21st Century Library Project

A project to expand and upgrade the university library marked completion of advance schematic designs this fall, with preliminary construction scheduled to begin in 2015.

To support research and education in the decades to come, the John C. Hitt Library must continue to evolve to accommodate changes in technology and collections, provide areas specially designed to promote collaborative scholarship and individual research, and provide immediate access to library resources in all forms, library and technical assistance, and technology.

A key element in the plan for the 21st Century Library is the construction of an Automated Retrieval Center, or ARC. The ARC will be a four-story building added to the north side of the current library (structure on the left in the illustration below) and will contain 1.2 million volumes of the Libraries’ print collection, placed in bins three stories high, for retrieval by robots. Each volume will be available in minutes at the click of a button on a computer screen. Moving library materials into the ARC will free space in the existing building to accommodate student seating and library services.

The top floor of the ARC will house an active learning space for groups and individuals, supporting students, faculty and staff, highlighted by large windows overlooking the plaza in front of the Student Union.

Other plans focus on the redesign and reimagining of the building interior, including creation of an area for graduate students, more group study rooms and alcoves outfitted with technology, comfortable individual seating for reading, writing, research and study, a digital commons, and an Innovation Room in which students can try the latest technology for use in research, learning, or sharing their discoveries. New services to support scholars will be readily available at every seat. Best of all, students will have 24-hour access.

In a library environment rich in resources, the convergence of technology and collaboration with scholars and librarians nurtures the emergence of new ideas and the creation of new knowledge. The UCF Libraries will continue to be a vital part of the academic and cultural life of every UCF student and faculty member, and an important resource for the Central Florida community.

Adaptive Learning

In fall 2014, three UCF departments began developing or delivering pilot courses in an adaptive learning framework. Adaptive learning, sometimes referred to as “personalized learning,” presents each student with an individualized learning experience by allowing each student to progress on their own personal learning path through an adaptive learning course. The adaptive learning software being used in the pilot courses, RealizeIT, establishes a baseline measurement of the student’s knowledge and begins his or her individualized learning path at that point.

RealizeIT presents new content to the student based on the student’s activity and responses. Student learning is assessed throughout the path, and the student is not allowed to move to a new concept until he or she has demonstrated knowledge attainment of the concept being worked on.

CDL’s Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness (RITE) will be assessing student outcomes from the adaptive learning pilot courses, which will contribute to future adaptive course designs. If adaptive learning proves as effective in monitoring student learning as anticipated, a strategic application may be to focus on gateway courses, such as mathematics, that has traditionally been challenging for many students.

If you are interested in learning more about the adaptive learning product being piloted at UCF, or if you are interested in piloting a course using this adaptive learning system, please contact Thomas Cavanagh, associate vice president, Center for Distributed Learning, at cavanagh@ucf.edu.
Fiber Optic Ring

Construction is nearing completion on a high-bandwidth fiber optic network linking the UCF Orlando campus with Medical City. Additional sites, including DataSite Orlando, a major commercial data center, and the Level3 network point-of-presence in Maitland will be connected to the fiber optic ring.

The new network will replace several individual point-to-point data circuits that have been in place since the first UCF building at Lake Nona was constructed. The fiber optic ring will provide initial redundant data carrying capacity of 10 gigabits/second, but can be upgraded as required in the future. The fiber ring will also serve other Medical City agencies that require high-capacity data service and access to global research networks.

UCF and Florida LambdaRail network engineers expect to place the fiber ring in service before January.

Royal Society of Chemistry Author Fees

UCF Libraries is partnering with the Royal Society of Chemistry to support free “Gold Open Access” publishing under RSC’s “Gold for Gold” initiative. As a subscribing institution to RSC’s Gold Package, UCF Libraries has a limited number of vouchers to offer UCF researchers for open access publishing on a first-come, first-served basis. Each voucher code can be used to publish a communication, full paper, or review under RSC’s Gold Open Access option, without paying the normal article publication fee.

Upon publication, the article will be accessible to all readers worldwide, regardless of whether they or their institutions subscribe to RSC journals. The Gold for Gold open access articles will be published under the Creative Commons Attribution license, maximizing the potential for openness and reuse.

RSC explains that they envisioned this program as “a mechanism to ease some of the economic burden on RSC authors who either needed to comply with open access mandates or simply wanted their articles published open access for other reasons.” Choosing the RSC open access option is one way to fulfill the requirements of the NIH Public Access Policy, with no action required by the author other than indicating the article is NIH funded.

Who is eligible?
To be considered for the OA Gold for Gold publishing voucher:
- The article must be a new, unpublished work that has received final approval for publication in a RSC journal. A voucher code cannot be used until an article has been accepted.
- One of the authors for the article must have a current status of faculty, lecturer, instructor or student at the University of Central Florida.
- Only one Gold for Gold voucher will be granted to an individual in a calendar year.

UCF Libraries will distribute a limited number of vouchers to UCF researchers. Vouchers can be applied only to articles that have been accepted for publication, and cannot be applied retrospectively to articles already published.

