



# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**JANUARY 27, 2026**

# Academic Program Review (APR) Report

**Dr. Sonja M. Brown**

Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

January 27, 2025

# THE UNC- BOG POLICY

## Background



[400.1 - Policy on Academic Program Planning](#)

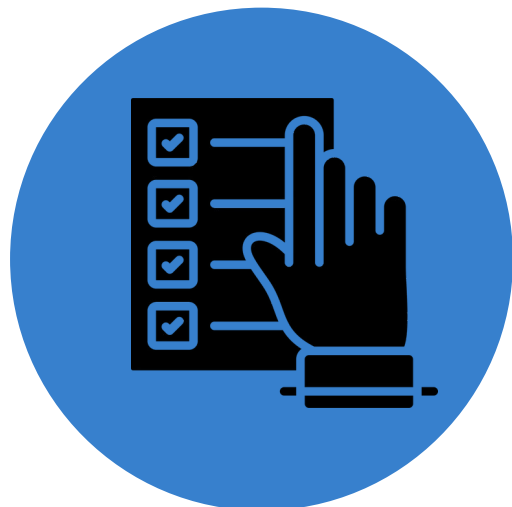


[400.1.1\[R\] - Regulation for Academic Program Planning and Evaluation](#)

iv. Summary reports of all Academic Program Reviews shall be reviewed by Board of Trustees and then submitted annually to the President. The **first summary report**, focused on the initial subset of programs reviewed by each campus, shall be due to the President by **January 31, 2026**.



# REPORT REQUIREMENTS



Provide a list of  
programs currently  
under review



Describe FSU's  
approved APR  
process



Share current status  
of program review  
activity



Upload material  
evidence of BOT  
review

# AY 25-26 PROGRAMS UNDER REVIEW



Communication and Media Studies (BA)



English and Literature (BA)



Geospatial Science (BA)



History (BA)



Intelligence Studies (BA)



Political Science (BA)



Spanish (BA)



Psychology (BA)



Psychology (MA)

# APR PROCESS



## Self Study

Each academic unit completes a self-study that assess mission alignment, curriculum quality, faculty credentials and productivity, student outcomes, resource adequacy and plans for continuous improvement. -The self-study is reviewed by internal and external stakeholders through the Academic Program Review (APR) platform.



## Campus Visit

A review team, typically including two external subject matter experts, conducts interviews with faculty, students, and administrators. The team assesses the self-study and provides formative recommendations.

## Team Report

Within one month of the visit, the review team submits a written report to the Provost's Office, evaluating program quality and effectiveness.



## Program Response and Closure

The department responds to the review team's report within six months, outlining strategies for improvement. A closure meeting between the department, dean and Provost's Office finalizes the process, and outcomes are documented for institutional planning and assessment purposes.



# CURRENT STATUS



All nine programs are in “mid-cycle review

Self-studies have been completed, preparations for campus visits by external reviewers are underway.

Post Campus visit deliverable: External review team reports for each program (due within one-month of campus visit).

# QUESTIONS



# A-2: BUILDING AUTOMATION SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT

## **Background:**

The project replaces the outdated building automation systems (BAS) in four campus buildings—Barber, Collins, Cook, and Lyons Science Annex. These systems control heating, cooling, and other building functions. The old Siemens system will be replaced with one of the newer, campus-approved systems from either Trane or Schneider.

In October 2025, the Board approved the Barber and Collins upgrade to be funded through FY 2024-25 management flex carry-forward funds at an estimated cost of \$600,000.

Now, with OSBM approval, the source of funds for the Barber and Collins upgrade will be changed to surplus funds from the previously completed Bryant/Vance Demolition project.

## **Action:**

This item is for information only.

# A-3: NATURAL GAS METER RELOCATION

## **Background:**

The large natural gas meter that is located at the intersection of MLK Dr. and Stadium Dr was originally scheduled to be relocated as part of the Parking Deck project. This scope was removed during the Advance Planning phase of the project due to budget constraints. The new location of the meter will be near the Langdon Street campus entrance near Capel Arena.

Separate project authority of \$200,000 is now being requested to relocate the natural gas meter using Overhead Receipts as the funding source. This project will be coordinated in parallel with the underground utilities portion of the Parking Deck that is in progress now.

## **Action:**

This item requires a vote by the Board of Trustees.

## **Motion:**

The Board approves using \$200,000 in Overhead Receipts to relocate the natural gas meter to the Langdon Street entrance near Capel Arena.

# A-4: PARKING DECK – REQUEST TO INCREASE AUTHORITY

## **Background:**

Board of Trustees approval is required for new capital projects or additions in construction project budget authority for previously approved projects.

This request for increased authority of \$1M is to address unforeseen site conditions (underground utility connections) and other general conditions identified by the general contractor due to a delay with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) permit and the cost to demobilize and remobilize the site/utility subcontractor. This increase will be funded from two sources:

1. Parking Receipts - \$500,000
2. Auxiliary Administration Funds - \$500,000

## **Action:**

This item requires a vote by the Board of Trustees.

