

Faculty Senate Meeting

September 18, 2008

Approval of May and August 2008 minutes

Chair's Report

Requests entered by members of your groups

The following is a list of requests entered by members of your groups:

Submitter	Title	Process	Status	Created	Updated
abell	University Calendar	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Academic Policy Council)	Mon, September 15, 2008 9:28 AM	Mon, September 15, 2008 9:28 AM
abell	Role of the Teaching Evaluation In Tenure and Promotion	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:54 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:55 AM
abell	Paychecks	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:53 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:53 AM
abell	Faculty Enhancement Money	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:52 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:52 AM
abell	Salary Pay Plan for Senior Faculty	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:51 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:51 AM
abell	Merit Pay Plans	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:51 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:51 AM
abell	Tenure and Promotion Surveys	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:50 AM	Mon, August 25, 2008 10:50 AM
abell	Maternity and Childcare Leave	Faculty Senate Agenda Item	Pending at Councils and Committees (Faculty Welfare Council)	Fri, August 8, 2008 11:14 AM	Fri, August 8, 2008 11:15 AM

International Educator of the Year Award

This award was created in 2004 to recognize outstanding International endeavors by UF faculty members. Each college is asked to submit nominations for the International Educator of the Year Award by October 31, 2008. The award was created to recognize outstanding international endeavors by UF faculty members. Colleges are asked to make nominations for two awards-one for junior (untenured or newly tenured faculty) and one for senior faculty. The winner of each award will receive \$3,000.

ACFS meeting

ACFS meeting

Textbook Affordability Timeline

– July

- Develop a survey instrument to administrators
- Gather information from other states/systems

– September

- Gather materials and contacts from
 - Minnesota
 - California
 - Ohio
 - Illinois
 - Arizona
 - Students PIRG
 - Ithaka (higher ed. research organization)
- Summarize actions from other states against requirements of Florida's law
- Survey to Florida SRS administrators mid september
- Stakeholders to consider: students, faculty, publishers, bookstores

ACFS meeting

- BOG Proposed issues for the 2009 Legislative Session
- 2009-2010 Core Budget (5.94% increase)
- Baccalaureate Degrees at Community Colleges
(BOG White Paper)
- Florida Distance Learning Taskforce
- Florida Revenue Outlook Impact to the State University System

