

**FULL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, March 26, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, March 26, 2026, in the Rudolph Jones Student Center, Multipurpose Room 242. Chair Glenn B. Adams presided and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were in attendance: Glenn Adams, Jerry Gregory, Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, Warren McDonald, John McFadyen, Brian Pearce, Greg Pinnix, Al Ragland, and Will Warner. Trustee Latoya Harper and Fred Nelson joined via Microsoft Teams and therefore were not included in voting.

Before proceeding into the main portion of the meeting, Chair Glenn Adams read the State Government Ethics Act to remind all members of the board of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this act. No conflicts were reported.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Warren McDonald and seconded by Trustee Brian Pearce that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on December 11, 2025, and the special call meetings on January 27, 2026, be approved as presented. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Academic and Student Affairs: Committee Chair Greg Pinnix

Committee Chair Greg Pinnix provided the report for the committee on academic and student affairs, which met on March 25, 2026.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES

Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Dr. Sonja M. Brown announced the Spring Commencement ceremonies. The graduate ceremony will take place on May 8 at the Felton J. Capel Arena, followed by the undergraduate ceremony on May 9 at the Crown Coliseum.

Following, Dr. Brown provided an update on the ongoing Academic Program Review cycle. The Bachelor's in Spanish program has completed the full external review process. There will be a recommendation to discontinue the B.A. in Spanish program, based on the outcome of the academic program review. The process demonstrated insufficient student demand for the program, as evidenced by enrollment and completion rates over the last seven years.

The Bachelor's in Communication & Media Studies has completed the full external review process.

The Bachelor's in English & Literature have completed the campus visit and are awaiting a final report from the external reviewers.

The remaining six programs are scheduled for upcoming visits, including Geospatial Science, Political Science, History, Psychology, and Intelligence Studies.

Lastly, Dr. Brown highlighted the continued growth in grants, awards, and contracts. Total funding for 2025–26 has reached \$46.4 million as of February 2026, reflecting significant year-over-year increases. A special recognition was given to Dr. Han (Haan) for securing a \$345,631 federal award to support research on detecting forever chemicals and pesticides in the Cape Fear River Basin.

ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT SUCCESS UPDATES

Vice Chancellor for Strategic Enrollment and Student Success Dr. Pamela Baldwin shared the enrollment and student success updates. Total enrollment has surpassed 7,000 students for the first time in over two decades.

Spring 2026 census data indicates continued improvement in retention and persistence trends. Dr. Baldwin noted that enhancements to advising, student engagement efforts, and early interventions continue to strengthen student outcomes.

Dr. Baldwin also introduced Ms. Felicia Crittenden, the new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Career Development & Employer Engagement. Career Services reported several new initiatives—including a professional headshot booth, an on-campus career closet, and the MyCareer Closet virtual styling resource—alongside continued delivery of core services such as resume review, career assessments, and internship support.

The admissions team visited 32 schools within the Baltimore area during the CIAA tournament last month. The recruiting efforts resulted in engaging over 100 prospective students and generated 366 applications spanning various states.

STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATES

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Juanette Council presented several major developments supporting student well-being and engagement.

The Spaulding Center renovation is complete, and the team will host its grand opening in April 2026. The project expands service capacity by 148% and will provide enhanced counseling, psychological, and accessibility Services, as well as the addition of three new staff positions.

Dr. Council also highlighted the forthcoming Health & Wellness Center, opening in Summer 2026. This comprehensive facility will include fitness and recreation spaces, clinical health services, a full-service pharmacy, and wellness programming designed to support student retention and overall well-being.

Lastly, Dr. Council discussed student affairs' commitment to providing students with enriching engagement opportunities. FSU's best and brightest students traveled to the CIAA tournament for a week of career readiness programming, networking, and community engagement events. Additionally, four students interned with the CIAA organization throughout the week.

The FSU Food Pantry, CIAA, and Food Lion Feeds partnership continued to make a meaningful impact, providing \$6,000 in Food Lion Gift Cards which support more than 2,000 meals for students.

This concluded the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs report.

Committee on Athletics: Committee Chair John McFadyen

Committee Chair John McFadyen provided the report for the committee on athletics, which met on March 25, 2026.

The Athletics Committee met yesterday, with a presentation from Todd Bennett, Director of Athletics. FSU's student-athletes continue to excel and post an average grade point of 3.33 for the Fall semester. Twelve athletic programs have a 3.0 or higher average GPA. Thirty-one student-athletes have a 4.0 GPA. Additionally, spring sports programs continued to dominate the CIAA. The Women's Indoor Track and Field, Men's Basketball, and Bowling programs brought home championship trophies. The committee heard from the coaches and student representatives from each program about their experience as Bronco athletes.

