Teaching, Learning, and Technology for Concurrent-use Programs: The Partnership Library Experience in Central Florida

Mem Stahley

Associate Director & Head of Partnership Library Services University of Central Florida Cocoa, Florida, U.S.A. E-mail: mstahley@mail.ucf.edu

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to share the local context and strategies implemented at community college- university locations to address educational needs in partnering area campus locations. Working strategies include providing quality faculty and accredited programs of study fully supported with local library resources and full-text access for lower and upper division research. The discussion begins with a review of the legislative and higher education initiatives that advanced joint and concurrent-use programs in Florida. Next, the author presents the community college curriculum with supporting library access and resources for concurrent-use programs in partnership with the university. Last, the reciprocal university concurrent-use curriculum with supporting library access and services is presented. The University of Central Florida's partnership and concurrent-use program extends to six community colleges at 13 sites.

Keywords: Concurrent-use; Postsecondary education partnerships; Online library resources; Educational access

In the past several years partnership strategies have taken hold in government, business, and education. Seeking more effective means to provide products and services, agencies and corporations have combined assets and access to reach their clientele. At the University of Central Florida (UCF), partnership initiatives were an expressed goal of our President since his arrival in Orlando in 1992 http://www.ncf.edu/aboutUCF/mission/goal.htm. Many articles appear in the literature analyzing and applauding the results of partnering cooperation. Martin examined the policy implications of strategic research alliance emphasizing government-private sector cooperation in a recently-published article (Martin, 2003). Lynn examined public safety in immigrant populations forging partnerships with public health agencies (Lynn, 2003). Industry and education partnerships are outlined in a blue-print for business-school partnerships (Pro-Principal, 2003). Harper and

Sadler (2002) promote excellence in teacher education through university and public school partnerships. At UCF, our partnership commitment has found expression through targeted programs of research and study, such as the I-4 High-Technology Council, and local community commitments, such as our 2+2 joint articulation agreements. Joint articulation affords students who earn their Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree automatic access to one of Florida's 12 stale universities.

With explosive population growth in the central Florida area, non-traditional students who may be unable to qualify or unwilling to seek admission to the University's Orlando campus, can earn their A.A. degree at the community college, then transfer to the University's local partnership campus, to complete their junior and senior years, and earn their Bachelor's degree. Partnership campuses allow students to maintain personal and employment commitments, while enhancing their value to family and community by earning additional education credentials. For largely upper division and non-traditional students, flourishing 2+2 partnerships address educational needs that otherwise would go unmet. For the University, forging alliances with community colleges throughout the central Florida area alleviates explosive student enrollment growth problems such as overcrowded classrooms, limited parking, and restricted traffic flow by redistributing student populations to neighboring communities.

The purpose of this paper is to expand on work that was published during 2002. Earlier articles focused on incorporating knowledge management principles into information access and systems support within partnering and multi-campus environments (Stahley and Platt, June 2002); next, a model was presented for planning, development and support of partnerships at area campus locations and identification of information needs (Stahley and Platt, September 2002). The current work, moves from long-term planning and analysis strategies, to addressing educational needs in partnering area campus locations. Working strategies include providing quality faculty and accredited programs of study fully supported with local library resources and full-text access for upper division, and in some instances graduate, research.

Background

Since 1968 when UCF entered its first joint-use, partnership agreement with Brevard Community College (BCC), a variety of legislative and higher education initiatives have advanced community college/university alliances. To begin, the Florida Department of Education, State Board of Education

