

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Name	District	Term
THE HONORABLE KAY IVEY	Governor of Alabama	President Ex Officio
SENATOR VIVIAN DAVIS FIGURES	First	2012-2023
MS. GALE SAXON MAIN	Second	2012-2023
MR. WILLIAM RONALD SMITH (CHAIR)	Third	2004-2016
MR. GREG BROWN	Third	2016-2021
MR. CLARENCE W. DAUGETTE III	Fourth	2012-2023
MR. RANDALL JONES	Fifth	2008-2015
MR. RUSTY FULLER	Sixth	2016-2019
MR. THOMAS W. DEDRICK, SR. (VICE CHAIR)	Seventh	2008-2019
MR. RANDY OWEN	At Large	2000-2024
MR. TONY INGRAM	Out of State, At Large	

HISTORY OF JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

From modest beginnings, Jacksonville State University has evolved into the educational center of northeast Alabama. The Alabama Legislature in the 1882-83 session created a state normal school when Governor Edward O'Neal signed into law a bill creating the school on February 22, 1883. Jacksonville State Normal School acquired the facilities and equipment of Calhoun College, consisting of twelve acres of land and a two-story brick building. The Board of Directors elected James G. Ryals, Jr., as the first president. The school opened with three instructors: W. J. Borden, Mathematics; Eliza A. Bowen, English; and Ida J. Woodward, primary department. As stipulated in the establishing act, the Normal School conducted a preparatory school for children of the town and surrounding areas. At the end of the first year, on August 15, 1884, William Mark Haymes, President of the Board of Directors, reported that funds totaling \$4,751.25 had been received, including \$2,500 from the state, that 25 students were enrolled in the normal school, and that 222 were in the preparatory school.

The Normal School remained in operation until 1930 when it became Jacksonville State Teachers College, reflecting an increasing higher education role for the Institution. Five years later, the College earned regional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1957, the name changed again, to Jacksonville State College, when the first graduate program – the master's degree in elementary education was created. On August 2, 1966, the Legislature authorized the State Board of Education to elevate the college to university status. On August 17, 1967, the Legislature established an independent Board of Trustees for the university and divested jurisdiction from the State Board of Education.

Jacksonville State University has been served by twelve presidents: James G. Ryals, Jr. (1883-1885), J. Harris Chappell (1885-1886), Carlton Bartlett Gibson (1886-1892), J. B. Jarrett (1892-1893), Jacob Forney IV (1893-1899), Clarence William Daugette (1899-1942), Houston Cole (1942-1971), Ernest Stone (1971-1981) Theron E. Montgomery (1981-1986), Harold J. McGee (1986-1999), William A. Meehan (1999-2015), and John M. Beehler (2015-present).

Jacksonville State University has developed into a modern comprehensive regional university serving northeast Alabama on a 459-acre campus with 58 buildings. In addition, the university operates off-campus centers at JSU-Gadsden, Brookstone and JSU-McClellan. Through its programs of teaching, research, and service, Jacksonville State University has served the region and state for more than 135 years.

MISSION STATEMENT

Jacksonville State University, as a learning-centered community, provides distinctive educational, cultural and social experiences to prepare students to be competent, ethical professionals and engaged, responsible, global citizens.

VISION STATEMENT

Jacksonville State University will be recognized nationally for excellence in providing a transformational learning environment that supports student success and engagement, regional stewardship and innovation.

CORE VALUES

Jacksonville State University is committed to:

- Student-Centered Culture
- Excellence
- Transformation
- Innovation
- Engagement
- Stewardship
- Integrity
- Inclusivity

KEY STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- Increase Enrollment
- Expand Regional Stewardship
- Enhance University Resources
- Expand Innovative Educational Experiences
- Enhance Branding and Marketing
- Enhance Human Capital
- Enhance University Infrastructure