



**USF Board of Trustees  
Governance Committee**

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Microsoft Teams Meeting

*Trustees:* Will Weatherford, Chair; Sandra Callahan, Michael Carrere, Mike Griffin, Melissa Seixas

**A G E N D A**

- |      |   |                        |
|------|---|------------------------|
| I.   | Call to Order and Welcome                                 | Chair Will Weatherford |
| II.  | Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure                  |                        |
| III. | New Business – Action Items                               |                        |
|      | a. <a href="#">Approval of February 24, 2025, Minutes</a> | Chair Weatherford      |
|      | b. Direct-Support Organizations - Board of Directors      | Chair Weatherford      |
|      | i. <a href="#">USF Alumni Association, Inc.</a>           |                        |
|      | ii. <a href="#">USF Research Foundation, Inc.</a>         |                        |
| IV.  | Adjournment   | Chair Weatherford      |



**USF Board of Trustees  
Governance Committee  
Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, February 24, 2025

*Trustees:* Will Weatherford, Chair; Sandra Callahan, Michael Carrere, Mike Griffin, Melissa Seixas

**Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair Will Weatherford welcomed everyone and convened the BOT Governance Committee meeting. He asked Kiara Gayle to call the roll.

**Kiara Gayle called the roll.**

Trustee Sandy Callahan  
Trustee Mike Carrere  
Trustee Mike Griffin  
Trustee Malissa Seixas (not in attendance)  
Trustee Will Weatherford

**Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure**

Having no public comments Chair Weatherford proceeded with the meeting.

**New Business – Action Items**

**a. Approval of November 19, 2024, Minutes**

Having no questions or revisions to the minutes, Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Callahan, seconded by Trustee Griffin, and unanimously approved.

**b. USF Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors**

Chair Weatherford presented Item b. to approve an appointment of Brett Kemker, PhD, as an ex-officio member of USF Foundation Board of Directors to commence upon approval by the Board of Trustees. He has been selected in accordance with the Foundation's Bylaws. Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Callahan, seconded by Trustee Carrere, and unanimously approved.

**c. USF Management Corporation Board of Directors**

Chair Weatherford presented Item c requesting approval to appoint Jay Stroman, Senior VP for Advancement and Alumni Affairs and the CEO of the USF Foundation, as a new Director to serve on the USF Management Corporation Board of Directors. He was nominated in accordance with the bylaws of USF Management Corporation. Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Griffin, seconded by Trustee Callahan, and unanimously approved.

**d. Acceptance of Performance-Based Funding (PBF) and Preeminence Data Integrity Audits & Approval of Data Integrity Certification**

Chair Weatherford introduced the Chief Internal Auditor, Virginia Kalil.

This is to consider the acceptance of the Performance-Based Funding (PBF) and Preeminence Data Integrity Audits & Approval of Data Integrity Certification. Chief Internal Auditor, Virginia Kalil provided a summary of what was discussed at the previous Audit & Compliance Committee meeting. The Governance Committee is acting on behalf of the full board to approve and submit the certification to the Board of Governors by the due date of March 1, 2025.

Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Callahan, seconded by Trustee Griffin, and unanimously approved.

Chair Weatherford welcomed and introduced the new Trustee, Charbel Barakat. Trustee Barakat thanked Chair Weatherford for the introduction, and he is looking forward to meeting everyone at the next Board meeting.

Having no further business Chair Weatherford adjourned the meeting.

**Agenda Item: III.b.i.**

**USF Board of Trustees**

**Issue: Direct Support Organization (DSO) submission of new or renewed USF Alumni Association Board of Directors for terms starting on July 1, 2025.**

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**Proposed action: Review and approval of the new or renewed USF Alumni Association Board of Directors for terms starting on July 1, 2025.**

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**Executive Summary:**

**The following new and renewed USF Alumni Association Board of Directors have been selected in accordance with the Association's bylaws and now are being presented for consideration and approval of the USF Board of Trustees' Governance Committee.**

**New Board of Directors for Fiscal Year 2026:**

- 1. Silvia Soto Avella – Director**
  - a. BA 2012, Management Info Systems
  - b. Senior Change Manager, Microsoft
  - c. Master of Science in Information Systems from Florida International University
- 2. Caio Esmeraldi – Director**
  - a. Student - expected graduation in May 2026
  - b. USF Student Body Vice President
  - c. Psychology major
- 3. Aaron Jimison – Director**
  - a. BS 2007, Finance
  - b. Business Banking Sales Manager/First Vice President for Valley National Bank
  - c. Board Chair – AMIkids Tampa
- 4. Marcel Maslowski – Director**
  - a. MA 2012, Architecture
  - b. President and Director and Design, Fleischman Garcia Maslowski Architecture
  - c. Member of the Board of Directors at St. Petersburg College Foundation

