



**USF Board of Trustees  
Governance Committee**  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Minutes

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

Chair Will Weatherford welcomed everyone to the Governance Committee Meeting. He introduced the new incoming Student Body President and Trustee Sumit Jadhav. Trustee Jadhav is very honored to be among the group and is ready to put in the work this year.

Chair Weatherford asked Kiara Gayle to call the Roll.

**Kiara Gayle Called the Roll**

Trustee Sandra Callahan  
Trustee Michael Carrere  
Trustee Mike Griffin  
Trustee Melissa Seixas - Did not participate  
Trustee Will Weatherford

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**New Business – Action Items**

**a. Approval of February 24, 2025, Minutes.**

Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was given by Trustee Carrere, seconded by Trustee Griffin, and approved unanimously by the committee.

**b. Direct Support Organizations – Board of Directors**

Chair Weatherford thanked those who are sacrificing their time to serve on the University's Direct-Support Organizations' Boards. The Chair presented Items b. i. USF Alumni Association, Inc. Board of Directors and b. ii. - USF Research Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors.

**i. USF Alumni Association, Inc. Board of Directors.**

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)

## **ii. USF Research Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors**

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

Chair Weatherford requested a motion to approve Items b. i. USF Alumni Association, Inc. Board of Directors and b. ii. - USF Research Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. A motion was made by Trustee Griffin, seconded by Trustee Carrere and approved unanimously by the committee.

Having no further business Chair Weatherford adjourned the Governance Committee meeting.