



LegisLetter

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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With Governor Bush signing the coming year's \$71 billion state budget into law yesterday, the 2006 Legislative Session officially came to a close. But not before the Governor vetoed \$448.7 million from the total the legislature had appropriated.

Florida State University did not escape the Governor's veto pen as he eliminated \$15.7 million from our Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) list, which is the non-recurring money used for facilities construction. Included in his butchery was \$7.5 million for the renovation of the Thagard Health Center, \$4 million to expand our medical school in Immokalee, \$2.1 million for a medical-school site in Daytona Beach, and \$2.1 million for another med-school site in Ft. Pierce. Thankfully, all of the University's other PECO and funding projects remained intact.

Despite these losses, the University still realized a 9.23 percent increase over last year's recurring base budget, which means it was a pretty decent budget year. A complete list of the budget items that were funded is provided in a related story.

On Tuesday, May 30, Governor Bush will hold a bill-signing ceremony on the campus of UCF for the World Class Scholars bill. This is the legislation that contains criteria, as well as non-recurring matching funds, for the Research and Economic Development Program that currently favors FSU and UF (**see Spotlight on Bills**).

Since 2006 is an election year, many changes will take place in the makeup of the Legislature, including its leadership. (Changes will also, of course, be seen in the Governor's office.) FSU will lose several members of its legislative Seminole Caucus, and, to that end, I want to take this opportunity to thank each Caucus member for their dedication to, passion for, and hard work on behalf of Florida State University. I would like to extend a special thank you to Speaker Allan Bense (R. - Panama City) for his diligence, patience and watchful eye (see related story).

In all likelihood, this will be the final LegisLetter for 2006. Thank you for the comments and concerns you conveyed, as well as your continued support. As always, this input was, and will continue to be, very helpful and important to me.

Kathleen

State University System Budget

Below is a summary of SUS and particularly Florida State University's budget issues.

UPDATE

OPERATING BUDGET

- Overall **8.5%** increase in funding over the 2005-06 year.
- Tuition Increases and Proviso Language**
 - 3% resident undergraduate. Increases the per credit hour tuition by \$2.14, from \$71.57 to \$73.71.
 - UBOT flexibility to increase graduate, professional and out-of-state fees not to exceed 5% for students enrolled prior to the fall of 2006
 - UBOT flexibility to increase graduate, professional and out-of-state fees not to exceed 10% for students enrolled after the fall of 2006
 - Tuition and out-of-state fees may not be lower than the rates in effect in 2005-06
- Salary Increases** – a 3% salary increase is provided, effective–**October 1, 2006**
- Enrollment Growth**
 - \$54.5 million** in state funds to support 7,448 full time equivalent students. **FSU - \$6.6 million**
 - Fully funds the 37 medical students at UF and 58 medical students at USF
- Utility Increases** – fully funded the BOG request of– **\$20.7 million, FSU - \$2,414,397**
- Ratio of In-state / Out-of-state students - \$32.7 million, FSU - \$6.2 million**
- Major Gifts - **\$64.2 million** fully funds requests received through February 21, 2006, **FSU – \$15,272,063**
- FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY**
 - PECO Projects – Funds **\$445 million** in projects. This is an increase of \$ 42.5 million over the House Bill and \$85.8 million over the Senate Bill.
 - Funds BOG Budget Request for Cost Overruns - **\$56.5 million** from PECO (BOG had requested from General Revenue) **FSU - \$18,950,000**

FSU PECO:

Utilities/Infrastructure/Capital Renewal/Roofs (P,C,E)	\$	6,400,000	
Life Sciences Teaching & Research Center (C, E)	\$	3,500,000	
Neuroscience & Reading Institute (C, E)	\$	11,869,540	
College of Education Building Expansion (P)	\$	600,000	
Administrative Services Center Panama City (C, E)	\$	3,878,728	
Thagard Health Center	\$	7,500,000	VETOED
College of Medicine Expansion – Daytona Beach	\$	2,100,000	VETOED
College of Medicine Expansion – Ft. Pierce	\$	2,100,000	VETOED
College of Medicine Expansion – Immokalee	\$	4,000,000	VETOED
Panama City Campus – Academic Building	\$	7,992,000	
TOTAL	\$	49,940,268	

