

DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

BRAND GUIDE

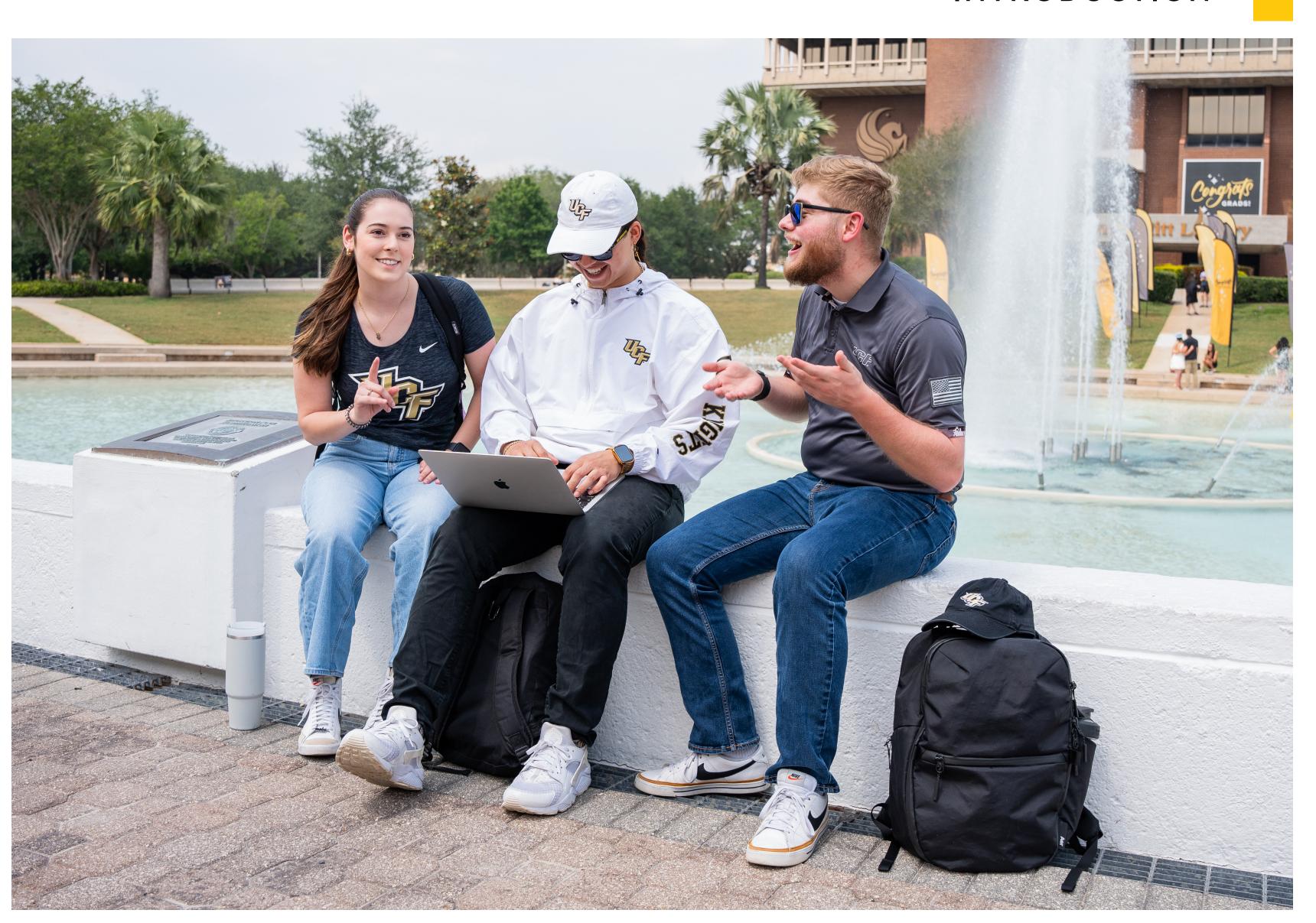
V.2 — July 2025

INTRODUCTION

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Questions? Feedback? Additions? Send it to sswbcommunications@ucf.edu.



INTRODUCTION



WHAT ARE BRAND GUIDELINES?

Branding is our core identity. It's the collection of colors, slogans and iconography that make the University of Central Florida unique.

Brand guidelines are the boundaries in which you apply that core identity. It's a common set of rules on how we use and apply the UCF brand.

WHY ARE BRAND GUIDELINES IMPORTANT?

UCF's authority and reputation are directly tied to our brand guidelines. Black and gold are more than colors; they are a standard of excellence. An improper or unauthorized use of our logo dilutes that bond of trust, or, worse, can appear like an endorsement of something contrary to our core values.

