



GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome, Tigers



2026 Spring Convocation

May 8, 2026




STUDENT SUCCESS

— INNOVATION

— OPERATIONAL IMPACT

THE MOMENTUM OF PURPOSE



NEW FACULTY & STAFF MEMBERS

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE

Agenda

- **Big Picture Year In Review Highlights**
- **Student Success**
- **Advisor Awards**
- **Innovation**
- **Cross-Border and Research/Scholarly Activity Awards**
- **Operational Impact**
- **Outstanding Teaching and Service Awards**
- **Legislative Update**
- **Tenure & Promotion Recognition**
- **Collective Leadership Recognition**
- **125th Anniversary**
- **Closing**





OUR YEAR IN REVIEW





OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



Academic Innovation



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



Academic Innovation



**Enriched Campus
Experience**



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



Academic Innovation



Enriched Campus Experience



Our Economic Force Multiplier

Student Success

Driving Persistence through Proactive Strategy

• POLICY & FOUNDATION

Launch Next Week: New Standing & Reinstatement policies, communications, and intervention plans.

Strategic Goal: Data-informed support designed to drive measurable rise in persistence and graduation.

• STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & BELONGING

940 Fall '25 Total | 294+ Spring '26 YTD | +200% Career Growth

Spring Activities: hosted 27 events, resulting in over 3,100 student engagements. These programs spanned social, educational, service, and RSO support initiatives,

• DIGITAL INTEGRATION

5,956 Advising Appts | 1,420 At-Risk Contacts

EAB Navigate: 100% of UG advising moved to EAB scheduling; high completion among 3rd/4th year students.

Early Outreach: Proactive contact for all Spring Interim D/U grades

• SUCCESS STRATEGIES

Intake Poll: 700 completions; mandatory for Summer Orientation to enable Day-One proactive support.

Probation: Targeted January outreach with personalized resource mapping for on-campus and online students.

Online Orientation: Revived live format (45 attendees); expanding to 2 sessions this Fall.



AWARDS



Navigator Award

Navigator Award



Katie Lunsford

Academic Advisor



College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Graduate School Outstanding Advisor

Graduate School Outstanding Advisor



Dr. Juti Winchester

Associate Professor



Department of History and Philosophy

Edmund Shearer Advisor of the Year

Edmund Shearer Advisor of the Year Nominees



Kristin Hernandez

Graduate Program Coordinator



College of Education



Sarah Patterson

Graduate Program Coordinator



Robbins College of Business
and Entrepreneurship



Debbie Staab

Academic Advisor



College of Arts, Humanities
and Social Sciences



Ashley Wetzel

Academic Advisor



College of Health and
Behavioral Sciences

Edmund Shearer

Advisor of the Year



Sarah Patterson

Graduate Program Coordinator



Robbins College of Business and Entrepreneurship

INNOVATION



TEACHING



INTEGRATING



LEADING

INNOVATION

• Affiliation

NW

FORT HAYS TECH
NORTHWEST
GOODLAND

PATHWAYS

FHSU

FORT HAYS STATE
UNIVERSITY
HAYS

WORKFORCE

NC

FORT HAYS TECH
NORTH CENTRAL
BELOIT • HAYS

**LOCAL
OPPORTUNITIES**

The background is a vibrant yellow with various abstract shapes. At the top left, there is a horizontal row of six small, hollow yellow circles. On the left side, there is a large, solid yellow circle. In the bottom right corner, there is a grid of small, solid yellow circles. The word "AWARDS" is centered in a large, bold, white font with a slight drop shadow. Below the text, there are two horizontal bars: a white one on top and a black one on the bottom, both with a slight 3D effect and a shadow.

