

2018 FUTURE OF FLORIDA SUMMIT



Bob Graham Center for Public Service





CORE COMPONENTS

Interactive	Participants interact with experts, state leaders, and fellow students to learn about issues facing the state.
Action-Oriented	Participants at each summit work toward a policy goal. In 2018, students came together to draft legislative proposals addressing Florida's environmental issues.
Network Development and Community Building	Participants have the opportunity to meet students from all over the state of Florida and develop connections as well as come into contact with state leaders and community stakeholders.
Collaborative and Ongoing	In 2017, student participants forwarded their amendment proposals to the Constitution Revision Commission and attended public hearings to advocate for them. Participants from 2018 will develop their proposals into legislation and contact interested state representatives.
Educational	With the chance to hear from experts and state leaders, students leave the summit with increased knowledge of the topic, the process of policy-making, and how to advocate for their policies.

OVERVIEW

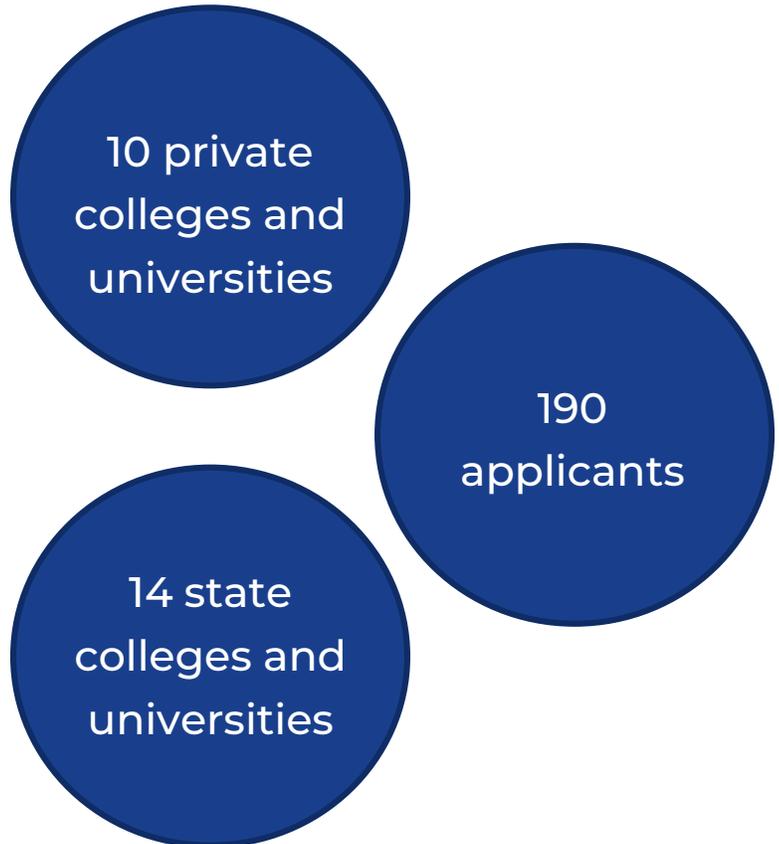
The Future of Florida is a student organized summit that invites college/university students from around the state to discuss pertinent policy issues. The summit is hosted annually by the Bob Graham Center for Public Service on the University of Florida campus. In the past, the summit has tackled issues in higher education, online voter registration, and the Florida Constitution Revision in Commission. In 2018, the summit focused on the future of Florida's environment.

2018 PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

The Future of Florida received applications from 24 Florida schools in 2018.

APPLICATION POOL

- Barry University
- Broward College
- Eckerd College
- Flagler College
- Florida A&M University
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida Southern College
- Florida Southwestern State College
- Florida State University
- Gulf Coast State College
- Jacksonville University
- Nova Southeastern University
- Pensacola State College
- Rollins College
- Santa Fe College
- Stetson University
- Tallahassee Community College
- University of Central Florida
- University of Tampa
- University of Florida
- University of North Florida
- University of South Florida
- University of West Florida



PARTICIPANT POOL

Of the 190 applicants received, 120 students were invited to participate. The participating students represented a wide range of undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including political science, environmental engineering, public administration, history, economics, geography, international studies, computer science, business, and law.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

GIL DAMON, FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

"The Future of Florida Summit convenes present and future leaders for an unparalleled policy-focused experience. I left Gainesville inspired, focused, and hopeful. I recommend this conference to anyone who is serious about improving the lives of Floridians."