## **Motion:**

The Board approves the authority increase of \$1,000,000 for the Parking Deck project.

## Agenda Item A-1

### Executive Summary

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	January 27, 2026
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Annual Academic Program Review Summary Report
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	<p>The Fayetteville State University Review and Evaluation of Existing Academic Programs policy (100.113) provides an overview of the timeline, responsibilities, evaluation criteria, process and outcomes for Academic program reviews (APRs) in a manner set forth by the University of North Carolina System policy. APRs offer a means by which the university can evaluate the quality, progress, effectiveness and relevance of its academic programs.</p> <p>Summary reports of all APRs shall be reviewed by the University's Board of Trustees annually. Following the reviews by the BoT, the summary reports shall be submitted to the UNC System President.</p>
<b>ACTION:</b>	This item is for information only.

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Supporting Document: FSU Academic Program Review Annual Report

Reviewed by: Dr. Sonja M. Brown  
Interim Provost & Senior VC for Academic Affairs

Date: January 21, 2026

January 27, 2026

President Peter Hans  
UNC Systems Office  
223 S. West Street, Suite 1800  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

Dear President Hans,

Fayetteville State University (FSU) conducts the Academic Program Review (APR) process as a systematic, comprehensive evaluation of all academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The process is overseen by the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs through the Office of Assessment and Academic Programs, in accordance with UNC System Policy 400.1.1, “Policy on Academic Program Planning,” and FSU’s internal policy, “Review and Evaluation of Existing Academic Programs.”

The APR process at FSU is designed to ensure educational quality, mission alignment, and continuous improvement in teaching, research, and service. The process includes four major elements:

1. **Self-Study:** Each academic unit completes a self-study that assesses mission alignment, curriculum quality, faculty credentials and productivity, student outcomes, resource adequacy, and plans for continuous improvement. The self-study is reviewed by internal and external stakeholders through the APR platform.
2. **Campus Visit:** A review team, typically including two external subject matter experts, conducts interviews with faculty, students, and administrators. The team assesses the self-study and provides formative recommendations.
3. **Team Report:** Within one month of the visit, the review team submits a written report to the Provost’s Office, evaluating program quality and effectiveness.
4. **Program Response and Closure:** The department responds to the review team’s report within six months, outlining strategies for improvement. A closure meeting between the departments, the chairs, the deans, and the Provost’s Office finalizes the process, and outcomes are documented for institutional planning and assessment purposes.

Each program is reviewed on a seven-year cycle, aligning with the institution’s SACSCOC reaffirmation timelines and the UNC System’s requirement for regular, systematic evaluation of academic programs.

For the 2024–2025 reporting year, FSU is mid-cycle in its first complete rotation of program

reviews under the revised 2024 procedures.

In accordance with UNC Policy 400.1.1(V)(A), FSU evaluates each academic program across five standardized categories to ensure quality, relevance, and alignment with state and institutional priorities.

1. Student demand is measured by enrollment trends, student credit hour production, and degrees conferred over a rolling seven-year period.
2. Workforce demand is assessed through analysis of North Carolina Department of Commerce employment projections, regional labor market data, and alignment with high-demand occupational fields.
3. Student outcomes are evaluated using key performance indicators such as first-year retention, persistence, time to degree, graduation rates, and post-graduation success data obtained from the UNC System, the National Student Clearinghouse, and a labor market research analysis firm to track alumni achievements.
4. Program costs and productivity are determined by comparing total instructional and administrative costs, student credit hours produced per faculty full-time equivalent (FTE), external research and grant activity, and the ratio of graduates to faculty resources.
5. Program contributions to critical workforce, educational attainment, and quality of life in North Carolina are assessed through measures of civic engagement, teacher preparation, health and human services impact, innovation capacity, and the program's demonstrated role in advancing the state's economic and social priorities.

Alongside the APR process, FSU initiated an internal review of program efficacy for all academic degree programs. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Planning developed a dashboard to display program metrics for deans, department chairs, and faculty. The metrics include seven years of data for enrollment, completion, graduation, persistence, and employment outcomes. This promotes transparency and data-driven decision-making to improve academic programs. Together, these metrics provide a balanced, evidence-based framework for evaluating academic effectiveness and informing institutional decision-making for continuous improvement.

For academic year 2025-26, nine programs are in the initial subset for APR:

1. Communication and Media Studies (BA)
2. English and Literature (BA)
3. Geospatial Science (BA)
4. History (BA)
5. Intelligence Studies (BA)
6. Political Science (BA)
7. Spanish (BA)
8. Psychology (BA)
9. Psychology (MA)

The nine programs are currently in mid-review cycles, having completed the self-study and

internal review steps of the process. The program faculty and staff are preparing for campus visits by external reviewers, which will be followed by the reviewers' report and recommendations for improvement. Within six months of receiving the report, the programs will submit a response and participate in a closure meeting with the college dean and university provost.

