

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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# Trustee Directory

*As of September 13, 2022*



**Donna Abood**

*Development  
Donor Stewardship*

*Coral Gables, Fla.*

Donna Abood is one of the most trusted and highly recognized names in South Florida real estate. She serves as the principal and managing director of the Miami office of Avison Young, a global commercial real estate firm. She is responsible for the client servicing and revenue of the leasing division. Abood oversees the leasing division's business development of institutional and local investor clients and tenant representation services, including retail, industrial and office.

During her 34-year career, Abood has represented well over 50 million square feet of office buildings on behalf of local and institutional ownerships. Additionally, she has completed hundreds of transactions on behalf of the tenants she has represented.

Previously, Abood served as chairman and founding partner of Colliers International South Florida, formed in 2002. Before that, she was the principal owner of Abood & Associates, Inc. Created in 1989, the company grew to be the largest privately-held, locally-based commercial real estate firm in Miami-Dade County.

Abood was born and raised in St. Petersburg and graduated from Florida State University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts in marketing and management. She was inducted into the Florida State University College of Business Hall of Fame in 2013.

Abood served as the past chairman of the 2014-2015 board of The Beacon Council, and she currently serves on the board of directors of The Beacon Council, Miracle Theatre, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Real Estate Institute and College of Business at Florida State University. Abood is also a foundation member of Baptist Health.

She is the extremely proud mother of her daughter Kristyn.



**Dr. Ruth Ruggles Akers**

*Donor Stewardship  
Executive  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Dr. Ruth Ruggles Akers taught at Florida State University, Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach Community College. She served as an artist-in-residence at the Palm Beach County School of the Arts (now the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts). Dr. Akers received a Ph.D. in historical musicology from FSU, where she was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi. She received her Master of Music degree in piano performance from Indiana University, where she was an associate instructor and inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda, a national music honor society.

Dr. Akers has performed as a pianist, both as a soloist and as an accompanist, has presented lecture recitals, and has adjudicated at numerous state conventions. She served seven years on the FSU Alumni Association National Board of Directors and ten years on the boards of Opening Nights at FSU and the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra. She has also been on the Community Foundation of North Florida, Live the Life and The Artist Series boards, and is a Women for FSU member and FSU University Musical Associates lifetime member.

Married for forty-seven years, Ruth and her husband, Les, both served on the *Raise the Torch: The Campaign for Florida State* National Campaign Committee, established a fund for entrepreneurial activity in music, an Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship, endowed scholarships in both soccer and football and are members of the Seminole Boosters Micco Society. The Akers have three children, five grandchildren and one crazy beagle. They enjoy Wildwood Church, Seminole sports and the abundance of FSU's artistic offerings.



**Thomas Bartelmo**

*Audit  
Finance*

*Miami Lakes, Fla.*

Thomas “Tom” Bartelmo is president and chief executive officer of the Kislak Organization headquartered in Miami, Florida. Established in 1906, Kislak’s primary business lines are multi-family and commercial real estate ownership, asset management and brokerage and tax lien certificate investment funds. Bartelmo joined Kislak in 1995 and has completed more than \$2 billion of investments, transactions and financings.

He is also CEO of the Kislak Family Foundation and serves on the Smithsonian Institute’s National Air and Space Museum Board. Bartelmo is a member of the James Madison Council, a private-sector advisory group whose mission is to support and promote the Library of Congress.

Bartelmo earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in accounting from Florida State University and is on the FSU Foundation and the FSU Real Estate Foundation boards. He also serves on the University of Miami Herbert Business School Real Estate Advisory Board, is on the board of the South Florida Wildlife Center and is a member of the Chief Executives Organization and the Young Presidents' Organization.



**Lance Barton**

*Development  
Finance*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Lance Barton currently serves as president of National Risk Brokerage, managing director with Highland Capital and principal with Mythic Consulting. In addition, he serves on the boards of current investment interests. Barton has been in the insurance and financial services industry for the last 28 years. During this time, he acquired unique expertise in building national wholesale distribution models and regional retail sales organizations. His experience in serving distribution partners ranging from the top 10 consumer banks to investment firms, trust companies, general insurance agencies and insurance professionals puts him in a position to bring scalable and unique value to many insurance industry sectors. Barton has served—or currently serves—on numerous field advisory boards for the largest insurance providers in the domestic marketplace, including Prudential, Transamerica, AIG and New York Life.

He is a graduate of Florida State University and previously sat on the College of Business Board of Governors and the Seminole Boosters Board of Directors. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha during his time in Tallahassee (1988-92).

Barton is a dedicated husband and father, coaching and mentoring not only his children (Barron 11 and Harper 8) but many young men in the Tampa area.



**Yvonne T. Brown**

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Yvonne T. Brown began her professional career with the Internal Revenue Service, where she became its first female tax collector and retired as a group manager. Shortly after, Brown started her private tax consulting firm, representing individuals and corporations that owed the IRS money. After selling her tax practice, she became CFO for a commercial real estate firm in South Florida and retired in 2011.

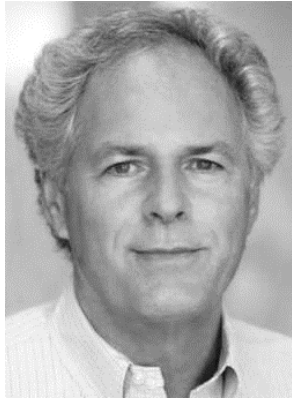
While living in South Florida, Brown served two terms on the Seminole Boosters Board of Directors and began her first 10-year term on the FSU Foundation Board of Trustees.

Although Brown attended the University of Florida, she quickly became an ardent FSU supporter when she married a Seminole in 1968. Together, they started as members of the then newly-created Presidents Club and are now part of the James D. Westcott Legacy Society, Vires, Artes, Mores society and have maintained Seminole Boosters Golden Chief status since 1977.

When Brown's husband retired in 2012, they moved to Tallahassee. Since that time, Brown has become a member of FSU's National Campaign Committee, Planned Giving Council, Undergraduate Studies Development Council, Seminole Boosters Board of Directors and the Libraries Advancement Board. In the Tallahassee community, she has served on the TMH Foundation Board of Trustees, CHOOSE Tallahassee Board of Directors and the Capital Medical Society Foundation Board of Directors. She is a volunteer at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare and a graduate of Tallahassee Lifelong Learning Leaders Class 8.

Brown is a lifetime member of the FSU Alumni Association, was inducted into the FSU Circle of Gold in 2016 and was awarded the first FSU Honorary Alumni Award by President Thrasher in 2017.

She is married to Judge Stephen Brown, an adjunct professor in the FSU College of Law.



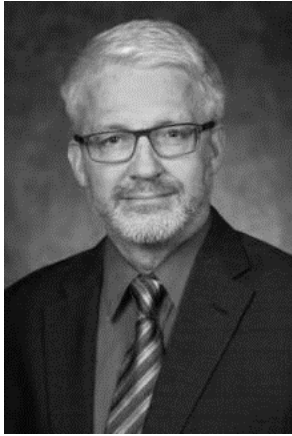
**H. Michael Bush**

*Ex Officio  
Designee  
The John and Mable Ringling  
Museum of Art Board of Directors*

*Investment  
Sarasota, Fla.*

H. Michael Bush is the president/owner of Home Resource, Inc., located in Sarasota, Florida. He and his wife, Kathy, are design and home furnishings industry professionals headquartered on Central Avenue. Situated within the boundaries of the city's historic Rosemary District, the area represents Sarasota's Design District with its collection of architects, interior designers, home builders, cabinet makers and showrooms devoted to flooring, home entertainment, furniture and decorative accessories. Since 1995, Home Resource has been the place in southwest Florida to shop for contemporary and licensed modern furniture. Over the last several years, the Home Resource showroom has also been converted into a fringe theatre where live performances have been conducted. Home Resource has been Bush's most recent business turnaround, where he has taken an essentially bankrupt company and successfully led it back to profitability and success.

Bush has held senior executive positions in Europe and the United States for Exxon Mobil, Domino's Pizza, Red Hot Concepts (Chili's) and other smaller publicly traded companies. His specialty is startup and turnaround environments. In addition, he was a key executive in the creation of Mobil Chemical's Global Petrochemical Operations. Bush is a licensed CPA. He has served on the boards of the Sarasota Ballet, Sarasota Contemporary Dance, West Coast Black Theatre Troupe, Theatre Odyssey, SaraSolo, Sarasota Season of Sculpture and the Sarasota Architectural Foundation, in addition to serving a 14-year term as the president of the Rosemary District.