Brand guidelines are guardrails around the use of the elements that make us UCF. It allows your unit to interpret and tailor UCF's identity within specific boundaries.

HOW THEY'RE APPLIED.

Every email, flyer, social media post and digital sign coming out of your office represents UCF. So it's imperative that it looks and sounds like UCF.

These brand guidelines provide a way to speak to your audiences within established guidelines.

A brand's look (colors, logos) is the front line of the guidelines, but it goes much deeper. We should also be using the same language, tone and voice. Different acronyms or levels of formality signal we are disjointed and siloed.

UCF BRAND GUIDELINES

The UCF brand guidelines are the ultimate arbiter and standard for the Division of Student Success and Well-Being. What they say goes.

The full list of guidelines can be found here, along with templates for items like presentations.

Here's your starting line.

The following content has been reproduced unedited from the official UCF brand guidelines.

LOGOS

- There should be only one Pegasus per communication.
- A Unity Identity Lockup (UIL) is not typically necessary on the web, as most UCF websites include the header bar with the Pegasus and the name of the university.
- Items using The Tab logo, such as official letterhead and business cards, should not use a UIL.



Fig. 1 The Tab



Fig 2. The Division of Student Success and Well-Being Unit Identity Lockup



Fig. 3 UCF Offical letterhead and business cards

BEST PRACTICES FOR USING OUR TRADEMARKS

Do not alter the trademarks.

We love our trademarks just the way they are. Do not stretch, squish or flip them. Also avoid using them as part of a pattern or adding any decoration to them such as drop shadows or inner glows.

Stick to UCF Colors.

Hot pink might be tempting, but please stick with our brand colors of black and gold.

Avoid using Americana font.

Prior to 2006, our trademarks exclusively used the Americana font. Since then, they've been updated to use Gotham — a bold, clean, san-serif font that aligns with our modern brand. Avoid using Americana font in trademarks and any design project. A limited number of discounted Gotham font licenses are available for purchase by UCF communicators only. Get Gotham here.



Fig. 4 Incorrect usage of the Pegasus trademark



Fig. 5 UCF colors: Gold and Black



Fig. 6 Americana Font, no longer used at UCF

UCF BRAND GUIDELINES



Fig. 7 The Pegasus



Fig. 8 The Tab, UCF's Primary Mark

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Fig. 9 The University Signature

THE PEGASUS

Our logo is the Pegasus. It is our badge and emblem. It creates, promotes and protects the integrity of the UCF message. It should be used to identify UCF on all communication materials.

THE TAB

The Tab is our Primary Identity Mark intended to represent UCF to broad public audiences. It is a bold, modern visual representation of our brand. Its effect is strongest when used independently from other visual elements in a layout. It should not be altered in any way or be combined with other logos.

When using the Tab for external audiences, be sure to include the term, "University of Central Florida," in your text or use the University Signature as a separate graphic element in your layout.

If using the Tab on a black background, use the Tab artwork files that include "_NoBox" in its name.

UNIVERSITY SIGNATURE

The words — "University of Central Florida" — should appear in all external communications to ensure that audiences know what the "UCF" trademark stands for. For consistency, the University Signature is provided as a graphic element that should not be altered.

PRIMARY MARK LOCKUPS

For situations where space is severely restricted, a horizontal UCF mark is provided. Usage examples include sponsorship identification, trade show identification and promotional products.

UNIT IDENTITY LOCKUP

The Unit Identity Lockup (UIL) distinguishes a specific unit of the university. It can be used in place of the Tab when the context of the communication is specific to the unit. The Unit Identity Lockup should not be used in combination with the Tab or with any other Unit Identity Lockup.

The internal version (without the University Signature) is intended for campus audiences or situations where the University of Central Florida context is established. The external version (with the University Signature) is intended for broad public audiences or situations where the University of Central Florida context has not been established.

When determining which UCF academic or administrative unit should be represented as a logo, communicators should determine which entity is the highest appropriate authority for a piece of communication to ensure clarity.



Fig. 10 Primary Mark Horizontal



Fig. 11 SSWB Unit Identity Lockup



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Fig. 12 SSWB Unit Identity Lockup with University Signature for External Audiences

TYPOGRAPHY

Using approved fonts also contributes to brand cohesion and unity. The official fonts for UCF are Gotham and Knockout. If you do not have access to those, Arial and Helvetica are accessible substitutes.