ACFS meeting

Florida Revenue Outlook Impact to the State University System

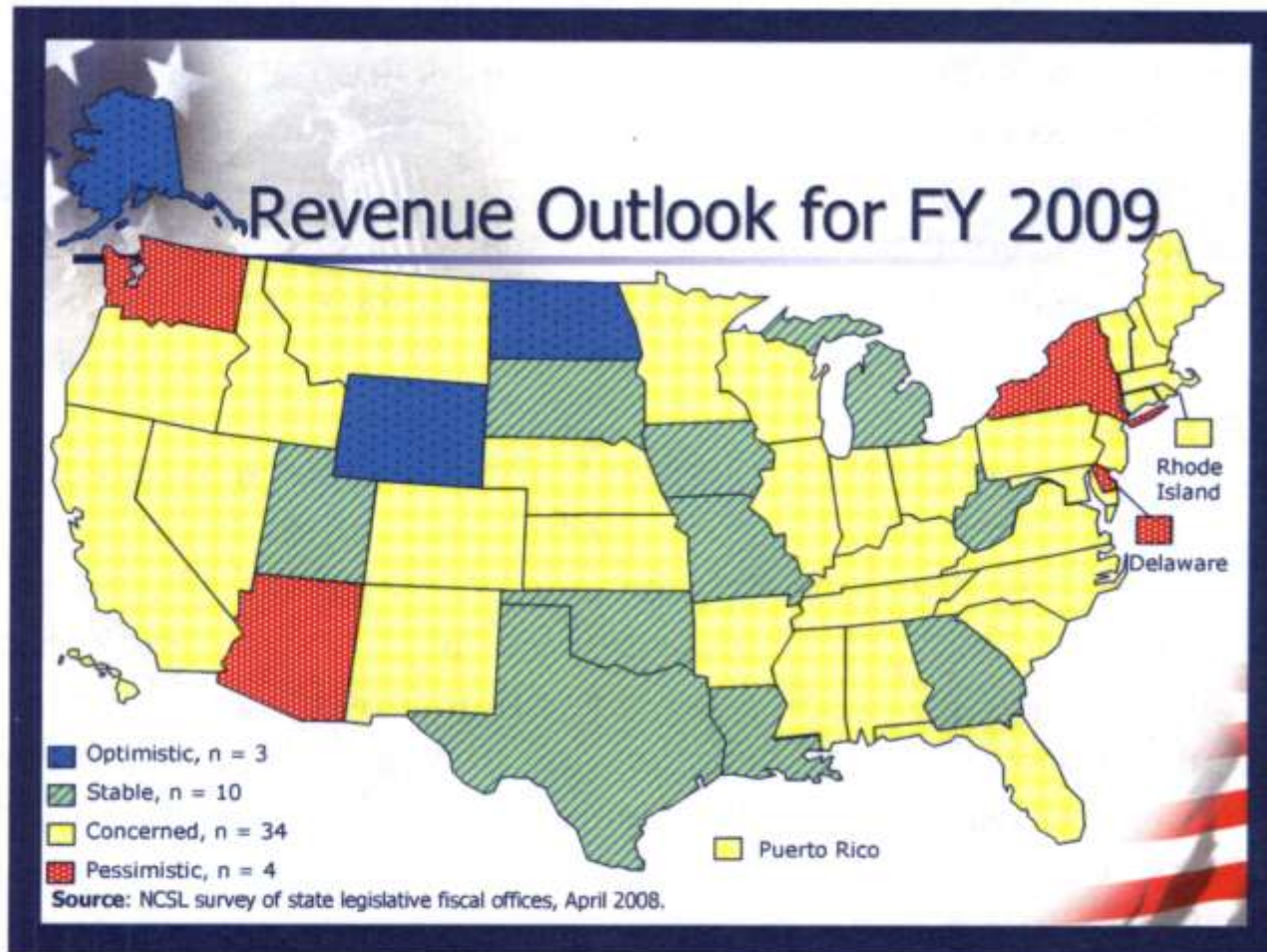


Exhibit 1

Other Universities experiencing Budget Reductions
University of Arkansas, University of Alabama, University of Georgia,
University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee

ACFS meeting

Florida Revenue Outlook Impact to the State University System

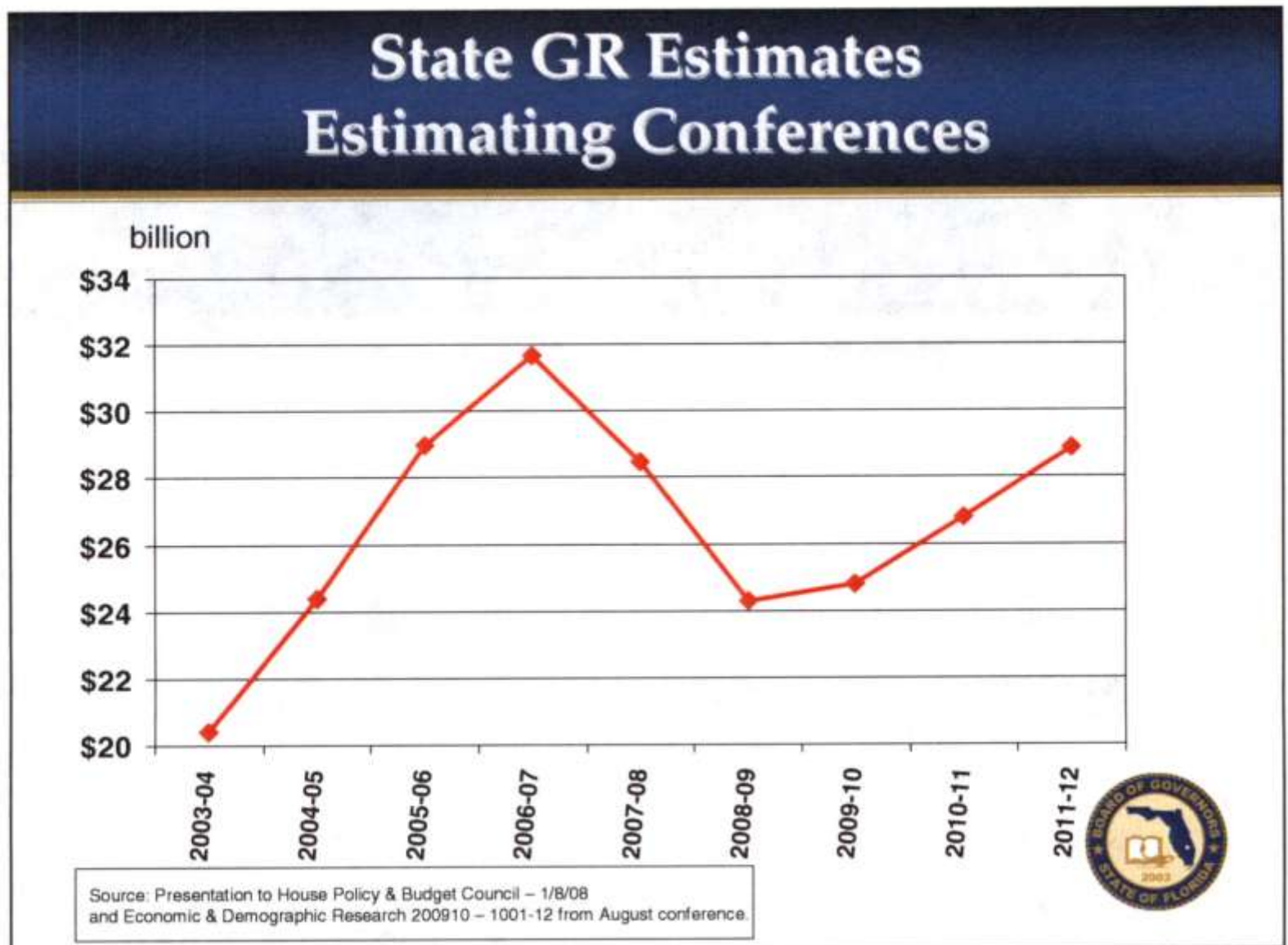


Exhibit 2

ACFS meeting

Florida Revenue Outlook Impact to the State University System

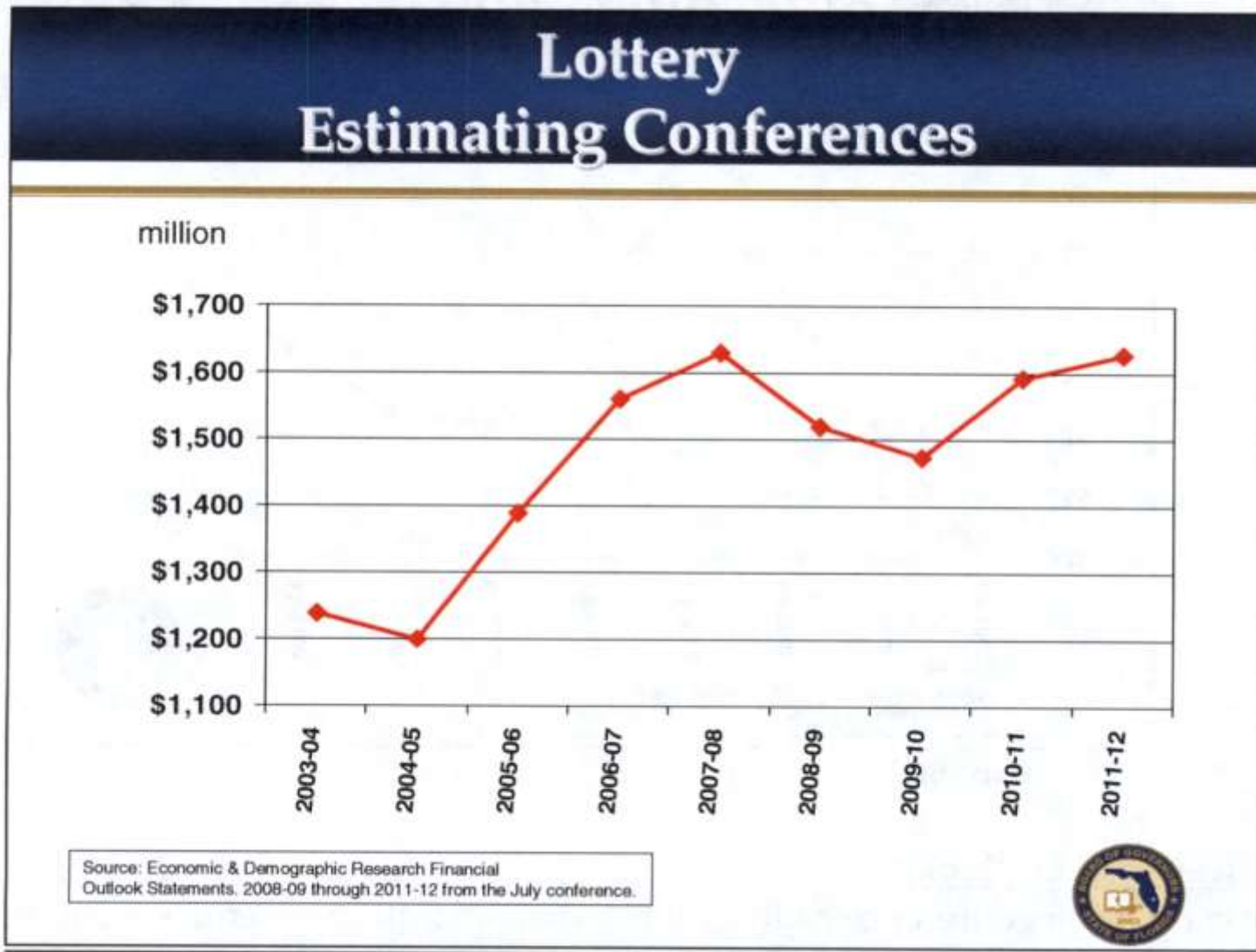


Exhibit 3

Budget Stabilization Fund To Help Cover State Revenue Gap

By CATHERINE DOLINSKI | The Tampa Tribune

Published: August 29, 2008

TALLAHASSEE - Gov. Charlie Crist released his plan this morning to narrow the \$1.5 billion gap in this year's budget.

Economists predicted this month that rising unemployment, reduced consumer spending and a flagging housing market would leave Florida \$1.8 billion short of the tax revenues lawmakers had expected when they approved the 2008-09 spending plan. Factoring in a \$300 million cushion left unspent, the state is facing a nearly \$1.5 billion hole in the budget.

Crist had indicated last week that he wanted to use a little more than \$600 million from the state Budget Stabilization Fund to cover part of the shortfall while waiting to see whether forthcoming revenue estimates were as dire as forecast. Today, he released his official proposal to transfer \$672 million from the stabilization fund to cover the shortfall in general revenue.

Anticipating the possibility that revenues could come in low, the Legislature expanded Crist's authority to tap into the state's rainy-day fund. Crist will have to submit the plan for approval to the joint Legislative Budget Commission, which next meets on Sept. 10.

Still unknown is whether Crist will also seek to turn a 4 percent spending holdback he ordered for state agencies into a permanent cut. The governor said recently he is inclined to do that, though some lawmakers have said the Legislature needs to decide such cuts on a program-by-program basis.