AWARDS

Cross-Border Educational Excellence Award

Cross-Border Educational Excellence Award



Eric McFarlane

Instructor



Department of English and Modern Languages
Shenyang Normal University (SNU) Campus

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



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AWARDS

Spring 2026 Outstanding Teaching Award

Spring 2026 Outstanding Teaching Award



Jayme Goetz

Instructor



Department of Mathematics/Werth College of
Science, Technology and Mathematics

Spring 2026 Outstanding Research & Scholarly Activity Award

Spring 2026 Outstanding Research & Scholarly Activity Award



Dr. Brooke Mann

Assistant Professor



Department of Psychology/College of
Health and Behavioral Sciences

Spring 2026 Outstanding Service Award

Spring 2026 Outstanding Service Award



Hollie Marquess

Lecturer



Department of History and Philosophy/College
of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Legislative Update

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Hard Truths And Our Response

\$2.4 Million Reduction
in our State Appropriation



Legislative Update

• • •

Hard Truths And Our Response

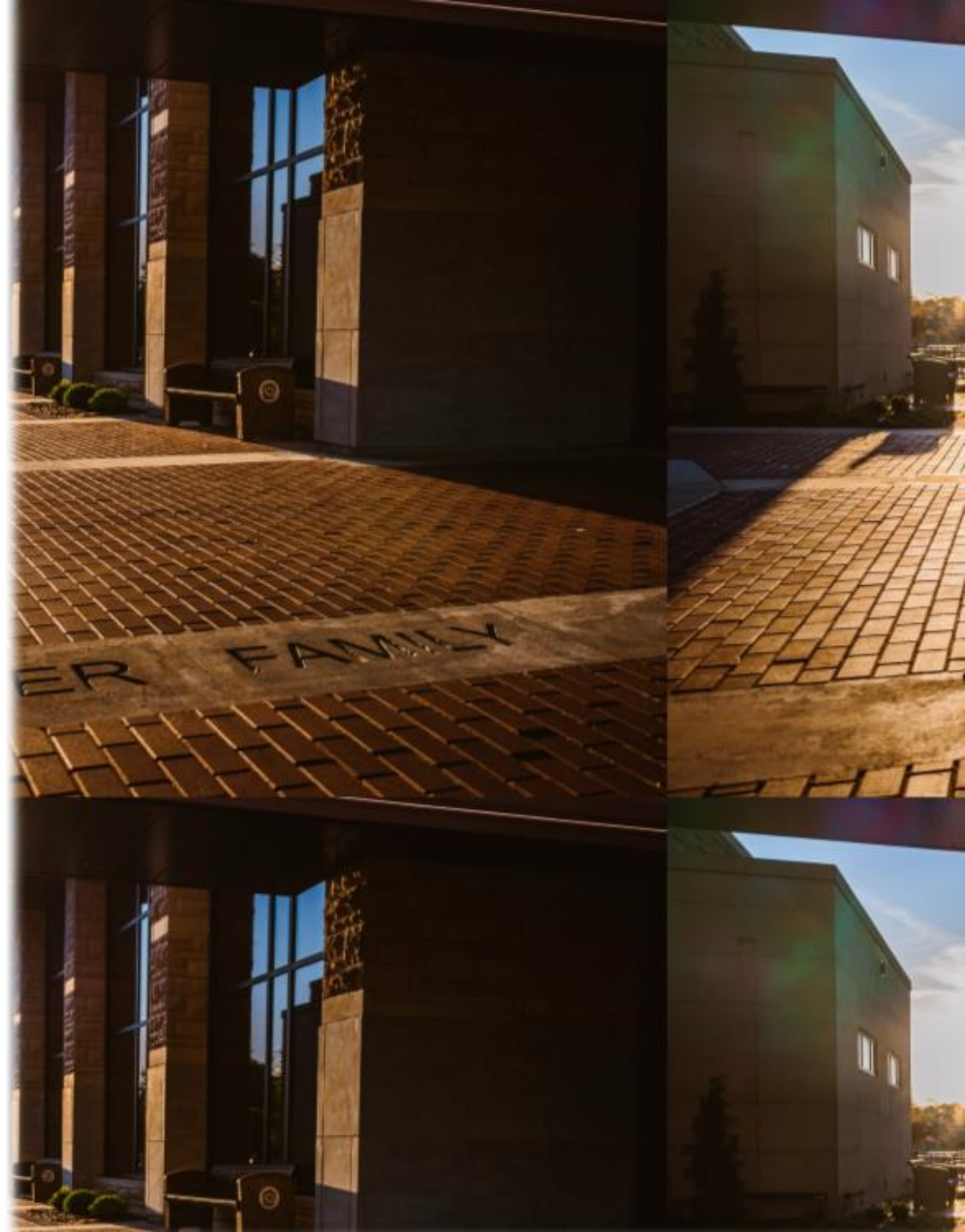
We will adapt with strength
and protect the core mission
we have always strived to
achieve



