



## State University System Efficiencies

Universities were asked to describe three monetary or non-monetary operational efficiency efforts made, currently underway, or planned at their university within the past year that seeks to enhance the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of processes that affect the students on campus.

The following are a few examples of the efficiencies administered throughout the system:

- Florida A&M University is currently implementing an energy performance contract through Honeywell. This contract provides \$9.4 million in energy efficiency and capital improvements at 62 University facilities. This project will provide approximately \$640,000 in annual utility savings, \$100,000 in operational expenditure cost avoidance, eliminate approximately \$12 million of campus-wide deferred maintenance needs and address safety concerns while improving the ventilation systems of existing research laboratories. The equipment associated with these improvements will be utilized to replace existing inefficient equipment and components resulting in a reduction of the University's overall carbon footprint through the implementation of Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs). This effort will improve the learning and working environments in University facilities, reduce the overall energy consumption and improve safety for our campus population. Additionally, this project will advance FAMU Strategic Priorities (No. 2 and No. 5) by investing in critical research facilities and leveraging technology to make our operations more effective and efficient. – FAMU;
- Workday Strategic Sourcing (WDSS) provides an alternative to the current online sourcing tool used by the University's Procurement Department by adding project management features and tools for stakeholders. This module provides additional pre and post award features, such as project planning, state of the art spend management tools and vendor performance. Adding WDSS to the University's WD modules provides an upfront savings of \$75,000 per year for three years. – FAU;
- Over the last year the university has increased our chiller plant storage capacity in order to both accommodate new building and enhance the cooling efficiencies campus-wide, as well as adding bipolar ionization systems to HVAC systems. These additions will not only ensure continuous, purified air within campus buildings to effectively address health concerns, but also reduce overall operating and maintenance costs. - FGCU;
- A Reserve Officer Program will benefit the FIUPD by creating a pool of sworn officers to complement its full-time officers. Reserve Officers will provide experienced officers to increase personnel on patrol and for events that require enhanced manpower. Reserve Officers will be able to maintain their Florida law enforcement standards and certifications, as required by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). This project is ongoing and is estimated to save the university about \$217,000. - FIU;

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- Admissions Counselors and staff would travel throughout the state to meet with high school students interested in STEM. Scheduling appointments, hotels, meals, and travel dramatically absorbed staff time and resources while meetings would only yield, on average, 10 students. Utilization of resources in this manner were not productive, yielding only a handful of calculus-ready students. STEM-TECH Days – Bus high school calculus students to campus for a half day of TED Talk-style presentations and lab tours that demonstrate how calculus is applied to real world problems in Florida and around the world. Now more than three times the number of students receive dynamic and rich content about STEM at half the cost. The presentation quality was significantly enhanced, effectiveness was improved, and assessment has shown increased student satisfaction. – FL Poly;
- Florida State University Procurement Services received the National Association of Educational Procurement’s 2021 Award for Excellence in Procurement. The award recognizes institutions based on the procurement department’s contributions in support of the institution’s mission. FSU was selected based on their advancements in technology and their response and innovation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite operating in a particularly challenging financial climate due to the COVID-19 pandemic, FSU Procurement Services still leveraged to save or avoid costs across the institution of more than \$30 million. The team also created a COVID Warehouse Catalogue for departments to receive various personal protective equipment (PPE) products during a crucial time. The Procurement Services team also developed a Contract Management Module and Spend Analytics Module in JAGGAER, known as SpearMart at FSU. Both play a crucial role in mitigating risk, increasing transparency, capturing value for the institution, and helping with spend visibility at both the departmental and organizational levels. These endeavors contribute to the institution’s mission by directly supporting two of the University’s strategic goals – Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Excellence and Reputation. – FSU;
- Amazon Prime for Business was launched by the College in spring 2020. This program simplifies a department’s purchasing process and allows them to take advantage of Amazon’s wide product selection and competitive prices, free two-day shipping on Prime-eligible items, automatic tax-exempt purchasing on items sold by Amazon.com LLC and participating third party sellers, and business-specific pricing, including quantity discounts on eligible items. This program saves time for the offices using it for ordering supplies needed for the instruction of our students and offers a cost savings and competitive pricing for the College. – NCF;
- UCF embarked on a journey to develop a collaborative, transparent, and inclusive budget allocation model. The previous resource allocation model did not provide the institution with the agility and accountability required to achieve our goals. A Steering Committee of faculty, students, and staff worked diligently to select an incentive-based model as the institution’s resource allocation model. Our new incentive-based budgeting process will provide leadership with the management tool to better understand and evaluate the financial performance of the academic and administrative enterprises of the university. The model will strengthen visibility and focus towards adequately investing in the university’s strategic priorities, ensuring that financial commitments are aligned with mission-centric activities. Currently, the university operates under an incremental-based approach. This methodology limits the ability to implement new and innovative ideas and effectively respond to unforeseen circumstances.

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With the new redesign, greater flexibility, transparency, and accountability will exist as resources are allocated to activities that advanced the university's long-term strategic vision. – UCF;

- UF is enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the student experienced by leveraging a unique public-private partnership, which enables artificial intelligence (AI) to be incorporated across the curriculum. As a part of this initiative, UF is committed to ensuring that all students are encouraged to learn the fundamentals of AI and data science, no matter their majors and includes introducing new majors, courses, and comprehensive certificate offerings. By deploying AI across the curriculum, this powerful resource will address major challenges while also developing the skills and knowledge of our future workforce. UF is the first institution of higher learning in the U.S. to receive DGZ A100 systems, which are designed to accelerate diverse workloads, including AI training, inference, and data analytics. UF's partner, NVIDIA, will also contribute its AI expertise through ongoing support and collaboration. – UF;
- Numerous restructuring efforts were undertaken as through a consolidation of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. For example, combining the Office of Faculty Enhancement, Office of undergraduate Studies, and Center for Community-Based Learning has allowed those units to share infrastructure and staffing while providing improved services to faculty and students. A similar reorganization in Recreation & Wellness allowed for the elimination of positions even though they have the new Aquatic Center to manage. There are other examples where former Student Affairs functions are integrated into the Academic side of the house, such as placing Spinnaker Student Media under the purview of the Department of English, or having ROTC placed under the Taylor Leadership Institute. The "efficiencies" in these cases are less about budget and personnel and more about improving management and services. Additional future improvements and integration include streamlining the budget and personnel operations to better support the colleges and departments. – UNF;
- USF has consolidated dining services for the Tampa and St. Petersburg campuses in order to provide a more seamless dining experience for students and campus communities. This has eliminated some duplicative efforts between the two campuses, improving operational efficiency and resulting in significant cost savings to students on the St. Petersburg campus with meal plans prices reduced by 15-20%. This efficiency effort proved to be beneficial throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as it enabled the university to ensure consistent safety precautions and service levels to the limited number of resident students on both campuses. The benefits of this efficiency will be further realized in the academic year 2021-22 as on-campus activities resume and a greater number of students will reside on campus. – USF;
- UWF constructed an energy efficient building: Building 58C (Lab Sciences Annex) received L.E.E.D. Siler certification from the U.S. Green Building Council as of September 2020. This building becomes the eleventh UWF campus building to have received certification under the LEED (Leadership with Energy and Environmental Design) building certification rating system by the USGBC (U.S. Green Building Council) since the University became a member of the U.S. Green Building Council in 2007. – UWF

For detailed reports by institution, please contact the Board of Governors General Office.