



## **President Position Profile**

Florida State University's Board of Trustees invites nominations and applications for the position of President. The University's next President must be a visionary leader and passionate advocate for Florida State that will build upon the success of President John Thrasher who announced his retirement after serving in the role since 2014 and led the University to becoming a "Top 20" ranked public university (*U.S. News & World Report*, 2021). The Board of Trustees seeks an individual who will capitalize on Florida State's current momentum and achieve new and exciting heights of distinction.

### **The University**

As one of the nation's most elite research universities, and one of the largest and oldest of the 12 institutions of higher learning in the State University System of Florida, Florida State offers a distinctive academic environment built on its cherished values and unique heritage. With more than 44,000 students, approximately 6,600 employees and an operating budget of \$1.62 billion, Florida State provides a welcoming campus environment on the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida and capitalizes on its prime location in the heart of the state capital. Underlying the educational experience at Florida State is the development of new generations of citizen leaders, based on the concepts inscribed in the University's seal: *Vires, Artes, Mores* — Strength, Skill and Character.

Combining traditional strengths in the arts and humanities with internationally recognized leadership in the sciences, Florida State provides unmatched opportunities for students and faculty through challenging academics, cultural discovery, and community interaction. Florida State's 18 colleges and its Graduate School offer more than 276 undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, professional, and specialist degree programs, including medicine and law. The University awards over 3,000 graduate and professional degrees each year. With an impressive breadth of leading graduate, professional and undergraduate programs, Florida State is a demanding, intellectually stimulating, yet warm and caring environment for students and faculty. Florida State is a demanding, intellectually stimulating, yet warm and caring environment for students and faculty. Recognized nationally for commitment to diversity, Florida State is a national leader in the number of doctorates awarded to African American students and in the graduation rate of African American undergraduates. The College of Medicine and College of Law are ranked in the nation's Top 10 for Hispanic students. The University also has over 60 years of experience in international education and is a leader in the field of study-abroad programs, ranking 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation in providing students with extraordinary study abroad experiences through its permanent study centers in London, Florence, Valencia, Panama City, Panama, and summer-specific programs in various locations around the world.

Florida State's arts programs — dance, film, music, and theatre — rank among the finest in the world, offering an arts education comparable to leading conservatories. The creative writing program is home to the most consistently honored and published student body in the country. Florida State also operates the Ringling Center for the Cultural Arts in Sarasota, which includes the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the largest museum/university complex in the

nation, and home to the FSU University Center for the Performing Arts, which houses the Asolo Repertory Theatre.

Other programs consistently included in the top public university rankings include physics, chemistry, political science, psychology, criminology, public administration, library science, human sciences, business, and law. At the Ph.D. level, interdisciplinary programs draw on notable research faculty strengths that transcend the traditional disciplines, including neuroscience, molecular biophysics, computational science, materials science, and research at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory — home to the world’s most powerful magnets. More than 800 teams of scientists from around the globe visit the magnet lab each year to conduct their research.

Throughout its history, Florida State has grown its academic organization and expanded from the original few acres and buildings to 384 buildings on 1,632 acres, including the downtown Tallahassee main campus of 485 acres, a farm which for many decades supplied the Florida State College for Women with food, the Seminole Reservation—a recreational facility, the Coastal and Marine Laboratory on the Gulf Coast, the FAMU/FSU College of Engineering facility, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory and Division of Research at Innovation Park, and the branch campus in Panama City, Florida.

### **Research at Florida State**

Florida State has received the Carnegie Foundation’s highest designation (Doctoral Universities: Very High Research Activity) and consistently ranks in the top 10 universities nationally in physical sciences grants awarded by the National Science Foundation. In addition, many of the University’s research programs are among the best in their respective disciplines including programs in physics, chemistry, statistics, ecology, evolutionary biology, meteorology, political science, psychology, sociology, criminology, and information studies. Florida State also produces exceptional scholarship from highly ranked programs in the humanities and performing arts and each year attracts world-class exhibitions and performers to Tallahassee. Florida State faculty includes members of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences; Pulitzer Prize winners; a Nobel Laureate; Oscar winners; and Guggenheim, Fulbright, and National Endowment for the Humanities fellows.