9. MEDICAL SCHOOL – 2006 phase-in, \$2,299,000

Medical School Branch Campus Operating

• Ft Pierce Clinical Training Site – FSU-MS,	\$	1,891,018	recurring
	\$	1,483,982	non-recurring
• Immokalee Clinical Training Site – FSU-MS,	\$	1,232,633	recurring
	\$	967,337	non-recurring
• Panama City Clinical Training Site – FSU-MS,	\$	560,301	recurring
	\$	439,699	non-recurring
• Daytona Beach Clinical Training Site – FSU-MS,	\$	1,891,018	recurring
	\$	1,483,982	non-recurring

10. Bonding – Proviso - Funds are provided contingent upon each university and university direct support organization following the debt management policy as adopted by the Board of Governors on January 26, 2006, and the Debt Management Guidelines as adopted by the Board of Governors on April 27, 2006, for the financing of any fixed capital outlay project through any financing mechanism, including but not limited to, revenue bonds, promissory notes, certificates of participation, lease-purchase agreements or any other form of indebtedness. Only the assets and revenues specified in the Board of Governors Debt Management Guidelines shall be permitted as security for any form of indebtedness, including certificates of participation, and shall be subject to all limitations or exceptions contained in the Board of Governors' policy and Debt Management Guidelines. Any assets or revenue sources validly pledged to secure debt pursuant to this section shall remain as security for such debt through the maturity date. The requirement that all university and direct support organization debt adhere to the Board of Governors' policy and guidelines shall apply prospectively to all university and direct support organization debt, and shall not adversely affect any university or direct support organization debt currently outstanding or projects approved by the Board of Governors or University Boards of Trustees prior to, or existing, as of January 26, 2006.
11. Nursing Masters and PhD portion of NET Gain - **\$3.6 million**
 - a. Proviso requires the universities to report on the progress relating to numbers of new students admitted in post-graduate nursing programs and the projected time-lie for completion to the BOG, Senate and House by **February 1, 2007**. Students enrolled in post-graduate nursing programs receiving these funds shall commit to practice in Florida for at least 3 years, and agree to repay any tuition or stipends provided by these universities for failure to comply with this commitment.
12. SUCCEED, FL - **\$8.85 million** is provided in the university portion of the budget, with an additional \$20 million in the community colleges budget for Nursing and allied health, teaching, and manufacturing and automotive technology programs. \$10.6 million of these funds are for programs initiated in 2005-06.
13. 2+2 Partnership Baccalaureate Incentives - **\$1 million** is appropriated in the university portion of the budget, with an additional \$2,045,000 appropriated in the community college and private colleges & universities portion of the budget. Proviso requires these funds to be awarded to eligible community colleges, private colleges & universities and state universities based on the eligible full-time equivalent enrollment in each 2+2 partnership baccalaureate program during the 2006-07 academic year. The participating community college and partner institution shall receive equal proportions of the per student incentive award. Programs with partnership articulation agreements to provide 2+2 baccalaureate degree programs at a community college are eligible for incentive funding. Community colleges shall submit applications requesting funds for eligible programs and the programs participating partner by April 15, 2007.
14. Proviso language continues to require the Department of Education to provide support services to the BOG in the areas of accounting, printing, computer and internet support, personnel and human resources support, support for accountability initiatives, support for agency inspector general activities, and administrative support as needed for trust funds under the jurisdiction of the BOG.
15. Proviso language allows UBOTs to grant out-of-state fee waivers on a temporary basis to students (impacted by hurricane Katrina) who originally enrolled in a state university under the provisions of Executive Order 05-176 and who have maintained continuous enrollment since that time.
16. Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Center — **\$594,558**
17. FSU Autism Program - **\$1,058,766**
18. Public Broadcasting – Television Stations, **\$585,559**; Radio Stations, **\$111,945**
19. Civic Center Debt Service Payment - **\$5,000,000**
20. Oceans and Coastal Research Council - **\$3,000,000 VETOED**
21. First District Court of Appeals Expansion - **\$1,800,000**
22. Allied Health Education Center - **\$11,808,910**, FSU - **\$1,000,000**
23. College Reach-out Program (CROP) - **\$3,399,990**

Spotlight on Bills

Bills that Passed the Legislature

HB 1237 - Postsecondary Education Programs by Representative David Meador (R – Lake Mary), creates the 21st Century Technology, Research, & Scholarship Enhancement Act which allocates \$20 million in state matching funds to attract world scholars to the university system. The bill also allocates \$20 million for the Centers of Excellence program, the criteria of which will be determined by the Board of Governors. Finally, the bill creates the State University System Research and Economic Development Investment Program and establishes institutional eligibility criteria that is favorable to Florida State University and the University of Florida and allocates a matching \$36.5 million fund for those universities. Effective July 1, 2006

CS/SB 1086 - University Building Designation by Senator Dennis Jones (R – Seminole), designates several university system buildings including the John M. McKay Visitors' Pavilion at John & Mabel Ringling Museum of Art, the Reubin O'D. Askew Student Life Center, the Sherrill Williams Ragans Hall, the John Thrasher Building, the Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium, and the JoAnne Graf Softball Field at Florida State University. Effective July 1, 2006.