On Wednesday, state economist Amy Baker warned the Legislative Budget Commission that even if it and the governor fill the budget hole, the state will still face a \$3.5 billion gap in next year's budget. Lawmakers from both parties expressed concerns this week about cuts that may affect education, health care and criminal justice programs, the biggest areas of state spending.

News Bureau

Print Media, Broadcast Media

Public Relations

Government Relations

Community Relations

Internal Communications

InsideUF

Marketing Communications

Production Services

Video, Photography, Web, Biomedical Media Services

Publications/Graphic Design

Publications Group, Academic Publications

COMMUNITY RELATIONS LINKS

- Mission
- Community Outreach
- University Community Campaign
- Events
- 50th Anniversary of UF's Integration
- UF Eastside Campus Community



50th Anniversary of UF's Integration

Theme

The theme for the yearlong event that begins in Feb. 2008 - is "Commemorating 50 years of Integration: Celebrating the Firsts." The observance will feature an examination of the history of integration at the University of Florida while focusing on the future of UF's commitment to diversity.

The program will celebrate the "firsts" at the University of Florida. Planned activities will center on the stories and remembrances of the first black graduates of UF and of the first black graduates of each college, starting in 1958. There also is an opportunity to focus on "firsts" in other areas as well.

Florida Bridgewater-Alford

Director

PO Box 113158 (111 Tigert Hall)

Gainesville, FL 32611-3156

352-392-4567, ext. 603

E-mail: bridgefl@ufl.edu

Members of the University of Florida community:

Fifty years ago today, on Sept. 15, 1958, a black Air Force veteran named George Starke registered for classes at the University of Florida College of Law. It was the beginning of integration at UF, and one more step toward the end of racial segregation in the South.