AYDIN EVERY, TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

"This was my first conference so I was naturally anxious and nervous as I was checking into the hotel, but I learned quickly that there was nothing to be worried about as I was among like-minded yet diverse group of individuals who all came together for the purpose of gaining knowledge and applying it to the betterment of the state of Florida. After a weekend of listening to quality speakers, networking with bright students, at an event put together by an amazing student organizing committee, I checked out of the same hotel empowered to attend more conferences so I can utilize everything I learned at Future of Florida 2018."

LILIAM CLAVIJO, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

"The Future of Florida Summit was an invaluable experience that taught me the value of working with fellow students to enact overarching goals to better our state. I loved learning about policy-making on a local and eventually state level, and I feel so lucky to have been a part of this summit."

PROCESS

COMMITTEE SELECTION

The Future of Florida Summit is organized by a group of undergraduate students. The members of the student organizing committee represent various Florida colleges and universities. In 2018, students from the University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Central Florida, University of South Florida, University of Tampa, Florida Atlantic University, and Santa Fe College.



2018 Student Organizing Committee:

- Dalia Figueredo, University of Florida
- Lindsey Cazessus, University of Florida
- Gloria Li, University of Florida
- Patrick Goodrich, University of Florida
- Brett Steinfeld, University of Florida
- Jordan Morang, University of Florida
- Hannah Tabor, University of Florida
- Melissa Uriguen, Santa Fe College
- Erin McCord, Florida State University
- Savannah Valentine, Florida State University
- Vilas Ramachandran, University of South Florida
- Sam Ramcharan, University of Central Florida
- Danisha Olcima, Florida Atlantic University
- Kevin O'Hare, University of Tampa

TOPIC DEVELOPMENT

With guidance from the staff of the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, the student organizing committee is tasked with selecting a summit topic. The topic for the 2018 Future of Florida Summit was the future of Florida's environment.

Past Topics:

- **2014:** Issues Facing Higher Education
- **2015:** Online Voter Registration
- **2016:** Lobbying and Advocacy
- **2017:** The Constitution Revision Commission

SPEAKER SELECTION

Student organizers invite speakers and coordinate the topics on which the speakers will present. Past speakers include the following individuals:

- **2014:** Brian Dassler, Former Deputy Chancellor of Educator Quality at the Florida Department of Quality
- **2015:** Deidre Macnab, Past President of the League of Women Voters of Florida
- **2017:** The Honorable Bob Butterworth, Former Florida Attorney General
- **2018:** Noah Valenstein, Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- **2018:** Eric Eikenberg, Chief Executive Officer of the Everglades Foundation



SIMILAR PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAMS

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE AT THE HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL'S INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

Since 2003, a 28-college and university alliance has held annual conferences to identify collaborative projects, foster engagement in electoral politics, assist students in pursuing careers in public service, and provide a foundation in civic education. Led by a team of Harvard undergraduate students, the collegiate ambassadors to the National Campaign work together to achieve concrete goals, such as working with local election offices to improve the voting experience for their campus communities. The Bob Graham Center for Public Service sends two students to Cambridge, Massachusetts, each year to attend the National Campaign Conference.

SAYFIE REVIEW FLORIDA LEADERS SUMMIT

The Sayfie Review Florida Leaders Summit is an invitation-only, non-partisan event created in the spirit of the World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland. The purpose of this annual event is to engage Florida's leaders, shape Florida's agenda, and prosper Florida's future. The Bob Graham Center for Public Services is a Thought Leadership Partner for the annual Sayfie Summit.

2018

