



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Office of the President

P.O. Box 160002
Orlando, FL 32816-0002

June 12, 2025

Mr. Tim Jones
Senior Vice Chancellor, Finance/Administration and CFO
Board of Governors
State University System of Florida
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Dear Mr. Jones:

In accordance with your request dated April 2, 2025 to the Institutional Data Administrators, enclosed is the University of Central Florida's (UCF) Five-Year Fixed Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2026-27 through 2030-31. The final plan was approved by the University Board of Trustees on June 12, 2025.

This year's PECO projects focus on research, student success, and industry innovation. UCF plays a critical role in developing talent for Florida's key industries, ensuring the state continues to lead in technological innovation and economic growth. With this investment, UCF will expand its impact in semiconductor manufacturing, AI, robotics, and space technology, directly addressing workforce shortages and fueling high-tech job creation.

This year's top PECO priority is a new Research II building. Research II is planned to be 105,060 gross square feet of new research space to support the state's investment in UCF and help to generate millions in external funding, attract top-tier faculty, and strengthen UCF's ability to secure federal and private grants to drive the economy. We have already conducted an Advanced Planning programming exercise to examine our specific research needs and to determine the best site location for this new building, and are ready to aggressively advance this project into the design and construction phases, should it be funded.

Our second PECO priority is a remodel/renovation of our Howard Phillips Hall (HPH) building. The renovation of Howard Phillips Hall will transform a 1969-era building into a state-of-the-art Student Success Center, aligning with UCF's strategic focus on student achievement, retention, and graduation rates and will support the new goals set in the BOG's 2030 Strategic Plan. With a total project cost of \$34 million,

this renovation is a fiscally responsible approach to improving student success infrastructure while addressing aging campus facilities.

Our third PECO priority is a new Discovery and Innovation Hub at the Daytona State Campus (DSC). This joint initiative between UCF and DSC will have a distinct identity, leveraging local industry clusters, regional assets, and economic development priorities to strengthen UCF's role as a leader in workforce development and innovation. By bringing together academic excellence, industry collaboration, and community engagement, the Discovery and Innovation Hub will position Florida as a leader in education-driven economic development.

Our fourth PECO priority is a new Workforce Entrepreneurship Resource eXchange building (WERX) on our main campus, labeled the "Learning Lab" on our Educational Plant Survey. This interdisciplinary building will house technical teaching labs, active learning classrooms, maker spaces, industry seminar spaces, UCF & industry collaboration spaces, and an entrepreneur incubator. The building is dedicated to shaping the next generation of technical entrepreneurs, providing students with the tools and support to translate their technical skills into entrepreneurial success.

We are excited about these projects and their promise to [Unleash Potential](#) in keeping with the university's Strategic Plan. Please contact Jon Varnell at (407) 823-1522 or Bill Martin at (407) 823-4037 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Cordially yours,

Alexander Cartwright, Ph.D.

President
University of Central Florida

Alex Martins

Chair
Board of Trustees

Attachments

cc: Mr. Gerald Hector, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mr. Jon Varnell, Vice President for Administrative Operations and Chief Infrastructure Officer
Mr. Bill Martin, University Architect
Mrs. Gina Seabrook, Construction Project Coordinator