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Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 7:57 AM
To: Karen Guin <Karen.Guin@ucf.edu>
Subject: August Downtown Update



August Downtown Update

Dear friends,

The new academic year is almost here, and our team is excited about several important milestones, including the first meeting of our Downtown Academic Alignment Task Force and two recent “grand openings” in Parramore.

Envisioning Our Academic Structure

This week, Provost Whittaker charged a new task force to consider how we best organize our academic programs around urban innovation and the opportunity to create a campus in downtown Orlando. Dr. Elizabeth Dooley and I serve as co-chairs for the task force, which has been asked to develop both a 10-year vision for the campus and evaluate its near-term academic program alignment and structure.

My thanks in advance to many of you serving on this group and each of you who will be asked for your feedback throughout this process. We will be moving quickly to provide a recommendation to the Provost by the end of the fall 2017 semester.

New Opportunities in Parramore

While the co-working nonprofit **Canvs opened a pilot space** at the UCF Center for Emerging Media this month, Orange County Public Schools' new **Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) opened its doors this week**, welcoming 900 children from Parramore.

As many of you know, UCF is a lead partner in **ACE's community school model**, which incorporates before- and after-school enrichment programs and resources for parents, as well as on-site medical and dental services for students, their families and the community. UCF's community school model was recently lauded in ***The Wall Street Journal*** for helping to increase enrollment by 17 percent at nearby Evans High School and raise graduation rates from 64 percent to 88 percent.

Our Newest Team Members

As the downtown campus grows, so does our team! Please welcome two new members to our downtown team, whom you'll be working with to bring our campus to life.



Paul Baker, senior philanthropic advisor, joined UCF this summer from Sanford Burnham. He leads our campus philanthropy and creates opportunities for members of our community to invest in our vision.

Jamie Giller, communications and marketing director, joins us from Florida International University. Jamie heads project communications for our campus community and partners.



I'm also pleased to announce that Mike Kilbride has taken on a new and well-deserved role as managing director, leading strategic implementation of the university's campus plan with internal, external and community partners.

As construction on our campus and the task force's work continues, we'll keep you updated with the latest news and information. You're also welcome to contact us with any questions related to the project.

Happy August,



Thad Seymour
Vice Provost
UCF Downtown

Questions?

You can reach us at ucfdowntown@ucf.edu.



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