**5. Katelynn Paciorek**

- a. Student - expected graduation in May 2026
- b. President of USF Student Philanthropy Council
- c. President of USF Order of the Golden Brahman
- d. Environmental science and policy and professional and technical communication major

**6. Susie Perez Quinn – Director**

- a. BA 2001, Criminology, Political Science
- b. Senior Advisor, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- c. Former chief of staff at NASA

**7. Mike Sutton – Director**

- a. BA 2003, Criminology
- b. President and Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity Tampa Bay Gulfside
- c. Amplify Clearwater Board of Directors

Renewed Board of Directors for Fiscal Year 2026:

**8. Diana Michel – Director**

- a. BS 1988, Business Administration
- b. President, Michel Sports Marketing
- c. Member, USF Sarasota Manatee campus board

**9. Ram Kancharla – Director**

- a. BA 1985, Business Administration, MBA International Business and Finance 1987
- b. Vice President, Planning and Development, Port Tampa Bay
- c. Certified as a Professional Port Manager by the American Association of Port Authorities

Renewed Board of Directors' Officers for Fiscal Year 2026:

**10. Sally Dee - Chair**

- a. BS 1994, Special Education, MBA 2011
- b. President, Playbook Public Relations
- c. Former USF Golf student athlete and coach
- d. Current USFAA Board chair

**11. Mark Giddarie – Treasurer**

- a. MS 2017, Entrepreneurship and Applied Technologies, Ph.D. Business Administration 2020
- b. President and CEO, AQUIPMED Global Procurement Solutions
- c. President and Owner, Alpha Eagle Aviation
- d. Adjunct Instructor, USF Muma College of Business

- e. Current USFAA Board treasurer

**12. Balaji Ramadoss – Secretary**

- a. MSEE 2003, Electrical Engineering, Ph.D. Electrical Engineering 2014
- b. Founder & CEO, Edgility – Cognitive Healthcare
- c. Former Associate Professor for the College of Pharmacy at USF
- d. Current USFAA Board secretary

**13. Juan Soltero – Vice-Chair**

- a. BA 2010, Political Science & Government
- b. Senior Vice President, Strategy, Transformation, and Change Leader for Specialized Services & Fulfillment Operations, Bank of America Corporation
- c. First Hispanic to be elected USF student body president (2009)
- d. Current USFAA Board vice-chair

**14. Christine Turner – Past Chair**

- a. BA 1997, Public Relations
- b. President and CEO, ChappellRoberts
- c. Current USFAA Board past chair

**Ex-Officio Positions for Fiscal Year 2026:**

**1. Jay Stroman – Director**

- a. Senior Vice President, University Advancement and Alumni Affairs, and CEO of USF Foundation
- b. Current USFAA Board member

**2. Bill McCausland – Director (non-voting)**

- a. Vice President and Executive Director, USF Alumni Association
- b. Current USFAA Board member (non-voting)

**Financial Impact: None.**

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**BOT Committee Review Date:**

**Supporting Documentation Online (*please circle*): Yes    No**

**Prepared by:** Bill McCausland, vice president and executive director of the USF Alumni Association.

**Agenda Item: iii.b.ii**

**USF Board of Trustees**  
May 20, 2025

**Issue:** Direct Support Organization Board Membership

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**Proposed action:** Approve Appointment and Reappointment of Direct Support Organization Board Members for the USF Research Foundation, Inc.

Appointment:  
Tim R. Holcomb Ph.D.  
Steven Murawski, Ph.D.

Reappointment:  
Alison Barlow  
Jeffrey Hackman

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**Executive Summary:**

Per Florida Statute Section 1004.28 and USF System Regulation 13.002, the USF Board of Trustees must approve members of Direct Support Organizations' Boards of Directors.

In addition to appointed and ex officio members, the Research Foundation Bylaws provide for two members of the University's faculty who are nominated to the Board by the University's President as well as a maximum of ten additional persons, to include non-USF employees, who are each nominated to the Board by the USF Research Vice President.