HB 2434 - Travel To Terrorist States by Senator Mike Haridopolis (R – Melbourne), prohibits use of any state or non-state funds made available to community colleges and state universities to implement, organize, direct, coordinate, or administer activities related to or involving travel to a terrorist state. Effective July 1, 2006

HB 795 - Student Financial Assistance by Representative Anitere Flores (R – Miami), creates the First Generation Matching Grant Program to provide financial aid to undergraduate students with financial need whose parents have not earned a baccalaureate degree. The bill provides for appropriation, allocation, & distribution of funds and provides student eligibility requirements. Funds that remain unmatched as of December 1 shall be reallocated to state universities that have remaining unmatched private contributions for the program. The bill included an appropriation of \$14,000,000. Effective July 1, 2006. Sent to the Governor on May 23, 2006.

HB 1027 - Biomedical Research by Representative Adam Hasner (R – Delray Beach, FSU Alum), authorizes the use of funds in the Biomedical Research Trust Fund for purposes of William G. "Bill" Bankhead, Jr., & David Coley Cancer Research Program. The bill authorizes the Legislature to annually appropriate funds to James & Esther King Biomedical Research Program, Fla. Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease, & Johnnie B. Byrd, Sr., Alzheimer's Center & Research Institute, and deletes funding for the School of Chiropractic at FSU. Effective July 1, 2006 except as otherwise provided.

SB 428 - Travel Expenses/Reimbursement by Senator Al Lawson (D – Tallahassee, FSU ALUM), revises per diem, subsistence, & mileage rates for purposes of reimbursement of travel expenses of all public officers, employees, and authorized persons whose travel is authorized and paid by a public agency. The bill increases the rate of per diem to \$80.00 per day, increases meals to \$36.00 per day, and increases the mileage rate to 44.5 cents per mile. Effective July 1, 2006. Sent to the Governor on May 23, 2006

CS/SB 2548 - State Financial Matters by Senator Lisa Carlton (R – Osprey), prescribes forms of payment that may be included in certain contracts involving State University System or Florida Community College System. The bill redefines fixed-price contract, fixed-rate-per-unit contract and, cost reimbursable contract involving the State University System and state agencies. Effective July 1, 2006 except as otherwise provided.

HB 7087 - The Florida A++ Plan by Representative Raphael Arza (R – Hialeah), reviews proposed federal education plans and specifies that the mission of state's K-20 education system is to provide high quality, rigorous, and relevant learning opportunities for students. The bill requires legislative approval of the revised state plan to implement certain federal requirements and requires maintenance of uniform school district personnel classification system. The bill creates the Florida Center for Reading Research at Florida State University and includes two outreach centers, one a central Florida community college and one at a south Florida state university, with no additional funding attached. Effective upon becoming law.

SB 135 - Charter Schools by Representative Ron Greenstein (D – Coconut Creek), establishes the Florida Schools of Excellence

Commission as a charter school authorizing entity and provides powers & duties of commission, including serving as sponsor of said schools, approving certain entities to act as cosponsors, approving or denying applications for Florida Schools of Excellence (FSE) charter schools, & developing standards for & evaluating performance of cosponsors & charter schools. Effective July 1, 2006

HB 263 - Florida Prepaid College Program by Representative David Meador (R – Lake Mary), renames said program and authorizes funds in Fla. Prepaid Tuition Scholarship Program to be used for certain approved scholarship programs. Additionally, the bill deletes restrictions on types of postsecondary educational institutions to which qualified beneficiary may apply his or her benefits under said program. The bill requires direct-support organization of Fla. Prepaid College Board to administer said program. Effective July 1, 2006

SB 122 - Tuition Waivers/Purple Heart by Senator Mike Fasano (R – New Port Richey), requires state universities & community colleges to waive tuition for recipient of Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence who fulfills specified criteria. The bill provides percentage cap on number of required credit hours for which tuition waiver may be received. Effective July 1, 2006

SB 2000 - Ethics/Public Officers & Employees by Senator Bill Posey (R – Rockledge), prohibits employees of the state and its political subdivisions from participating in political campaigns and prohibits certain disclosures or use by former public officers, agency employees, or local government attorneys. Additionally, the bill clarifies that existing post-employment restrictions apply to certain agency employees; redefines term "expenditure" for purposes of provisions governing lobbying before Legislature. Effective October 1, 2006 except as otherwise provided.

