**President’s Welcome**

Welcome home!

The University of Florida is a special place — and we are honored to welcome you into the Gator family.

This is just a jumping off point — an introduction to life on campus, classes, majors — because what you gain from this college experience is up to you. Be curious and eager to learn. Here at UF, we want you to engage different perspectives; we want you to wrestle with complicated truths; we want you to be sharpened by the work of thoughtful debate. Education is about humbly and meaningfully engaging ideas. Ours is a community of trust and respect — so we owe each other a hearing, and we owe each other the best possible construction of the other’s argument. This is challenging.

Being a student at UF is a great opportunity — to build community and habits that will serve you for life. In an era of work that is rapidly changing and being disrupted in big fascinating ways, we want to build lifelong learners.

This takes work, but it’s good work: Bodybuilding for the mind and for the soul. And you’ll still have time to root for the Gators, explore campus, and watch the bats — yes, bats — cascade out of the bat houses at dusk near Lake Alice.

A love for the earnest pursuit of learning has always been key to human flourishing, both materially and in nurturing and sustaining our hearts and minds. Those who are eager to learn, hone new skills, and then build on them — those who absorb flexibility and adaptability into their lives — will be positioned to prosper.

UF students, you are at one of the greatest places in the nation, filled with energy, dynamism, and people who are committed to your growth. Embrace this challenge. These are glorious years.

Ben Sasse, president

**Mission Statement**

The University of Florida is a comprehensive learning institution built on a land-grant foundation. We are The Gator Nation, a diverse community dedicated to excellence in education and research and shaping a better future for Florida, the nation, and the world.

The university’s mission is to enable our students to lead and influence the next generation and beyond for economic, cultural, and societal benefit.

The university welcomes the full exploration of its intellectual boundaries and supports its faculty and students in the creation of new knowledge and the pursuit of new ideas.

**Teaching**

Fundamental purpose of this university at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

**Research and Scholarship**

Integral to the educational process and to the expansion of our understanding of the natural world, the intellect and the senses.

**Service**

Reflects the university’s obligation to share the benefits of its research and knowledge for the public good. The university serves the nation’s and the state’s critical needs by contributing to a well-qualified and broadly diverse citizenry, leadership and workforce.

The University of Florida must create the broadly diverse environment necessary to foster multi-cultural skills and perspectives in its teaching and research for its students to contribute and succeed in the world of the 21st century.

These three interlocking elements — teaching, research and scholarship, and service — span all academic disciplines and represent the university’s commitment to lead and serve the state of Florida, the nation, and the world by pursuing and disseminating new knowledge while building upon the experiences of the past. The university aspires to advance by strengthening the human condition and improving the quality of life.

**Administrators**

**University Administrators**

- Ben Sasse
  - President

- Scott Angle
Senior Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Chris Cowen
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

Melissa Curry
Interim Vice President, Human Resources

Elias G. Eldayrie
Vice President, Chief Information Officer

Joe Glover
Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs

Maria Gutierrez Martin
Interim Vice President, UF Advancement

Amy M. Hass
Vice President, General Counsel

Mark Kaplan
Vice President, Government and Community Relations

James J. Kelly, Jr. “Jim”
Interim CEO, UF Health Shands

Charles E. Lane
Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer

Marsha McGriff
Chief Diversity Officer, Senior Advisor to the President

David R. Nelson
Senior Vice President Health Affairs, President UF Health

David Norton
Vice President, Research

Steve Orlando
Interim Vice President, Strategic Communications and Marketing

Mary Parker
Vice President and Associate Provost, Enrollment Management and Associate Provost

Curtis Reynolds
Vice President, Business Affairs

Scott Stricklin
Director of Athletics, University Athletic Association

Heather White
Vice President, Student Life

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