**Eric Chicken**

*Ex Officio  
President  
Faculty Senate*

*Executive*

*Crawfordville, Fla.*

Dr. Eric Chicken joined the faculty of Florida State University in 2002 as a professor of statistics. Primarily in function estimation and statistical process control, his research is broadly interdisciplinary, with applications and collaborations in engineering, medicine, hydrology, education and operations research. Chicken's research has been funded by the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Florida Geological Survey. He is a fellow of the Institute for Defense Analyses and an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, the primary professional association for statisticians. Chicken has been awarded two Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Fellowships.

Chicken served as the advisor for 11 doctoral students in statistics between 2009 and 2018 and is currently supervising five doctoral candidates. He has also guided two undergraduate honors theses in statistics and been a part of numerous graduate student committees across campus. In 2016, he received the Outstanding Graduate Mentor award.

Chicken is active in faculty governance, leadership and service at FSU and elsewhere. He has been a faculty senator since 2007, served on the university's Graduate Policy Committee for three years, the Undergraduate Policy Committee since 2012 (the last five years as its chair), the Senate Steering Committee since 2016 and performs regular and ongoing service for his department. Beyond FSU, he has served as the Florida chapter of the American Statistical Association president, organized conferences related to his research and remains active in editorial and review duties with journals and grant organizations in his research area.

Chicken earned his Bachelor of Science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, his master's in applied mathematics from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs and his doctorate in statistics from Purdue University. Before his academic career, he was a commissioned officer in the United States Air Force. His principal assignment was in Space Command with satellite engineer as his primary duty. He left the service in 1996 at the rank of captain.





**William E. Coen**

*Finance  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Naples, Fla.*

William E. Coen was a financial advisor and senior vice president working on Marco Island and in Collier County. He worked for AG Edwards (1983-2007) until Wachovia Securities purchased it in 2007. Coen then worked for Morgan Stanley (2007-2014), also on Marco Island. In 1988, he earned his Certified Financial Planner license, which he still holds as he does pro bono work. Coen's clientele was an assortment of people from the southwest Florida area dominated by wealthy retirees from northern states.

Coen has been involved with the Southwest Florida Council of the Boy Scouts of America. From 2006–2007, Coen served as council president. The Southwest Florida Council, headquartered in Ft. Myers, has an endowment of \$7 million and a budget of \$1.5 million. Coen has been a council executive board member for 20 years. He has also been a member of the Marco Island Sunrise Rotary Club since 1983 and was president of the club in 1987.

Coen graduated from Naples High School in 1970 and enrolled in the FSU College of Music, intending to become a school band director. He graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education in 1974 after spending five years in the Marching Chiefs. Coen met his wife in 1971 when they were both sophomores in the Marching Chiefs. In 1977, he entered the College of Business and graduated with a Master of Business Administration in 1979. He then returned home to Collier County to find employment.



**Liz Cohen**

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Apollo Beach, Fla.*

Liz Cohen received her B.S. in education from Florida State University. Cohen is the recipient of two prestigious awards from the university—the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Education and the 2021 Grads Made Good Award from the Alumni Association—for her large footprints in education and as a philanthropist. Additionally, she received her M.S. from Chapman University and studied school ethics and leadership at Oxford University in Oxford, England. As a retired educator, she has left a legacy of leadership and learning in school districts throughout the country as a school principal and a national educational consultant specializing in turning around failing schools. Her clients have included the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and school districts in California, Texas, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Additionally, she has maintained strong ties with her alma mater as an FSU College of Education Development Council member, FSU Foundation James D. Westcott Legacy Society member, FSU Foundation President’s Club honoree, FSU Alumni Association life member and former regional director for the FSU National Black Alumni Association. She is determined to help as many students as possible to cross the finish line of college completion. As a result, along with her husband, she has established and fully endowed four scholarships, two at FSU and two at Howard University. The FSU scholarship dearest to her, the Ellis and Dorothy York Endowed Scholarship, is a tribute to her parents, who were first-generation college graduates. In addition to her philanthropy, she has participated in medical missions worldwide, including in Brazil, Guyana, South Africa, West Africa, Haiti and Cuba. After decades of witnessing women of color with persistent health disparities, she founded OG RUN. This virtual running/walking group provides daily fitness activities, support and encouragement for 300+ women in the U.S., Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The Florida Commission on the Status of Women recognized her for her work, and she received their 2022 Community Spirit Award.

Cohen is actively engaged in her community and provides fundraising leadership to the local chapters of her organizations: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and The Links, Incorporated. She resides in Apollo Beach, Fla., with her husband, George Cohen, M.D. and is the proud mother of four children and five grandchildren.



**C. Raymond Cottrell**

*Audit  
Donor Stewardship*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Dr. C. Raymond Cottrell received his medical degree from the University of Texas-San Antonio. Cottrell completed his internship and residency in internal medicine and his fellowship in gastroenterology at Shands Teaching Hospital at the University of Florida. He served as chairman of the Division of Gastroenterology and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy at Shands for ten years.

Cottrell practiced in Orlando for 24 years before moving to Tallahassee in 2006. While in Orlando, he served as chairman of the Division of Gastroenterology and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy for 10 years at the main campus of Orlando Regional Medical Center. Cottrell enjoys practicing all aspects of gastroenterology and hepatology and has served on numerous boards and committees at his alma mater, Florida State University. He was the national chairman of both the FSU Alumni Association and Seminole Boosters boards of directors. He is an avid golfer.



**Kristian C. Denny**

*Donor Stewardship  
Development*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Kristian Denny has 30 years of experience in strategic and crisis communications, primarily in national politics and state and federal government. During her career, she has worked in 25 states and on the national level, providing communications support and strategy for candidates, organizations and corporations. Denny created Maverick Strategies in 2007 and is considered an expert regarding the Iowa Presidential Primary caucus structure. Denny is currently an adjunct professor at Columbia University in New York City, where she teaches organizational and strategic communications in the School of International and Public Affairs. Denny resides in Arlington, Va., with her husband, daughter and son.



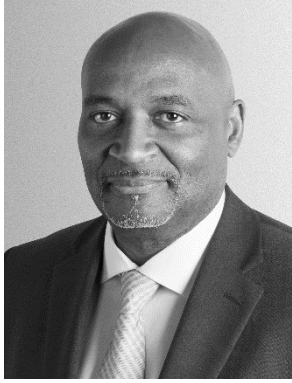
**Charles Dudley**

*Ex Officio  
Chair  
Seminole Boosters  
  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Charlie Dudley received his B.S. in political science with a minor in sports coaching and J.D. in law from Florida State University. He turned a college internship into a lobbying and legal career. Dudley has owned and operated his law firm since 1996 and began Floridian Partners lobbying and consulting firm with multiple Florida offices in 2000. Additionally, he owns and operates several other companies in law, consulting, marketing and real estate.

Charlie and his wife Alison split their time between Tallahassee and Jupiter, Fla. They have two children: Chas, an investment banking analyst at Dowling Hales, and Emily, a junior at Southern Methodist University.

Dudley took up tennis a few years ago and enjoys getting out a few days a week and hitting the yellow ball. He recently decided to spend more time on golf. He enjoys all FSU sports, especially men's basketball and tennis. He also enjoys consuming exceptional red wine. Charlie and Alison enjoy their time fishing, snorkeling and walking the beaches on Jupiter Island.



**Arthur L. Fleming**

*Finance  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Smyrna, Ga.*

Arthur L. Fleming is the senior vice president and director of community investment services for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta. He has over 35 years of results-driven experience in various leadership positions in financial services, housing finance, land use law and academia.

Prior to FHLBank Atlanta, Fleming was the chief lending and investment officer for the Opportunity Finance Network, Inc.; senior director for the southeast region and director of housing finance for the Fannie Mae Foundation; and SVP, managing director/housing initiatives at GMAC Residential. Before joining GMAC Residential, he was the founder and executive director of the Community Financing Consortium. Prior to the CFC, Fleming was the attorney/senior associate for the FAU/FIU Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems

Fleming received his undergraduate degree from Florida State University in 1981, a Master in Urban and Regional Planning in 1984 and a J.D. from the University of Florida. FSU recognized him in 2019 as one of their “Grads Made Good,” and he is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.