Font: Gotham Bold (may substitute

Helvetica Bold if necessary)

Size: Minimum 8 pt. (maximum determined

by scale of final layout)

Spacing: Can be aligned centered, left or right depending on layout. (leading should be single spaced, words set in initial caps)

GOTHAM

Fig. 13 Approved University Font, Gotham, for use as Subunit Typography

KNOCKOUT

Fig. 14 Approved University Font, Knockout

Helvetica

Fig. 15 Approved substitute font, Helvetica







Fig. 16 Official Seal



Fig. 17 UCF Intercollegiate Athletics Trademark

OFFICIAL SEAL

The seal is used at formal, universitywide academic functions.

Use is restricted to the UCF Board of Trustees, Office of the President, Office of the Provost, and Office of the General Counsel.

UCF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS TRADEMARKS

- Use of UCF Athletics trademarks is restricted to UCF Athletics
- Cannot be used to represent UCF as a university
- Cannot be used to represent an academic or administrative unit
- Cannot be used in conjunction with the Pegasus, wordmark, monogram, university identifiers, unit identifiers or regional identifiers
- Cannot be used for personal business

SOCIAL MEDIA

BEST PRACTICES

BRANDING

As with any UCF communications piece, be sure to follow the graphic standards established for the UCF logo and associated elements. UCF does not have logos specific to social media. Remember: Legal use of UCF logos and trademarks apply to social media accounts as well. All trademarks, service marks and logos are the property of UCF.

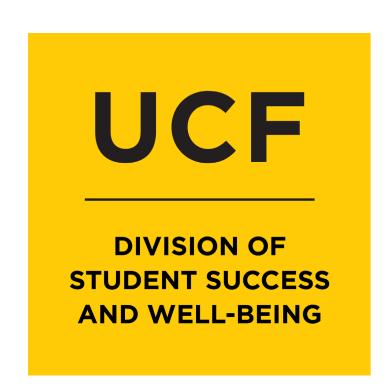


Fig. 18 Social Media Avatar

ETIQUETTE

Be careful.

Double-check spelling, grammar and punctuation before posting.

Social media is social.

Engage your audience with questions, polls and ways to inspire participation.

Practice due diligence.

If you have doubts about whether it is appropriate to write about or post content on certain subjects, ask your supervisor and/or get a second opinion before you post.

Post wisely.

Do not include political comments or comments on social issues, except in support of positions UCF has already taken.

Don't disclose.

Do not post confidential information about UCF, students, alumni, faculty or employees.

MANAGEMENT

Identify leaders.

Social profiles should have a manager and a back-up administrator who record passwords and content calendars. They should set a posting protocol for your department, group or organization.

Have a plan.

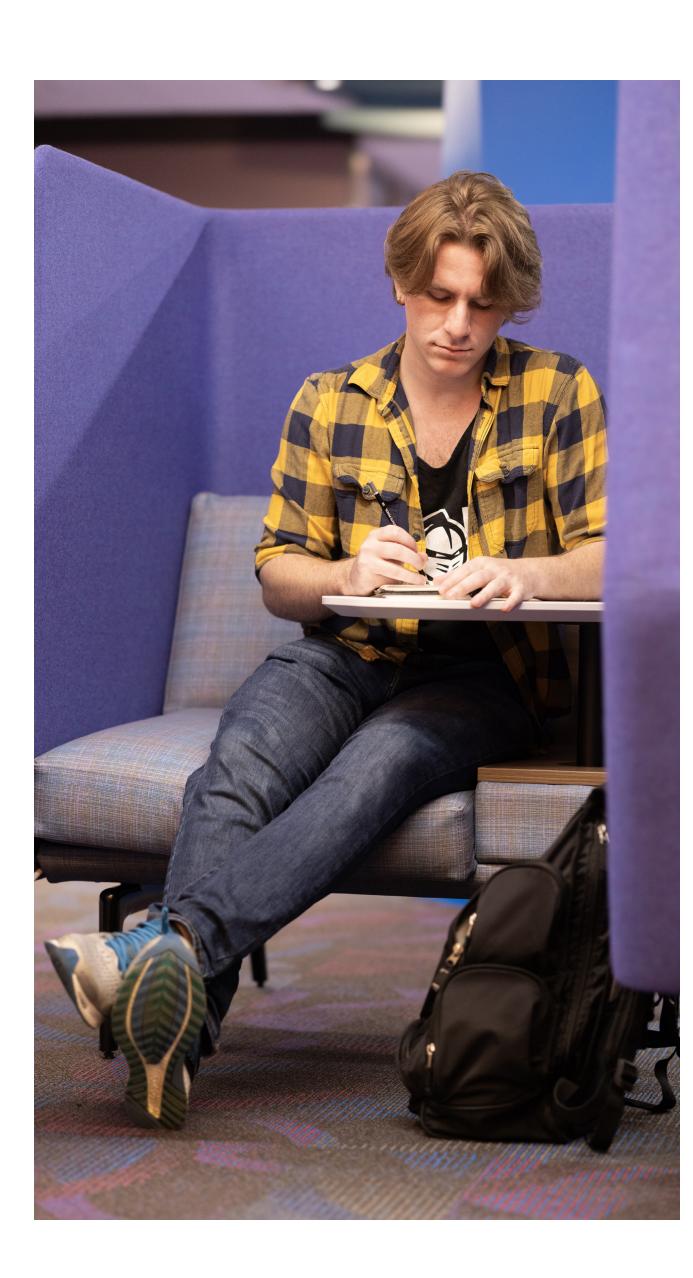
A social media strategy along with an editorial calendar are necessary to create consistent content and maximize your efforts. Develop a regular posting schedule, at least a few times a week, to ensure content is fresh and the page does not become stagnant.

