

UF FACTS

The University of Florida is one of the nation's leading public research universities, with one of the three most comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs in the country. Sixteen colleges offer more than 100 undergraduate majors, and the Graduate School coordinates more than 200 graduate programs. UF is also a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities.

In addition to its campus programs, the university administers statewide educational and research systems through the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. These programs make major contributions to Florida's agricultural industry, as well as to the overall economy of the State. The Health Sciences Center at UF also plays a significant role by providing leading-edge medical care throughout the state.

The University of Florida traces its beginnings to the establishment of the East Florida Seminary in 1853. The seminary subsequently moved to Gainesville and merged with the state's land-grant Florida Agricultural College to become the University of Florida. From an enrollment of 102 students in 1906, the university has grown to an enrollment of some 52,000 in 2007.



Research and Discoveries

UF is a leader in research and discoveries which improve the lives of individuals throughout the state, nation and world.

- UF received more than \$583 million in research awards in 2006-2007.
- UF has more than \$750 million in new research facilities recently completed or under construction, including the Cancer & Genetics Research Building, the Nanoscale Research Facility and the Pathogens Research Facility.
- UF is a national leader in alternative energy research, with strong programs in ethanol production, and nuclear and solar energy.
- UF has robust research collaborations with Scripps Florida, the Burnham Institute for Medical Research, and the Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies.
- The UF astronomy department is a world leader in the development of sophisticated detectors that are mounted on some of the world's largest telescopes to detect new planets and other objects.
- UF is home to the world's second-largest butterfly and moth collection, with more than 4 million specimens.
- UF's McKnight Brain Institute is home to more than 300 faculty using some of the world's most powerful MRI systems and other state-of-the-art tools for better understanding the human brain and nervous system.
- UF is the only university partner on the world's largest telescope, currently under construction in the Canary Islands.
- UF has a long history of research on the impacts of hurricanes on people and property, both along the coast and inland.

Educational Excellence

UF's talented faculty members are highly recognized within their respective fields.

- UF is consistently ranked among the nation's top universities: No. 17 in U.S. News & World Report "Top Public Universities" (August 2007); No. 6 in The Center's "Top Public Research Universities" (2006); No. 2 in Kiplinger's "Best Values in Public Colleges" (2007).
- UF has more than 4,409 faculty members with distinguished records in teaching, research and service, including more than 60 Eminent Scholar chairs and nearly 30 faculty elections to the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, or the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Awards include a Fields Medal, two Pulitzer Prizes, NASA's top award for research, and Smithsonian Institution's conservation award.

Competitive Student Admission; Academic Excellence

- Approximately 90 percent of incoming freshmen score above the national average on standardized exams. The fall 2007 incoming freshman class had an average 4.10 GPA and 1270 SAT score.
- UF admitted 1,316 International Baccalaureate students — more than any other university in the world — in fall 2007.
- The freshman retention rate of 94 percent is among the highest in the country.
- UF ranked second among AAU universities in bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students in 2006-2007, and eighth among AAU universities in the number of Ph.D.s awarded to Hispanic students.
- UF ranked first among AAU universities in bachelor's degrees awarded to African American students in 2006-2007, and sixth among AAU universities in the number of Ph.D.s awarded to African American students in 2006-2007.

Rich Academic History

- Florida's largest university — and one of the nation's largest — enrolls approximately 50,000 students per year. UF is home to 16 colleges and more than 150 research centers.
- UF has been a member of the Association of American Universities (the top 62 public and private institutions in North America) since 1985.

Economic Impact

UF is an economic powerhouse behind Florida's economy.

- The annual economic impact of UF is in excess of \$5.8 billion.
- UF activities generate 75,000 statewide jobs, including more than 34,000 university employees and those employed by supporting businesses.

Service Mission and Cultural Impact

As a land-, sea- and space-grant institution, UF is dedicated to serving the interests of society.

- UF's world-class cultural and artistic venues, including the Florida Museum of Natural History, Harn Museum of Art, and Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, attract individuals from throughout the state and beyond.
- The university's statewide outreach includes Cooperative Extension Offices in each of the state's 67 counties, and 13 Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Research and Education Centers throughout the state.
- UF's Health Science Center serves as the major referral center for patients in the southeastern U.S., and provides health and dental services in Gainesville and seven other cities throughout the state.
- Shands HealthCare includes nine hospitals: two academic medical centers, a children's hospital, four community hospitals and two specialty hospitals. Shands is an official



medical provider for NASA, serving as the medical support team for every launch and landing at the Kennedy Space Center.

- UF's radio and television stations reach audiences from Jacksonville to Tampa and throughout north central Florida, providing news, sports, cultural and other programs often not available from other sources.
- The university libraries form the largest information resource system in the state of Florida, containing more than 4 million volumes, 6.7 million microfilms and thousands of full-text electronic journals.

Sustainability Leadership

UF is committed to the responsible teachings and practices of environmental protection and social responsibility.

- One of UF's sustainability goals of Zero Waste is to find ways to reduce waste on campus to nearly zero by 2015.
- UF became the first university in the world to be designated a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" for environmental and wildlife management, resource conservation, waste management, and outreach and education (2005).
- UF is one of three universities in the country to offer an Organic Agriculture undergraduate degree program (programs at all three universities began in fall 2006).

Athletics

UF's athletic programs possess a rich tradition of excellence at the conference, national and international levels.

- UF's athletic victories include 21 national team championships and more than 200 individual national titles. In 2006, UF became the first university in collegiate history to earn both the national men's basketball and football titles in the same year. The university again made history in April 2007 by winning a consecutive national title in men's basketball. The Gators lead the Southeastern Conference (SEC) in team titles and Academic All-SEC recipients.
- UF is one of only two universities to appear in the NACDA (National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics) National All-Sports top-10 ranking for each of the past 23 years and is one of only two schools in the 2006-2007 National All-Sports top 10 with an athlete graduation success rate above 89 percent.
- Since 1968, 118 Gators and 11 Florida coaches have earned 76 medals (39 gold) while representing 27 countries in 10 Olympiads.

- Since 1990, the University of Florida Athletic Association has contributed more than \$45 million to UF's academic endeavors.

Alumni

- Founded in 1906, the UF Alumni Association exists to serve the nearly 325,000 alumni that are located throughout the world. UF graduates reside in all 50 states and in 126 foreign countries. More than 100 Gator Clubs® have formed across the United States and in eleven countries. These groups come together in their local communities for professional, social and philanthropic activities.
- Famous UF alumni and attendees include the Bellamy Brothers, actress Faye Dunaway, ABC anchor Forrest Sawyer, World Series MVP David Eckstein, football player Emmitt Smith, TV personality Bob Vila and politician Bob Graham. Professor Robert Cade invented the internationally known sports drink, Gatorade®, on UF's campus in the 1960s. There are numerous UF alumni in the House and Senate on both the state and federal level. In addition to that, nine Governors of the state of Florida have been UF graduates. UF Alumni include two Nobel Peace Prize winners, three NASA astronauts and Olympians in a number of sports.



The University of Florida is in Gainesville. The Gator Nation is everywhere.

The Gator Nation includes millions of people throughout the world: students, alumni, faculty, staff and administrators, as well as sports fans and anyone who wishes to affiliate with the values and spirit of the University of Florida.

For more information about UF, visit:
<http://www.ufl.edu/aboutUF/>

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The Foundation for The Gator Nation