**Andrea K. Friall**

*Audit  
Donor Stewardship  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Andrea K. Friall, M.D., is an obstetrician and gynecologist, and she is the vice president at North Florida Women's Care in Tallahassee, Florida.

Friall is a native Floridian. She received her Bachelor of Science in biology from Florida State University and received her medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine. While at Howard, Friall was recognized for her community service and leadership. She completed her specialized training in obstetrics and gynecology at Tulane University, where she received many distinguished awards honoring her performance, service and teaching.

Friall is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology. She served as chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology for Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare from 2004-2006 and as chair for the Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare Medical Staff from 2015-2016. She is a member of the National Medical Association, William Gunn Society and Capital Medical Society, and she is a past board member of the Florida Obstetrics and Gynecologic Society and the American Red Cross. Friall is the current District 12, Section 1, chair of the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology and an associate clinical professor for the FSU College of Medicine.





**Nimna M. Gabadage**

*Ex Officio  
President  
Student Government Association  
Tampa, Fla.*

Nimna Gabadage was born in Kalamazoo, Mich. and raised in Tampa, Fla. He is the proud child of two Sri Lankan immigrants. Currently, in his third year at Florida State University in the Honors program, Gabadage is studying finance and political science.

Gabadage serves as the 77th FSU student body president and is the sole student member of the FSU Board of Trustees. Gabadage is a member of the Gamma Rho Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity. Before his term as student body president, Gabadage served in several roles within the university, including the Student Senate, IFC Judicial Board, Theta Chi Executive Board, deputy chief of staff of the Student Government Association and the vice president and treasurer of the prestigious Garnet and Gold Key Leadership Honorary. Most recently, he was named the first-ever Interfraternity Council Greek honorman for his contributions to the overall betterment of FSU's Greek community.

In his spare time, Gabadage enjoys playing piano, cheering on FSU athletics and promoting physical wellness through his work as an NSCA certified personal trainer for FSU Campus Recreation.

Following graduation, Gabadage aspires to obtain his J.D. and MBA in advance of a public policy and governmental affairs career.



**Ralph R. Gonzalez**

*Development  
Finance*

*Tequesta, Fla.*

Ralph Gonzalez is a retired attorney. He holds a B.A. from Florida State University, an MPA from Florida International University and a J.D., cum laude, from the University of Miami, where he was articles editor of the University of Miami Law Review. He specialized in international mergers and acquisitions and was division general counsel at G.E. and Citigroup. He was also general counsel of American Life Insurance Company and senior corporate counsel at Raytheon. Gonzalez is a previous three-term member of the FSU Foundation Board of Trustees, including serving as treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee.

He is married to Barrie Brett Gonzalez, whom he met at FSU in 1971. They have three sons and four grandsons. Ralph and Barrie reside in Tequesta, Fla., from October through May, and in New Canaan, Conn., for the remainder of the year.



**Tim Gunning**

*Audit  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Austin, Texas*

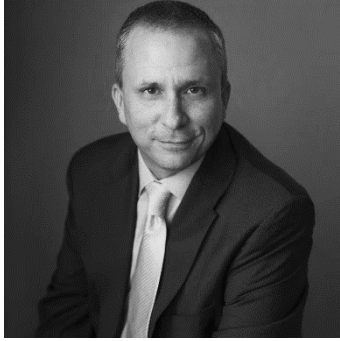
Tim Gunning is a principal and the east region transfer pricing leader in EY's International Tax and Transaction Services practice. He is based in New York City and represents clients across several industries, where he specializes in Life Sciences and Technology.

Gunning has spent most of his career working with EY's largest clients, where he provides transfer pricing planning, documentation and controversy services. His experience includes designing unspecified methods, valuation-based approaches for transfer pricing, post-acquisition transfer pricing integration, implementation of conversion strategies, transfer pricing design for partnerships and negotiating transfer pricing positions with government authorities.

Gunning has worked in the Houston, New York and London EY offices. He has a B.S. in Economics from Florida State University, an M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Rice University and an MBA from Yale University.

Prior to his time at EY, Gunning was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Tax and Expenditure Policy Program at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy in Houston, TX, and a statistical research fellow in Taxation at the Heritage Foundation think tank in Washington, D.C. Gunning has published articles in the *National Tax Journal*, *Empirical Economics* and the *Journal of Productivity Analysis*. He also contributes to the MIT Press volume: *Fundamental Tax Reform*.

Gunning most recently served as the former chair for the American Bar Association Tax Section, where he works to promote the development of thought leadership as it relates to new developments in transfer pricing.



**Frank A. Hall**

*Treasurer*

*Audit  
Executive  
Finance*

*Lynn Haven, Fla.*

Frank A. Hall was one of the four original executives instrumental in raising capital and obtaining charter approval for a de novo financial institution, Summit Bank, N.A., in 2008 during the financial crisis. Hall served as the bank's chief operating officer. Summit Bank was profitable within 18 months of opening its doors and received a 5-Star Bauer Financial rating every quarter until being sold to BancorpSouth in 2019. Hall currently serves as president of the Northwest Florida Division for Cadence Bank, formerly BancorpSouth in Panama City. He has previously worked at Vision Bank and Regions Bank in the roles of regional president and group president, respectively. His career consists of 36 years in the financial industry.

Hall was instrumental in endowing numerous scholarships at all three financial institutions and personally endowed two scholarships. Hall is an FSU Panama City's Dean's Council member and previously served as chair for three consecutive years. He served on the FSU Panama City Development Board from 2002–2014 and the FSU National Alumni Association Board of Directors from 2007–2009. He has held leadership positions with several civic, philanthropic and government entities in the Panama City area. Hall is a 1989 graduate of Florida State, with a B.S. in business management. He has lived in Panama City for 40 years with his wife, Chrisanthi Hall, his daughter Alex (B.S. '16, M.S. '18) and his dachshund, Kadie.



**Tom C. Haney, M.D.**

*Development  
Donor Stewardship*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

After graduating from FSU in 1964, Tom C. Haney, M.D., attended Emory Medical School, was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force and completed the Emory University Orthopedic Surgery Residency Program. He returned to Tallahassee in 1975 to co-found the Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic, which has grown from two physicians to 28 physicians with 325 employees, serving as a regional sports medicine center.

In addition to his clinical and surgical practice, Haney served as team physician for FSU athletes from 1975–2010, including all of Coach Bowden’s head-coaching years. He was chairman of the Alumni Association board in 2000–2001, was named to the FSU Alumni Association’s Circle of Gold and was a Moore-Stone recipient of the FSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

While at FSU, Haney was a member of the freshman football team that was the first FSU football team to beat a Gator team. He was president of his junior and senior classes and a member of ODK, Gold Key and the Senior Hall of Fame.



**Dean Michael D. Hartline**

*Ex Officio*

*Interim Vice President for  
University Advancement and  
Interim President,  
FSU Foundation*

*Development  
Donor Stewardship  
Executive  
Finance  
Investment  
Trusteeship*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Mike Hartline, dean of the Florida State University College of Business, is interim vice president for University Advancement and interim president of the FSU Foundation.

Before assuming his position as dean of the College of Business, he served as interim dean, associate dean for Strategic Initiatives, and chair of the college's Department of Marketing. Before coming to Florida State, Hartline was an associate professor of marketing at Samford University; assistant professor of marketing at Louisiana State University; and assistant professor of marketing and advertising at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He has authored or co-authored a number of books and articles, served on the editorial review boards of several academic journals, made numerous presentations to industry and academic audiences and co-chaired two international conferences. Hartline is the former vice president of development for the Academy of Marketing Science. He also has served as a consultant to several for-profit and non-profit organizations in the areas of marketing plan development, market feasibility analyses, customer satisfaction measurement, customer service training and pricing policy.

Hartline earned a Ph.D. in business administration from the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at the University of Memphis, and an M.B.A and bachelor's in marketing, both from Jacksonville State University in Alabama.



**Judith Hayden**

*Development  
Finance*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Judith Hayden is an environmental engineer specializing in infrastructure projects. She is president and founder of Environmental and Geotechnical Specialists, which provides environmental and geophysical engineering services for transportation-related projects throughout north Florida. The business has grown to five locations across the state.