Know the rules.

Be familiar with the terms and conditions of the social platforms and networks on which you participate. And pay attention to updates.

Stay relevant.

Stay abreast of trends and holidays/observances that you could create content around, connecting back to your college, campus department or organization.



TRANSPARENCY

Be consistent.

You shouldn't need to update your avatar image once it's set. A static, brand-related avatar image for your college, campus department, or organization profile page is essential in building trust with your audience.

Pay attention.

Respond in a timely fashion to comments and messages.

Be human.

Connect when commenting. Provide an email address or phone number to help with follow-up communication.

THINGS TO AVOID

Arguments.

Your reputation — and UCF's — is best served when you remain above the fray. The tone of your social profile should reflect your college, department, or organization's spirit with respectful professionalism.

Using copyrighted content.

Content that is shared on social media must be original content, that includes music, video clips, audio clips, photography, graphic design, and more. Purchase the appropriate license for use or attribute credit where necessary.

The next shiny thing.

Jumping onto each new social platform without considering uses, potential impact, and resources necessary to sustain community engagement.

HELPFUL BRAND ASSETS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media Avatars

Logos and Identity System

Writing Style Guide

Photography Assets

Video Assets

COPYWRITING



To connect with our audiences, we must tell stories that are authentic, accurate and reflect the distinctive brand DNA of UCF.

Our brand lexicon — bold, modern, youthful, entrepreneurial and energetic — captures our collective essence. These aren't simply words — they're our brand language and should be used whenever possible.

Where natural and appropriate, copy should include these terms:

At UCF, we unleash potential to positively change the world. It's what enables us to make a difference by:

- Championing student success.
- Driving discovery.
- Fostering inclusion.
- Innovating solutions.
- Fueling our economy.
- Powering partnerships.

BEST PRACTICES

Consider your audience.

Communicating with students is far different from communicating with donors. Customize your voice and tone based on the reader and your channel.

Write with economy.

Communicating a message clearly requires brevity and simplicity. Edit yourself ruthlessly to omit every unnecessary word. Be brief. Be bright. Be done.

Use an active voice.

Action verbs make content more interesting and will carry your reader through your story more successfully.

Make it personal.

Using first- and second-person voice will create a strong connection with the reader.

Keep it conversational.

Write as if you were talking with a friend. Never "write down" to an audience.

Avoid big words.

You can engage your audience more effectively using everyday words that everyone can understand. If your reader has to reach for a dictionary, you've lost them.

Employ the UCF voice.

We are modern, bold, youthful, entrepreneurial and energetic. The tone of our content should be, too.

Read your copy out loud.

If it doesn't sound right, it probably isn't.

THINGS TO AVOID

Jargon.

Specialized language and obscure terminology might make perfect sense to you, but may confuse your reader. Using simple vocabulary ensures a clear message that everyone can understand.

A passive voice.

Using passive verbs will make your content less conversational and lose the attention of your audience.

An institutional tone.

Try to explain complex ideas with analogies, examples, illustrations, infographics or images.

Overuse of exclamation points.

They're useful! But too many are gratuitous! Seriously, try not to use them in headings or more than once per page.

UCF is moving forward in alignment with the strategic plan "Unleashing Potential." That plan can be found here. Facts about the university (diplomas conferred, dates, size) can be found here.