The University of Florida never experienced the racial violence that occurred at other college campuses in the Civil Rights era, but there is no question that our first black students were often ignored, shunned or made the targets of insults. Yet Mr. Starke and the black students who followed him were courageous and persistent. They came, and they kept coming, and by the late 1960s this university had grown beyond the exclusively white institution of its roots. As of this year, we have had nearly 12,000 black graduates.

We are commemorating Mr. Starke and the other “firsts” with a year-long series of events, “Celebrating the Firsts.” I would like to ask the entire campus community to join us in participating in this commemoration. It is an opportunity to reflect on a period in this university’s history when prejudice and injustice ruled the day. It is also a chance to reconfirm our present commitment to fairness, equality and diversity.

Today’s carillon program at 12:35 p.m. will be dedicated to the 50th anniversary commemoration. To learn more about or participate in other events planned for this year, I urge you to visit www.urel.ufl.edu/50 or contact Florida Bridgewater-Alford, director of community relations, at 392-4567.

Sincerely,

J. Bernard Machen

President's Report

Search for a Director of the University of Florida Honors Program

Dr. Mark Rush

Professor of Economics

Seeking

- Internal or external faculty (associate or full professor) applicants to UF
- A forward-thinking, innovative, and dynamic leader to enhance the Honors Program experience and sustain an environment of academic excellence as its Director
- Review of applications will begin October 15, 2008
- Goal is to have director in place for January 1, 2009 or as negotiated

About the Honors Program

- The Honors Program attracts academically talented and highly motivated students by providing them with additional opportunities beyond those available to the general student population.
- The position of Director is a 12-month position.
- The UF Honors Program enrolls approximately 750 students each year in its current format as a two-year program.
- For more information about the UF Honors Program, see www.honors.ufl.edu

The successful candidate will have a/an:

- Terminal degree in his/her field
- Academic record worthy of tenure at a large research university;
- Record of excellence and progressively increased responsibility in academic administration, resource management, and program development and evaluation
- Distinguished record of teaching, research and service with emphasis on undergraduate teaching and advising
- Broad understanding of the issues facing undergraduate education
- Ability to work effectively across campus and to adapt to and initiate change;
- Experience in managing an Honors Program or similar academic unit
- Vision for the long-term direction and goals for the UF Honors Program.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate, manage and administer the Honors Program
- Direct and oversee the Honors courses, including the interdisciplinary special topics course and the thesis
- Develop and supervise innovative extra-curricular activities, projects, and field trips, providing opportunities for the intellectual growth of academically talented undergraduates; and
- Supervise undergraduate research.

To apply or nominate someone:

- The full job posting and more information about application procedures can be found at
http://www.aa.ufl.edu/search_committees/Honors_Director/
- Questions or nominations: contact Dr. Mark Rush, mark.rush@cba.ufl.edu



Academic Calendar Guidelines

University of Florida Academic Calendar Development Process



- Draft calendars are developed in the O.U.R. using state rules & university guidelines plus historical precedent data
- Draft calendars are first revised and approved by the University Curriculum Committee
- Draft calendars are approved by the UF Faculty Senate

Rules of the Department of Education Board of Governors

Chapter 6C-8 Educational Delivery

- (2) Effective August, 1985, the common entry periods shall be:**
- (a) The first three (3) weekdays after August 22;**
 - (b) The first three (3) weekdays after January 4;**
 - (c) The first three (3) weekdays after May 5;**
 - (d) Each calendar shall also include the following:**

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; History: Amended 6-14-07.

University of Florida Academic Calendar Guidelines

UF minimum instruction days per semester are:

Fall	81 Days
Spring	81 Days
Summer A	29 Days
Summer B	29 Days
Total	220 Days

University of Florida Academic Calendar Guidelines



Homecoming is scheduled during the month of October at the request of the Faculty Senate. (Unless there are no home football games during October.)

Spring Break

On October 17, 2002, the Faculty Senate directed “...that spring break would be scheduled after the ninth week of classes...”.

University Religious Holiday Policy

The Florida Board of Education and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays. The following guidelines apply:

- **Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith.**
- **Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence.**
- **Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.**

University Religious Holiday Policy

- If a faculty member is informed of or is aware that a significant number of students are likely to be absent from class because of a religious observance, the faculty member should not schedule a major exam or other academic event at that time.
- A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.
- Furthermore, a student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied an education benefit due to religious beliefs or practices may seek redress through the student grievance procedure.