Hayden received a Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Dayton and taught in a rural public school in Indiana following graduation. She returned to university life, receiving a Bachelor of Science from Oklahoma State University in civil engineering in 1977, where she was the only female civil engineering student in her class. She received a Master of Science in civil engineering in 1979 from Kansas State University. She was recognized throughout her engineering studies for her accomplishments, receiving both scholarships and research assistantships.

Hayden worked for private engineering firms and governmental agencies throughout her early career. In 1992, she opened EGS with her husband, Myron, in Tallahassee. Their two adult children, Tom and Audra, joined the business upon receipt of their civil engineering degrees.

Hayden is a board-certified professional engineer. She is an active member of the Florida Engineering Society, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Public Works Association and the American Society of Highway Engineers. Hayden has received the Engineer of the Year award from both the Florida Engineering Society Big Bend Chapter and the American Society of Civil Engineers, Big Bend Chapter. She serves on the board for the Florida Engineering Foundation.

Hayden has been very active in the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering over the past 25 years, serving on its advisory board.



**Mart P. Hill**

*Founding Trustee*

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Born in Greenwood, S.C., Mart Pierson Hill graduated from the Florida State College for Women with a bachelor's degree in English. She was president of the College Government Association and chair of the Student War Defense Committee. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Delta Pi, Esteren and Mortar Board. In addition, she was elected May Queen.

The Tallahassee resident's hobbies include reading, playing bridge, antiques, theater, music, family activities and all Florida State University activities. She has been awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters, Torch award, Circle of Gold award and Distinguished Emeritus award from Florida State.

She is the former president of the Tallahassee Junior League, former president of the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science and a member of the Florida Arts Council. She is a member of the Florida State University College of Arts & Sciences Leadership Council and the Florida State University Patrons Theater Board.

Hill has generously supported a vast array of areas at Florida State, including the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Music, the College of Medicine and the Theatre Patrons.





**Lee Hinkle**

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Lee Hinkle served as Florida State University's vice president for University Relations until her retirement in 2011. She was responsible for the university's communications, governmental relations, fundraising and alumni programs. Hinkle's career focused on advocacy for public policy issues affecting Florida's citizens, and her expertise included governmental affairs, political strategy, public policy development, public relations and marketing.

Her career included work for public, private and not-for-profit organizations. Before Florida State University, she served as president and CEO for Florida FREE, a political research organization, vice president of the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the director of Governmental Relations for HCA-Florida and senior cabinet aide in the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Her present and past affiliations include Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Board of Directors, FSU Board of Trustees vice chair (2001-03), FSU Alumni Association Life Member, Seminole Boosters, Women for FSU, Leadership Florida Class XVI, Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Capital Tiger Bay Club Board of Directors, Southern Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors, Economic Club of Florida and The Village Square Board of Directors.



**Jack Hitchcock**

*Ex Officio  
Chair  
FSU Student Foundation  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Jackson “Jack” Hitchcock is a sophomore studying international affairs with a concentration in public administration and a foreign language proficiency in Mandarin at Florida State University. He is also obtaining certificates in leadership, homeland security and national intelligence studies. After receiving his bachelor's degree, Hitchcock plans to attend law school, specializing in human rights. He has previously held internship positions with a Florida state representative and the City of Pensacola.

Through his work in philanthropy, Hitchcock led a team of two to raise \$90,000 for Take Stock in Children, a Florida program that provides full scholarships to underprivileged students. Starting in the ninth grade, Hitchcock also worked to raise \$40,000 for the Salvation Army of Northwest Florida. As student body president at his high school, his team raised \$30,000 for the Children’s Miracle Network and \$20,000 for various other causes in 2020.

Hitchcock has held several leadership positions and has been involved in many different organizations throughout his collegiate career, deepening his love for Florida State University. He served as the secretary of External Affairs for the Janvier, Thykadavil and Gray Administration. Before this role, Hitchcock served as a student senator in the 73rd Student Senate, where he sponsored and co-sponsored over a dozen bills. He now serves as the Student Foundation board chair—the youngest elected chair in the organization's history. Under his leadership, the Student Foundation has broken its record for the highest amount fundraised and the most student donors to FSU’s Great Give.



**Christopher Iansiti**

*Chair*

*Development  
Executive*

*Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Naples, Fla.*

Christopher E. Iansiti is the founder and president of IANSITI Performance Group, Inc., an organizational performance consulting firm. The firm serves national and global corporations, and its practice areas include leadership performance, employee onboarding, sales and customer experience effectiveness, and learning sustainment. Their expertise lies in the ability to guide organizations through change. Prior to the formation of IANSITI Performance Group, Iansiti worked as an officer with Delphi Performance Consulting, Inc., and as a consultant with Accenture and Arthur Andersen.

Iansiti received both his Bachelor of Science in finance and Master of Science in instructional systems from Florida State University. He was honored as Outstanding Alumnus of the Year in 2011 by the FSU College of Education and awarded the Gagne/Briggs Outstanding Alumnus for the Instructional Systems and Learning Technologies Department in 2013. Iansiti has his certificate in advanced coaching from the Center for Leadership Design and has been a guest contributor for CNN's "Jobless, Not Hopeless" segment. He is a member of the Instructional Systems Alumni Council and the immediate past chair of the FSU College of Business Board of Governors.



**Jay B. Johnson**

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*San Juan Capistrano, Calif.*

Jay Johnson is president of Republic National Distributing Company, West Division. With over 13,000 associates and a geographic footprint in 38 states, RNDC is the second largest distributor of beverage alcohol in the United States. Johnson has been associated with RNDC for over 30 years and led the integration of Youngs Market Company, a three-billion-dollar business that RNDC purchased in July 2019.

Johnson has been on the FSU Dedman College of Hospitality board for several years and led the effort to help fund the RNDC Beverage Certificate Program Endowment. He graduated from FSU in 1987 with a B.S. in marketing. Johnson received his MBA from the University of the Incarnate Word, where he served on the development board. He currently serves on the board of the Wine Business Institute at Sonoma State University and is active with his church as well as several other charities.

Jay has been married to his beautiful wife Dewi for 25 years, and they have two daughters, Nicole and Lauren, who reside in Dallas, Texas.



**Robert A. Johnson**

*Finance*

*Irving, Texas*

Robert “Bob” Johnson is a senior executive with Stifel Financial, a leading publicly traded financial services firm. Johnson is responsible for Stifel’s businesses in the southwestern United States, overseeing 250 professionals managing over \$30 billion.

From 1983 to 2018, Johnson worked at Merrill Lynch, where he ran various businesses, including wealth management offices, private banking regions, middle market including debt and equity and Latin American ultra high net worth businesses.

Johnson has spent five decades working on Wall Street, but his passion is starting new entrepreneurial ventures. In 1985, he was part of the initial capital that started Office Depot and, 12 years later, Texas Roadhouse. Since then, Johnson has provided capital and guidance to many startup organizations. Currently, he has been involved in funding companies such as Wefox, Sight Diagnostics, Ripple Foods, PandaDoc and Priority Power.

Johnson graduated with a degree in real estate from Florida State, where he met his wife. They currently reside in Dallas, Texas, but split their time between Vail, Colo. and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. They have two adult children, Bobby and Olivia. In addition to the family’s many philanthropic interests, their hobbies include skiing, physical fitness and all things Florida State.



**Russell Kohl**

*Development  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Atlanta, Ga.*

Russell Kohl is the president and chief executive officer of Freud America, Inc., an industry-leading manufacturer and marketer of superior cutting tools and portable power tools. Founded in 1960, Freud supplies a full line of high-quality cutting tools, including saw blades, router bits, abrasives, reciprocating blades and shaper cutters. Freud owns and operates the most innovative and technologically advanced manufacturing facilities in Italy and Switzerland, thus consistently delivering premium quality products.

Since joining Freud in 2000, Kohl has engineered the company's North America strategic direction for outstanding operational performance, superior brand recognition and impressive rise in stakeholder value. This period has been marked by unprecedented growth resulting in a 35x increase in business. In addition to his NA responsibilities, Kohl assists in Freud's overall global strategy and manufacturing direction.