GLOSSARY

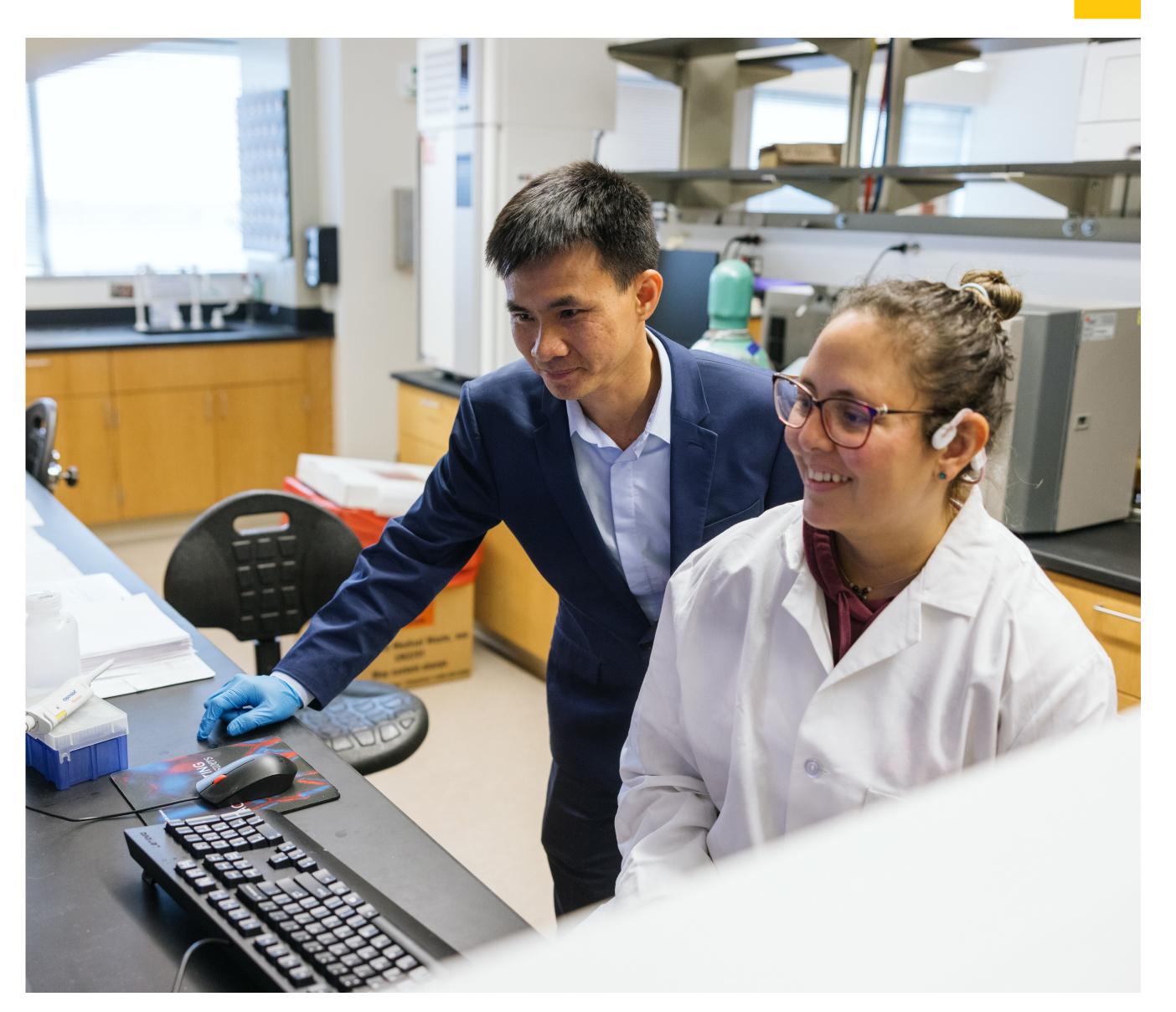


NORTH STAR STATEMENT

The Division of Student Success and Well-Being fosters a holistic and engaged educational experience that empowers every student to thrive. We prepare individuals to graduate on time and make meaningful contributions to their communities. Through personalized care, guided pathways, and data-informed decisions, we are dedicated to transforming aspirations into achievements.

COMMON SSWB TERMS

Term	Meaning	
Admitted and Accepted	Students are "admitted" or "offered admission" to UCF. they are not "accepted."	
The Division of Student Success and Well-Being	SSWB is appropriate after the name is spelled out the first time. "Well-Being" is always hyphenated.	
Residence Hall	This is where students live, not a dorm.	
"Reserve" a spot at orientation	Suggesting students "register" for orientation confuses the action with registering for classes.	
UCF Downtown	 It is UCF Downtown, the UCF Downtown campus, or the downtown campus, but not the Downtown Campus or DTC. UCF Downtown is a full-service campus and is not a regional or Direct Connect campus. 	



FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

Acronyms should be spelled out the first time they're used in a specific piece of copy (first reference), with the acronym in parenthesis adjacent to the word. E.g. UCF students are encouraged to broaden their learning outside the classroom using high-impact practices (HIP).