### ***This text will need to be confirmed/updated.***

University researchers foster collaborative partnerships and pursue creative research endeavors at centers and institutes within and outside of the main campus. Examples of these partnerships include: “Innovation Park” located at the University’s southwest campus, which is home to the College of Engineering, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, High-Performance Materials Institute, Center for Advanced Power Systems, Aero-Propulsion, Mechatronics and Energy Center, Learning Systems Institute, Florida Center for Reading Research, and the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies.

In 2019-20, Florida State faculty and staff generated more than \$250 million dollars in Federal, State, and Private research awards. In addition, the University experienced a corresponding increase in commercialization of intellectual property to include a growth in invention disclosures, patent applications and awards, and licenses executed. In recent years, the Office of Research has placed increasing emphasis on partnering with the surrounding Tallahassee/Leon County community in the development of spin-off companies from the University's technology innovations.

**Athletics at Florida State – *This section will need to be updated.***

Although Florida State's intercollegiate history spans only half the time of most of its national competitors, the University has a rich history of success in athletics. It is the only athletics program in the nation that has had 94 out of 96 of its teams reach the post-season the past five years, a remarkable 97.9 percent success rate. The Seminoles have had two student-athletes who were named Rhodes Scholars, and since 2008 a total of eight Florida State student-athletes have been named national player of the year. The University has produced 510 All-Americans and 599 All-ACC selections and won 34 ACC team championships and 29 individual National Championships. In just the past seven years, 25 Seminoles have been named academic All-Americans, 474 have been named to an All-ACC Academic team and 25 have been named the ACC's student-athlete of the year in their sport.

**University Mission**

Florida State University preserves, expands, and disseminates knowledge in the sciences, technology, arts, humanities, and professions, while embracing a philosophy of learning strongly rooted in the traditions of the liberal arts. The university is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, creative endeavors, and service. The university strives to instill the strength, skill, and character essential for lifelong learning, personal responsibility, and sustained achievement within a community that fosters free inquiry and embraces diversity.

**University Vision**

Florida State University will be among the nation's most entrepreneurial and innovative universities, transforming the lives of our students and shaping the future of our state and society through exceptional teaching, research, creative activity, and service. We will amplify these efforts through our distinctive climate—one that places a premium on interdisciplinary inquiry and draws from the rich intellectual and personal diversity of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. These three forces—entrepreneurship, interdisciplinarity, and diversity—deepen FSU's impact and result in a powerful return to our students and the people of Florida for their continued support and trust.

Additional information about Florida State, its history and programs can be found at <http://www.fsu.edu>.

**Points of Pride – *This section will need to be updated.***

The Presidency of Florida State is one of the most compelling higher education leadership opportunities in the nation. Florida State is rich in tradition, nationally recognized for its academic, arts and athletic programs, and avidly supported by an ardent alumni base of approximately 390,000. Attractive features of the University and this Presidency include:

***Information needed.***

## **Recent Capital Campaign – “Raise the Torch”**

In July of 2010, Florida State launched the largest comprehensive fundraising campaign in university history with a goal of raising \$1 billion. Focused on priorities identified by deans, faculty and the larger university community, the campaign focused on the support of four key initiatives: improving upon an already outstanding student experience; increasing faculty support; encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship, creativity and discovery; and improving the public good by purposefully focusing the energy and talent of a Tier 1 research university on some of society’s most pressing problems. On its official closing date of June 30, 2018, Florida State reached and exceeded its goal with more than \$1.15 billion in gifts and pledges received from donors and supporters.

## **Opportunities for the Next President – *This section will need to be updated.***

The next President of Florida State will have the extraordinary opportunity to lead an ambitious and rapidly climbing institution that embraces intelligent risk taking, entrepreneurial thinking, and an openness to strategic change. Florida State seeks a leader with the ability to craft a bold vision for the University’s future while enhancing its commitment to advancing in the national rankings.

The President of Florida State will be expected to focus on the following priorities:

*This section will be developed following the completion of the listening sessions. Information gathered during the listening sessions will serve as the foundation for preparing this section.*

## **Position Summary**

Reporting to the Florida State Board of Trustees, the President serves as the University’s chief executive officer and provides senior administrative leadership for all campus programs, services, operations, and activities. The next President will be a strategic and visionary leader charged with setting the University’s academic vision, ensuring the effective leadership and management of the campus, and possessing a dedication to improving the lives of students and the educational, economic, and cultural welfare of the citizens of the State of Florida. The President will exercise overall leadership for the University’s resource development and fundraising initiatives and will be responsible for ensuring the fiscal well-being of the campus.

