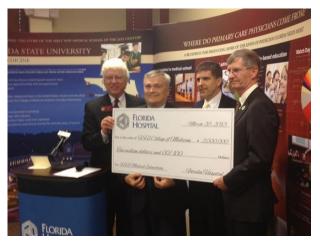Mar 20, 2013, 3:05pm EDT

Florida Hospital donates $2M to FSU College of Medicine in Orlando

[Abraham Aboraya](#)
Reporter-
Orlando Business Journal

[Florida Hospital](#) gave $2 million to the Florida State University College of Medicine's Orlando campus March 20.

[Brian Paradis](#), executive vice president and chief operating officer for Florida Hospital, said at a press conference that the $2 million was an investment. Paradis mentioned the opposition to FSU's medical college, which, at the time, included the American Medical Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Board of Regents, which oversaw the universities and were against the school's formation.

"You aren't innovating if there aren't a few naysayers cheering you on," Paradis said.

In an interview after the event, Paradis said when FSU asked for a donation, Florida Hospital delved into the numbers and concluded it was a worthwhile investment. "We value their heavy primary care emphasis, we very much value that 60 percent of their students stay in Florida and that they help us solve our physician shortage," he said.

Florida State University President [Eric Barron](#) said the donation was a reflection on return on investment.

"[Students] put roots down in Orlando," Barron said. "Even if they take a residency outside of the state of Florida, they come back. And not just to Florida, they come back to Orlando, because they've become part of the community."

[John Fogarty](#), dean of the FSU College of Medicine, said the donation was a reflection of "the partnership in Orlando for the last 10 years," he said. "The return on investment is wonderful."