Acronym	Meaning
SSWB	Student Success & Well-Being The Division of Student Success and Well-Being encompasses almost all student-serving units at UCF. The proper name includes Division and is capitalized. It was formed in 2022 by the merging of two separate units: Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) and Student Learning and Advising (SLAS). Neither SDES nor SLAS should be used except as a historical reference.
SDES	Student Development & Enrollment Services The former division that merged with Student Learning and Advising to form SSWB.
HIPs	High-Impact Practices High-impact practices add real-world learning to student academics. Some examples include study abroad and undergraduate research.
SFA	Student Financial Aid The office that aids students with financial aid.
SOC	Student of Concern A student that exhibits concerning behaviors.
SCS	Student Care Services The office that assists students with various needs.

Acronym	Meaning
FSL or OFSL	Fraternity & Sorority Life or Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life The office that governs fraternities and sororities.
SCAI	Student Conduct & Academic Integrity The office governing student conduct and academic integrity.
OSI	Office of Student Involvement The office hosting student organizations and events.
FYE	First Year Experience The office that assists first year students and organizes orientation.
RWC	Recreation & Wellness Center or Rec & Wellness Center
МН	Millican Hall
ASC	Academic Success Coach Formerly called advisors, Academic Success Coaches provide both specific academic advising and non-academic coaching while working together with students to establish goals, codesign academic plans and strategies, and monitor success to graduation.
AA	Academic Advocates Academic Advocates assist undergraduate students.

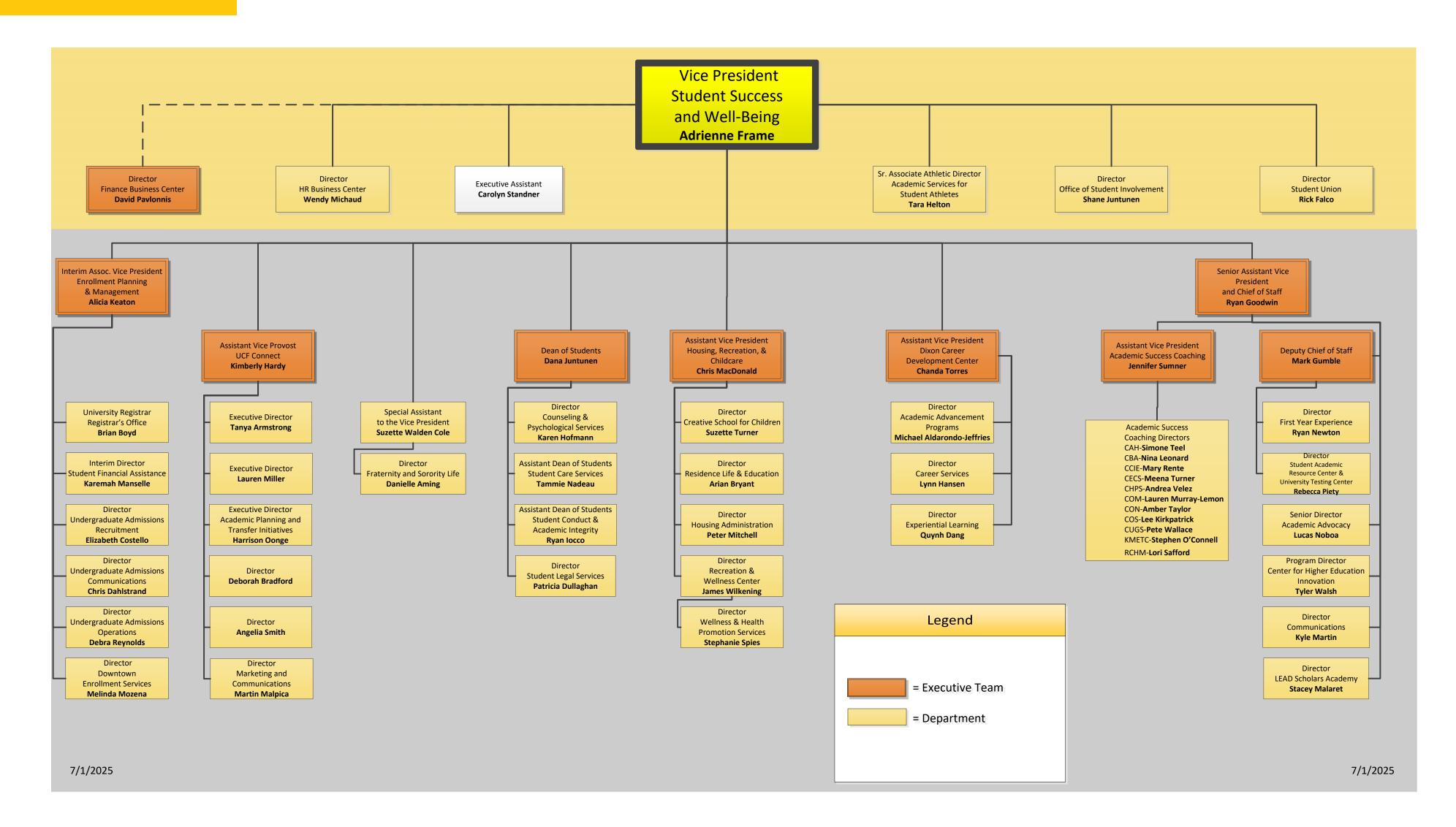
Acronym	Meaning
BEAM	Belonging, Engaging, Achieving, Meaning The BEAM model provides a framework for student success.
FTIC	First-Time in College Any student who graduates from high school and enrolls at UCF having completed less than 12 college credits since earning their high school diploma.
FTOC	First Time on Campus A student who has transferred to UCF or was an online only student and is now on campus for the first time.
HRL or DHRL	Housing & Residence Life or Department of Housing & Residence Life
FCS	Florida College System
SUS	State University System The 12 public state universities in Florida.
A.A.	Associate in/of Arts Degree
A.S.	Associate in/of Science Degree
CLT	Classic Learning Test is a standardized test that is an alternative to the SAT and ACT. The CLT is an approved exam for undergraduate admission to UCF and other SUS institutions and can be used to earn Bright Futures.