Rules, in Chapter 6A-10 (http://www.firn.edu/doe/rules/6a-102.htm) lays the ground work for partnerships in the section on articulation between universities and community colleges, and school districts. The chapter section lays out policies and procedures to provide articulated programs enabling students to proceed as rapidly as their circumstance permits to their educational objective. Next, in a report issued in 1999, the Florida Postsecondary Education Planning Commission (PEPC) recommended that "undergraduate growth will be directed to the largest degree possible, toward branch campuses located near areas of population growth, and whenever practical co-located with community colleges" (Florida Board of Education, Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, 1999, p.36). The same year, the Florida Senate expanded partnership capabilities between postsecondary institutions by enacting House Bill 765 (http://www.flsenate.gov), increasing accessibility to Baccalaureate degree programs by establishing a process for delivering high demand Baccalaureate programs on community college campuses through concurrent-use programs. Responding to the legislature's intent, a Concurrent-Use Task Force, with representatives from the Florida Board of Education (http://www.dcc.firn.edu), Division of Community Colleges, the State University System, and Independent Colleges and Universities, was established to outline a statewide approach to assure that high demand Baccalaureate programs were established and that 2+2 partnerships were enhanced at locations where concurrent-use programs were already in place. Finally, in 2001, the Florida Department of Education, Council for Education Policy, Research and Improvement (CEPRI) (http://www.cepri. state.fl.us) formerly PEPC formulated goals to include attaining and maintaining high quality instruction for all students, and ensuring the critical link between the student and the system at all levels. To this end the K-20 partnership for education was established. The cumulative result of these initiatives has enhanced support at more longstanding partnerships, such as those UCF shares with Daytona Beach Community College (DBCC) and BCC, as well as expanded growth and support at formerly unfunded alliances, such as those with Lake-Sumter, Seminole, and Valencia Community Colleges. Table 1 illustrates the University's locations, community college partners, and the library web addresses.



Community College (CC)		University of Central Florida (UCF)		
Institution	URL	Location	URL	
Brevard CC	http://www.brevardcc.edu/	Cocoa; Palm Bay	http://www.cocoa.ucf.edu/	
Central Florida CC	http://cf.edu	Ocala	http://www.clermont.ucf.edu/	
Daytona Beach CC	http://www.dbcc.cc.fl.us/	Daytona Beach	http://www.davtona.ucf.edu/	
Lake-Sumter CC	http://www.lscc.cc.fl.us/	Clermont	http://www.clermont.ucf.edu/	
Seminole CC	http://www.scc-fl.edu/	Lake Mary	http://www.seminole.ucf.edu/	
Valencia CC	http://valencia.cc.fl.us	Osceola	http://www.osceola.ucf.edu/	

Table 1 Commuity college partners, university locations, and associated URLs

Community College Curriculum and Library Access

At Florida community colleges, curricular requirements for the Associate of Arts degree comprise a six-part flexible structure. Areas of study are 1. communications, 2. mathematics, 3. natural science, 4. humanities, 5. social and behavioral sciences, and 6) electives. Students are presented with a variety of options within disciplines, a choice of electives, and admonitions to see an advisor to select courses with a thorough understanding of requirements for their particular upper division major at the transfer university. Curricular requirement information is available in the college catalog or online. For example, A.A. degree curricular requirements may be accessed at BCC's website, http://www.brevardcc.edu/currentcatalog/. In addition, at partnering sites, community college and university advisors work closely to facilitate a truly seamless transition from community college to university. The next portion of the paper will present electronic access options at community colleges for library resources in support of the A.A. degree.

As community college students begin their coursework in pursuit of the Associate of Arts degree, their best option for electronic research access is their institution's library home page. For example, the BCC Learning Resource Centers (LRC) home page, http://www.brevardcc.edu/library/, is a site brimming with useful information including links to style guides, and full-text and citation databases accessible to any authorized user equipped with an Internet Service Provider (ISP) (see Figure 1).

The site and supporting links present not only LRC catalogs and proprietary database gateways, there are also countless tutorials and guidance services tailored to meet any research need.

In addition, the BCC LRC home page includes a menu of access including library services and research help options. Clicking on the library services option opens a comprehensive menu of information access. The gener-

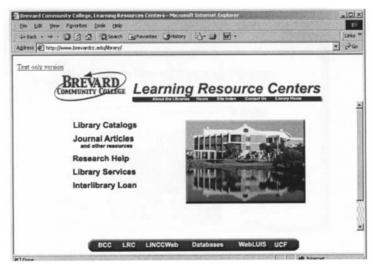


Figure 1 Brevard Community College Library Homepage

al information option includes guidance for using both the Community College (LINCC) and the University (WebLUIS) online catalogs. The circulation menu affords access to the standard outline of lending services and policies, such as acquiring a library card and renewing materials. Computer resources, telecourses, and faculty and staff listings assist users in finding useful information related to PC access, library related distance learning opportunities, and community college policy. Users clicking on the Research Help option open a gateway to information guides, tutorials, and course offerings. BCC LRC guide pages provide a comprehensive how-to listing of databases such as Academic Search Premier and FirstSearch. Of particular interest to students is the full-text access to articles offered by both database services. Even more desirable are viable URLs and Internet search guides. These are found in the Research Guides section by clicking on BCC/UCF Internet Addresses or Internet Research. In addition, many specialized Internet addresses are included in specific research areas (i.e., communications, literary criticism, grammar and writing, and speech) designed to support the Associate of Arts degree curriculum. The College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) http://www.ccla.lib.fl.us/, provides access to book catalogs, and citation and full-text databases to each of the 28 Florida community colleges, via the LINCCWeb database. LINCCWeb affords access to the statewide, centrally-automated web-based library information portal. Table 2 illustrates an overview of BCC library resources. Each community college partner institution provides comparable user access, guides, and tutorials through its library homepage. (See Table 1.)

Table 2 Library Resources Available from the BCC Library Homepage

Link Title	Access To	Comments	Hyperlink to Resource
		Library Services	
General Informa Find a Book LINCCSearch	tion Florida Community College System.	An Internet catalog of all books, journals, and media owned by BCC and Florida's	http://www.linccweb.org
Find a Book WebLUIS	Florida State University System.	other community colleges. Internet catalog for state university resources; searchable by institution.	http://webluis.fda.edu/
Circulation Obtaining a Library Card	BCC library card form	Includes instructions, contact information, and interactive, online form	https://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/library/cardrequest.html
myAccount	See what you checked out, renew books	Internet access to currently borrowed and requested items and personal	http://www.brevardcc.edu/librarv/ mvAccount.html
Checking Out Materials	Who is eligible, checkout time period, fines?	information Detailed information for library use	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/iibrary/checkout.html
Computer Resor What's Available? Faculty / Staff In	BCC Computer Labs information	Lab procedures and schedules by campus	http://www.brevardcc.edu/complabs/
BCC Faculty Handbook	BCC policy and Background information	A user manual designed for faculty	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/facultvhandbook/
BCC Policy Manual	College wide policy, strategic plan, catalog and operations	Comprehensive PDF format	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/publications/policy manual/
Guides	An array of curriculum support Materials on the	Research Help Designed to help with course research	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/library/ Quides.html
Tutorials (BILT)	Internet Series of library Instruction	Eight modules	httD://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/library/bilt/bilthome,htm
Credit Courses	tutorials Instruction for Internet research	Earn credit while learning research skills	http://www.brevardcc.edu/library/creditcourses.html
BCC/UCF Internet Addresses	A list of Internet addresses for BCC and UCF students /staff/ faculty	BCC Library Guides Relevant BCC and UCF web sites for catalogs and databases	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/librarv/ InternetAddresses.html
Grammar and Writing	Help, guides, and style manual for writers	A guide that contains links to grammar and writing resources, tutorials and online workshops at various	http://web2Q10.brevard.cc.fl.us/library/ Qrammar.html
Education	Education resources in PDF format	Internet sites A guide to finding education resources on the Internet. It also includes instructions on how to use ERIC	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/library/ EducationTVL.pdf
Internet Research	Tips for effective Internet searching in PDF format	A basic Internet research guide	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/librarv/ InternetResearchTips.pdf
Searching, Evaluating, Documenting	Online guide to Internet research	Internet Research Tips Includes style guide information	http://web2010.brevard.cc.fl.us/librarv/ Quides.htmltflnternet

University Curriculum and Library Access

The University offers 79 programs at the Bachelor's level; 62 programs at the Master's level; 21 programs at the Doctoral level; and 82 certificate programs representing the six academic colleges, Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Engineering and Computer Science, Health and Public Affairs, and the Honors College. According to the Concurrent-Use Task Force report (Florida Board of Education, 2001), programs requested most often are in Education, Business, Criminal Justice, Information Technology, Psychology, Nursing and Engineering. With the exception of information technology, UCF offers complete programs in each area at their partnership campuses. At the educational sites and centers, some complete programs and many courses are available to our students. Complete information for area campus program offerings may be viewed from the UCF area campuses http://www.areacampuses.ucf.edu/. The remainder of the paper will highlight available University programs at the partnership sites and the associated electronic and technology resources accessible through our partnership libraries and on the Internet.

Once students make the transition to their upper division studies, the knowledge, skills, and experience gained from using community college online access services provides the foundation for utilizing UCF library and information services. Community college graduates participating in transfer orientation sessions at UCF area campuses can get library access information from participating library faculty. Community college students who have used the library are often familiar with University resources, but until they are officially enrolled, they are electronically prohibited from accessing proprietary services and licensed databases. Once enrolled at the University, the countless resources of UCF libraries are easily accessible via the Internet. The size and complexity of the available databases makes searches slightly less intuitive and user-friendly than searching the community college library. Still search guides and user assistance are generously sprinkled throughout the UCF library information system. In addition, like the LINCCWeb system, UCF licensed information is protected and accessible only by UCF students, faculty, and staff. Several levels of system entry are available, ranging from baseline ISP access, for book catalogs and non-proprietary databases, such as ERIC, to proxy access to most information and services, to full-blown, comprehensive access to every database and service via the University's network and Pegasus server.

The UCF Library homepage, http://library.ucf.edu/, is the starting point for electronic resources access (see Figure 2).

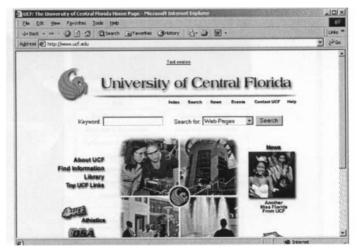


Figure 2 University of Central Florida Library Homepage

The Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) (http://www.fcla.edu) provides services and access corresponding to the services provided to the community colleges by CCLA. As such, FCLA affords management and access for the book and database catalogs via WebLUIS for Florida's public universities. The UCF Library pages list a hierarchical index of resources beginning with book catalogs and WebLUIS services. Next is a link to journal articles and databases. Clicking on the journal articles and databases link takes the researcher to a tabbed listing of 18 subject-specific resources links beginning with popular databases and ending with social sciences databases (see Figure 3.)

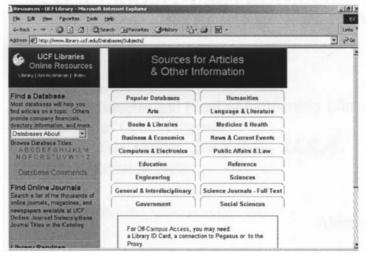


Figure 3 UCF Libraries Online Resources: Sources for Articles & Other Information

The next portion of the paper will identify online resources available at the partnership libraries in support of the concurrent-use programs recommended in the 2001 report. Resources for discussion will include those for the following programs: Education, Psychology, Business, Criminal Justice, Nursing, and Engineering. Also, University librarians assigned to the partnership site in Cocoa have developed a series of information guides, called Starting Points that list subject-specific resources ranging from reference works to web sites for a variety of disciplines and specific program offerings, including programs recommended for concurrent-use access. The complete list of UCF Joint-Use Library guides is accessible at http://library.ucf.edu/BranchCampuses/Brevard/guides/.

One of the richest online resource fields is the area dedicated to teaching, learning and education. Clicking on the Education tab for articles and other information takes the researcher to a hot-linked listing of full-text and citation databases designed to fill the research needs of students and educators. Major resource groups include standard research tools such as Education Abstracts, ERIC, and the Professional Development Collection for articles; MediaSleuth and the Children's Literature Comprehensive Database, for books, media, and other material; Middle Search Plus and Primary Search, for children's publications; and access to a wide variety of educational psychology, physical education, and library education databases and references.

At the partnership campuses, UCF offers a range of graduate and undergraduate programs. Our education students may specialize in early childhood, elementary, or exceptional education among other programs. Within the Education page header is a link to an array of user guides, resources and annotated webliographies for education courses at http://library.ucf.edu/Reference/Instruction/Education/UserGuides.htm.

The guides list is organized alphabetically, and reflecting the curriculum, includes links to specialization resource guides for general education, and exceptional education. Specialization resources links provide a full overview of book, journal and World Wide Web sources. Each area precedes a companion webliography link to websites dedicated to general education, and other specialized education sites. Some of the most useful educational resources links appear in Table 3.

All of the guides are worth examining. Another useful resource for student educators and teachers is found at the University's Curriculum Materials Center (CMC) at http://library.ucf.edu/cmc. Indexed from the library's home page, or linked from the resources lists, the CMC page outlines information and service for local and remote users. The CMC page includes a listing of electronic journals and an extensive and irresistible list-

Table 3 Education Resources Available from the UCF Library Homepage

Link Title	Access To	Comments	Hyperlink to Resource
Education	Databases, online journals, and indexes for education topics.	Includes description and access needs.	http://library.ucf.edu/databases/subjects/education.htm
Education User Guides	A list of 19 user guides, resources, and subject webliographies.	Includes guides for using ERIC, Music Index, and Psychlnfo.	http://library.ucf.edu/Instruct/Educ ation/UserGuides.htm
Education Resources	Book catalog by classification range and subject databases, indexes, and WWW sources.	Includes description and access needs, and links to citing resources.	http://librarv.ucf.edu/instruct/Educ ation/EDF6481/edfresources.htm
Education Webliography	Comprehensive access listing of 28 sites, including curriculum and instruction, elementary education and middle school, technology in K-12, mathematics and science, and multicultural education.	Most sites include annotation. An excellent tool for all education research.	http://library.ucf.edu/Instruct/Educ ation/eduwebsites/education_webl iographv.htm
Counselor Education Resources	Book catalog by classification range and subject databases, indexes, and WWW sources for counselor education.	Includes description and access needs and links to citing resources.	http://librarv.ucf.edu/InstrucVEdu ation/counseledres.htm
Counselor Education Webliography	Access listing of 21 counselor education- oriented sites, including mental measurements.	Includes psychological association links.	http://library.ucf.edu/InstrucVEdu ation/counselweb.htm
Exceptional Education Resources	Book catalog by classification range and subject databases, indexes, and WWW sources for exceptional education.	Includes description and access needs and links to citing resources.	http://library.ucf.edu/InstrucVEdu ation/exceptionalresources.htm
Exceptional Education Webliography	Access listing of 31 links to topics relating to exceptional education.	Includes specific sites for disabilities; also sites for gifted and early childhood.	http://library.ucf.edu/InstrucVEdu ation/excepedweb.htm
Internet Tools	Hot linked listing to research resources for searching and evaluation of Internet sites, and an annotated list of popular and meta, image, and education search engines. Also includes children's search engines and a site for search engine comparison and evaluation.	An irresistible gateway to everything you always wanted to know about Internet searching but did not know how to ask.	http://library.ucf.edu/instrucVEdu ation/EDF6481 /internet tools.htm
Music Webliography	Comprehensive access listing of 25 music education-related sites, including church music, American music, composers, ethnomusicology and world music.	Includes sites for lyrics and public domain music.	http://library.ucf.edu/InstrucVEdu ation/musicwebliography.htm
Psychology Subject Guide	Comprehensive listing of 13 psychology guides, including access to online journals, texts, APA resources, directories and associations.	Many sites are annotated and include resources at other universities.	http://librarv.ucf.edu/Instruct/Educ ation/psvchologysubject.guide.htm

Note: * ".com"usually designates a pay-for-access commercial site. Look for ".edu," ".gov,"or ".org"sites.

ing of education links for teachers and for children (http://library.ucf.edu/CMC/links.htm.)

For children, areas of interest topics range from activities and games, and books and authors, to U.S. government sites, museums, and web pages authored by children. Most of the sites are colorful, and clearly designed to appeal to children of all ages. As with all web sites, personal preference tends toward. org., gov, and .edu domains. For children, NASA, PBS, ALA, and the White House present a host of access that includes multimedia offerings and activities, and information for every trend and taste without the bother of commercial promotions. At .com domains, publishers such as

Scholastic and Random House also have sites designed to appeal to the mind, the eye, and the ear of a child. For teachers, even more sites are available for teaching and learning. Content areas, such as art, early childhood, language arts, math, and physical education are represented, as well as educational standards, sites, and discussion topics, including drugs and careers.

Resources in support of upper division psychology programs at partnership, concurrent-use campuses begin at the UCF Library's home page (Figure 1). From there, moving to journal articles and databases, then clicking the tab marked Social Sciences reveals access to full-text databases. General resources include Academic Index and Academic Search Premier. Subject-specific databases, such as Contemporary Women's Issues and JSTOR provide full-text access to more than 100 core research journals from the year of their inception. Many journal titles date back to the early 1900s. PsychInfo, a citation database for scholarly literature in all aspects of psychology, selects materials from more than 1,300 journals, and is available via the Social Sciences tab at (http://library.ucf.edu/Databases/Subjects/social science.htm).

A less obvious array of psychology web resources is accessible from the Education tab, then to the See Also Guides for Education, leading to a Psych Info User Guide and a link to a psychology webliography. The webliography includes countless links to journals, online texts, organizations, and specialty areas, such as clinical, cognitive, educational, and experimental psychology. One especially useful site is Psychology Web Links by Topic published by the Social Psychology Network at http://www.socialpsychology.org/psylinks.htm. Starting Points for psychology include additional web sites and a complete listing of full-text psychology journals available online.

The path for resources access supporting concurrent-use programs for business, repeats the library homepage, to journal articles, to the tabbed-list sequence. The Business and Economics tab opens access to full-text and citation resources inclusive of journal articles, company and financial information, directories, international markets, and trade and taxes resources at http://library.ucf.edu/Databases/Subjects/business.htm. Journal article databases offer a wide range of full-text information such as ABI-Inform, LexisNexis Academic, and Reuters Business Insight. Business Starting Points target the foundational business administration courses, called Cornerstone, and Marketing Analysis and Research, as well as more general areas, such as strategic management and general business administration. The guides include a range of web sites, and highlight especially useful databases.

Criminal Justice access online requires activating the Public Affairs &

Law source tab at http://library.ucf.edu/Databases/Subjects/PublicAffairs Law.htm. Criminal Justice Abstracts provides comprehensive citation coverage of the major journals in criminology. Topics include crime trends, prevention projects, corrections, juvenile delinquency, police, courts, offenders, victims, and sentencing. National Criminal Justice Research Service (NCJRS) provides full-text and citation access to an international clearing house of criminal justice information. NCJRS covers U.S. federal, state, and local government documents. Starting Points guides for Criminal Justice include Florida Law, and Juvenile Justice. The general Criminal Justice guide has a listing of 15 websites, including the American Jail Association, and Cybrary's top 100 criminal justice sites on the web.

Nursing resources in support of the Bachelor's degree are linked to the Medicine and Health tab of the articles file at http://library.ucf.edu/Databases/Subjects/Medicine/nursing.htm. The wide variety of full-text and citation resources includes the National Center for Health Statistics, the U.S. Federal Government's principal vital and health statistics agency, and the Nurses' PDR Resource Center. Also accessible is the key index to 1,175 nursing, allied health, biomedical and consumer health journals, CINAHL, the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature. Starting Points for Nursing Research include a rich variety of nursing literature relative to procedures, information about drugs and diseases, and information about ethics. For Health Service Administration, the guide includes reference and circulating library items, and selected online journals and databases. All Starting Points guides include lists of government, education, and organization websites.

Engineering resources are reached by clicking the Engineering tab on the Sources for Articles file at http://library.ucf.edu/Databases/Subjects/engmeering.htm. Online engineering resources include full-text and citation databases for computers and electronics, general engineering, materials science, and standards. Students at the Kennedy Space Center campus may major in Aerospace Engineering with a concentration in space systems. For them, the Aerospace database provides coverage of basic and applied research in aeronautics, astronautics, and space sciences, as well as technology development and applications in chemistry and geosciences. Aerospace is a citation database with backfiles from 1986 to date. For students majoring in Engineering Technology, other, more general databases, such as Engineering Index (Ei) are available. Ei is a citation database with coverage of engineering and technical literature from journals, technical reports and engineering society publications, and a backfile beginning in 1980. Ei Village 2 is a full-text and citation database that includes Compendex for

indexing of engineering research literature, Website Abstracts, and Industry Specs and Standards. Engineering Starting Points include additional resources for electric and electronic engineering and a how-to guide for searching Web of Science.

Summary and Conclusions

Concurrent- and joint-use programs of postsecondary education are a convenient and cost-effective means of providing education access and opportunity in the Central Florida region of the United States. Community college and public university alliances also help to alleviate the effects of rapid enrollment and population growth, such as overcrowded classrooms, parking facilities, and roadways in Orlando, by redistributing upper division and graduate enrollment to less populous neighboring communities. Also, University — Community College partnerships and concurrent-use programs facilitate enriched business, education, health care and social services agency alliances, leading to targeted workforce development and improved local employment options. Continuing growth and success of concurrentuse and partnership initiatives, demands ongoing government, legislative and Department of Education funding, oversight, and support to ensure topnotch educational programs to community college and university students, regardless of their location. And, last, the onus of ensuring quality, equitable educational access, rests on our accrediting bodies and on our teaching and library faculties.

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