

UCF Board of Trustees  
Dr. Richard Nunis  
4000 Central Florida Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32816

July 25, 2005

Dear Chairman Nunis and Board of Trustees:

I appreciate the opportunity to speak. I thank the Governor and Cabinet for recognizing the importance of the public process by assuring these hearings and governmental agency reviews of UCF's proposed 45,000-seat football stadium.

Affected local governments—Orange, Seminole County and Oviedo need to conduct public hearings. The proposed stadium site on the northeast campus is not compatible with single-family neighborhoods. Before stadium approval, an area study, with accurate data, should be completed to determine community impacts. Elements of the study would include transportation, infrastructure, (air, land, and water quality, flora and fauna) conservation, stormwater, floodplains, law enforcement, fire and rescue service, crime and intergovernmental coordination.

What is the true "cost analysis" of the stadium? Who will pay?

UCF has one of the most environmentally sensitive campuses in the United States. The northeast proposed stadium site is across from the East Tributary of the Little Econ River that was given special protection in the 1990's by the Legislature. The Econ Rivers were designated as Outstanding Florida Waters. Last year the Governor and Cabinet realized the importance of UCF's Arboretum as a treasure that should be protected. Contrary to this act, UCF wants to build a stadium across from the arboretum.

There are no environmental studies, or light or noise studies on UCF's stadium website. These important studies need to be completed before public hearings or agency review, as they are a vital component of the community impacts.

Additionally, the UCF area has already overburdened our sheriff's departments and fire and rescue stations with "Calls for service." I would like to see UCF tackle the off-campus housing crime, provide more campus housing and classrooms before constructing a campus stadium.

I am entering into public records hundreds of "Calls for service" to the Orange County Sheriff's Department from a dozen off campus housing complexes. Also, I'm submitting reports from a hydrologist, a hydro-ecologist and a hydro-geologist. These experts raise numerous concerns and issues created by UCF's development on and off-site and their impacts on our soils, water, natural resources, property, flora and fauna. New, accurate floodplain studies are recommended on UCF's campus and in the Econ Basin.

As one of the fastest growing universities in the country, UCF must be responsible and accountable not only to its students; but its neighbors as well. Safe neighborhoods adequate roads, schools, infrastructure, alternative transportation, and preservation of our natural resources and quality of life are vital for a healthy economy. The University, local governments, students and neighbors must work together to make sure that they "grow together."

A football stadium on the Northeast campus is not compatible with our neighborhoods or the environment. We do not have the infrastructure to support this and burden falls on the taxpayers.

Susan Eberle

*Susan Eberle*