Acronym	Meaning	
Common App	Common Application is an undergraduate college application that applicants may use to apply to more than 1,000 member colleges and universities worldwide. UCF is a member of Common App for FTICs only. Undergraduate Transfers must apply from the admissions website.	
DC2UCF	DirectConnect to UCF is the articulated transfer partnership between UCF and six partner institutions that guarantees admission to students who meet certain admission requirements consistent with university policy. These partners are College of Central Florida, Daytona State College, Eastern Florida State College, Lake-Sumter State College, Seminole State College and Valencia College.	
DE	Dual Enrollment is a program for students in grades 6-12 who wish to enroll at UCF on a part-time basis while still completing their high school coursework.	
EA	Early Admission is a program for students (usually high school juniors or seniors) who wish to enroll at UCF as full-time students prior to high school graduation.	
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Financial Aid	
FAS	Florida Academic Scholarship is one of the two Florida Bright Futures awards that UCF accepts. FAS is the higher of the two awards.	

Acronym	Meaning
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FKP	Future Knight Portal is the web-based portal that prospective FTIC and transfer undergraduates use to create their initial application for admission, monitor their application status, and satisfy some pre-enrollment checklist requirements.
FLBOG	Florida Board of Governors
FWS	Federal Work Study
MPT	Math Placement Test
NMS	National Merit Scholar
SPARK (a.k.a. SPARK Form)	Self Provided Academic Record for Knights is the form that FTIC applicants must submit to report their high school coursework and grades; this is submitted in lieu of an initial high school transcript.



ORGANIZATION CHART



CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Purpose	Phone	Email	Location
Academics Services for Student Athletes (ASSA)	Contact for specific questions regarding ASSA resources, such as tutoring and ASSA advising before orientation.		assa@ucf.edu	Wayne Densch Center for Student-Athlete Leadership, Room 201
Alcohol EDU	Contact for specific questions regarding AlcoholEDU Completion, account issues, and any other technical issues that may be occurring.		alcoholedu@ucf.edu	
Burnett Honors College	Contact for specific questions regarding Burnett Honors College admission/eligibility, advising, and course requirements.	407-823-2076	honors@ucf.edu	12778 Aquarius Agora Dr. Orlando, FL 32816
Card Services	Contact for specific questions regarding Knight Cash; UCF Online getting an ID Card (they can on request), and replacing a student ID.	407-823-2100	cardsrvc@ucf.edu	John T. Washington Center Across from the UCF Bookstore Room #104
Chemistry Placement Test	Contact for specific questions regarding the completion of, study resources for, and consequences of taking the Chemistry Placement Test (UTC Phone Number).	407-823-5110	chemplacement@ucf.edu	Howard Phillips Hall, Room 106
Computer Science Placement Test	Contact for specific questions regarding the completion of, study resources for, and consequences of taking the Computer Science Placement Test (UTC Phone Number).	407-823-5111	CSundergrad@ucf.edu	Howard Phillips Hall, Room 106