Legislative Update

• • • Hard Truths And Our Response

\$2 Million Claw-Back:
Contingent on legislative
compliance regarding DEI &
Critical Race Theory (CRT)





TENURE

TENURED AND PROMOTED FACULTY

Dr. Jennifer Bechard, *Health and Human Performance*, Associate Professor

Dr. Jerrie Brooks, *Advanced Education Programs*, Associate Professor

Ms. Susan Dumler, *Applied Technology*, Associate Professor

Ms. Karla Johnston, *Nursing*, Associate Professor

Dr. Iryna McDonald, *Agriculture*, Associate Professor

PROMOTED FACULTY

Dr. Gary Andersen, *Advanced Education Programs*, Professor

Dr. Kim Chappell, *Advanced Education Programs*, Professor

Dr. Reade Dowda, *Advanced Education Programs*, Professor

Dr. Darrell Hamlin, *Political Science*, Professor

Ms. Robyn Hartman, *Library*, Professor

Mr. Randall Jordan, *Applied Technology*, Professor

Dr. Shane Schartz, *Informatics*, Professor

Dr. Kevin Splichal, *Advanced Education Programs*, Professor

Dr. Brett Whitaker, *Leadership*, Professor

Dr. Whitney Whitaker, *Psychology*, Professor

Dr. Brendon Fox, *Management*, Associate Professor

Dr. Hussam Ghunaim, *Computer Science*, Associate Professor

Dr. Edwin Olmstead, *Chemistry*, Associate Professor

Ms. Hollie Marquess, *History*, Senior Lecturer

Mr. Morgan Chalfant, *English*, Lecturer

Ms. Laney Roths, *Teacher Education*, Lecturer

STAFF SENATE MONTHLY STAFF RECOGNITION

January: DeLeon Stephen, *Financial Aid Office*, Financial Aid Advisor

February: Jennifer Potter, *School of Visual and Performing Arts (Music & Theatre)*, Senior. Administration Assistant

March: LouWayne Davidson, *Registrar's Office*, Degree Analyst

April: Polly Pfeifer, *Werth College of Science, Technology & Mathematics*, Administrative Specialist

May: Trevor Meier, *Agriculture*, Head Coach Rodeo

COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP

Dr. Matthew Clay and the members of the **Faculty Senate**

Nikki Houchen and the members of the **University Staff Senate**

Jackson Sinsel and the **Student Government Association**

Eileen Moore and the **Online Student Government Association**

And **Dr. Gene Rice** and the membership of the **AAUP**



Faculty Senate ✦ **University Staff Senate** ✦ **Student Government Association**

Online Student Government Association ✦ **American Association of University Professors**

CELEBRATING

125

YEARS

OF INSTITUTIONAL
COMMITMENT
TO ACADEMIC
SUCCESS

—◆◆—
FHSU
—◆◆—



Maria Neale & Nathan Erbert

HOME COMING
2026



POST WITH **#FHSU125** AND **@FORTHAYSSTATE**



JUNE 23rd
2027

**THANK
YOU**

