor's Mansion Commission and volunteers her time with the Bethesda Hospital Foundation, Cason United Methodist Church, and the Delray Beach Historical Society.

Bob Sasser, of Norfolk, Virginia, is the Chief Executive Officer of Dollar Tree Stores, the nation's largest discount variety store. Bob is a graduate of Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing. He was inducted into the College of Business Hall of Fame in 2009 and returns to FSU when possible to share his experience and ideas with students and faculty. Bob serves on the FSU Board of Trustees and the Foundation Board of Trustees. He is a lifetime member of the FSU Alumni association, a member of Seminole Boosters, a Double Golden Chief, and a member of the FSU Presidents Club.

John Thiel, of Florida, is an FSU alumnus and former Merrill Lynch executive. Thiel is a dynamic board director, trusted business advisor, and visionary financial services CEO. During his 28-year career with Merrill Lynch, Thiel served as head of U.S. Global Wealth Management, steering the iconic financial firm through a period of unprecedented change, including its acquisition by Bank of America and overseeing a \$15 billion business with 23,000 employees.

Drew Weatherford, of Tampa, is a Founding Partner of Weatherford Capital, a private investment firm focused on growth equity in tech businesses. Prior to this, Weatherford co-founded Strategos Group, a leading business consultancy and advocacy firm in Florida. Drew led the Florida State University football team for three years as starting quarterback for the Seminoles and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Real Estate. He then went on to earn an MBA from Northwestern University.

Nimna Gabadage, of Tampa, FL, Florida State University's student body president, is the 13th member of the Board of Trustees.

Online Resource: The Florida State University Board of Trustee's website can be accessed online at <http://trustees.fsu.edu/>

Governing Boards - State University System

State Board of Education

The mission of the Board of Education is to increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless, efficient system by providing them with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents, and communities, and to maintain an accountability system that measures student progress toward the following goals: highest student achievement, seamless articulation and maximum access, skilled workforce and economic development, and quality efficient services. The eight-member Board, which consists of seven appointed members, plus the automatic inclusion of the Commissioner of Education, are:

Tom Grady (Chair)	Naples
Ben Gibson (Vice Chair)	Tallahassee
Monesia Brown	Tallahassee
Esther Byrd	Neptune Beach
Grazie P. Christine	Key Biscayne
Ryan Petty	Parkland
Joe York	Ponte Vedra Beach

Online Resource: the website for the Florida Department of Education can be accessed online at: <http://www.fdoe.org/>

Florida Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is comprised of seventeen members, fourteen of whom are appointed by the Florida Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate for a term of seven years. The remaining members include the Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, the Commissioner of Education, and the Chair of the Florida Student Association. The Board oversees the operation and management of the Florida public university system's twelve institutions.

The Board of Governors are:

Brian Lamb (Chair)	Tampa
Eric Silagy (Vice-Chair)	Juno Beach
Manny Diaz, Jr. (Commissioner of Education)	Tallahassee
Timothy M. Cerio	Tallahassee
Aubrey Edge	Jacksonville
Patricia Frost	Miami Beach
Edward Haddock	Orlando
Ken Jones	Tampa
Darlene L. Jordan	Palm Beach
Alan M. Levine	Naples
Charles H. Lydecker	Daytona Beach
Nimna Gabadage (Student Representative)	Florida State University
Craig Mateer	Orlando
Steven M. Scott	Palm Beach
William Self	Orlando
Kent Stermon	Jacksonville

Online Resource: the website for the Florida Board of Governors can be accessed online at: <https://www.flbog.edu/>

Chancellor of Florida's Colleges and Universities

Marshall Criser III

Marshall Criser III is chancellor of the State University System of Florida. He is the former president of AT&T Florida and a longtime education leader in the state. He took office as chancellor in January of 2014. Criser is in his sixth year as the Florida House Speaker's appointee to the Higher Education Coordinating Council, a role he began as a representative of the business community and continues as chancellor. His past community service includes terms as vice chair of the University of Florida's Board of Trustees, chair of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, chair of Florida TaxWatch, and member of the Scripps Institute Board of Trustees in California.

Online Resource: Read more about Marshall Criser III online at: <https://www.flbog.edu/about-us/chancellor/>