

UF's Response to Supplemental Questions Regarding the LBR:
UF- Top 5 National Ranking Operating Support

1. In what specific disciplines will the 125 faculty and 35 staff be hired into?

The 125 faculty will be placed strategically to realize three goals:

- (i) Reduce the student faculty ratio to 16:1
- (ii) Achieve a contracts and grants portfolio of \$1 billion or more annually
- (iii) Grow the university technology transfer operation

All three goals are advanced by hiring additional faculty in STEM fields. Goals (ii) and (iii) are advanced by hiring additional faculty in Health fields. Hiring additional faculty in Medicine usually does not advance goal (i) because of the national algorithm for computing the student-faculty ratio, but such hiring does significantly advance goals (ii) and (iii).

At least 25 of the new faculty positions will be placed in the College of Engineering to advance key initiatives, including data science, artificial intelligence, biomedical engineering, resilience, autonomous vehicles, and cybersecurity.

25 of the positions will be placed in the Physical Science Division of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (including the Departments of Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology, and Astronomy) to advance initiatives in quantum science and quantum magnets, metabolomics, and marine health and ecology. An additional 5 positions will be shared between the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, since they are implementing a new undergraduate major in data science in Fall 2020 and require new faculty expertise to fill out the curriculum.

At least 25 of the positions will be placed in the Health Sciences Center, with most of these allocated to the College of Medicine. These positions will be allocated to strengthen the grant portfolios in the College, to further strengthen recent successes in nationally prominent areas such as cancer, neuroscience, and movement disorders, and to explore promising new areas of research.

20 positions will be allocated to several STEM departments in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the College of Health and Human Performance, and the College of Design, Construction and Planning. Faculty will be incorporated into projects in biology, medicine, resilience, and infrastructure.

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The remaining 25 positions will be used to target unique opportunities to strengthen existing areas of research or to form research groups in important emerging areas. They may also be used to recruit entire groups of researchers, especially in connection with the recruitment of nationally eminent senior scientists. UF will remain open to opportunistic possibilities that represent disproportionate ROI.

The 25 staff will be allocated to units that are severely understaffed currently. UF staffing ratios are significantly below those of peer universities, and 25 new staff will not close the gap. We will triage the situation in consultation with the deans of the colleges and place these staff members to alleviate the most severe situations.

2. Other than the laboratory animal care facility mentioned, what other laboratories and support facilities need to be updated?

The animal care facility is an example of a central laboratory facility serving the entire campus. UF's facilities in this area sorely need updating and expansion. At the moment, this is the only central laboratory facility requiring attention. However, there are many other laboratories that serve individual faculty and groups of researchers that need renovation.

For example, the College of Medicine/Health Science Center has identified 40 thousand square feet of laboratory space needing renovation. The cost to renovate this space is estimated to be \$12 million.

Last fiscal year, UF invested \$6.68 million dollars into the renovation of 90,051 square feet of laboratory space. With the arrival of nearly 1000 new faculty in the last two years, UF's need to keep laboratories up to date continues unabated.

3. In what areas does UF plan to create world-class centers of excellence?
 - Cancer
 - Movement disorders
 - Neuroscience

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- Gene therapy
- Cybersecurity
- Quantum science and technology
- Human-centered computing
- Data science
- Autonomous vehicles
- Metabolomics
- Coastal health & resiliency
- Latin American Studies
- Bioethics
- Artificial Intelligence
- Early Childhood Learning
- Center for Trust in Media and Technology

4. What are some examples of the new research avenues faculty are exploring in preparation for submitting grant proposals?

- Applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning
- Data science applied to health outcomes
- Neurodegenerative disease
- Innovative approaches to cancer treatment
- Quantum science & quantum magnets
- Coastal monitoring & resiliency

5. How will the plan change if not fully funded?

UF has outlined an ambitious plan. In doing so, UF is not relying solely on state support, but it also raising funds through philanthropy and reallocating existing resources. If the plan is not fully funded, it will have a measurable impact on our goals and rankings and slow our progress. It may also place UF at risk of losing existing star faculty and opportunities to recruit superstars to Florida.

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