

Athletics Administration

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

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Thomas Kent "T.K." Wetherell PRESIDENT



Dr. Thomas Kent "T.K." Wetherell became the 13th president of Florida State University on January 6, 2003. He is the first university alumnus to serve as president of Florida State. A career educator with more than 30 years of experience in the State of Florida's educational system, Dr. Wetherell is also the only FSU president with experience in all four major divisions within

higher education, having held positions in the offices of academic affairs, student services, business affairs, and college development. He has held leadership positions in two-year as well as four-year colleges, and he has served as a faculty member in both public and private institutions of higher education.

Dr. Wetherell is recognized as a high-energy, student-oriented president. He is an innovator who challenges faculty, staff and administrators to set high professional and personal standards. During his tenure as president, Florida State realized its dream of establishing, receiving full accreditation and graduating the first class of the nation's first public new allopathic medical school in the last 25 years.

Under Dr. Wetherell's leadership Florida State has undertaken the university's most extensive construction program, adding three new residence halls, a general purpose classroom building, new food services facilities, parking garages, an alumni center, research facilities, massive renovation projects, a Heritage Walk system throughout campus, as well as the construction of a new medical school.

Dr. Wetherell established the *Pathways of Excellence* program designed to enhance Florida State University's stature as a public graduate research university. The Pathways of Excellence program is designed with the Association of American Universities evaluation criteria as its basis. In addition to issuing a challenge to the university's community to reach a higher level academically, Dr. Wetherell also made available online data that will allow the public and individual faculty to monitor the university's and their respective academic department's success in this endeavor.

Dr. Wetherell is an outstanding advocate for higher education and has been called the state's most "politically astute president." In addition to his political insight, Dr. Wetherell is expert in resource development and led the university to successfully complete Florida State's second major capital campaign. During the campaign Dr. Wetherell gave the largest gift a seated president of a public research university has ever given to an institution in the United States. As president, Dr. Wetherell has also been the university's most vocal advocate for a community service program as part of students' college experience.

Dr. Wetherell has been inducted into Florida State University's Hall of Fame and was the recipient of the prestigious Moore-Stone Award, the Circle of Gold Award and the university's Distinguished Service Award. In addition, he has also been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Letters from Flagler College.

Dr. Wetherell served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1980 to 1992, the last two years as Speaker of the House. During his tenure in the House he served as chairman of the appropriations

committee and the higher education committee. The Miami Herald named him one of the Top Ten Legislative Leaders in the House each year from 1987 until 1992. During his years in the legislative process Florida enacted some of the most progressive education legislation in America.

A third-generation Floridian, Dr. Wetherell was born on December 22, 1945 in Daytona Beach, Florida. He attended Port Orange Elementary School and Mainland Senior High School, where he was active in service clubs, student government and athletics. He attended Florida State University on a football scholarship and played on the 1963-67 football teams. He still holds the record for the longest kickoff return in Florida State University history. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in social studies education from FSU in 1967 and 1968 respectively. He earned a doctorate in education administration from FSU in 1974.

Dr. Wetherell is married to Virginia B. Wetherell, who was appointed by Governor Chiles as Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection from 1991 to 1998. She previously served as a state legislator representing Pensacola. She currently is president of Wetherell Consulting Services. They are the parents of three children: Kent, Blakely, and Page, and have two grandchildren: Emily and Tyler. Wetherell's personal interests include outdoor recreation, travel and aviation.

Dave Hart, Jr.

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



His peers use terms and words such as class, integrity, respect, visionary and national leader to describe Dave Hart, Jr. Bolstered by his leadership and vision, the current and future state of a still young athletics program at Florida State University is vibrant and inspiring. Hart is widely viewed as one of the nation's top athletics directors. It is a reputation he has earned.

Dave Hart begins his 13th year as Florida State's Athletics Director. Hart has led the FSU athletics program since 1995 with comprehensive success in mind. The athletics department budget has more than doubled along with revenues since Hart arrived, with a high percentage of that increase going towards the growth and development of women's athletics programs at FSU. Student-athletes continue to reach new heights in academic performance within University, Conference and national circles. Community service participation by student-athletes is at an all-time high with every team giving back to the community throughout the year. Florida State student-athletes, coaches, administrators and teams are being recognized nationally on a regular basis for honors and awards. Excellence in competition is evidenced across the board with the Seminoles ranking in the Top 20 nationally in the Directors' Cup again this year. Facility enhancements are remarkable and serve as a collective point of pride for current and former student-athletes, coaches, staff, alumni and fans. All of these accomplishments were recognized during the second cycle of NCAA Certification this past year.

In recognizing Hart's position within intercollegiate athletics, ACC Commissioner John Swofford said, "Dave Hart is one of the best and most respected athletics directors in the business. He thoroughly understands the nuances of major college athletics, and he has superb values to go along with his vast experience in the field. He is a proven leader within our conference as well as at the national level."

Hart has served on several prestigious committees at conference and national levels during his career in athletics administration. He has been a member of the NCAA Council, the NCAA Honors and Awards Committee and the NCAA Special Events and Postseason Bowls Committee as well as a consultant to the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Council.

