

# FSU, Mayo Clinic forge agreement created to attract biomedical talent

[Byron Dobson](#), Tallahassee Democrat | Published 11:15 a.m. ET Feb. 26, 2020 | Updated 5:15 p.m. ET Feb. 26, 2020

Florida State University and the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville have entered a partnership designed to provide educational, research and entrepreneurial advancements.

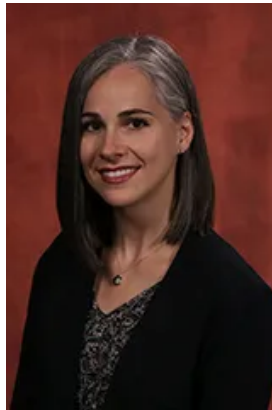


FSU President John Thrasher (Photo: Florida State University)

The focus is developing programs that will help develop, retain and attract talent in the biomedical field.

FSU President John Thrasher and representatives from Mayo Clinic in Florida signed the agreement Tuesday in Jacksonville.

"The relationship between Florida State University and Mayo Clinic represents an incredible opportunity for our students to benefit from the combined capabilities of these venerable institutions," said Thrasher. "We are thrilled that our students will be able to take advantage of the internship and research opportunities available through Mayo so they can progress in their biomedical education and add to the talent pool we have here in Florida."



Emily Pritchard, a research faculty member at Florida State, has been appointed director of FSU-Mayo Collaboration. (Photo: Florida State University)

Emily Pritchard, a research faculty member at FSU, has been named director of the FSU-Mayo Collaboration. In that role, she will bring together colleges at FSU that will benefit from the new collaborative initiatives.

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Mayo staff also will be able to access training and educational opportunities through FSU's Office of Distance Learning.

"We are very pleased to announce this partnership, which will combine the incredible capabilities of our two institutions to accelerate innovative ideas to benefit patients through the development and commercialization of biotechnology, a robust entrepreneurship program, and an enhanced workforce to meet the healthcare, research and development needs of Florida, the region and beyond," said Dr. Kent Thielen, CEO of Mayo Clinic in Florida. "We feel very fortunate to

have this opportunity to collaborate with such an exceptional university."



Dr. Kent Thielen, CEO of Mayo Clinic in Florida (Photo: Mayo Clinic Florida)

The agreement creates new opportunities for FSU students to participate in internships at the Mayo Clinic campus in Jacksonville, working with physician mentors in clinical research and healthcare startups in the Life Sciences Incubator. Internship placements begin in summer 2020, according to a news release.

In addition, FSU students in Tallahassee will have the opportunity to work on Mayo Clinic projects with contributions in data science, biostatistics and engineering.

Faculty and students from Mayo Clinic will be able to train at FSU with researchers and state of the art equipment at the main campus and National High Magnetic Field Laboratory.



Florida State University's College of Medicine. (Photo: Hali Tauxe/Democrat)

As part of the collaboration, FSU will create an interdisciplinary biomedical entrepreneurship certificate program, combining the expertise of FSU's Jim Moran College of Entrepreneurship and College of Medicine. The graduate certificate will be open to FSU students and Mayo employees.

"This is an unparalleled opportunity for FSU students whether they are interested in research, clinical work or biomedical entrepreneurship," FSU Provost Sally McRorie said.

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