Florida Center for Library Automation

The Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) was established in 1984 to centralize the major library computer systems and the staff and resources required to manage them. This arrangement allows all universities, large and small, to draw on a highly specialized and technically expert central staff. Sharing a single centrally run library management system results in significant savings over the cost of purchasing and supporting eleven individual systems. Additional savings accrue by sharing hardware and data storage facilities. FCLA also negotiates licenses to shared commercial electronic resources for all the libraries and is able to achieve discounts significantly greater than the libraries can achieve separately. On many issues, FCLA serves as a locus for coordination of communication and shared planning activities across the state university libraries.

Advisory Board: The FCLA Advisory Board has 15 members: one member from each state university appointed by its academic vice president, the Director of FCLA, the State Librarian, the Executive Director of the College Center for Library Automation, and an ex officio member appointed by the Chancellor to represent the Board of Governors.

Budget: For 2009-2010, FCLA's operating budget is $10.97 million from state appropriations. Budget requests from FCLA are reviewed by the FCLA Advisory Board and then submitted with the Board's recommendations to the UF provost for approval. If the UF provost approves the request, he or she will forward the request to the Council of Academic Vice Presidents for approval. Further approval steps will include the SUS presidents and the Board of Governors.