UF Historical Precedence for Consideration

- Try to Start on Monday
- Housing Prep Time Needed Between Fall & Summer
- Try to Keep 5 Years Advanced Approved
- Avoid Spring Semester starting on Jan. 2nd –
Because of Conflicts with Preview/ Regular Registration

University Curriculum Committee

Daniel Wubah, *Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education*

Proposal to reorganize the Jacksonville
campus Department of Otolaryngology as a
division of the Jacksonville campus
Department of Surgery



Minus Grades Implementation

August 12, 2008



Minus Grades Policy

On December 14, 2006 the UF Faculty Senate voted to implement minus grades. The decision was made in order to provide faculty with more options for assigning grades. This will become effective with the Summer A 2009 term.



Grading Scale Comparison

Current Grading Scale

A = 4.0

B+ = 3.5

B = 3.0

C+ = 2.5

C = 2.0

D+ = 1.5

D = 1.0

E = 0.0 *

New Scale

A = 4.0

A- = 3.67

B+ = 3.33

B = 3.0

B- = 2.67

C+ = 2.33

C = 2.0

C- = 1.67

D+ = 1.33

D = 1.0

D- = 0.67

E = 0.0 *

E0 = 0.0 Never Attended or participated

E1 = 0.0 Stopped attending or participating prior to end of class

I = 0.0



Grade Deficit Definition Policy



Policy

A grade point deficit is defined as the number of grade points below a *C average* on hours attempted at the University of Florida. If the grade point average is less than 2.0, there is a grade point deficit.



Grade Deficit Definition Policy

Policy

Only *grades higher than C* will lower a deficit. Every credit of C+ earned removes .5 from a deficit (a C+ in a three-credit course removes 1.5 deficit points); every credit of B removes 1 deficit point; and every credit of A removes 2 deficit points.



Minus Grade Implementation Result

Currently an S/U course must be graded as a “C” or better to receive an “S.” Therefore, if a faculty member assesses the work of a student as a “C-” or lower they should assign a grade of “U.”



Minus Grade Implementation Result

A “C-” will not result in an award of General Education credit.



Writing and Math (Gordon Rule) Policy



Policy

The state of Florida requires that all students complete a writing and math requirement, formerly known as the Gordon Rule. Students must earn a *grade of C or higher* in courses taken to fulfill the writing and math requirement; such courses cannot be taken S-U.



UF Repeat Course Policy

Grades Earned	GPA/ Credit Computation
First grade lower than a C , Second grade of C or higher	Each grade computed in grade point average; credit earned only once.
First grade lower than a C , Second grade lower than a C	Each grade computed in grade point average; credit earned only once.
First grade of C or higher, Second grade lower than a C	Each grade computed in grade point average; credit earned only once.
First grade of C or higher, Second grade of C or higher	Only first grade computed in GPA; credit earned only for first attempt



Issue to be Addressed

Transfer evaluation policies should be reviewed relative to the implementation of minus grades.



Issues For Colleges To Review



- Amend Summer 2009 syllabi to reflect the addition of minus grades by February 2009
- Review course prerequisite parameters
- Review college specific guidelines for academic monitoring (probation, holds, tracking)
- Review Dean's List requirements
- Review Honors GPA requirements for graduation
- Assess SASS audit implications
- Update catalog and website displays to reflect any changes relative to minus grade implementation.



Administrative Issues

- Curriculum Committee should be updated
- Assess implications for financial aid
- Impact on student athletic eligibility
- Participation in Student Government organizations
- Eligibility for social and professional sororities and fraternities



System and Paper Modifications Required For Implementation

- Review 2057 IT programs that use grades or GPA
- Yet to be determined changes to non OUR systems including State of Florida Systems
- Change transcripts and enrollment certifications
- Modify online displays in Student Records System
- Modify student ISIS



System Modifications Required For Implementation

- Change at least 95 batch and online programs
- Update GPA calculation algorithms
- Major modifications to academic advising (SASS)
- Modify grade tables in all systems

Graduate Council Items

Ken Gerhardt, *Associate Dean of the Graduate School*

- Sunset the Master of Agriculture degree with a major in Botany
- Sunset the Master of Agriculture degree with a major in Soil and Water Science
- Sunset the Master of Agriculture degree with a major in Food and Resource Economics
- Sunset Master of Agriculture Degree with a major in Agricultural Education and Communication

Open Floor Discussion