- Representing Track and field, Faith is the CIAA Track and Field Championship MVP, CIAA Female Track Athlete of the Year, and Atlantic Region Number One Rank in the 800 Meters and Mile. She is a 4.0 student.
- Representing Men's Basketball, Larry is the CIAA player of the year with numerous accolades within his student-athlete career, including 1,749 total career points.
- Representing Women's Basketball, Talia is a two-time All-CIAA recipient, three-time CIAA player of the week, and #4 in NCAA triple-doubles.
- Representing Bowling, Nicole and her teammates were recognized for their outstanding performance this season. Nicole recently scored a perfect 300 game.

This concluded the Committee on Athletics report.

Community on University Advancement: Committee Chair Warren McDonald

Committee Chair Warren McDonald provided the report for the committee on university advancement, which met on March 25, 2026.

Vice Chancellor Omar Bell presented to the Committee on University Advancement with a progress review on fundraising and engagement initiatives for the current fiscal year.

Year-to-date giving has more than doubled compared to this time last year, with total contributions reaching more than \$5.5 million, up from about \$2.3 million in FY25 and about \$1.4 million in FY24. This strong performance reflects continued momentum in advancing the university's philanthropic goals.

Alumni participation has also improved significantly. Thus far, 2,004 alumni donors have contributed, representing a 7.3% participation rate, compared to 3.7% in FY24 and 5.4% in FY25 this time last year.

FSU also achieved outstanding results during Giving Tuesday, raising \$89,517 from 204 donors. The campaign exceeded its goal by nearly 80%, contributing meaningful momentum to the university's annual fundraising plan.

This concluded the report from the Committee on University Advancement.

Committee on Legal, Audit, Risk and Compliance: Trustee Brian Pearce

Trustee Brian Pearce provided the report for the committee on legal, audit, risk, and compliance, which met on March 25, 2026.

ACTION ITEM:

This year's top 5 risks were recommended by the Committee to the Full Board for approval.

Action Item LARC-1: Top 5 Risks – Assistant Vice Chancellor Beth Hunt presented this year's top five risks to the committee. The UNC System policy requires all UNC institutions to identify and present their top five risks each year. This year's major risks include regulatory compliance, mental health and campus safety, talent management, deferred maintenance, and cybersecurity and data security. Each risk was assessed for impact, probability, and urgency, with several rated as immediate institutional priorities.

Motion: Trustee Brian Pearce moved to approve the top 5 risks. The motion did not need a second since coming out of committee. The motion carried.

Following, AVC Hunt presented data on discrimination, harassment, and retaliation allegations, prohibited sexual conduct reports, and related investigation outcomes across 2024–2026. Accessible reporting mechanisms continue to be important in supporting accountability across the institution, including the ethics helpline, compliance intake forms, HR processes, and student conduct reporting.

The presentation further outlined the University's preventive and educational measures. These include mandatory nondiscrimination and equality training, Title IX programming, safety training, policy revisions, and updated institutional processes.

Lastly, Vice Chancellor Wanda Jenkins introduced the new Director of Internal Audit, Mr. Robert Davis.

This concluded the report from the Committee on Legal, Audit, Risk, and Compliance.

Committee on Budget and Finance: Committee Member Al Ragland

Committee member Al Ragland provided the report for the committee on budget and finance, which met on March 25, 2026.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Chief Operating Officer Hector Molina provided an update on ongoing capital projects.

- The Health & Wellness Center is progressing but delayed, with the completion timeline revised from March 2026 to late June 2026 due to HVAC redesign requirements, unforeseen underground site conditions, and equipment procurement needs.
- The College of Education project remains on schedule with a July 2026 target completion.
- The Parking Deck project is delayed, with the completion timeline revised from August 2026 to November 2026 due to utility and underground work needing to be completed.
- Additional project updates included the Campus Gateway improvements, development of “The Shoe” food truck park, and the Military Academic Center.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

CFO Kenny Spayd next presented the financial update. State-funded operations continue to track toward an operating surplus, consistent with earlier projections. Revenues and expenses remain aligned with budget expectations, and unallocated funding will be directed toward non-recurring institutional needs should the current surplus remain. Auxiliary operations remain strong, driven by higher student fee revenue from enrollment growth, increased gifts, and strong sales and services performance. Management expects a healthy surplus of at least \$2 million in auxiliary funds for the current fiscal year.

ACTION ITEM

The 2027 All-Funds Budget was recommended by the Committee to the Full Board for approval.

Action Item BF-1: All Funds Budget – Per UNC Policy, institutions must annually develop a comprehensive “all-funds” budget for the upcoming fiscal year that is approved by the institutions Board of Trustees. This budget provides the necessary structural foundation for the execution of the University’s strategic plan and to ensure delivery of the University’s teaching, research, and service mission in a financially sustainable manner. Highlighted considerations in the 2027 budget include enrollment-driven increases in general fund resources—such as NC Promise allocations and tuition growth—and planned investments in key areas such as, academic affairs and student success.

Motion: Trustee Al Ragland moved to approve the 2027 All-Funds Budget. The motion did not need a second since coming out of committee. The motion carried.