SB 2034 - Education/Spouses/Disabled Veterans by Senator Carey Baker (R – Eustis), provides that it is declared policy of state to provide educational opportunity at state expense for spouses of deceased or disabled service members and provides criteria for qualification for such benefits for un-remarried spouses of deceased service members & dependent spouses of disabled service members. The bill specifies uses of funds appropriated for such educational opportunities. Effective July 1, 2006

HB 5005 - Education Funding by Representative Joe Pickens (R – Palatka), revises the use of excise taxes on documents distributed to Public Education Capital Outlay & Debt Service Trust Fund. The bill allows slot machine tax revenue to be made available for bond payments if necessary to comply with bond covenants and revises the schedule of implementation of class size compliance at district & school levels. Additionally, the bill revises charter school capital outlay funding eligibility criteria and allocation of funds. Effective July 1, 2006 except as otherwise provided. Sent to the Governor on May 16, 2006.

Bills of Interest that Did Not Pass

HB 7257 - University Governance by the Colleges & Universities Committee, revises, creates, and clarifies provisions relating to the Board of Governors of the State University System, state university boards of trustees, State Board of Education, Commissioner of Education, DOE, and postsecondary educational institutions.

HB 15 - Sales Tax Exemption/Textbooks by Representative Anitere Flores (R – Miami) and SB 1554 by Senator Mike Haridopolis (R – Melbourne), exempts certain textbooks from tax on sales, use, & other transactions; provides requirements & definition.

HB 32 - Relief/Darling & Smith/FSU by Senator Al Lawson (D – Tallahassee, FSU Alum) and HB 289 by Representative Curtis Richardson (D- Tallahassee, FSU Alum), provides for relief of Dennis Darling, Sr., & Wendy Smith, parents of Devaughn Darling, deceased, for loss of their son, Devaughn Darling, while he was engaged in football preseason training on F.S.U. campus. CLAIM WITH APPROPRIATION: \$1,800,000.

HB 119 - Higher Education Finance/Residents by Representative Juan Zapata (R – Miami) and SB 366 by Senator Frederica Wilson (D – Miami), revises provisions for the determination of resident status for tuition purposes and provides conditions for reclassification as a resident for tuition purposes. The bill requires that evidence be provided regarding legal residency and dependent status. Additionally, the bill provides requirements for student eligibility for state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants.

HB 129 - Firearms/Motor Vehicle by Representative Dennis Baxley (R – Ocala, FSU Alum)–and SB 206 by Senator Durell Peadar (R – Crestview),

amends specified provision re lawful ownership, possession, & use of firearms & other weapons; authorizes employee or invitee in lawful possession of firearm to transport & store firearm in motor vehicle under certain conditions; authorizes employer or its lessor to prohibit employee or invitee from transporting, storing, or possessing firearm under certain conditions when reasonably necessary for safety & welfare.

HB 137 - Baccalaureate Degree Programs by Representative Stan Mayfield (R-Vero Beach) and SB 1658, by Senator Evelyn Lynn (R- Ormond Beach), provides that

community colleges that grant baccalaureate degrees remain under the authority of the State Board of Education and requires said colleges to maintain their primary mission and prohibits termination of associate degree programs. Additionally, the bill provides guidelines and restrictions for setting tuition and out-of-state fees for upper division courses.

HB 205 - Student Financial Assistance by Representative Dick Kravitz (R – Orange Park) and SB 458 by Senator Stephen Wise (R – Jacksonville), requires each state university & community college to report information regarding certain funds used to

The Office of GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
would like to express its gratitude for the support received
from the Legislative Liaison Committee members.

These important members of our team
contributed much hard work and patience
during the 2006 Legislative Session.