In serving as one of the leading spokespersons for higher education in the state, the next President will be an influential leader who must possess excellent interpersonal skills, judgment and diplomacy, personal and professional integrity, and a reputation for working collegially and collaboratively with internal and external constituencies. The President will act as a catalyst for creativity and innovation, and will work with Florida State’s Board of Trustees, the State of Florida Legislature, and the State University System of Florida Board of Governors to further enhance higher education in Florida.

## **Qualifications – *This section will be revised following the completion of the listening sessions.***

It is preferred that the successful candidate possess an earned doctorate or other terminal degree with a strong record of scholarship and teaching, and a proven history of executive level administrative experience in higher education that demonstrates the ability to lead a large, public research university. While academic experience (professional and administrative) is strongly desired, exceptional candidates with nontraditional backgrounds who have demonstrated a high degree of national or international success in business, industry, nonprofit or government will be considered.

In addition, the most qualified candidates will have a/an:

- Staunch commitment to academic excellence in undergraduate, graduate, international and professional education and scholarship, and the ability to inspire confidence and encourage achievement among students and faculty.
- Adherence to sound principles of faculty governance through open communication and consensus building, while ensuring a high quality of student life and actively engaging students, faculty, and staff in decision-making.
- Track record showing a high degree of personal and professional integrity, ethics, and honesty; and the intellectual, analytical and interpersonal qualities that will foster respect among the University's myriad constituencies.
- Mastery of the successful balance among academics, athletics, and the arts.
- Mastery of the intricacies of higher education governance, including accreditation practices, and ability to enhance productive and collegial relationships among all parts of the University.
- Talent and vision to enhance the quality of graduate programs, stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration, and build added research capacity to secure Florida State's position among global peers.
- Proven record of supporting a culturally rich environment of inclusion where faculty, students, administrators, and staff actively contribute to the vibrant life of the University, and a stated commitment to recruiting women and minorities to the student body and for faculty, staff, and administrative positions.
- Appreciation for the currently recognized jewels in Florida State's academic crown, a commitment to lead successful efforts to further strengthen peaks of excellence, and support for building new areas of nationally recognized strength as appropriate to advance the University's scholarly and research competitiveness.
- Dedication to academic freedom and an inclusive campus culture where both intellectual curiosity and healthy internal communication flourish in an environment that supports and rewards academic achievement of faculty while working individually or collaboratively within and among disciplines.
- Ability to establish and project a sense of energy, enthusiasm and optimism for Florida State's future while vigorously championing its storied traditions, unique heritage, mission, and vision among wide audiences, both internal and external.
- Persuasive and enthusiastic fundraising skills with the ability to successfully connect with public and private donor sources (e.g., friends, boosters, alumni, corporations, and foundations), and leverage dollars to support high-caliber scholarly, research and service programs and grow faculty/staff resources, and ability to successfully acquire public and governmental resources and funding.

- Experience in achieving measurable outcomes with business, education, and political communities, and in growing innovative public-private partnerships with industry, government and other entities.
- Appreciation for and ability to leverage the University's Division I athletics program to strengthen Florida State's identity as a national competitor and community partner.

**Application and Nomination Process**

The deadline for all applications is **XXXXXXXXXX**, and the screening of applications will begin **XXXXXXXXXX**. Applications should include a current curriculum vitae and a letter of interest describing relevant experience and interest in the position. Submission of materials via email is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include the name and contact information of the nominee.

In accordance with the State of Florida's open records laws, all nominations, applications, and letters of interest will be made public. Application materials should be submitted to:



**Storbeck  
Pimentel**  
& ASSOCIATES

**Alberto Pimentel**, Managing Partner  
**Will Gates**, Partner  
**Sal Venegas Jr.**, Principal

Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates  
6512 Painter Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90601

Email: [apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com](mailto:apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com)  
Refer to code "**FSU-President**" in subject line

*FSU is an Equal Opportunity/Access/Affirmative Action/Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer.*

*FSU's Equal Opportunity Statement can be viewed at:*

[http://www.hr.fsu.edu/PDF/Publications/diversity/EEO\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.hr.fsu.edu/PDF/Publications/diversity/EEO_Statement.pdf)