This concludes the report from the Committee on Budget and Finance.

Subcommittee on Equality Policy: Committee Chair Jerry Gregory

Committee Chair Jerry Gregory provided the report for the subcommittee on equality policy, which met on March 25, 2026.

The Subcommittee on Equality Policy Certification heard updates on progress made toward ongoing implementation of the UNC System Policy, Equality Within the University of North Carolina.

Assistant Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Hunt shared that several action steps have been completed since the August certification report submission, including the rollout of department-specific policy training, incorporation of the Equality Policy into annual compliance notifications, and integration of the policy into both new employee orientation and mandatory annual training.

Dr. Juanette Council further emphasized policy alignment measures undertaken within the Matriculation Institute to align the program, staff roles, and Title III grant proposal revision.

These efforts ensure full alignment with the UNC Equality Policy.

This concludes the report from the Subcommittee on Equality Policy.

Committee on Governance and Personnel: Committee Vice Chair Kimberly Jeffries Leonard

Committee Vice Chair Kimberly Jeffries Leonard provided the report for the committee on governance and personnel, which met on March 25, 2026.

The Committee on Governance and Personnel heard an external relations and military affairs update from Vice Chancellor Wesley Fountain. His office is leading FSU's economic impact study to quantify the university's fiscal footprint across several measures, such as operations, research, construction, student outcomes, and alumni impact.

VC Fountain shared a federal update on the power of partnerships. Recently, his office worked with faculty to secure funding for both research infrastructure upgrades to strengthen environmental and public health research, as well as a multi-year collaboration with the Laboratory for Analytic Sciences on defense research.

Additionally, the Committee heard a comprehensive overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 UNC System Budget priorities and direct impacts to the university across enrollment growth, building reserves, and capital project funding.

Lastly, VC Fountain shared the outcomes of the Board of Visitors' recent meeting. During the meeting, the board secured \$17,000 to support the Broncos Helping Broncos Student Emergency Fund. Recommendations are open to nominate individuals to serve on the Board of Visitors.

The Committee discussed the remaining action items in closed session.

STUDENT UPDATE

Trustee Latoya Harper provided the Student Update. She began by sharing her personal academic and leadership updates including her national feature by Watch the Yard as an HBCU student leader, acceptance into American University's master's program, and preparation for post-graduation teaching placement. Following, she shared the 2025-26 Student Government Association (SGA) administration's vision and goals including the pillars to advocate, create, and trust. The students have been able to complete three goals including collaborating with other organizations and hosting a virtual and in-person student concern forum. Lastly, the SGA has several ongoing initiatives to end the year.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Glenn Adams provided remarks to the Board. He recognized Trustee Latoya Harper for her recent leadership spotlight on the Watch the Yard webpage and extend appreciation for her outstanding service to this Board and as the SGA President. The Board is excited to celebrate commencement with her while this marks her final official Board meeting.

Chair Adams congratulated Chancellor Allison on his 5th work Anniversary. Over the past five years, he has led FSU through a period of historic growth and transformation, advancing student success, supporting faculty and staff, and strengthening community partnerships. Chancellor Allison, and his dynamic team's leadership will benefit Broncos for generations to come. The Board looks forward to continuing our strong partnership with him as we build on this momentum and move FSU boldly into the future.

Chair Adams also recognized the alum joining virtually and encouraged each trustee to help us achieve 100% Board giving this year.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Chancellor Darrell T. Allison provided his quarterly report to the Board. Chief of Police Damon Williams provided a presentation on swatting. Swatting is the criminal act of making a false emergency report to law enforcement, typically claiming an active shooter, hostage situation, or bomb threat, with the intent to provoke an aggressive armed response to a specific location. Swatting is a malicious false report of an emergency designed to provoke a large, armed law enforcement response to a specific location. Chief Williams also shared perspective on why universities are targeted, how to recognize swatting calls, and how to respond to swatting. The Board heard information on how to prevent future incidents.

Following, Vice Chancellor Wesley Fountain updated the Board on Catalyst Site 1 located on Murchison Road and Rowan Street. The site is approximately 10-acres in a high-visibility corridor near campus which has been identified as a priority site for catalytic development and community impact. The University is currently undergoing key due diligence measures:

- Environmental study
- Property appraisal
- Title searches across all parcels

Ongoing discussions are happening with the City of Fayetteville to align future use and redevelopment opportunities.

Lastly, Chancellor Allison updated the Board on key academic leadership searches, including the Provost, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Associate Dean of the School of Nursing, and Associate Dean of the School of Social Work.

CLOSED SESSION*

It was moved by Trustee Will Warner and seconded by Trustee Jerry Gregory to move into closed session pursuant to: North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (6). The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Glenn Adams shared the following announcements:

- Our next quarterly meeting will be on June 10-11, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

The Full Board meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Glenn B. Adams, Chair
Karen Bussey, Secretary to the University