Kohl's extensive background in sales, finance, marketing, operations and product development has resulted in the successful launch of new brands and divisions for the company. Under Kohl's leadership, Freud launched its premium line of construction cutting tools and most successful brand, Diablo. To date, Diablo has won multiple awards, including a two-time recipient of Home Depot's prestigious "Merchandising Innovation" award and "Hottest Tool" from Wood Magazine. Kohl's focus on innovation and his vision to "change the market forever" has elevated Diablo to reign as the top brand in the construction market.

Kohl formerly served as vice president of new product development, marketing and sales at Peachtree Doors and Windows, Atlanta. In this role, he oversaw a 30% growth in the company while recruiting an energetic leadership team.

Kohl began his career holding multiple successful sales, marketing and product development positions with the Dewalt division of Black+Decker for ten years. Working primarily on the company's profitable launch of its "yellow tools" line, this brand became one of the most thriving in the industry, growing into a billion-dollar product line. In his spare time, Kohl is an active member of the Young President's Organization and enjoys volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, where he was honored with the North Atlanta

Chapter's "Rusty Nail" award. Recently, he served as the keynote speaker for the Southeast Security Leaders Summit. Kohl earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State University and an MBA from Loyola College of Business. He also studied in the Master of Science program at Johns Hopkins University. Kohl resides in Atlanta, GA, and has two children, Amelia and Ian.



**Diahann W. Lassus, CFP®,  
CPA/PFS**

*Donor Stewardship  
Finance*

*New Providence, N.J.*

Diahann W. Lassus is co-founder, president and chief investment officer of wealth-management firm Lassus Wherley, a Peapack-Gladstone Bank subsidiary. A certified financial planner, certified public accountant and personal financial specialist, she has appeared on CNBC, NBC and other television networks. A contributor to New Jersey's *The Star-Ledger*, *Investment Advisor*, *AICPA Wealth Management Insider*, *New Jersey Business* and *Garden State Woman*, Lassus was also featured in the book "How Women Lead: The 8 Essential Strategies Successful Women Know," published in 2012.

Lassus was named one of Investopedia's Top 100 Most Influential Financial Advisors in 2017 and 2018. The Investopedia 100 was created by analyzing financial advisors' presence and impact across social media channels, television and radio, conferences and their own blogs and websites. In 2018, Diahann was appointed to the Financial Planning Foundation, Individual Development Committee. In 2016, she was appointed to the newly formed Commission on Standards by the CFP Board. The commission was charged with reviewing and making recommendations in keeping with CFP board's mission to benefit the public by granting the CFP® certification and upholding it as the recognized standard of excellence for competent and ethical financial planning. In 2018, the CFP Board of Directors approved a new Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct, which sets forth the ethical standards for CFP® professionals, effective October 1, 2019. Lassus was named one of the 30 Most Influential in 2013 by the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors, was named among the 25 people who have shaped the advice business by *InvestmentNews* in 2013 and won the Five Star Wealth Manager Award for 2012-2019.

Lassus is on the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the Florida State University College of Business Board of Governors. Lassus previously held positions in accounting and line operations for Blue Cross Blue Shield, Xerox and AT&T. She was the field operations manager for the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. Lassus earned a bachelor's degree in management from Florida State University and an MBA at the University of North Florida.





**Dr. James Lee**

*Development  
Donor Stewardship*

*Destin, Fla.*

Dr. James “Jim” Lee retired from his general dentistry practice in Ft. Walton Beach in 2006. He graduated from Emory University School of Dentistry in 1975. Lee served on the board of directors of the Ft. Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, Okaloosa-Walton Mental Health Association (president for two terms) and Philharmonic Orchestra of Northwest Florida. He was a Stage Crafters Community Theater member, serving as musical director and pianist. Lee graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in Mathematics in 1971 and was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Kappa.

Lee joined the Seminole Boosters in 1976 and has been a member ever since, currently as a Silver Chief and member of several coaches’ clubs. He became a member of the FSU Undergraduate Studies Development Council in 2010 and currently serves as chair. He endowed an Undergraduate Idea Research Award in his mother's name and recently created an endowment for Presidential Scholars, having provided support for the program in the past. He is a *Vires, Artes, Mores* honoree and was inducted into the FSU Alumni Association’s Circle of Gold in 2021.



**Dazi Lenoir, Esq.**

*Ex Officio  
Chair  
FSU Alumni Association*

*Saint Cloud, Fla.*

Dazi Lenoir, Esq. is a legal and sales professional who was a founding and managing partner of Lyons & Lenoir LLC, now Lyons Legal, LLC specializing in personal injury and wrongful death litigation. She began her legal career concentrating on personal injury and wrongful death litigation with Tallahassee's Parks & Crump law firm, where she settled her first \$1 million case. Lenoir later practiced for a personal injury firm in Orlando, where she served as a pre-suit attorney and settled more than \$1 million in cases for Central Florida clients. She began her professional career in Indianapolis, Ind., where she worked in Pacers Sports and Entertainment's sales and marketing department.



**John M. Lusk**

*Finance  
Investment*

*Boca Raton, Fla.*

John M. Lusk recently retired as executive vice president of investment management for Franklin Templeton Investments. At Franklin Templeton, Lusk was responsible for the firm's independent core equity and fixed-income investment management groups, including the Franklin, Templeton and Mutual Series, as well as the trading area consisting of 13 trading desks around the world. He oversaw investment risk management and the global portfolio and corporate services group that focused on providing portfolio compliance, market data services and other support services for the investment teams. Along with the firm's CEO, Lusk co-chaired the investment management committee and was a member of the enterprise risk committee.

Lusk joined Franklin Templeton in 1993, and during his career there served as vice president of Franklin Resources Inc. and chief administrative officer to a co-CEO. His other previous positions included chief financial officer and chief administrative officer of Fiduciary Trust Company International in New York and director of Corporate/International Tax. Prior to joining Franklin Templeton, Lusk was a senior tax manager with Ernst & Young LLP.

Lusk earned his B.S. in accounting with a minor in economics from Florida State University. He is a certified public accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He also attended the Center for Creative Leadership's Leadership Development Program.



**Craig T. Lynch**

*Chair-Elect*

*Development  
Executive  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Charlotte, N.C.*

Craig T. Lynch is a partner practicing commercial real estate law with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, North Carolina. In addition, he is a five term member of the firm’s board of directors and chairs its Finance Committee. Lynch was named to *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers, North Carolina Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America* by Woodward/White. He received the 2013 North Carolina Bar Association’s Citizen Lawyer Award for exemplary public service. Lynch has been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of North Carolina. He chairs the Real Estate Sector of the Mecklenburg County Bar’s 2020 Justice Access Initiative.

Lynch currently serves on the National Advisory Council of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. In 2010, he received the “Hope Award,” the highest honor bestowed by the MS Society. In 2017, Lynch completed a 15-year term on the MS Society’s national board of directors, serving as its secretary for five years and as a vice chair for four years. He was inducted into the MS Society’s Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2018. From 2008 – 2017, Lynch served on the Board of the Alumni Association of the University of North Carolina School of Law, from which he earned his juris doctor in 1986. In 2014, he was elected as president of the UNC Law Alumni Association, contemporaneously serving on that university’s General Alumni Association Board. Lynch was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel by Governor Steve L. Breshear in 2011 for public service to the Commonwealth, and was selected for the Irish Legal 100 in 2020.

Prior to attending law school, Lynch received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Florida State University and graduated summa cum laude in 1981. During his senior year, he developed the marketing plan for the men’s basketball team as it transitioned from Tully Gym to the Tucker Center. Lynch is a Lifetime member of the FSU Alumni Association, a member of the FSU Foundation’s President’s Club and Seminole Boosters. During the period from 2011 – 2019, he served as a Director of the Alumni Association and chaired its Board from 2017-2018. Lynch was inducted into the Florida State Alumni Association’s Circle of

Gold in 2017. He is also an active member and three-time past president of the Charlotte Seminole Club.

Lynch and his wife, Mitzi, have two sons, Devin, a senior at the University of North Carolina, and Ryan, a high school junior.



**Richard D. McCullough, Ph.D.**

*Ex Officio  
President  
Florida State University  
  
Executive  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Richard McCullough became the 16th president of Florida State University on August 16, 2021, bringing more than 30 years of academic research and leadership experience to the role as well as a commitment to innovation, entrepreneurship, and diversity, equity and inclusion.

