Unprecedented Momentum

UNPARALLELED IMPACT

1. The Opportunity:
This is a once-in-a-generation, career-defining role to helm one of the best, most competitive and comprehensive public research universities in the country.

2. The Leader:
We’re looking for the best of the best — a bold and visionary executive with proven experience leading complex organizations and an academic pedigree befitting a top 5 public university.

3. The Expectation:
An ambitious and evolving vision laser-focused on sustainable growth will be key as UF continues to pursue its aspirational goal to become one of the world’s leading higher education institutions.

UF has rapidly ascended the public university rankings, going from #14 in 2017 to #5 today — the most momentum of any university in the Top 10.

Learn more

UF
For the GREATER
Unrivaled Scope & Scale

The University of Florida is a truly dynamic institution — widely considered to be among the world’s most comprehensive universities. It is one of only six institutions in the country with colleges of law, medicine, agriculture, and veterinary medicine on one central campus and one of only 17 in the nation to boast land-, sea-, and space-grant status.

Thanks to its extraordinary depth and breadth, Florida’s flagship university is uniquely positioned to lead interdisciplinary collaborations and boundary-breaking research efforts that are shaping a better future for the state, the nation, and the world. Guided by a shared passion for the greater good, the Gator Nation is a diverse and expansive community with a proven trajectory of excellence across academics, research, outreach, health, athletics, and more.

Mission

The university is committed to equipping students with the skills, opportunities, and experiences to lead and influence the next generation and beyond. With a cutting-edge curriculum centered on broad-based, inclusive public education, leading research, and public service, UF stimulates a remarkable intellectual vitality and cultivates innovation that can be translated for economic, cultural, and societal benefit.

Class of #UF26

By the Numbers

65,000+ Applicants

6,700+ Confirmed

4.5 Average GPA

1407 Average SAT

31 Average ACT
Points of Pride

- **LOCATED IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA**: Opportunity to lead one of the most important institutions in one of the most important states in the country.

- **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INITIATIVE**: Partnership with NVIDIA, one of the leading computing and artificial intelligence companies in the world, and UF’s Artificial Intelligence initiative represents a signature moment in UF’s history, uniquely positioning UF to become the higher education leader in artificial intelligence.

- **WORLD-CLASS HEALTH SYSTEM**: One of the top academic health care systems and hospitals in the Southeast, consistently ranked among the top two health systems in Florida.

- **INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (IFAS)**: Significant thought leader and driver of Florida’s $130 billion agriculture community, which is one of the significant components of Florida’s economy and a key component of the nation’s food supply.

- **ATHLETICS**: Only program in NCAA Division I athletics to finish within the Top 10 in the standings in each of the last 38 years, and the Gators are one of only two programs to capture a national championship in each of the previous 13 complete seasons.

- **FUNDRAISING**: Achieved record philanthropy, raising $800+ million in fiscal year 2022 and securing a total of $4+ billion in the University of Florida’s Go Greater campaign. UF is currently ranked No. 4 among public universities in fundraising and No. 1 in the AAU for the percentage of alumni (20%) who give back to the university.
> **RESEARCH:** Anticipated to exceed $1B in research funding in 2022.

> **SOUTH FLORIDA INITIATIVE:** Scripps Florida, one of the world’s premier biomedical research enterprises and regarded as one of the most influential institutions in the world for its impact on innovation and addressing the world’s most pressing health concerns, is now part of UF. In addition, UF is developing a permanent graduate and professional UF campus in West Palm Beach with a focus on fintech, cybersecurity, and data analytics.

> **ONLINE INITIATIVE:** Ranked the No. 1 university in the country for online learning.

> **GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT:** Unwavering support from the state of Florida, which has endorsed UF’s drive to become one of the nation’s very best public research universities, including supporting those efforts with hundreds of millions of dollars in additional funding.
Position Summary

The university president is the chief executive officer of the University of Florida. Subject to appropriate accountability to and governance of the University of Florida Board of Trustees (the “Board”), the President is responsible for all operations of the university: overall leadership and management of the institution; its academic, research and healthcare enterprise; fundraising; intercollegiate athletics; the development of strategic plans; fiscal and budgetary plans; and the allocation of resources. The President also has oversight responsibilities for the university’s private affiliated organizations including a foundation, research foundation, agricultural research entities, investment management company, development corporation, hospitals and health care entities, alumni association, and athletic association, among others. In this role, the president will advance the university’s academic, research, and outreach efforts to maintain and enhance the strength of UF’s programs and offerings and ensure that student services and support are provided to create appropriate learning environments.

Key Opportunities

- **ENHANCE AND ADVANCE THE VISION FOR THE UNIVERSITY** - In partnership with UF’s faculty, staff, students, and other key stakeholder groups, the next president will be presented with the tremendous opportunity to advance the university’s vision for the future that builds upon UF’s successes and continued upward trajectory. The president must bring high levels of enthusiasm and passion for the university’s work in serving the state of Florida and an ability to inspire excitement in the development and subsequent realization of this bold vision for the future.

- **STRENGTHENING THE UNIVERSITY’S LAND-GRA NT MISSION** - As UF’s most ardent champion, the president will bring to the position a resonance with and understanding of its land-grant mission and a deep commitment to advancing the University’s endeavors in teaching, research, service, and economic development.

- **BUILDING NEW AND STRENGTHENING EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS** - UF’s President serves as an active and visible member within and outside the campus community and will build new and strengthen existing relationships that will create mutually beneficial alliances across the state of Florida.

UF, a modern land-grant university, serves the diverse needs of Florida’s cities.
PROMOTING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION - UF’s next president will lead in continuing conversations and efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion among all members of the UF community, fostering an environment that is thoughtful and fervent in addressing and supporting the diverse needs of all of its current and future constituents and resulting in tangible changes at all levels.

