

Governing Boards - Florida State University's Board of Trustees

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Edward Burr (Chair), of Jacksonville, is president and chief executive officer of GreenPointe Holdings, LLC, a diversified holding company he founded in 2008. After graduating from FSU College of Business with a B. S. in Accounting in 1979, he began his career with Coopers & Lybrand LLP. He founded the LandMar Group LLC in 1987 and led the company's creation of master-planned, award-winning communities in Florida and coastal Georgia. Mr. Burr also co-founded Hampton Golf & Lifestyles Management. He has served on Board of Trustees of the FSU Foundation, the board of the Seminole Boosters and the Executive Board of the FSU Center for Real Estate Education and Research in the College of Business.

Leslie Pantin (Vice Chair), of Miami, is serving his second term on the FSU Board of Trustees. He is the president of Pantin/Beber Silverstein Public Relations. In 2006, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush appointed Pantin to a five-year term on the FSU Board of Trustees, where he served as chair of the Student Affairs Committee. In addition, Pantin has served on the FSU Alumni Association Board of Directors, the FSU Foundation Board of Directors and the Seminole Boosters Board of Directors. Pantin, who earned a bachelor's degree from Florida State in 1970, is the father of two FSU graduates. He is the recipient of several FSU Alumni Association awards, including the Bernard F. Sliger Award and the "Circle of Gold" award.

Maximo Alvarez, born in Havana, Cuba, received his bachelor's degree from Florida State University in 1969 and his Master's degree in 1970. Maximo founded Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc, and grew the company from four gas stations to over 300 locations and supplier to another 250 branded retail facilities. Because of his humble beginnings, Maximo has always believed in helping the community as well as the industry in which he has spent most of his career. Maximo has been involved in the Florida Petroleum Marketers Association and was elected Chairman of the Board in 2000 and inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2005. Maximo has been married to his wife, Esther, for over forty years, and they have three children.

Kathryn Ballard, of Tallahassee, has a long history of charitable and community work, including service on the Board of Directors of the Florida Special Olympics, the Florida State University College of Human Sciences Board and the Board of Trustees of the Maclay School of Tallahassee. She also served as Chairman of Maclay School Capital Campaign. Mrs. Ballard has been honored for Outstanding Achievement by the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation and the Tallahassee/Leon County Historic Preservation Commission for her efforts to restore Tallahassee's historic Lively House. Mrs. Ballard graduated from Florida State University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Human Sciences.

William Buzzett, of Grayton Beach, has almost 30 years of experience in engineering, law, and development. After graduating from law school from Florida State University, Buzzett worked in private practice, for the Florida Legislature, as an Assistant General Counsel to Governor Bob Martinez, and as the Executive Director to the 1997-1998 Constitution Revision Commission. From 2001-2009, he worked for The St. Joe Company, and in 2011, Buzzett served as the Secretary of Florida's Department of Community Affairs. He is currently a partner with the law firm of Harrison, Rivard, Duncan & Buzzett, located in Panama City.

Emily Fleming Duda, of Oviedo, is an active member of the FSU Booster Club board, serving five years on the board's executive committee. She was awarded the Godfrey Smith Award for Outstanding Service to the board in 2000. Ms. Duda also served on the board of directors of the Florida Leadership Program for Agriculture and Natural Resources, which is administered through the University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Joseph Gruters, of Bradenton, is an accountant with Shinn and Company LLC in Bradenton and the chairman of the Republican Party of Sarasota. In addition, he is the immediate past chairman of the Sarasota County Planning Commission. He serves as a member of the board of the Humane Society of Sarasota County and the Florida Sports Foundation. Gruters holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State and an M.B.A. from the University of South Florida.

Mark Hillis, of Winter Park, earned a bachelor's degree from the FSU College of Business in 1964 and a J.D. from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law. He served for 33 years as first vice president for SunTrust Bank in Atlanta. He is a retired major from the U.S. Marine Corps. Mr. Hillis has served on the FSU College of Business Board of Governors since 1989. Since 2003, he has served on the College of Business Real Estate Executive Advisory Board. A lifetime member, he served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1993 to 2002. From 1995 to 2008 he was a member of the FSU Foundation Board of Trustees.

Craig Mateer, of Orlando, is the CEO and Founder of Orlando based Bags Inc. Mateer graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in 1988 after attending the university on a basketball scholarship. Shortly after graduation, Mateer founded his first valet parking company which he has transformed into Bags Inc., a company that operates in more than 250 cities worldwide. Mateer is an active philanthropic supporter of the disadvantaged, multiple health initiatives, and has served on numerous community boards. Craig's supports FSU as a member of the prestigious Micco Club, the FSU Varsity Club, and a Seminole Boosters Platinum Chief. Mr. Mateer resides in Orlando, Florida, and has 4 children.

Bob Sasser, of Norfolk, Virginia, is the Chief Executive Officer of Dollar Tree Stores, the nation's largest discount variety store. Bob is a graduate of Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing. He was inducted into the College of Business Hall of Fame in 2009 and returns to FSU when possible to share his experience and ideas with students and faculty. Bob serves on the FSU Board of Trustees and the Foundation Board of Trustees. He is a lifetime member of the FSU Alumni association, a member of Seminole Boosters, a Double Golden Chief and a member of the FSU Presidents Club.

Brent W. Sembler, of St. Petersburg, is vice chairman of The Sembler Company. Mr. Sembler serves on the boards of the Republican Jewish Coalition, Gulf Coast Community Care and All Children's Hospital. He is a past member of Shorecrest Preparatory School's Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Debbie, established a philanthropic fund that benefits numerous Bay Area charities. Mr. Sembler earned a B.S. degree from Florida State University in 1980. He and his wife have a daughter and two sons, one of whom currently attends Florida State University.

Susan Fiorito, is currently the Chair and Jim Moran Professor of Entrepreneurship, Strategy & Information Systems. She has taught at the University level since the early 1980s. In addition to teaching nearly 25 years at FSU, she has also taught and conducted research at the University of Iowa, Florida International University, and the University of Stirling in Scotland.

Nathan Molina, of Miami, Florida State University's student body president, is the 13th member of the Board of Trustees.

Online Resource: The Florida State University Board of Trustee's website can be accessed online at <http://trustees.fsu.edu/>
