

Governing Boards - Florida State University's Board of Trustees

Florida State University's Board of Trustees

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.

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.

Jorge Gonzalez, of Walton County, is the president and chief executive of The St. Joe Company, a Florida-based real estate development and operating company with additional interests in resorts, leisure and forestry. Jorge holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Florida State University. He serves or has served on various community, civic, and business related organizations including the Florida Chamber Board of Directors, Enterprise Florida Board of Directors, Bay Economic Development Alliance (current Chairman), Northwest Florida Manufacturer's Council, Gulf Coast Regional Medical Center, FSU Panama City Development Board (former President), The St. Joe Community Foundation Board of Trustees, and Panama City Beach Chamber Board of Directors. Jorge is married to Pamela, who is also a proud FSU graduate, and they have one son, Jake.

Kristine Harper, of Tallahassee, joined the Florida State University faculty in 2008 and is a professor of history. She conducts historical research at the nexus of the history of science, history of technology, and environmental history from the late nineteenth through the twentieth century, with special emphasis on the Cold War. A meteorologist and oceanographer before turning to the history of science, Dr. Harper has focused primarily on the history of atmospheric science in the United States. Her latest monograph, *Make it Rain: State Control of the Atmosphere in Twentieth Century America* (Chicago, 2017) addresses the influence of the American state on efforts to deliberately control atmospheric processes for military and diplomatic purposes abroad, and for domestic purposes, primarily hydropower and agriculture, at home. *Make it Rain* was awarded the Louis Battan Author's Prize by the American Meteorological Association and the Florida Book Awards Bronze Medal for the General Nonfiction in 2018.

Jim Henderson, of Longwood, is Chairman, CEO, and Founder of AssuredPartners, a national insurance brokerage firm. Prior to establishing AssuredPartners in March of 2011, Jim Henderson brought his insurance expertise to Brown & Brown when he joined the company as its CFO in 1985. Jim served in a variety of roles including President and Chief Operating Officer as well as Vice Chairman. Jim is a graduate of Florida State University with a BSBA in Accounting and Economics. Jim and his wife, Carole, have three children and eight grandchildren that all reside in 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 four 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, one of the country's most recognized shopping center development and management companies responsible for over 130 major shopping center projects and over 165 freestanding retail stores since its inception. 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.

Evan Steinberg, of Parkland, FL, 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/>