Prior to joining FSU, McCullough had served as vice provost for research and professor of materials science and engineering at Harvard University since 2012. In this role, he oversaw the development, review and implementation of strategies, planning and policies related to academic research. In addition, he led an office of Foundation and Corporate Engagement and assisted in the oversight of more than 25 interdisciplinary institutes, centers and initiatives across the university.

During his tenure, McCullough successfully built and launched the new Harvard Data Science Initiative, a collaboration between 12 of the university's schools and more than 120 faculty, which led to three new master's programs and many new undergraduate courses.

McCullough developed and launched a new structural biology program and cryo-electron microscope facility that partners Harvard Medical School with three Boston-area hospitals. He also led the development of a new \$100 million, multi-institution collaboration to build the Advanced Biological Innovation and Manufacturing Center and Facility, which will be a hub for medical research and education, as well as economic and workforce development.

Previously, McCullough spent 22 years at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, where he began his academic career as an assistant professor of chemistry in 1990 and became the Thomas Lord Professor of Chemistry in 2009. He was promoted to head of the chemistry department in 1998 and then served as dean of the Mellon College of Science from 2001 to 2007 before becoming the university's vice president for research.

McCullough, who holds multiple patents and is the founder of two companies, has a rich background in entrepreneurship and innovation. At Carnegie Mellon, he developed a vibrant innovation ecosystem, including the Greenlighting Start-ups

Initiative that exponentially increased the generation of university spin-out companies and corporate engagement. In 2013, he was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.

A staunch champion of diversity, McCullough created a diverse pipeline of Black/African American, Latinx and other underrepresented minority academics from both his research lab and as the founding creator of the Future Faculty Workshop: Diverse Leaders of Tomorrow. This annual workshop helps diverse postdoctoral fellows and students obtain academic jobs. Now in its 15th year, the workshop has facilitated placing more than 50 underrepresented minority professors in the United States.

McCullough is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles and serves on the editorial boards of several academic journals, including *Advanced Materials*. He has been an innovation, entrepreneurship and technology transfer advisor to Oxford University, Princeton University and Washington University at St. Louis.

A first-generation college student from Mesquite, Texas, McCullough attended Eastfield Community College before earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Texas at Dallas in 1982 and a doctoral degree in organic chemistry from Johns Hopkins University in 1988. McCullough also spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University in New York.

He and his wife, Jai Vartikar, have two children, Jason and Dylan, daughter-in-law, Sarah Christian, and two granddaughters, Gladys and Archer.



**Nancy McKay**

*Trusteeship and Engagement  
Executive*

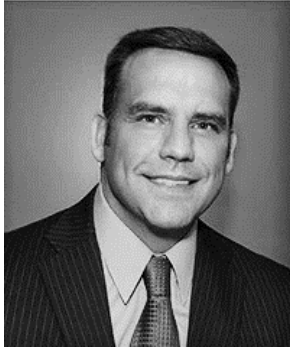
*New York, N.Y.*

Nancy McKay is a lover of the beauty industry. She currently serves as a consultant and board member to select beauty brands looking for guidance in overall strategy, often focusing on distribution opportunities and execution paths. McKay has expertise in fragrance, skincare and makeup. Her 28-year career at Estee Lauder Companies provided significant experience across multiple brands. Her final role at ELC was as the Senior Vice President and General Manager in North America for the Estee Lauder brand, Tom Ford Beauty and Aerin Beauty. This allowed her the experience to drive businesses with wide differences: elevating a legacy brand, launching the premier luxury license for the corporation and building a startup with the founder's granddaughter. The role also encompassed full P&L responsibility for a billion dollars in revenue, managing a large team and significant collaboration with global and regional partners. Prior assignments included vice president of sales roles at the Fragrance Division and Clinique.

In January of 2015, Nancy was recruited to become the CEO of NEST Fragrances, backed by private equity firm Tengram. Nancy worked closely with the firm and the founder to develop a playbook to build brand equity, deliver record sales and profitability and prepare the company for sale. NEST was successfully sold to a larger PE firm, Eurazeo, in 2017.

In addition to being an avid student of the beauty industry, Nancy also teaches "The Business of Beauty" as an adjunct professor at Florida State University and taught in their London Program in the summer of 2022. She is also an active alumna of FSU, including as past chair of the Foundation board. Additionally, she is on the Fragrance Foundation Indie Advisory Board and a member of Cosmetic Executive Women. McKay was honored in New York by the FSU Alumni Association with the inaugural "The Inspire Award" for FSU.





**Steven J. Mudder, Esq.**

*Development  
Finance*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Steve Mudder’s international legal and business career spans over 24 years in private law firms and as in-house counsel and investor in numerous domestic and foreign companies. Mudder worked from 2017–2019 as the executive vice president and general counsel at wireless telecom infrastructure companies in Europe, Asia and Southeast Asia. From 2013 to 2018, he and his partners owned and operated the premier telecom tower company in Myanmar before selling the company to private equity group TPG. From 2007 to 2017, Mudder and his partners owned and operated the largest telecom tower company in Indonesia, PT Sarana Menara Nusantara Tbk. Mudder also served as a member of the board of directors. While working in Indonesia and Myanmar, he directed all legal, contractual, litigation, business development, M&A and regulatory matters.

Before his group ventured into Southeast Asia, Mudder served as vice president, international-legal for American Tower Corporation, the world’s largest independent tower company. He was responsible for overseeing American Tower’s legal affairs in Mexico, Brazil and India, as well as its global expansion efforts in South America, India and Asia.

Before joining American Tower, Mudder was a partner in the Atlanta-based law firm Cohen, Cooper, Estep & Mudder from 2002 to 2006, where he specialized in corporate, sports and entertainment law, focusing on representing small businesses, entertainers, musicians and professional athletes. Mudder received his formal training as a corporate mergers and acquisitions attorney while working at two internationally recognized law firms: Gunderson Dettmer in Silicon Valley, California, and King & Spalding in Atlanta, Georgia. He has been recognized as a Georgia Super Lawyer Rising Star and appears in Marquis’ Who’s Who in American Law.

Mudder earned his Juris Doctorate degree, cum laude, from Harvard Law School in 1998 and served as one of four class officers. Mudder earned his Bachelor of Finance degree, summa cum laude, in 1995 from Florida State University, where he graduated at the top of his class with a 4.0 GPA.

Mudder enjoys staying connected to Florida State University by serving as a trustee on the Foundation Board of Trustees, on FSU’s College of Business Board of Governors and as a chapter advisor for Theta Chi Fraternity in Tallahassee, Fla.



**Eric Muñoz**

*Donor Stewardship  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Coral Gables, Fla.*

Eric Muñoz is a founding partner of the Alianza Wealth Management Group of Raymond James. With over 20 years of industry experience, Muñoz applies his deep knowledge of the financial landscape in providing concierge wealth management for high-net-worth and ultra-high-net-worth families in the U.S. and abroad. He builds strong and enduring relationships with clients, helping them navigate the financial world with their distinct needs and goals in mind.

Before joining Raymond James in 2020, Muñoz was a senior vice president of the UBS Alianza Wealth Management Group. He earned a B.S. in finance from Florida State University and an MBA from Florida International University. He currently serves as the treasurer of the Crockett Foundation, where he has served for over ten years. Muñoz also serves on the FSU College of Business and Student Investment Fund boards. His involvement at FSU began two decades ago when he served as the president of the Miami Seminole Club and later served on the FSU Alumni Association National Board of Directors.



**Sean Pittman, Esq.**

*Development  
Executive  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla*

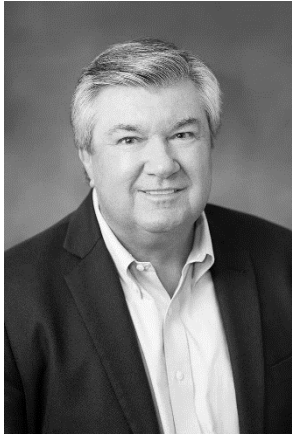
Sean Pittman is the Senior Partner of Pittman Law Group, P.L., which specializes in government, administrative and corporate law. Pittman represents a diverse client list of individuals, local governments, small businesses and Fortune 500 companies. He prides himself on being trusted legal counsel to cities, counties, hospitals, banking institutions, aviation and port authorities, universities, industries, corporations and various professional associations.

