



# CHANCELLOR'S NEWSLETTER

WINTER UPDATE 2024

## Chancellor's Message

The State University System of Florida is achieving unprecedented success. At our January Board meeting, Chair Lamb delivered an inspiring State of the System address, setting the tone for the year ahead. From academic excellence to groundbreaking research, our students are making meaningful contributions to address Florida's workforce demands. Throughout session, governors, presidents, trustees, lobbyists, and students have journeyed to Tallahassee to highlight Florida's leadership in higher education which concluded last Friday. The Florida Legislature has demonstrated its commitment by increasing funding for the system, from \$4.3 billion in FY24 to nearly \$4.9 billion in FY25, pending approval from the governor. We extend gratitude to Speaker Renner, President Passidomo and Governor DeSantis for prioritizing investments in higher education. Let's capitalize on this momentum and continue discussing why Florida remains at the forefront of higher education in the nation.

Ray Rodrigues  
Chancellor of the State University System of Florida

### IN THIS ISSUE

University Days at the Capitol 1

Top 100 Worldwide Patents List 2

Nursing Education Program Highlights 3

Leadership 4 Life Fellowship Program 3

Chair Brian Lamb's State of the System 4

Welcome, New Appointees 4

Did U Know? 4

## Universities' Days at the Capitol





# Five Florida Universities Ranked on the Top 100 Worldwide Universities List for Seven Consecutive Years

## Check out these patent highlights from across the System

### University of Florida

- Developed a treatment for pancreatic cancer to inhibit tumor development and increase patient survival rates
- An improved catalyst that produces cyclic polymers that have potential applications in motor oil as a lubricant and in the construction of industrial grade plastics
- Developed a vaccine delivery platform for multiple fish pathogens

### University of South Florida

- Developed a new asphalt and patented a paving system to harvest energy from heavily trafficked roadways.
- A new medication box that improves patients' medication adherence.

### Florida State University

- A method for inhibiting Zika virus and dengue virus infection.
- Technology that uses natural elements and plasma to deliver organic fertilizer to plants and mitigate the environmental impact of growing food.
- An app that provides more in-depth analytics to help teachers predict who is struggling and how to help these students make up lost ground.
- A process that could help purify water or even recycle nuclear waste.

### University of Central Florida

- A method and device for the detection of mosquitos and other insects that can potentially help in the global fight and prevention against deadly diseases.
- A nano-coating designed to capture, hold, and kill viruses on a surface such as personal protective equipment and clothing using natural light sources to protect against infections.
- Anatomical simulation that allows users to wear a head-mounted display that will present an anatomical scenario onto a patient to allow for medical training, surgical training or other instruction.

### Florida International University

- Manufacturing technologies that are useful for applications where lightweight and high strength are required, such as in the aerospace and automotive industries.
- A method for producing injectable enhanced stem cell exosomes that can help restore heart function.

## Save the Date

**March 26-27**  
Florida Board of Governors Meeting  
UF - Gainesville, FL

**May 8**  
Florida Board of Governors Meeting  
Conference Call

**June 27-28**  
Florida Board of Governors Meeting  
UCF - Orlando, FL

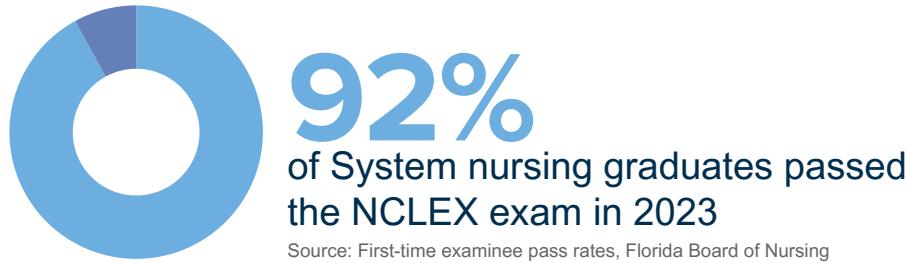
**September 18-19**  
Florida Board of Governors Meeting  
FAU - Boca Raton, FL

**October 29-30**  
Florida Board of Governors Meeting  
FIU- Miami, FL

# Florida's Investment in Nursing Returns Higher Passage Rates for All SUS Institutions

Over the past two years, Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature invested \$46 million to enhance excellent nursing programs through the Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) and the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) funds.

**These funds have expanded the capacity of SUS nursing programs leading to 1,800 nursing graduates, a record-high for the SUS!**



**Florida grads exceed the national average of 90%!**



## Leaders 4 Life (L4L) Fellowship Program 2024

Chancellor Rodrigues provided the student awards for the Leaders 4 Life (L4L) 2024 Fellowship Program. Learn more [here](#).





Board of Governors Meeting, Florida State University

## State of the System

Brian Lamb, Chair of the Board of Governors, delivered his third State of the System address on January 24, 2024. The State of the System is provided annually to highlight the State University System’s accomplishments from the prior year and outline the top priorities for the upcoming year.

**Watch the full address [here!](#)**

## Did U Know?

U.S. News & World Report released its annual rankings of “Best Online Degree Programs for 2024”. This year, six State University System universities ranked in the top 100, including two universities in the top 10 nationally: UF Online (#2 ranking) and UCF (#7 ranking(tie)). Other universities in the top 100 include: UNF #20, FIU #32, UWF #45, and FAU #81.

### Stay up to date on upcoming university Office of Public Policy (OPP) Events.

Visit our website to explore OPP events happening across the System.

<https://www.flbog.edu/news/events/>

# Welcome, New Appointees!

## Trustee Appointments

- Dorian Abbot (FPU)
- John Crossman (FAMU)
- Natalie Figgers (FAMU)
- Deveron Gibbons (FAMU)
- Alan Gonzalez (FIU)
- Patrick Hagan (FPU)
- Francis Hondal (FIU)
- Joseph Jacquot (NCF)
- Pablo Paez (FAU)
- Jessie Panuccio (FPU)
- Donald Patterson (NCF)
- Yaffa Popack (FIU)
- Ilya Shapiro (FPU)
- Sidney Theis (FPU)
- Michael White (FAMU)

## BOG Appointments

- Ashley Bell Barnett

## BOG Reappointments

- Alan Levine
- Tim Cerio

## Trustee Reappointments

- Cliff Otto (FPU)
- Kathryn Ballard (FSU)
- Danny Gaekwad (UCF)
- Daniel O’Keefe (UF)