Hart has also held positions of considerable influence within conference and national circles. He served as President of both the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics and the Division I-A Athletics Directors' Association. Hart has been recognized by his peers in

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intercollegiate administration with the honor of being named Athletics Director of the Year in the Southeast Region in 2000 and 2005. In the seven year existence of the AD of the Year Award, he is one of only three athletics directors' in Division I-A to receive the regional award twice. He has also received the Robert R. Neyland Award for lifetime achievement in his profession as well as the Athletics Directors' Award for advancing the quality and progress of student-athletes and the athletics program while at Florida State. He currently is Vice Chairman of the NCAA Football Board of Directors where he represents NACDA and serves with commissioners of Division I-A conferences as well as NCAA President, Myles Brand. He is also one of eleven athletics directors nationally who serve as an advisory group to presidents and conference commissioners in ongoing meetings and discussions regarding BCS format options and related issues regarding post-season football. In addition to serving in prominent leadership roles nationally, Hart has been directly involved in the renegotiations of the ACC's football and basketball television contracts, which are considered to be the nation's best. He has chaired the ACC Television Committee as well as the ACC Men's Basketball and Football committees. A long-time advocate of conference expansion, Hart played an instrumental role in the Atlantic Coast Conference expansion process which resulted in the addition of three new members in Miami, Virginia Tech and Boston College while immediately elevating the national profile of the ACC.

A popular speaker at the national level, Hart has made numerous speaking presentations nationally and presented seminars on such topics as student-athlete welfare, marketing, gender equity, facility master planning, negotiation skills and personnel transition. He was an instructor at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Management Institute for ten years and currently is an annual presenter at the Division I-A Athletics Directors' Institute sharing with peers his knowledge and experiences relating to athletics administration.

Since his arrival at Florida State, Hart has negotiated unprecedented multi-million dollar contracts for the department totaling in excess of 175 million dollars while planning and guiding the development and implementation of an extensive and comprehensive facilities master plan for athletics which totals more than 140 million dollars. He initiated a multi-faceted Student Development/Life Skills program for all student-athletes at FSU, which has been recognized nationally as a "Program of Excellence" by the Division I-A Athletics Directors' Association. He spearheaded the rewriting of the department's mission statement to put the student-athlete at the core of everything the athletics department does in its goal to build comprehensive excellence throughout the many components of the department.

Hart took a leadership role in the athletics department's first major Capital Campaign, in concert with Seminole Boosters, which raised over 75 million dollars for athletics facilities. A second capital campaign is underway to endow athletics scholarships for all sports at Florida State. Within the Facilities Master Plan, the Soccer/Softball facility was the first new facility to be built and remains one of the nation's finest. Major renovations to the Tennis and Volleyball facilities have also been completed. The state-of-the-art Golf Facility and Teaching Center and the Basketball Training Center are among the nation's very best. The Dick Howser Baseball Stadium and the new Moore Athletics Center, have few, if any, peers. A new aquatics facility and completion of the renovation to the Mike Long Track building are underway. The planned "Legacy Walk" will ultimately showcase FSU tradition and Athletics heritage around the University Center.

Hart has made major hires within coaching and administrative areas of the department, while dramatically increasing exposure for all Seminole Athletics since his arrival at FSU. Through the negotiation of television contracts with Sun Sports as well as ACC contracts with regional sports carriers and ABC and ESPN, Florida State enjoys outstanding visibility in all sports on an annual basis.

Under Hart's direction, FSU formalized a varsity club to encourage the participation of former student-athletes in athletics department activities and a new focus has been placed on the growth of women's athletics at FSU. That commitment is reflected in the increased allocation of funding, competitive success and facility improvements. Also during Hart's tenure, FSU has been home to the inaugural National Student-Athlete of the Year,

a State of Florida Woman of the Year recipient and a Rhodes Scholar. A record number of FSU student-athletes have made the ACC Academic Honor Roll, been recipients of NCAA post-graduate scholarship awards and obtained degrees during the past ten years. Student-athlete community service involvement has become a priority since Hart's arrival. Student-athletes at FSU contributed over 5,000 hours this past year to community outreach projects with the women's golf team winning the Athletics Director's Cup for community service.

A 1971 graduate of Alabama, Hart played basketball for the Crimson Tide and earned a master's degree in 1972 while serving as a graduate assistant basketball coach. He coached and taught at the high school level before joining the East Carolina athletics program in 1983 where his vision and leadership enabled that program to reach goals thought to be unattainable.

Hart met his wife, the former Pam Humble, while at Alabama and they have three children, Rick, Jamie and Kelly. The Hart's also have four grandchildren, Trevor, Caroline, McKinley and Olivia.

Dr. Joe Beckham, J.D.

FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE



Dr. Joe Beckham was appointed as Florida State's Faculty Representative to the NCAA and ACC in 2006 and currently chairs the University's Athletic Committee. Beckham has served as head of the Department of Educational Leadership (1988 to 1993), chair of that department (1999 to 2001), and interim chair (2005-06). In addition to his appointment to a number of state and

national boards representing educators and attorneys, he was president of the National Organization on Legal Problems of Education in 1991 and was awarded the McGhehey Award for contributions to the field of education law by the Education Law Association in 1996. From 2000 to 2005, he was a member of Florida State's Athletic Board serving on the equity and academics committees and chairing the budget subcommittee.

Beckham joined FSU in 1980 and specializes in education law, policy and finance. He was named Allan Tucker Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Florida State University in 2001 and was awarded the Ross Oglesby Award for contributions to FSU in 1999. He holds both a Ph.D. in educational administration and policy and a Juris Doctorate. In the mid-1970s, he served as administrative counsel to Connecticut Lt. Governor Peter Cashman, and assisted in the development of youthful offender programs that coordinated services across the Connecticut departments of education, corrections, higher education and youth services. While completing his Ph.D., he was a National Education Finance Project research fellow and later joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania.

In addition to his work in the field of education law, Dr. Beckham is an advocate for recreational greenways and programs for young people. His leadership was instrumental in the development of Florida's first trail greenway, the St. Marks Trail, which has become a successful pilot program for the development of other recreational greenways in Florida. He has served on the Governor's Advisory Committee on Greenways and Trails, and is currently a member of the board of the Big Bend Boys and Girls Clubs and the North Carolina Outward Bound School.

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