This is a request to approve the appointment of Tim R. Holcomb Ph.D as a non-USF member and Steven Murawski, Ph.D. as a faculty member, and the reappointment of Alison Barlow and Jeffrey Hackman as non-USF members of the USF Research Foundation Board of Directors.

- Tim R. Holcomb, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, Embarc Collective  
Dr. Holcomb is a four time founder with two exits and 35+ years of strategy, international business, and startup experience including work in 25+ countries. Thirteen years at Accenture. Founder and CEO of Telcom Global Solutions, a \$30M services firm with 250 employees, and two operating companies. Telcom was named to the "50 US High Tech Ventures to Watch" in 2000. Acquired by Flextronics in 2001. Led Flextronics' Network Services Division with \$800M in revenues and 6,500 employees.

Co-Founder and advisor at 1809 Capital. Investor with Queen City Angels. Advised 100s of startups and high growth companies that have raised \$700+M in venture, growth equity, and PE funding, including ReliaQuest (Tampa), Gravity Diagnostics (Covington), Solarcore® (Portland), CERKL (Cincinnati), Gotcha (Charleston), and Homeshake (Cincinnati). Holcomb also has higher education experience as past Chair of Department of Entrepreneurship and Executive Director of the John W. Altman Institute for Entrepreneurship at Miami University and past Jim Moran Professor of Entrepreneurship and Executive Director of the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship at Florida State University.

- Steven Murawski, Research Professor and St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership Peter R. Betzer Endowed Chair, USF College of Marine Science  
Dr. Murawski is a fisheries biologist and marine ecologist involved in understanding the impacts of human activities on the sustainability of ocean ecosystems. He has developed approaches for understanding the impacts of fishing on marine fish complexes exploited in mixed-species aggregations. Additionally, his work on the impacts of marine protected areas and other management options has formed the scientific basis for resource management regulation both nationally and globally. Such assessments can help inform management regulations to rebuild animal populations from the effects of overexploitation, oil spills and other chemical contaminants, loss of juvenile nursery areas, nutrient enrichment, climate change and other stressors.

Dr. Murawski currently serves as Director and Principal Investigator for the Center for Ocean Mapping and Innovative Technologies (COMIT), a cooperative agreement between the NOAA Office of Coast Survey and USF to develop technologies to map undersea ocean and coastal regions. He was also Director of the Center for Integrated Analysis and Modeling of Gulf Ecosystems (C-IMAGE), which was funded by grants from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative to study effects of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. His research interests are varied and center around the theme of acquiring actionable science that can influence public policy and help achieve sustainable marine ecosystems.

- Alison Barlow, Executive Director, St. Pete Innovation District  
Ms. Barlow is responsible for guiding the strategic direction of the Innovation District and its portfolio of research, technology, and workforce development initiatives. She leads economic development activities including entrepreneurial incubation and business recruitment that benefit the Innovation District, its members and the St. Petersburg community. Building the physical infrastructure of the Innovation District that cultivates cross-sector relationships and facilitates formal and informal networking, including events and work groups to encourage collaboration and the creation of new capabilities and economic opportunities.

Ms. Barlow received her Bachelor of Science from Florida State University, College of Business and her Master of Business Administration from American University – Kogod School of Business.

Ms. Barlow is actively engaged in the regional entrepreneurial community, serving on boards of directors and mentoring leadership teams.



- Jeffrey Hackman, Chief Financial Officer, Kforce, Inc.  
Jeff Hackman is responsible for overseeing, among others, Kforce's investor relations, legal, internal audit, FP&A, accounting and SEC reporting, tax and treasury, procurement and real estate functions. Hackman previously served as Kforce's SVP of Finance and Accounting since rejoining Kforce in 2015. Prior to that, he was the Global Chief Accounting Officer of Cunningham Lindsey, which he joined in 2013 after six years with Kforce serving in various leadership capacities including Chief Accounting Officer. He was also an Audit Senior Manager with Grant Thornton LLP and began his professional career with Arthur Andersen. He is a member of Kforce's Executive Leadership Team.

Mr. Hackman received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Masters of Accountancy from the University of South Florida and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the State of Florida. He also serves on the USF School of Accountancy Advisory Council

**Financial Impact:** No financial impact

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**BOT Committee Review Date:** Governance Committee, May 20, 2025

**Supporting Documentation Online (*please circle*):** No

**Prepared by:** Allison Madden, Corporate Secretary, USF Research Foundation