SUPPORTING UF’S FACULTY AND STAFF - UF possesses a strong history and tradition of creating effective and welcoming teaching and learning environments for its students. To maintain the university’s strength in this area, the next president must be dedicated to leading efforts to recruit, develop, and retain talented and high-quality faculty and staff in a highly competitive and rapidly evolving environment.

INCREASING UF’S NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROMINENCE - UF’s president will be an integral figure in leading the university’s ongoing efforts to promote its unique programs, strengths, and contributions to increase the university’s reputation both nationally and internationally.

ENHANCING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE - The University of Florida enrolls over 57,000 high-achieving students, almost 80 percent coming from within the state. UF’s next president will lead the state’s flagship university — a desirable student destination thanks to its abiding commitment to supporting the growth, development, and success of every Gator.

The university faculty, which numbers over 6,000, has 61 funded Eminent Scholar Chair positions and 45 elections to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine or to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
Driven by extraordinary momentum, the University of Florida’s next president will have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to firmly establish UF as a premier university that the state, nation, and world all look to for leadership. The next president must have the experience, vision, and commitment to lead the university in sustaining its top-tier position while ushering in UF’s next chapter as an institution with a statewide urban footprint, alongside university, state, and industry stakeholders.

In particular, the most competitive candidates will demonstrate many of the following qualities and characteristics:

### Academic

> An educator of national stature with an earned terminal degree in their chosen academic field, demonstrated intellectual leadership, and internationally recognized research or scholarly achievements who will continue to advance the academic distinction of the University of Florida.

> A passion for and commitment to the academic values and culture of the University of Florida and the capacity to communicate the university’s mission and needs clearly and persuasively to all external and internal constituencies.

> A demonstrated commitment to fostering academic freedom and to the right of all members of the university community to express their academic and professional views openly with their university affiliation.

> An abiding dedication to promoting free expression of all viewpoints as critical to excellence and the educational, research, and service endeavor.

Learn more

About the academic qualities of this role
Leadership

➢ The ability to embrace the current vision for the university and accelerate its upward trajectory and international prominence; the ability, fortitude, and strategic vision to take the University to the highest level with demonstrated leadership and an emphasis on increasing quality across the University.

➢ Knowledge of the national trends in higher education that impact top-tier research universities coupled with the experience necessary to effectively address them and position the university for success.

➢ Experience as an accomplished fundraiser with the capacity to cultivate a broad range of stakeholders including donors, alumni, and friends of the university.

➢ The awareness of key issues on the horizon within the changing health care environment and the vision to respond to them, ultimately fostering success in the university’s academic health affairs endeavors.

➢ A blend of commitment, vision, and entrepreneurial skills that will foster growth for the university’s research enterprise, ensuring a high level of quality and competitiveness while contributing to overall economic development.

➢ An appreciation for the significant role of intercollegiate athletics in the life of the university community, and an enthusiasm for fostering competitiveness, compliance, and accountability. A champion for excellence and integrity in academics and athletics (i.e. “winning with integrity”).

Learn more about the leadership qualities of this role.
Administrative

> Demonstrated success in leading a large, complex unit or institution of higher education, preferably at a R-1 or AAU university.

> Experience serving in a senior-level leadership role at a major university or other complex organization in government, business, or the nonprofit sector.

> An established history of leading and managing change while achieving long- and short-term strategic objectives that advance the mission and goals of a university.

> A high level of sophistication and understanding of the fiscal issues impacting institutions of higher education, particularly at public research universities.

> Experience with complex budgetary matters, managing and allocating resources effectively, and large-scale budgetary decision-making.

> The ability to oversee a complex, interrelated system of health science centers, affiliated teaching hospitals, and practice groups.

> The ability to develop high-performing leadership teams and to cultivate environments with a shared sense of mission and culture that encourages entrepreneurship, innovation, strategic risk-taking, and collaboration.

> A demonstrated commitment to the values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA); a genuine passion for building and maintaining a community of diverse faculty, students, and staff in which all people feel included and encouraged to express their viewpoints.

Learn more about the administrative qualities of this role.
Collaboration

- The ability to inspire trust and confidence among all internal and external constituents.
- A track record of serving as a relationship builder who is authentic, ethical, and humble.
- A demonstrated commitment to faculty governance in all matters, including academic standards, policies, and rewards, with faculty playing an integral role in all decision-making processes that affect the academic and working environment of the university.
- Experience serving as a passionate advocate for a university or organization and the capacity to establish fruitful relationships with members of the legislative and executive branches as well as donors, alumni, and other individuals who may be in a position to promote the university’s agenda and interests.
- A transparent, inclusive, and approachable leadership style.

Going Greater

The University of Florida has the momentum, expertise, and resources to enlighten and lead — to enrich the lives of citizens across the state, the nation, and the world.

The next UF president is uniquely positioned to guide this momentum and oversee the state’s flagship university as it becomes a true national and global higher education powerhouse. Our aspirational vision calls us to Go Greater.
**Application & Nomination Process**

The search committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applications should include a current curriculum vitae and a letter of interest describing relevant experience and interest in the position. Submission of materials via email is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include the name and contact information of the nominee.

In accordance with the State of Florida’s open records laws, documents and information related to applicants will be held in confidence with only the finalists’ identities and materials made public. Application materials should be submitted to:

**Alberto Pimentel**, Managing Partner  
**Will Gates**, Partner  
**Sal Venegas Jr.**, Partner

**SP&A Executive Search**  
6512 Painter Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90601  

Email: apsearch@spaexec.com  
Refer to code “UF-President” in subject line

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The university is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status in all aspects of employment including recruitment, hiring, promotions, transfers, discipline, terminations, wage and salary administration, benefits, and training.