To request a voucher, complete the UCF Libraries online application form, located at http://library.ucf.edu/ScholarlyCommunication/GoldForm.php, and attach a copy of the RSC correspondence, documenting acceptance of the article. Each requestor is eligible for a single voucher in 2014, which must be used before Dec. 31, 2014.

Information Security Day

The 12th annual UCF Information Security Day, held on October 24 in the UCF Teaching Academy, was a great success. More than 90 staff members attended the half-day conference, which featured presentations on security threats and incident response.

Information security presentations were given by Chris Vakhordjian, chief information security officer; Justin Crenshaw, FBI Counterintelligence Squad; Matthew Fitzgerald, UCF senior IT security analyst; Gaelan Adams, lead penetration tester; and retired U.S. Air Force squadron commander Paul Orth.

In a time when our lives are constantly connected and online, security threats are present and evermore sophisticated, making it necessary for IT administrators to understand what the threats are, implement best security practices, and respond to security incidents as needed.

Major information security breaches in the past few months have been among the most massive in history, with tens of millions of personal records obtained by the perpetrators.

UCF’s annual information security conferences are a valuable opportunity for IT and information security professionals to learn from experts, network, and exchange thoughts with peers from across the campus and with IT security professionals.

Please contact the Service Desk at servicedesk@ucf.edu or (407) 823-5117 if you have questions or need assistance.

Outlook Anywhere

Recently, Outlook Anywhere was activated for UCF’s Enterprise email system. Outlook Anywhere allows employees who are currently using the campus centralized enterprise Outlook-Exchange email to access their email securely on and off campus using the full Outlook 2010 or 2013 client without having to use a VPN connection.

This new service will simplify users’ access to their UCF business email. Documentation and information about Outlook Anywhere can be found at: http://www.cst.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/UCF-Outlook-Anywhere-Windows.pdf
Lync Unified Communication Services

Elements of the planned UCF Unified Communications system are falling into place: Exchange email, Unified Messaging voicemail, mobility, SharePoint, and now Lync collaboration tools.

Lync is a robust communication management platform that facilitates instant messaging, video conferencing, online collaboration, presence, dial-in conferencing, virtual office capabilities, mobility and more. CS&T has chosen to implement Lync 2013 in its production environment to leverage current Microsoft applications and support identity management and unified communications for students, faculty, staff and affiliates. CS&T is establishing Lync as the new, secure enterprise standard for online collaboration.

Objectives and Goals

The initial objective is to support the full collaboration features of Lync 2013 from anywhere in the world that has a stable Internet connection, by providing secure collaboration tools UCF staff and faculty can use. These tools can be used with students who already have Lync with Office 365, and partners of UCF or others who don’t, through web access. CS&T installed the base infrastructure for Lync in July, and has provisioned more than 6,000 faculty and staff members with our Enterprise on-premise Lync solution (with 10,000 expected by June 2015) and all 60,000-plus students in Office 365. This provides unified communication tools for video conferencing and collaboration that integrate seamlessly with Outlook-Exchange and SharePoint communication tools.

Resources for help with Lync

If your department would like Lync training materials, they can be picked up at the UCF Technology Product Center http://cstore.ucf.edu or CSB 301. The website below provides more information about Lync and the features it provides. The Unified Communications team is working with New Horizons and the Technology Product Center to offer hands-on training at the Orlando campus. These will be two-hour classes covering full features of Lync. Please contact TPC@ucf.edu for more information.

To learn more, visit www.servicedesk.ucf.edu and click on Help for Faculty/Staff, or contact the Service Desk at servicedesk@ucf.edu or (407) 823-5117.

Faculty-Libraries Collaboration

From 2009 to 2013, the UCF Libraries received nearly $1.7 million in Technology Fee funding for new library resources. These successful proposals provided the UCF community with significant collections, including:

- Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) and National Geographic Archive
- Sage Research Methods and Sage Knowledge
- British Periodicals Collection I & II
- Alexander Street Press streaming video
- Replaced selected VHS with DVD
- Sage Deep Backfile Collection
- Cambridge Books Online
- Springer Online Archive Collection
- Oxford Scholarship Online and Handbooks Collection
- Springer E-Book Collection 2005-2009

Beginning in 2013, the UCF Libraries reached out to faculty for their ideas for possible proposals and sought letters of support. Also in 2013, the Library collaborated for the first time with Dr. Anna Jones of the UCF English Department, and Dr. Peter Larson of the UCF History Department, to complete the proposal for British Periodicals Collection I & II.

In 2014, the library submitted two proposals and also assisted in the development of three additional proposals that were submitted by UCF faculty. Dr. Daniel Murphee of the UCF History Department submitted a proposal for Gale Indigenous Peoples: North America, Dr. Mark Kamrath of the UCF English Department submitted a proposal for Early American Imprints, Series II: Shaw-Shoemaker, 1801-1819, and Dr. Beth Young of the UCF English department contributed toward a proposal for the Dictionary of American Regional English.