As a local government lawyer, Pittman represents Florida counties and municipalities before the Florida Cabinet, Florida Legislature and other tribunals. As an administrative lawyer, he strongly understands the Florida Administrative Procedures Act, advising clients on matters before the Department of Administrative Hearings and various State of Florida boards and agencies. Pittman also counsels local government clients on issues related to Public Finance Law.

The Tallahassee Democrat named Pittman one of the "Top Twenty-Five Most Influential People in Tallahassee" and featured him in the article "Capitol Clout" for being a significant political insider within the constantly changing environments of Florida's State Capitol. Pittman is ranked one of the "Top 100 Most Influential People in Florida Politics" by Influence magazine, and Florida Trend magazine says Pittman is "one to look for" in the new wave of politics in Florida while listing him as a "Must Know Contact" in Tallahassee. He has also been inducted into the Tallahassee Barristers Hall of Fame.

Pittman is the president and chairman of the prestigious Orange Bowl Committee; he is the founder and chairman of the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce, serves on the board of directors for Hancock Whitney Bank and serves on the Florida State University Foundation Board of Trustees. For his philanthropic endeavors, Pittman was awarded the Tallahassee Servant Leadership Award by the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce and the 2015 Distinguished Member Award by Leadership Florida. Pittman is also the recipient of the Founders Award in 2014 from the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce and the 2016 Heman Sweatt Award by the National Bar Association for demonstrating community leadership and concern for human and civil rights.

Pittman is a co-host of the popular television talk show "The Usual Suspects," airing on one of the highest-watched CBS affiliates in the country. He analyzes and provides commentary on the latest happenings in state and national politics on the show.



**Michael C. Poland**

*Audit  
Finance*

*Tampa, Fla.*

Mike Poland retired on June 30, 2019, after serving as a senior partner in the formerly named Ernst & Young, one of the world's largest professional services organizations. He is currently serving as president of MC Poland LLC, a consulting services company.

While at EY, Poland held roles as a senior partner in the Global SEC Independence Center, as an assurance partner and as a member of the assurance practice.

As a senior partner in the Global SEC Independence Center, Poland advised EY engagement teams on complex matters related to communications with audit committees when independence-related issues arose. He had extensive interaction with SEC and PCAOB representatives, leading to a strong understanding of regulatory matters impacting both auditors and audit committees. He was routinely asked to provide information to EY leadership for evaluation of risk related to regulatory matters.

As an assurance partner, Poland consistently grew his practice by identifying new areas of focus and opportunity. While serving as health care market segment leader, he transitioned the Tampa health care practice from a non-profit hospital-based practice to one with private and public clients across the health care sector. He demonstrated strong leadership skills by establishing cross-functional teams to provide advisory services to audit clients. He was consistently recognized for developing team members and served as a counselor and mentor to many promotees to the EY partnership.

While at EY, Poland was actively involved in campus recruiting. He served as EY's campus coordinating partner for the firm's recruiting efforts at both Florida State University and Florida A&M University.

Poland obtained a Bachelor of Science in accounting from Florida State University in June 1980. He is a certified public accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

During his career, Poland has been active in many organizations. He is a member of the Audit Committee of BayCare Health System in Clearwater, Florida and the

Hillsborough Education Foundation Board of Trustees. He is also a former member of FSU's College of Business Board of Governors and the Department of Accounting Professional Advisory Board.



**Scott G. Price**

*Audit  
Donor Stewardship*

*Tampa, Fla.*

Scott Price founded A-LIGN in 2009 and is currently the company's chief executive officer. A-LIGN is a technology-enabled cybersecurity and compliance partner trusted by organizations around the globe to mitigate cybersecurity risks by providing readiness, auditing and testing software and services. A-LIGN, a five-time Seminole 100 honoree, helps companies navigate the complexities of cybersecurity and compliance by offering solutions that align with each organization's unique goals and objectives across major compliance frameworks, including SOC, PCI, ISO, FedRAMP, CMMC, HITRUST and HIPAA. Prior to A-LIGN, Price was the founder of SAS 70 Solutions and served as president until 2009.

He is a 1997 graduate of Florida State University, earning both his bachelor's and master's in accounting. During his time at FSU, Price served as president of the FSU Accounting Society and vice president of Delta Chi. Additionally, Price has served as chair for the Board of Governors of the Florida Institute of CPAs, was an elected member of the American Institute of CPAs Council and currently serves as the board chair for Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay. Price is a member of the FSU College of Business Accounting Professional Advisory Board and the Seminole Boosters, and is an FSU Foundation President's Club honoree. He is an avid supporter of the FSU softball team and will be inducted into the College of Business Alumni Hall of Fame this year.



**M. Todd Queen**

*Ex Officio  
Deans' Representative*

*Development  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Dr. Todd Queen serves as the dean of the FSU College of Music. He previously served as dean of the LSU College of Music and Dramatic Arts and Penniman Family Professor of Music from 2014-21. His unique teaching, directing and performing experience has allowed him to travel the world as an educator, stage director, singer and arts leader. During his time at LSU, Queen worked with the faculty to modernize the undergraduate curriculum to meet the needs of 21st-century artists. New courses included instruction in technology, marketing, entrepreneurship and arts leadership.

An avid fundraiser, Queen led the college in a \$60 million fundraising campaign, which included a \$4 million gift in 2018, the largest in the college's history. Additional significant gifts included two new endowed chairs, the lead gift for a recital hall renovation and the naming of the John G. Turner and Jerry G. Fischer Center for Opera.

Queen is also a strong advocate for international study. He has traveled to Asia on multiple occasions to forge a partnership with East China Normal University in Shanghai, where he was named visiting professor. He has spent over a dozen summers in Italy, working with Opera Orvieto and Operafestival di Roma, where Queen currently serves as executive director.





**Bob Rice**

*Finance  
Investment*

*Short Hills, N.J.*

Bob Rice is the managing partner of Tangent Capital, a broker-dealer specializing in private investments and securities. He is also a senior advisor to Nasdaq Private Markets, Wilshire Associates and Macquarie Investment Management, and a director of the investment manager of the Value Line Funds.

Rice was present the night Renegade first took the field at Doak Campbell Stadium and received a bachelor's from FSU in 1976 and an LLM from the College of Law—where he recently taught as an adjunct professor—in 1979. After school, Rice joined the U.S. Department of Justice as a trial lawyer and then became a tax partner at the international law firm Milbank, Tweed. He left the law to found a 3D visualization software startup that eventually merged into the publicly-traded Viewpoint Corporation and served as CEO for several years. Along the way, he also served as the PCA Commissioner, the worldwide governing body of professional chess players.

Rice is the bestselling author of “The Alternative Answer and Three Moves Ahead,” and a former contributing editor for Bloomberg TV and Fox Business. He is a frequent keynote speaker at financial industry events, focusing on how the technology revolution and modern central bank policies impact portfolio construction and management.



**Kyle D. Riva**

*Development  
Investment*

*Winter Park, Fla.*

Throughout his 35-plus year career, Riva has been responsible for the financing, construction and development of high-profile commercial real estate (including apartments, office buildings, retail centers, industrial properties, hotels, resorts, single-family projects and land). Before forming Alexander Investments, Riva was an influential part of Epoch Properties, Inc. for more than 25 years and led the company as president for a decade. Riva also served as manager of the Central Florida office of Carey, Kramer, Silvester & Associates, a commercial real estate mortgage and sales company, and his experience includes vice president/branch manager of Alliance Mortgage Company and territory manager for the Burroughs Corporation.

Representing more than 25,000 multi-family living units valued at over \$2 billion, Riva's projects have been recognized in national publications such as Housing, Professional Builder and Florida Trend.

Riva graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science in business management and received his Master of Science in management from Rollins College. He is a licensed Florida real estate broker and a member of the National MultiHousing Council. Riva is a member of the Florida State University executive board for the Center for Real Estate Education and Research, member of the FSU Student Investment Fund Board, board member of the FSU Real Estate Investment Fund and member emeritus and past chairman of the board of advisors for the Hamilton Holt School at Rollins College and the President's Advisory Board.



**Paula Smith**

*Development  
Donor Stewardship  
Tallahassee, Fla.*

Paula Smith traveled from her home in Richmond, Va. to attend Florida State University in 1972. She graduated from the College of Health and Human Sciences in 1976, majoring in fashion merchandising. Following graduation, Smith worked for Burdines in Miami as an assistant buyer, then department manager.

