

**College, Vision, Mission, Goals**

**including alignment of the College’s goals with UCF’s strategic plan**

**UCF’s SP:** In Spring 2022, UCF (founded in 1963) produced, with involvement of all appropriate stakeholders, UCF’s strategic plan (SP) called *Unleashing Potential, Becoming the University of the Future*. A few of the excerpts from the plan define the context and the frame of mind of the writers of the plan, and I quote: “Nearly sixty years later, we remain committed to *unleashing potential* in people, organizations, ideas, and the communities we serve. That charge inspires us and illuminates fantastic possibilities ahead. As the University *for* the Future, we aspire to be innovative in higher education and among the most impactful universities in the country. We seek to be excellent in our teaching, research, and creative activities, while also providing access and opportunity to a diverse and dynamic student population. We will be elite — without being elitist. We can be the No. 1 provider of talent in Florida, and at the same time provide a high-impact and personalized student experience. We expose our students to the most cutting-edge research, while preparing them with practical skills that align with our region’s workforce needs. We will be distinctive in our areas of expertise, while working collaboratively to address the world’s most challenging problems. Our mission is to unleash potential: UCF is a public research university invested in unleashing the potential within every individual, enriching the human experience through inclusion, discovery, and innovation; and propelling broad-based prosperity for the many communities we serve. The goals and priority initiatives listed in this plan are organized by four priorities and are the most important next steps to move UCF toward a Top 50 ranking and a “preeminent” designation in Florida’s Preeminence Program, which is designed to elevate the academic and research excellence of the state’s highest-performing universities. Goals and initiatives for a Top 25 ranking and AAU-eligibility extend beyond 2027.” The four priorities of UCF’s strategic plan are: P1: *Student Success and Well-Being*, P2: *Discovery and Exploration*, P3: *Community and Culture*, P4: *Innovation and Sustainability*.

UCF’s College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) strategic plan (SP) effort started in 2016-2017, was completed in Spring 2018 with involvement of all stakeholders, faculty, staff, students, advisory board members. CECS’s Vision, Mission, Focus/Goals are provided below.

**CECS Vision:** CECS’s vision is to be among the nation's top producers of engineering and computer science workforce talent in terms of scale and excellence, and to lead the next generation of engineers and computer scientists in advancing research and education that impacts the global society.

**CECS Mission:** CECS’s mission is to provide high-quality, broad-based education, and experience-based learning in engineering and computer science; to create knowledge through pioneering scholarship and impactful research; to enrich our students’ development and leadership skills; to leverage technology to enhance educational efficiency and quality; to nurture the inherent innovation and leadership of our students; and to address pressing local, state, national, and international issues in support of the global community.

**CECS Goals:** CECS’s goals (See Figure 1) are: G1: *Create a Bigger, Better Research Enterprise*; G2: *Increase the Quality and Quantity of Graduate Studies*; G3: *Grow and Develop Our Faculty*; and G4: *Enhance the Undergraduate Experience*. These goals are indelibly intertwined and require close collaboration to ensure success. Partnerships underlie all these efforts as we strive to become the *Nation’s Technology Partnership Leader in Engineering and Computer Science*, which is goal G5.

<b>Goal G1</b> Create a Bigger, Better Research Enterprise	<b>Goal G2</b> Increase the Quality & Quantity Of Graduate Studies	<b>Goal G3</b> Grow and Develop Faculty	<b>Goal G4</b> Enhance the Undergraduate Experience
<b>Goal G5:</b> Become the Nation’s Technology Partner Leader			

**Figure 1:** CECS’s Goals

**UCF SP and CECS SP Alignment:** Although CECS’s SP was created 5 years prior to UCF’s SP, the alignment is uncanny. UCF’s SP Priority 1 (Student Success and Well Being) and related metrics (e.g., FTIC 1<sup>st</sup> Year Retention, 4-Year Graduation Rate, 6-Year Graduation Rate, Percent of Graduates Enrolled or Employed) align primarily with CECS’s Goal 4 (G4) and efforts. UCF’s SP Priority 2 (Discovery and Exploration) and related metrics (e.g., Research Expenditures, Patents, Number of Post-Docs, Recruit and Retain Faculty) align primarily with CECS’s Goals 1, 2, 3 (G1, G2, G3) and efforts. UCF’s SP Priority 3 (Community and Culture) and related metrics (e.g., National Academy Members, Pegasus Partnerships) align primarily with Goals 1 and 5 (G1 and G5) and efforts. UCF’s SP 4 (Innovation and Sustainability) and related metrics (e.g., Enhance UCF’s Brand and National Reputation) aligns primarily with CECS’s Goal 5 (G5) and related efforts.