The APR process reinforces FSU's commitment to continuous quality improvement, evidence-based decision-making, and accountability to its mission as a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System. When the participating programs have completed the review, the Chancellor will evaluate their performance across the five standardized categories set forth in UNC Policy 400.1.1 and make recommendations.

Sincerely,

Darrell T. Allison, JD  
Chancellor

## Agenda Item A-2

### Executive Summary

**MEETING DATE:**

January 27, 2026

**SUBJECT**

Building Automation System Upgrade Project

**BACKGROUND:**

In November 2023, the Board approved a project to replace the outdated building automation systems (BAS) in four campus buildings—Barber, Collins, Cook, and Lyons Science Annex. These systems control heating, cooling, and other building functions. The old Siemens system will be replaced with one of the newer, campus-approved systems from either Trane or Schneider.

The project was estimated to cost \$700,000 and was planned to be funded through Title III - FY 2023–24 FUTURE Act funds, which are federal grant dollars provided under the FUTURE Act and designated for the university's FY 2023-2024.

In April 2025, the Board also approved hiring the engineering firm McKim & Creed to design and oversee the technical work for the BAS upgrades.

In October 2025, due to State Construction Office requirements, funding source limitations and significant cost escalation, the Board approved the recommendation to separate into two separate new projects:

- Lyons Science Annex – Estimated project cost: \$700,000, funded through the original FUTURE Act allocation.
- Barber and Collins Halls – estimated project cost: \$600,000, funded through FY 2024-25 management flex carry-forward funds, with the design team to be selected through a future solicitation process.

All other previous BAS project approvals were cancelled.





## Board of Trustees

With OSBM approval, the source of funds for the Barber/Collins project will be changed to surplus funds from the previously completed Bryant/Vance Demolition project.

### **ACTION:**

This item is for information only.

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Supporting Document: none

Reviewed by: Hector Molina  
Chief Operating Officer

Date: 1/21/2026

Prepared by: Gene Cottrell  
Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management

Date: 1/21/2026

## Agenda Item A-3

### Executive Summary

**MEETING DATE:** January 27, 2026

**SUBJECT** Natural Gas Meter Relocation

**BACKGROUND:** The large natural gas meter that is located at the intersection of MLK Dr. and Stadium Dr was originally scheduled to be relocated as part of the Parking Deck project. This scope was removed during the Advance Planning phase of the project due to budget constraints. The new location of the meter will be near the Langdon Street campus entrance near Capel Arena. This will allow for more favorable site conditions for the Parking Deck and a more favorable pedestrian path to and from the Parking Deck.

Separate project authority of \$200,000 is now being requested to relocate the natural gas meter using Overhead Receipts as the funding source. This project will be coordinated in parallel with the underground utilities portion of the Parking Deck that is in progress now.

**ACTION:** This item requires a vote by the Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** The Board approves using \$200,000 in Overhead Receipts to relocate the natural gas meter to the Langdon Street entrance near Capel Arena.

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Supporting Document: none

Reviewed by: Hector Molina  
Chief Operating Officer

Date: 1/21/2026

Prepared by: Gene Cottrell  
Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management

Date: 1/21/2026

## Agenda Item A-4

### Executive Summary

**MEETING DATE:** January 27, 2026

**SUBJECT** Parking Deck – Request to Increase Authority

**BACKGROUND:** Board of Trustees approval is required for new capital projects or additions in construction project budget authority for previously approved projects.

The original parking deck project envisioned building a 3-4 level parking deck with at least 400 spaces with an authorized budget of \$10M (approximately \$20K - \$25K/space derived from total project cost of similar parking decks being built in NC prior to 2020). Additionally, the project description included a realignment of MLK and Stadium Drives to facilitate traffic and pedestrian traffic flow to and from the deck. The realignment would require relocating a large natural gas meter that currently sits near that intersection.

Early budget estimates during advanced planning indicated a need for a reduction of the project scope to stay within the authorized budget (\$10M), including elimination of the road realignment and natural gas meter relocation. The number of parking spaces was reduced to 275 and later to 233 to keep up with inflationary increases. However, an additional \$1M in flex funds were later added to bring the number of spaces back to 288.

This request for increased authority of \$1M is to address unforeseen site conditions (underground utility connections) and other general conditions identified by the general contractor due to a delay with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) permit and the cost to demobilize and remobilize the site/utility subcontractor. This increase will be funded from two sources:

- 1) Parking Receipts - \$500,000
- 2) Auxiliary Administration Funds - \$500,000

**ACTION:** This item requires a vote by the Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:**

The Board approves the authority increase of \$1,000,000 for the Parking Deck project.

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Supporting Document: none

Reviewed by: Hector Molina  
Chief Operating Officer

Date: 1/21/2026

Prepared by: Gene Cottrell  
Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management

Date: 1/21/2026