



August 2026



[ITS News](#) | [Media Highlights](#) | [We Are IT](#) | [Shout Outs](#)
[Count IT](#) | [Join IT](#) | [Calendar](#)



Caption: Students pair up to use the flight simulator at the Renegade Flight Simulation Center. A reality made possible through the *Student Technology Fee Awards Program*.

Student Tech Fee Proposals: Now Open

The Student Technology Fee Awards Program is now accepting proposals for the upcoming funding cycle. Departments are encouraged to submit projects that enhance instructional technology and support student success. Each year, the program funds a wide range of initiatives across campus, providing an opportunity to advance teaching and learning through new or expanded technology.

[Proposal Instructions](#)



Table with ITS for Welcome Week

As FSU welcomes students back to campus for the fall semester, **ITS will be tabling on Landis Green from August 24 – 28, 10am-2pm**. We'd love for you to join us and represent ITS!

[Sign Up](#)

ITS News



Photo Credit: Jim Berhalter/ITS

FSU Completes Migration of Avaya Users to Zoom Phone

After two years of planning, coordination and execution, Florida State University has successfully completed the migration of its Avaya phone users to Zoom Phone, marking one of the largest communications technology transformations in the university's history.

The project reached its finish line following 24 coordinated migrations moving roughly 11,000 phone lines across every college, department and administrative unit at FSU. Faculty and staff were moved from legacy physical phone systems to a modern, cloud-based platform while retaining their existing university phone numbers.

"We didn't just retire old hardware—we cut the cord on decades of legacy infrastructure and gave FSU a communications system built for how we actually work today: anywhere, on any device, without missing a beat," said Deputy Chief Information Officer **Bobby Sprinkle**. "That kind of change doesn't happen by accident. It happened because an incredible team rolled up their sleeves and got it done. To everyone who made this migration a reality—thank you. This is your win."

[Read More](#)

.....

Annual ITS Cybersecurity Training

Have you completed your 2026 cybersecurity training? As part of our commitment to safeguard Florida State University's digital resources, Information Technology Services conducts annual cybersecurity awareness training. The 2026 training is now open and is required for all employees and student workers.

This training takes about 15 minutes and is due by **Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026.**

[Complete the Training Today](#)

.....

2026 Data Day Highlights the Power of Data Across FSU

More than 250 faculty, staff and researchers gathered at FSU's second annual Data Day to explore how data and analytics drive innovation, improve decision-making and advance student success across the university. Hosted by the [Office of Institutional Research](#), the conference featured keynote presentations from Women's Soccer Head Coach Brian Pensky and Lead Video and Data Analyst Ryan Poche, who shared how data-driven strategies helped lead the Seminoles to the 2025 National Championship. Throughout the day, attendees participated in breakout sessions on topics including Power BI, Qualtrics, AWS, AI and student success, highlighting FSU's commitment to becoming one of the nation's most data-engaged universities.

[Read More](#)

ODL AI Sparks

In 2026, the **Office of Digital Learning** launched AI Sparks, a pilot funded by a Google.org Knowledge, Skills, and Learning Education Grant. The year-long pilot focuses on promoting AI literacy and applied AI learning in coursework by developing learning activities called AI Sparks. The program is designed to prepare students and faculty for the rapid advancement of AI technologies and their role in the workforce. The initiative brought together faculty from the Tallahassee and Panama City campuses to design adaptable AI-based learning activities across many disciplines including nursing, engineering, mathematics, education, business,

music, social work, and entrepreneurship.

[Read More](#)

IT Purchase Request Form Phase 2 Now Available

Phase 2 of the IT Purchase Request Form is now live, bringing new features designed to make the submission process faster and more user-friendly. The update includes a new Submitter Dashboard, allowing users to track pending requests, cancel requests awaiting review, start new submissions and copy previous requests to save time. The release also includes improved email notifications that provide clearer status updates throughout the approval process.

ITS encourages faculty and staff to explore the new features and share their feedback through the [Qualtrics survey](#). Your input helps improve the IT purchasing experience for the FSU community.

[IT Purchase Request Portal](#)

Data Streaming Goes Live

ITS is introducing a new Event Automation platform to modernize how applications and systems across FSU exchange information. This phased-in platform replaces the existing integration framework with an enterprise-grade solution that delivers business events as they occur, such as student course registrations or employee record updates. Rather than repeatedly querying data sources for changes, applications can subscribe to relevant events and respond almost immediately. This initiative is part of a broader effort to transition from traditional batch-based processes to real-time, event-driven integrations.

Set Teams Channels to Private

Do you manage a team channel in Microsoft Teams? All team channels should be set to private to ensure only approved users have access. Public teams increase the risk of data being shared with unintended audiences. Please complete this by **Friday, July 31**.

To check a team's status, **open Microsoft Teams > Select More Options (⋮) on the team tile > Select Edit Team > Set privacy to Private**.

.....

Submit Articles for *PursulTS*

Whether it is an event your team is planning, an award your employee

received or a project update, we want to hear from you. Submit today for your chance to be featured in next month's edition of *PursuITS*!