Returning to Tallahassee in 1978, Smith followed her passion and began working as a volunteer. She created and chaired an eight-year project to advocate, fund and build a permanent home for the Leon County Public Library. Before her work, Tallahassee was the only state capital without a permanent library home. Following the completion of the downtown library facility, she chaired the project to renovate Tallahassee's five central downtown parks. From 1992-94, Smith served as volunteer president of Myers Park Little Major League, fundraising, renovating the park and designing new scorekeeper/concession stands for all the Tallahassee Little League parks. She chaired the 2001 United Way Fundraising Campaign, and in 2002, successfully solicited a \$1 million gift from Anheuser Busch Foundation to install the dolphin sculpture on the west plaza of the Florida Capitol. As a member of Leadership Florida Class IX, Smith served on their Board of Regents.

Smith is an FSU Alumni Association Circle of Gold honoree and has served on the organization's National Board of Directors. She co-chaired the 50th Anniversary of FSCW becoming Florida State University. Smith chaired the Board of Governors of the College of Health and Human Sciences, served on the college's Development Board, and was recognized with The Visionaries award in 2018. Paula was awarded the Mores Award from the FSU Faculty Senate in 2020

Smith is an active member of Trinity United Methodist Church and Bible Study Fellowship and is married to Bill Smith, chairman and CEO of Capital City Bank Group.



**Jay F. Steele**

*Audit  
Development  
Executive*

*Oakwood, Ga.*

Jay F. Steele is the CEO of Steele Consulting LLC, a tax consulting firm providing Fortune 1000 companies with credentialed, experienced consultants having a high degree of technical tax proficiency. The firm primarily represents clients in Atlanta, Detroit, New York City and San Jose.

Prior to founding Steele Consulting, Steele consulted extensively with Fortune 500 companies nationwide, primarily at Big 4 accounting firms. Steele has helped many of these companies achieve operational efficiencies and millions of dollars in profit increases through carefully considered and managed strategies.

Steele is the board chair of College Aim, an Atlanta-based organization that works to dismantle systemic racial and economic barriers for metro Atlanta high school students and has raised over \$60 million in grants and scholarships for its students.

Steele is a member of the FSU College of Business Board of Governors and a lifetime member of the FSU Alumni Association. He received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from FSU and his law degree from Emory University.



**Aggie Stoops**

*Development  
Donor Stewardship*

*Delray Beach, Fla.*

Aggie Stoops received her Bachelor of Social Work from FSU in 1982 and her Master of Social Work from FSU in 1983. Aggie and her husband Jeff (who also received two degrees from FSU) met at Cawthon Hall and have been married 37 years. While Jeff was finishing law school, Aggie started her social work career in child welfare in the Tallahassee area. In 1984, Aggie and Jeff moved to Palm Beach County, Florida, where they have made their home since leaving Tallahassee. Aggie continued to work in child welfare until the birth of their second child in 1989. Today, Aggie and Jeff have four children and three grandchildren.

While raising her family, Stoops served as a community volunteer for several non-profit organizations in Palm Beach County. In 2013, she and her husband formed the Stoops Family Foundation, which has since granted over \$8 million to a variety of non-profit organizations, including those focused on education, healthcare, social services, child services and COVID-19 relief. Stoops serves as chairman of the Stoops Family Foundation. Through the Stoops Family Foundation and personal giving, Stoops and her husband have been long-time contributors to Florida State University, including Seminole Boosters, the College of Law and the College of Social Work. The Stoops Family Foundation provided the initial funding for the formation and development of the Center for the Study and Promotion of Communities, Families and Children at the College of Social Work and the Stoops Center for Law and Business at the College of Law.

Stoops also serves as vice president and a director of HomeSafe, a Palm Beach County-based organization focused on at-risk foster children, domestic violence and newborn health. She is also a member of Impact 100, a South Florida women's charitable organization that has given millions of dollars in grants to local non-profits.



**John W. Thiel**

*Ex Officio  
Florida State University  
Board of Trustees*

*Executive  
Investment*

*Clearwater, Fla.*

John Thiel, an FSU alumnus and former Merrill Lynch executive, is a dynamic board director, trusted business advisor and visionary financial services CEO.

During his 28-year career with Merrill Lynch, Thiel served as head of U.S. Global Wealth Management, steering the iconic financial firm through a period of unprecedented change, including its acquisition by Bank of America and overseeing a \$15 billion business with 23,000 employees.

Thiel currently serves on the boards of Decker Communications and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation, which promotes initiatives focused on improving the financial literacy of underserved populations.

Thiel, who earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from FSU, was inducted into the College of Business Alumni Hall of Fame after many years of service in a variety of capacities. A long-time advocate for curing cancer, he serves on the board of the V Foundation for Cancer Research and chairs the board's Don't Ever Give Up support organization.

In July 2018, Thiel joined My Next Season as a partner and senior adviser. His work involves strategy consulting and business development for the organization, specializing in executive retirement and career transitions. He also advises and mentors not-for-profit CEO's in developing strategy and proactively responding to change.

Thiel is a frequent speaker and has presented at a variety of venues and made multiple appearances on FOX Business Network and CNBC. He was Florida State's spring commencement speaker in 2014 and 2019 and served as a Charles A. Bruning Distinguished Speaker at the College of Business.



**Ashbel C. Williams Jr.**

*Investment  
Development  
Executive*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Ashbel C. Williams Jr. is the vice chair at J.P. Morgan Asset Management. With assets under management of \$2.7 trillion, the firm is a global leader in investment management.

Before joining J.P. Morgan Asset Management in 2022, Williams was executive director and chief investment officer of the Florida State Board of Administration, with over \$250 billion in assets. Previously, he was a managing director at Fir Tree Partners and president and CEO of Schroder Capital Management. Earlier in his career, he held senior roles in the executive and legislative branches of Florida state government, including initial leadership of the SBA from 1991-96.

Williams is a trustee of the Florida State University Foundation and the National Institute for Public Finance. He serves on the investment committees of the IEEE and the Episcopal Diocese of Florida. He also serves on the board of the Economic Club of Florida, is a Hull Fellow of the Pacific Pension and Investment Institute and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Williams received B.S. and MBA degrees from Florida State University. He has established the Ashbel Williams Scholarship funds and has been very supportive of the College of Business. Ash and his wife, Jan, are recognized at the Honors level of the Florida State University Foundation's President's Club.



**Marilyn J. Young**

*Donor Stewardship  
Trusteeship and Engagement*

*Tallahassee, Fla.*

Dr. Marilyn Young retired in 2005 as the Florida State University Wayne C. Minnick Professor of Communication, Emerita. She taught at FSU for 33 years, serving as debate coach and director of forensics until 1985. During her tenure at FSU, Young received numerous teaching excellence and service awards, including the Teaching Incentive Program Award in 1995 and the Professorial Excellence Award in 1998. In 2001, she was named the Minnick Professor in recognition of her work as a teacher, scholar and citizen of the university. Young served as chair of her department and numerous university committees, two terms as president of the Faculty Senate and 15 years on the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, where she still serves as parliamentarian. She received the Fred L. Standley Distinguished Service Professor Award in 2005 and was honored with the Vires Torch Award in 2012.

In retirement, Young has established the Marilyn J. Young Endowment for Intercollegiate Debate to ensure that FSU's 120-year legacy of debate will benefit future generations of students. To that end, she continues to work with the FSU Foundation to grow the debate endowment. In addition, Young is a member of the CCI Leadership Board and the president-elect of the Association of Retired Faculty. In 2021, she was inducted into the Alumni Association's Circle of Gold.

As an undergraduate at FSU (B.A. '64), Young was a debate team member, Tau Kappa Alpha Forensics honorary and member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Kappa. She earned her master's and Ph.D. in communication from the University of Pittsburgh and taught at California State University, Los Angeles, before joining the FSU faculty in 1972. In 1994, she and her husband Michael Launer founded RussTech Language Services, specializing in technical translation and interpreting for nuclear safety and security, a business they sold in 2019. Young has continued her research activity, focusing on the development of political communication in post-Soviet Russia. She has published seven books and numerous essays and has presented papers all over the world.



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1961-64	Dr. Gordon W. Blackwell*
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1974-77	Honorable John G. McKay Jr.*
1977-80	Honorable B.K. Roberts*
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1982-85	Mr. Julius F. Parker Jr.*
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