

OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY EVENTS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024



**STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

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Introduction

The Florida Legislature established the Office of Public Policy Events within the State University System of Florida (SUS) for the advancement of knowledge and that such advancement is facilitated by the fearless sifting and winnowing of a wide diversity of views and that the open discussion and debate of contested public policy issues from diverse perspectives provides essential preparation for mature citizenship and an informed exercise of the right to vote.

Florida Statutes 1001.93 requires each state university within the SUS to establish an Office of Public Policy Events and appoint a Director of Public Policy Events who is responsible for organizing, publicizing and staging debates or group forums at their university. These events must address, from multiple, divergent and opposing perspectives, an extensive range of public policy issues widely discussed and debated in society at large. Speakers and presenters can be selected from within the state university community or invited in to present a different perspective. Universities are required to host two events during the fall semester and two events during the spring semester.

Universities are required to maintain a permanent, publicly accessible, searchable, and up-to-date calendar in print, on the office website and on the state university's website listing all of the events sponsored by the office and all other debates, group forums, and events open to the entire campus community at the state university that address public policy issues. Additionally, calendars must be kept in the library system of each university. Video recordings of the events must also be posted onto the site and preserved within the library of the state university that hosted the event.

2023-24 Office of Public Policy Events Activities

The State University System of Florida had tremendous success in its inaugural year. In accordance with statutes, each university was required to host two events in the fall and two events in the spring with speakers representing a diversity of perspectives.



Notable speakers include journalists, faculty and national, state and local officials.

Topics ranged from Affirmative Action, Foreign Policy to Churchill.

Office of Public Policy Events 2023-24

September 2023

FGCU – Civility Summit: Defining Civil Discourse at FGCU and Shaping the Future

UF – Truth-Seeking and Democracy

FAU – The U.S. Constitution and the Spirit of America

– The U.S. Constitution, Judicial Decision-Making Powers and Voting Rights

UNF – The Constitution on Campus: A Conversation on Free Speech and Affirmative Action

UCF – The Balance Between Free Speech and Hate Speech

FAMU – Civil Discourse

October 2023

FPU – Artificial Intelligence: ChatGPT - Its Ethics and Use

UWF – Electoral College Debate

FGCU – Affirmative Action in University Admissions and the Cost of Higher Education

FIU – Immigration Debate: Migration, Immigration and Refugee Flows

UF – U.S. Foreign Policy Today: Challenges & Opportunities

– Impacts of Florida's Expansion of the Death Penalty

November 2023

USF – Reforming the Electoral College

– Public Policy Panel Discussion on U.S. Supreme Court Reform

FPU – Autonomous Vehicles and Their Safety

UNF – Generative Artificial Intelligence: Friend or Foe?

UCF – A.I. The Great Debate: Who is in Control?

FSU – Artificial Intelligence and The Economy: How will AI Impact the Marketplace?

– Artificial Intelligence and The Academy: How will AI Impact Universities?

FIU – Wars of the World and The White House: Will Foreign Policy Determine America's Next President? A Debate.

UWF – Should extremist speakers be allowed to speak on University and College Campuses?

NCF – A Conversation on the Israel-Hamas War and the Future of the Middle East

December 2023

FAMU – A.I. Horizons: Trends Challenges and Opportunities

January 2024

NCF – A Churchill 150 Forum: Churchill, FDR, and the Waging of World War II

FAU – What’s Happening to Water Quality in Florida?

FPU – A.I. Goes to War

February 2024

UF – “The Future of Food: Is Reappropriating Western Food Waste an Optimal Way to Fight Global Hunger?”

FAU – Whose Knowledge is of Most Worth?

FGCU – Student Debate: Is Social Media Censorship Protecting or Limiting College Students?

FIU – The Promise and Potential Pitfalls of Climate Policy

UNF – Pill Mills to Fentanyl: Tackling the Opioid Epidemic

March 2024

USF – Panel Discussion on Middle East Policy and History

UWF – Social Media’s Impact on Public Discourse

NCF – Churchill at Yalta: Triumph and Tragedy

FPU – Paging Dr. Art(ificial) Intelligence

UCF – Filtered Realities: Exploring Social Media Censorship, Privacy, and Algorithm Bias

UNF – Cold War II: Challenges in American Diplomacy

UF – Co-Creating Consent: Digital Democracy to Protect Privacy in Medical A.I.

April 2024

FSU – Diffusing the Timebomb: Can Property Insurance in Florida Be Made Affordable or Will We Price Future Floridians Out of the State?

– Organ & Tissue Donation Programs: The Bioethical Issues

FGCU – Crossing the Political Divide

FAMU – U.S. Supreme Court: Reform or Status Quo?

– Meet with Representatives in the Billion-Dollar Industry

FIU – A Fair and Free Press? A Debate on the Role of Media in 2024 Politics

NCF – Free Speech, Academic Freedom, and Political Expression

– Mental Health and “Motorhome Prophecies”

UWF – Navigating the Future: AI’s Role in Reshaping the Workforce

UCF – A.I. Transformations: Navigating the Future of Work and Career Pathways

FAU – Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure: Lessons from Global Cities

USF – Panel Discussion on the First Amendment & Freedom of Speech

OPPE - University Webpages

[Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University](#)

[Florida Atlantic University](#)

[Florida Gulf Coast University](#)

[Florida International University](#)

[Florida Polytechnic University](#)

[Florida State University](#)

[New College of Florida](#)

[University of Central Florida](#)

[University of Florida](#)

[University of North Florida](#)

[University of South Florida](#)

[University of West Florida](#)



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