ANNE BLANKENSHIP - *Academic Affairs*

RALPH ALVAREZ - *Budget and Analysis*

JAMES COBB - *Faculty Senate*

TERRY FULCHER - *Finance & Administration*

SUSAN RAY - *Magnet Lab*

BETH HODGES - *Office of Research*

MARY COBURN - *Student Affairs*

LIZ MARYANSKI - *Student Affairs*

DAWN RANDLE - *University Relations*

MIKE CRAMER - *University Attorney*

JOYCE HOWARD - *Student Government*

MARGIE SULLIVAN - *Athletics*

DON WEIDNER - *College of Law*

DENNIS BAILEY - *Physical Plant*

STEVE ADAMICK - *Physical Plant*

DARRYL MARSHALL - *Financial Aid*

CHERYL GONZALES DIVERSITY - *Enhancement and Compliance*

JOYCE INGRAM - *Human Resources*

MARCIE DOOLITTLE - *Purchasing*

ROB WERNER LABORATORY - *Animal Research*

BOB PEDURNY - *College of Communication*

MARCY DRISCOLL - *College of Education*

LYNN WICKER - *College of Education*

OCIE HARRIS - *College of Medicine*

JESSIE JACKSON - *Florida High*

provide financial assistance to certain students, defines term “eligible Florida resident” and, provides for redirection of funds to provide additional need-based financial assistance to eligible Florida residents.

SB 366 - Resident Status for Tuition Purposes by Senator Frederica Wilson (D – Miami), revises definitions and provides conditions for reclassification as resident for tuition purposes and requires that evidence be provided regarding legal residency and dependent status. The bill provides duties of institutions of higher education, updates obsolete terminology, provides additional categories within which students may be classified as residents for tuition purposes and limits eligibility for award of state financial aid.

HB 717 - State University Student Fees by Representative Anitere Flores (R – Miami) and SB 1229 by Representative David Mealor (R – Lake Mary), increases the cap on local fees and removes the annual cap on increases in local fees. The bill authorizes each university board of trustees to establish a technology fee and requires recommendations by a technology fee committee. Additionally, the bill requires final approval of the fee by the university board of trustees and provides fee limitations and excludes said fee from award under Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

SB 1016 - Independent Collegiate Assistance by Senator Stephen Wise (R – Jacksonville) and HB 387 by Representative Pat Patterson (R— DeLand), creates the Florida Independent Collegiate Assistance Grant Program to provide grants to certain students who attend nonpublic institutions of higher education and who are enrolled in programs leading to specified occupations. The bill requires DOE to administer program and provides requirements



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for criteria and priorities for funding. Additionally, the bill requires OPPAGA to make certain assessments and submit a report to the Legislature. While the bill did not pass, \$2.5 million was appropriated for FICA in the general appropriations act

SB 1930 - Educational Facilities/Planning Use by the Governmental Efficiency Appropriations Committee, requires that utilization standards for educational space be updated periodically and increases the minimum room utilization rate for postsecondary class rooms.

SB 2176 - Rural Hospitals by Senator Durell Peaden (R – Crestview) revises purpose and functions of Rural Health Office in the Department of Health. The bill establishes requirements for membership in and for funding rural health networks and establishes performance standards for said networks. The bill further deletes requirement that AHCA adopt rule re deactivation of rural hospital beds under certain circumstances and authorizes DOH to award grants for remaining funds to financially distressed rural hospitals, etc.

SB 2380 - School District Funding by Senator Lisa Carlton (R – Osprey), increases the amount that a district school board may spend for new construction of educational plant space and revises requirements for calculating the number of students per classroom for fiscal year 2006-2007.

HB 7097 - Postsecondary Education by the Community Colleges and Workforce Committee and SB 2326 by Senator Carey Baker (R – Eustis), authorizes an articulation agreement for delivery of associate in applied science degree programs by career centers and provides for charter technical career center to use designation “technical college”. The bill revises provisions regarding the establishment of inter-institutional mechanisms by public postsecondary educational institutions and establishes School District Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program.

HB 7215 - Rural Health Care by Representative Rene Garcia (R— Hialeah) revises purpose and functions of the Office of Rural Health in the Department of Health and revises provisions regarding governance and organization of rural health networks. The bill establishes grant program for funding rural health networks, removes emergency care hospitals and essential access community hospitals from certain licensure requirements, establishes the Office of Minority Health, and provides legislative intent, etc.

SPECIAL THANKS!

We at Florida State University would like to extend a special thanks to our “Seminoles Caucus” (FSU Alumni and friends of the university) for their continued support of our institution.

Senator STEVE GELLER

Senator JIM KING

Senator AL LAWSON

Senator J. ALEX VIALLOBOS

Representative DENNIS BAXLEY

Speaker ALLAN BENSE

Representative CHARLES DEAN

Representative CARL DOMINO

Representative TERRY FIELDS

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