[Submit Here](#)

Media Highlights

ITS Leader Appears on Data Stakes Podcast

Lee Howell, Senior Director of Administrative Operations and Logistics, was recently a guest on the podcast *Data Stakes – Giving Data a Voice in Higher Education*. In the episode, titled “From ‘Me’ to ‘We’: Finding Your Place in Metrics Strategies with Lee Howell,” Lee discussed metrics strategies, a framework for institutional research. In the episode, Lee discussed staff empowerment within the higher education data ecosystem, the importance of shifting data culture across institutions and the growing role of artificial intelligence in metrics strategies.

[Listen Here](#)

EdTech Spotlights FSU's AI Initiatives

FSU was recently recognized for its successful promotion and adoption of artificial intelligence in the *EdTech* article, “How Florida State University is Building its AI Ecosystem.” ITS leaders **Rebekah Dorn** and **Robby Fuselier** offered their insights into FSU's strategic incorporation of AI, noting partnerships that align with use cases, faculty leadership in AI implementation and the importance of secure digital environments as key components of FSU's effectiveness. Dorn and Fuselier also spoke about the wide array of AI tools FSU offers students, which, ideally, develop AI fluency and help FSU graduates prepare for careers in an AI-enabled workforce.

[Read More](#)

We Are IT



We Are IT | Meet Kayla Murrill!

Kayla Murrill has spent the past decade building a career in technology at FSU, growing from an OPS desktop support technician into her current role as a Windows Systems Engineer with ITS. She helps maintain the security and stability of the university's Windows server environment while supporting campus IT teams with server production and development. Kayla enjoys implementing technologies that solve problems and improve the experience for departments across FSU, with one of her most rewarding projects being the wireless infrastructure upgrade at FSU Panama City.

Meet Kayla

Happy Anniversary!

Happy work anniversary to all the ITS employees celebrating milestone anniversaries with FSU this month.

15 Years

James Oligney
Matthew Keelean

10 Years

Matthew Chaffin
Christian Brigham

1 Year

Makaila Jaramillo-Holmes
Liam Magee
Hunter Boline
Santiago Reyes
Joshua Otteson
Garima Dubey
Tucker Anderson

Grayson Kent
Ronald Huggins
Jonathan Weiss
Nicholas Welch
Roman Serrano

Shout Outs



ITS Leaders Present at Rocky Mountain Cybersecurity Symposium

Congratulations to ITS leaders **Clifford Stokes** and **Bill Hunkapiller** for representing FSU at the 2026 Rocky Mountain Cybersecurity Symposium. The pair presented on how digital forensics can strengthen investigations by improving collaboration among IT, law enforcement, Human Resources, audit and legal teams, while highlighting FSU's investigative support services and emergency response capabilities. Their presentation showcased the expertise within ITS and reinforced the university's leadership in advancing cybersecurity practices and digital investigations.

[Read More](#)

NWRDC Leadership Present at ITFMA

2026 Financial World of Information Conference

Kudos to **Tim Brown**, the Assistant Vice President of the Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC), and Julia Cunningham, the Director of Administrative Services for the NRDC, for presenting at the IT Financial Management Association's (ITFMA) 2026 Financial World of Information Conference. Brown and Cunningham delivered a presentation on leveraging Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) as a strategic framework for evaluating technology investments. Their session demonstrated how lifecycle cost analysis can strengthen financial planning, support informed investment decisions and improve operational outcomes.

IT Director Named TBSR Board Member

Congratulations to **Giovanni "Gio" Lopez**, the Information Technology Director for the Herbert Wertheim College of Business, who was invited to serve as a board member for the Technology in Business Schools Roundtable (TBSR). The TBSR is a global network of IT leaders, such as IT Directors and Deans of Technology, in business schools. TBSR members collaborate on ideas, innovative solutions and best practices in higher education business technology management. Gio recently attended his fourth TBSR conference and will serve as a board member of TBSR going forward.

ITS Intern Named Adobe Student Insider

Courtney Stokes, an emerging tech intern in ITS, was selected as an Adobe Student Insider for the 2026-2027 school year. Out of almost 8,000 applicants, Courtney was one of 30 students selected by Adobe to contribute to product development and community engagement. Adobe Student Insiders meet regularly with Adobe leadership, attend the Adobe Education Summit and make a difference for students across the world by helping shape the future of Adobe products.

Count IT

4,000+

hours of professional development for staff in FY 2025/26

Join IT



Join our team! Browse IT [job openings at FSU](#).

[IAM System Administrator](#)
[Systems Administrator](#)
[IT Services Coordinator](#)
[Florida Virtual Campus Library Services](#)
[Deputy Director](#)

Calendar



**Back to
School
Social
Hour**
08/18



**Code
Freeze**
08/22 -
09/04



**Intern
Orientation**
08/27 &
08/28



**All ITS
Staff
Meeting**
09/01 @
4pm



FSU
**INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

Questions?

We are here to help. Contact the ITS Service Desk at 850-644-4357 or its.fsu.edu/help.

Florida State University
222 S Copeland Street, Tallahassee, FL, 32306, US

© Florida State University 2026

[Privacy Policy](#)