

rePrioritize!

Developed in secret around questionable priorities, the administration's proposed program eliminations threaten to harm students and faculty, the research and teaching mission of the university, and the well being of the region and state. We urge the UCF Board of Trustees to REJECT this proposal, SAVE THE PROGRAMS, and RE-PRIORITIZE! Lend your voice to ours by contacting the BOT at <http://bot.ucf.edu/contact.html>.

Financial Mismanagement, Not Financial Crisis

UCF's own financial records do not indicate a financial crisis. In addition, too much of UCF's budget supports a bloated administration and projects not essential to the university's central teaching and research mission.

Did you know that

- UCF's most recent financial audit (from the State of Florida Auditor General, dated June 30, 2008) indicates *unrestricted* net assets of more than \$140 million and an annual excess cash flow of more than \$72 million?
- the administration has grown more than three times faster than faculty over the past ten years (see <http://www.uffucf.org/include/documents/news/UCFReport.pdf>)?

Lack of Transparency and Stakeholder Engagement

The administration arrived at its rash recommendations through secret meetings that likely violated Florida Sunshine Laws and did not seriously involve faculty, students, and other key stakeholders (see <http://www.uffucf.org/bargaining/Programs.php>).

Did you know that

- in response to UFF's multiple public records requests about the secret program assessment meetings, the administration claimed that no minutes or notes were taken?
- the *Orlando Sentinel* knew about the proposed program eliminations before the UCF Faculty Senate and even the leaders of the affected programs?
- college and university curriculum committees roundly rejected the administration's proposal

Misguided Priorities (part 1)

Programs that directly serve students and the taxpayers of Florida should be given the highest priority in UCF's budget. Beyond using its millions in reserves and better prioritizing academic programs in its budget, UCF could spare program eliminations by trimming management, ending wasteful spending, and ceasing to divert funds away from teaching and research.

Did you know that

- had the administration grown at the same rate as faculty over the past ten years, approximately \$15 million would be available for teaching and research?
- the university recently loaned the athletic association \$8.7 million?

- the university could save more than \$2.7 million *each year* by ceasing its practice of rehiring retirees?
- the university spends millions each year on non-academic projects and programs, from campus beautification to community relations

Misguided Priorities (part 2)

Eliminating the four programs of Cardiopulmonary Sciences, Engineering Technology, Management and Information Sciences, and Radiologic Sciences, and suspending Actuarial Sciences would not make a significant dent in UCF's budget given the grant and tuition money they generate, and given that many of their courses required by other programs would still need to be taught.

In addition, the programs slated for elimination place students in high-demand technology and healthcare jobs that are needed for the well-being of Florida taxpayers and the financial recovery of the tourism-heavy economy of the region and state.

Did you know that

- other universities and colleges are already clamoring to take over several of the targeted programs because of their prestige and competitive advantage in the state?
- some of the programs generate more money than they cost to run?
- the targeted programs have excellent records of student success and placement?

Abdicated Responsibility?

UCF administrators are following in the footsteps of the corporate leaders whose insularity and lack of accountability led to our nation's current recession.

The BOT should not simply rubber stamp these ill-formed recommendations, but should instead demand more transparency, accountability, and stakeholder dialogue around UCF's financial priorities and around decisions that affect the future of UCF and of the State of Florida.