Office	Purpose	Phone	Email	Location
Dining Services	Contact for specific questions regarding meal plans, dining options, and payment extensions.	407-823-2651	ucfdining@ucf.edu	Dining Services Office (Ferrell Commons)
Excel/Compass	Contact for specific questions regarding the processes surrounding Excel/Compass admission/eligibility, housing, and course requirements.	407-823-6230	EXCEL@ucf.edu	
Financial Aid	Contact for specific questions regarding FAFSA, student loans, scholarships, and other financial aid topics. Make sure Student Account Services is not more appropriate first!	844-376-9160	finaid@ucf.edu	Millican Hall Room 107
Health Services	Contact for specific questions regarding immunizations, medical appointments/records, and payment holds from this department.	407-823-2000	immunizations@ucf.edu	4000 Central Florida Blvd. Orlando, FL 32816
Housing	Contact for specific questions regarding housing applications, payments, and the different kinds of housing options available to students.	407-823-4663	housing@ucf.edu	4000 Central Florida Blvd. Orlando, Florida 32816
Knights Major and Exploration and Transition Center	Contact for specific questions regarding major exploration, peer advising, and other information for undeclared students.	407-823-3165	kmetc@ucf.edu	Trevor Colbourn Hall, Suite 133

Office	Purpose	Phone	Email	Location
Math Placement Test	Contact for specific questions regarding the completion of, study resources for, and consequences of taking the MPT (no longer an email, only contact form + UTC Number). (Same Contact info as UTC).	407-823-5109	academicsuccess.ucf.edu/ utc/math/contact	Howard Phillips Hall, Room 106
Military and Veteran Success Center	Contact for specific questions regarding veteran specific resources on campus, such as mental health services, career services, and military benefits at UCF.	407-823-2707	MVSC@ucf.edu	4210 E Plaza Dr, Oviedo, FL 32765
Registrar's Office	Contact for specific questions regarding academic records [FERPA], UCF transcripts, and residency reclassification. Enrollment appointments are also handled by them but we only need to direct FTIC to recieve them if a readmit.	407-823-3100	registrar@ucf.edu OR ROenrollment@ucf.edu	Millican Hall Room 161
Student Accessibility Services	Contact for specific questions regarding academic accommodations, service/ emotional support animals, and how disabilities are handled on campus.	407-823-2371	sas@ucf.edu	Ferrell Commons, Room 185
Student Account Services	Contact for specific questions regarding tuition payment plans, unknown/incorrect charges on their accounts, Florida pre-paid, and making payments on their account charges.	407-823-2433	studentaccounts@ucf.edu	Millican Hall Room 109
UCF Bookstore	Contact for specific questions regarding textbook payment, finding course materials, and pricing on their merchandise.	407-823-2665		4000 Central Florida Blvd. Orlando, FL 32816

ACADEMIC SUCCESS COACHING (ADVISING)

Office	Purpose	Phone	Email	Location
College of Arts and Humanities	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Arts and Humanities Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-3312	cahsa@ucf.edu	Trevor Colbourn Hall, Suite 159
College of Business	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Business Student Advising and resources.	407-823-2185	opd@ucf.edu	Business Administration II, Room 101
College of Community Innovation and Education	Contact for specific questions regarding Community Innovation and Education Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-3723		Dr. Phillips Academic Commons (DPAC), Suite 446
College of Engineering and Computer Science	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Engineering and Computer Science Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-2455	eacaf@ucf.edu	Engineering Building (ENG I), Room 107
College of Health Professions and Sciences	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Health Professions and Sciences Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-0010	chpsundergrad@ucf.edu	Health Sciences II, Room 115
College of Medicine	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Medicine Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-5932	bsbsadvising@ucf.edu	Health Sciences Campus at Lake Nona and Health Sciences II Room 335
College of Nursing	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Nursing Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-2744	UCFnurse@ucf.edu	12201 Research Parkway, Suite 300, Orlando, Florida 32826

College of Optics and Photonics	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Optics and Photonics Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-6376	creol@ucf.edu	CREOL Room A213
College of Sciences	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Sciences Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-6131	cosas@ucf.edu	College of Sciences Building Room 250
College of Undergraduate Studies	Contact for specific questions regarding College of Undergraduate Studies Student Advising and Student Resources.	407-823-0144	cugs@ucf.edu	Trevor Colbourn Hall Room 239
Rosen College of Hospitality Management	Contact for specific questions regarding Rosen College of Hospitality Management admission and advising.	407-823-4447 (Main) 407-903-8056 (Rosen)	hospitality@ucf.edu	Main Campus: Classroom Building 1 Suite 302 or 9907 Universal Blvd

DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING