1.0 Academic Mission of the University

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY

The purpose of this element is to describe the present and future academic mission of the University, which provides the basis for the physical recommendations of the Comprehensive Campus Master Plan. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) is an 1890 land-grant institution dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, resolution of complex issues and the empowerment of citizens and communities. The University provides a student-centered environment consistent with its core values. The faculty is committed to educating students at the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and professional levels, preparing graduates to apply their knowledge, critical thinking skills and creativity in their service to society.

FAMU’s distinction as a doctoral/research institution will continue to provide mechanisms to address emerging issues through local and global partnerships. Expanding upon the University’s land-grant status, it will enhance the lives of constituents through innovative research, engaging cooperative extension, and public service. While the University continues its historic mission of educating African Americans, FAMU embraces persons of all races, ethnic origins and nationalities as lifelong members of the university community.

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University holds the following values essential to the achievement of the university’s mission:

- Scholarship
- Excellence
- Openness
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Diversity
- Service
- Fairness
- Courage
- Integrity
- Respect
- Collegiality
- Freedom
- Ethics
- Shared Governance
1.0 ACADEMIC MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY ELEMENT

GOAL 1: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) shall continue to provide educational opportunities that accounts for the plethora of issues, concerns and problems which face Florida, the nation and the world as it builds upon its history, and achievements to enhance learning, research and service at the highest levels of quality with equal access for all.

Objective 1.1: The FAMU academic mission shall continue to be supportive of the priority educational goals of the State University System of Florida, Board of Governors as evidenced by its continued participation in the five (5)-year update of its Strategic Plan and annual Management by Objectives (MBO).

Policy 1.1.1
FAMU shall continue to annually complete the five (5)-year update of its Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan shall identify specific steps to be taken during each academic year of the plans to assure that the University continues to fulfill its Academic Mission and responsibility to its student body, faculty, staff, graduates and host community. The plan shall identify specific objectives to be accomplished during each of the plan’s five (5) academic years and charge specific persons within the University’s faculty, staff and student body with the execution of these objectives. Among the objectives to be addressed through the Strategic Plan is the annual review and, if deemed necessary, revision, refinement and clarification of the University’s Academic Mission Statement. The following are examples of items to be addressed within the Strategic Plan which directly affect the ability of the University to execute its academic mission:

- Systematically plan for the growth of the campus’ geographical area.
- Opportunities for scholarship, research, service and professional development.
- Establishment of academic program priorities such as Programs of Excellence and Service-based learning at the local, state, and national levels.
- Needed classroom and laboratory improvements.
- Improve and expand on-campus housing.
- Enhance communication and information technology systems / cyberinfrastructure to support instruction and research programs.
- Needed distance learning facilities to support instruction and research programs.
- Enhancement of intercollegiate athletic facilities.
- Enhancing institutional fundraising and public-private partnerships.

Policy 1.1.2
FAMU shall perform an annual assessment of progress toward achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan. The University shall also continue to use the MBO process to assure that the University’s academic programs provide the quality, response and services the University seeks to realize for students.

Policy 1.1.3
Each college shall annually evaluate its academic mission and program to assure that the program continues to further the mission of that college as part of the MBO process. As a result of this assessment, a determination shall be made as to
whether either the college’s mission or academic program requires modification. Such modification, if required, shall be incorporated into the subsequent update of the Strategic Plan.

Policy 1.1.4
FAMU shall amend the adopted Comprehensive Master Plan, as necessary, to incorporate the results of the annual updates to the Strategic Plan and the MBO process.

Policy 1.1.5
In the event that provisions of the Strategic Plan or MBO process conflict with provisions of the Comprehensive Master Plan, the goals, objectives and policies of this Comprehensive Master Plan shall prevail and control.

Objective 1.2: FAMU shall establish scholarship and academic excellence as the University's guideposts as it emerges into greater national prominence, offering enhanced and expanded programs, specifically targeting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), law, and health, while serving its diverse constituencies with competence, sensitivity and effectiveness.

Policy 1.2.1
FAMU shall maintain a system of student admissions that results in the enrollment of students who promote the advancement of an environment of academic excellence. College admissions examination scores, high school grade point averages, evidence of unusual motivation, special talent and exceptional scholarly achievements will be indices used to assure that the academic profile of the average student continues to improve.

Policy 1.2.2
FAMU shall continue to provide a system of learning resources in support of instruction and research and provide a curriculum which is responsive to changes in both career opportunities and the labor market as outlined in its Strategic Plan.

Policy 1.2.3
FAMU shall enhance the presence of outstanding undergraduate scholars in the student body, as outlined in its Strategic Plan, by identifying and contacting National Achievement Scholars, awarding scholarships to qualifying scholars, and implementing effective and targeted recruitment strategies.

Policy 1.2.4
The priority and timing for all new and modified academic programs shall be as stated in the 2.0 Academic Program Element of this Master Plan Update.

Objective 1.3: FAMU shall increasingly incorporate the international arena into its projects and programs as telecommunications and other advanced technologies influence the global economy.

Policy 1.3.1
FAMU shall continue progress toward internationalizing its curriculum and learning environment by establishing relationships with international corporations which include, but are not limited to, Western African countries, Japan, Holland and Germany, thus enhancing the international dimension of
academic and research programs at FAMU and keeping FAMU’s brand highly visible throughout the international community.

GOAL 2: FAMU shall seek public and legislative support for the fiscal resources to acquire and retain/maintain the faculty, staff and physical plant needed to achieve the University’s Goals and Objectives while it manages all of the University’s resources in an efficient and effective manner and broadens the base of financial, political and volunteer support for the University.

Objective 2.1: FAMU shall pursue all reasonable sources of funding from both public and legislative sources to enable it to achieve its strategic planning objectives and carry out its stated academic mission.

Policy 2.1.1
FAMU shall continue to secure external support for the institution through its five (5)-year capital outlay budget request, strong direct support from organizations within the National Alumni Association and University Foundation, revenue generation from intercollegiate athletics, and through contracts and grants.

Policy 2.1.2
FAMU shall maintain a program of development that is directed to meeting its many program needs and the funding level required to successfully implement its mission.

Policy 2.1.3
FAMU shall increase fund raising efforts directed toward enhancement of University programs of planning and analysis, institutional research, assessment, evaluation, survey research and accountability. Activities shall also be planned to realize a funding level sufficient to develop and sustain the University as a leader in national, regional and locally based survey research on issues and trends pertinent to the African American community.