The UCF Libraries, with support from various faculty members, submitted two proposals in 2014 for the following resources:

- Taylor & Francis Archive Collections
- America’s Historical Imprints
- The American Slavery Collection
- The American Civil War Collection
- American Broadsides and Ephemera

For specific details about the editions of these collections and resources, or to suggest future acquisitions, please contact Michael Arthur, head of Acquisitions & Collection Services, at michael.arthur@ucf.edu, before the end of the 2014-15 academic year.

Research Network

The University of Central Florida’s Institute for Simulation and Training, along with Computer Services & Telecommunications, is deploying a dedicated, high-speed research data network. The 10-gigabit research network is separate from the UCF enterprise network, and connects directly to Internet2 via Florida LambdaRail. Buildings initially connected to the research network include Physical Sciences, Engineering II, Harris Engineering Center, Partnership III, and the campus network core.

The new research network was funded through an NSF Campus Cyberinfrastructure Network Infrastructure and Engineering grant, with the goal of facilitating research at UCF that requires large data sets and efficient access to computational resources such as UCF’s Stokes high performance computer and XSEDE national resources. The research network implements the first stages of the NSF Innovation Platform and enables future high-end data needs by supporting software-defined networking, as well as persistent performance monitoring via tools such as ESNet’s perfSONAR.

For more information about our dedicated research network, contact Dr. Paul Wiegand at wiegand@ist.ucf.edu.
**Next-Generation Classrooms**

Our IR has begun upgrading classrooms with digital, high definition technologies. The digital upgrade process began with the classrooms in Classroom Building II, which opened last spring.

The new digital classroom multimedia systems bring several improvements over the previous analog technology, including:

- HDMI, as well as older VGA and RCA connections at the console
- Improved sound and image processing for sharper projected images and clearer audio
- Brighter projected images with more powerful, dual-lamp projectors in many rooms
- Touch-screen monitors with built-in webcams and microphones at the instructor console
- Dual-projection options (different images on different screens) in some rooms
- Remote monitoring and maintenance of the Crestron control systems for improved support
- Instructor consoles in most of the new rooms are motorized, and their height can be adjusted as required by a switch on the front of the console.

These changes allow for more options in these classrooms including the use of Lync, the collaboration platform now being offered by the university for faculty and student use. OIR is also working closely with Telecommunications and Facilities to improve wireless Internet coverage in rooms as they are renovated.

So far, 50 rooms have been upgraded to the new digital media systems. The process will continue through all new construction and through renovations funded through the UCF Technology Fee program.

**New Webcourses@UCF Exam Proctoring Feature**

This fall, the Center for Distributed Learning conducted a pilot on a passive proctoring solution that integrates with Webcourses@UCF. ProctorHub is a UCF-developed tool that assists faculty members with quiz and exam authentication, while helping to mitigate academic dishonesty. By utilizing test takers’ webcams and the modern features of current web browsers, ProctorHub captures photos of students as they take online exams and the photos are blended together as a movie upon completion of the exam. If any complication or issue is suspected, faculty members are able to review the movie.

Another benefit of ProctorHub is that it is available at no cost. Traditionally, online exam proctoring services charge a per-student fee for each proctored exam. CDL also purchased a few webcams that students could check out from the UCF Library on the main campus. Although some students had concerns about who would have access to the recorded video and the length of time the videos will be kept, they found this alternative convenient, especially students who attend at a regional campus.

Based on the valuable feedback received, CDL will continue to work on fine-tuning the faculty interface of ProctorHub, as well as technical support resources on how to best implement this Webcourses@UCF tool. ProctorHub will be available for a soft launch in spring 2015. For additional information and instructions on how to incorporate ProctorHub into your course, faculty members should contact their instructional designer or Online@UCF support at https://onlinesupport.cdl.ucf.edu/help.

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**IT&R Staff Lives United**

October was Live United month at UCF. This annual tradition brings the UCF community together in an effort to raise funds for the Heart of Florida United Way, which funds various charitable agencies in Central Florida. This year’s campaign goal was to raise $150,000 and the Information Technologies & Resources Division joined the effort by planning several fundraising events for our staff and the UCF community.

Computer Services and Telecommunications (CS&T) was our top fundraising unit, with a total of $840! The Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) and the Office of Instructional Resources (OIR) combined their fundraising efforts and raised a total of $616, and the UCF Libraries raised $468. Fundraising events included a silent auction, baked goods for charity, a bargain boutique, mini-vacation and therapeutic massage raffles, a chili cook-off, and an IT&R executive team carwash raffle!

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**information technologies & resources websites**

Center for Distributed Learning (CDL)  [http://cdl.ucf.edu](http://cdl.ucf.edu)
Computer Services & Telecommunications (CS&T)  [http://cst.ucf.edu](http://cst.ucf.edu)
Information Technologies & Resources (IT&R)  [http://itr.ucf.edu](http://itr.ucf.edu)
Library  [http://library.ucf.edu](http://library.ucf.edu)
Office of Instructional Resources (OIR)  [http://www.oir.ucf.edu](http://www.oir.ucf.edu)