

# The *Women* for FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Summer 2018



## W4FSU ESTABLISHES NEW MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

Would it surprise you to learn more than 1,000 women associate with Women for Florida State University? They may have attended Backstage Pass, another W4FSU event or they explored our website and discovered our inspiring mission. Even with so many women involved, there has never been a clear definition of what it means to be a member of Women for FSU. A committee has worked hard to redefine the concept of membership in our organization, determine established

paths to leadership and develop engagement opportunities for new and existing members.

At the recent annual meeting, the newly formed membership committee announced beginning July 1, for an annual donation of \$50 per person, individuals will be recognized as members of W4FSU. Members will receive a pin, be recognized at events, receive the bi-annual newsletter and be eligible for leadership roles. Individuals who choose not to become members

through an annual donation will be notified of events, receive the newsletter and be known as affiliates of W4FSU.

The membership committee will support the logistics involved in this change as well as recommend initiatives to recruit, retain and involve members. We are proud to announce this development! Visit [w4fsu.org/join](http://w4fsu.org/join) to become a member today! 🦉

—Carol McCormick



*Carol McCormick announcing the improved W4FSU membership structure.*



Cassandra Rayne Gross

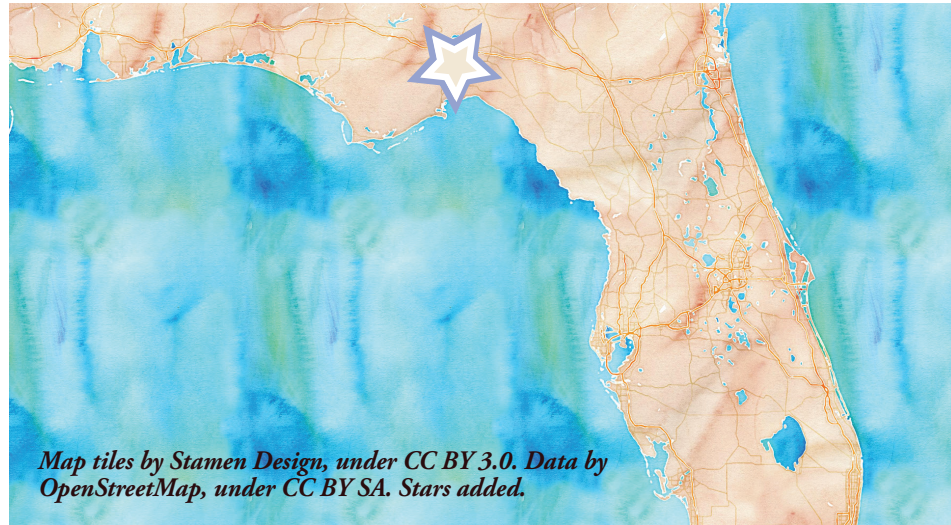
Things continue to heat up for the Women for FSU! This spring, we reconnected during our ninth annual Backstage Pass to the Very Best of Florida State. The theme of "FSU is Tradition" moved us with pride to be a Seminole and encouraged us to build our own traditions and legacies.

W4FSU participated in FSU's Great Give and saw resounding success! We held our third annual Women of Distinction Inspire Awards where we recognized deserving professional women. We refreshed our website to help members get involved and successfully completed a yearlong analysis of our membership structure.

We are looking forward to the Women's Leadership Institute where I hope you will apply to be a facilitator! As we continue to build regional connections, I am grateful for the dedicated women who make W4FSU's initiatives so fruitful. 🦉

Fondly,

Cassandra Rayne Gross  
Chair, Executive Committee



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## TALLAHASSEE REGIONAL UPDATE

As you may know, W4FSU is divided into regional groups. However, there hasn't been one focused in Tallahassee. In 2017, the executive committee decided to change that, and I was asked to organize a regional group in Tallahassee focusing on current and retired faculty and staff. A committee comprising Laura Glenn, Elizabeth Goldsmith, Michelle Mattox, Sherrill Ragans, Janet Stoner and myself planned a welcome reception that was held in the Bradley Reading Room at Strozier Library on January 18. We had 39 attendees and the group was a mix of brand new faces along with W4FSU veterans. The survey taken after made clear that there indeed was interest to organize a

regional group in Tallahassee.

We hosted a smaller follow-up lunch on March 5, where we discussed how W4FSU could appeal to faculty and staff who often have a different relationship to FSU than alumnae. The committee determined there is immense interest in both social and networking events to build community and learn more about FSU's past, present and future.

To that end, we are beginning to plan a series of informal happy hours, group attendance at University events, tours of campus and a speakers series. **We'd love to have you involved! If you're interested, please contact me at [lfulkerson@fsu.edu](mailto:lfulkerson@fsu.edu).** 🦉

—Laurel Fulkerson

### WOMEN FOR FSU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lynn Bertram	Michelle Futo	Michelle Mattox	Chelsea Shackelford
Stella Cottrell	Cassandra Rayne Gross	Carol McCormick	Shenifa Taite
Alicia Crew	Susan Hoerbelt	Annie McFarland	
Laurel Fulkerson	Julie Granger Kritz	Michelle Sabin	



Participants engaging in an exciting WLI session.



2017 Women's Leadership Institute

## W4FSU CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL FSU'S GREAT GIVE

### What is FSU's Great Give?

FSU's Great Give is a 36-hour annual giving opportunity held every spring.

### What is the Women's Leadership Institute?

Sponsored by W4FSU and the Center for Leadership & Social Change, the national, award-winning Women's Leadership Institute has developed, encouraged and celebrated diverse FSU undergraduate female students by providing leadership experience, education and reflection. As currently structured, WLI has hosted the program for 49 undergraduate women for the last five years.

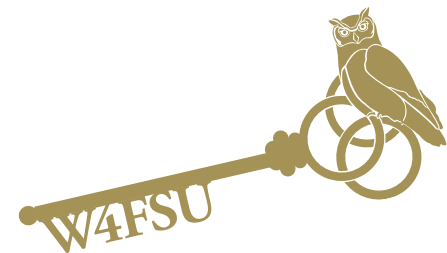
### How has W4FSU combined these two exciting events?

W4FSU uses FSU's Great Give as a fundraiser to support our sponsorship of the Women's Leadership Institute. For the last two years, the W4FSU executive committee and our Gift of Wisdom honorees have offered to match contributions made to WLI during FSU's Great Give up to a certain level. This process has brought us tremendous success.

This year's WLI goal during FSU's Great Give was \$10,000 and we focused on winning incentives offered by FSU Foundation trustees. We won the \$3,000 incentive for the most money raised in the last two hours of the event, bringing our total to \$20,545!

**THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the Women's Leadership Institute during FSU's Great Give. Support can be received year-round by contributing through the FSU Foundation to Women's Leadership Institute (Fund #8504). 🦉

—Janet Stoner



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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION  
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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM W4FSU'S 2018 BACKSTAGE PASS



*Guests were enthralled with Allen Durham's Osceola and Renegade program presentation.*



*Attendees experienced virtual reality during the archaeology programming.*



*Participants peruse artifacts for the spring display they created at the Heritage Museum.*



*Gift of Wisdom Award recipient Dr. Tamara Bertrand Jones (left) with her nominator Lara Perez-Felkner (right).*

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TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [W4FSU.ORG](http://W4FSU.ORG)