

## 2.8 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

### Goals, Objectives and Policies

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**GOAL 1: To provide a variety of safe, efficient, and enjoyable on-campus recreation and intercollegiate athletics facilities, educational laboratories, and open space areas which promote the health, welfare and campus aesthetic ambience for faculty, staff, students, and visitors.**

**OBJECTIVE 1.1: To pursue a variety of public and private funding sources and programs to ensure the development and availability of recreational facilities, championship caliber intercollegiate athletics, and educational laboratories for campus students and other user groups.**

**POLICY 1.1.1:** The University's Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) and College of Education and Human Performance shall be responsible for the provision of adequate recreation and open space facilities for quality recreational and sports programs for all students of the University. The development of such programs and facilities shall be based upon existing and prospective student demand and user interest and the availability of funds from such sources as student and user fees.

**POLICY 1.1.2:** The University's Athletics Association (UCFAA) shall be responsible for the provision of adequate facilities for participants in intercollegiate athletic programs, consistent with the adopted Campus Master Plan. The need and phasing for specific facilities shall be based upon specific programming studies and the availability of funds from private and public sources such as spectator and user fees, alumni donations, etc.

**POLICY 1.1.3:** As necessary, the University shall continue to rely upon service contracts and other contractual relationships with off-campus, private and public facility providers to meet recreation, physical education, or intercollegiate athletic needs.

**OBJECTIVE 1.2: To pursue a variety of continuing in-house planning and facility development programs to ensure that high quality recreation, intercollegiate athletic facilities, educational laboratories, and open space areas are adequately and efficiently provided.**

**POLICY 1.2.1:** UCF shall continue to maintain and develop functional and aesthetically pleasing open spaces between structures and throughout the campus. This shall be accomplished through the application of building development and land use intensity guidelines consistent with the Urban Design, Future Land Use, and Conservation Elements of this Campus Master Plan.

**POLICY 1.2.2:** While future planning recognizes the distinct need that Recreation, Intercollegiate Athletics, and Sports Education programs have for separate facilities, program representatives shall coordinate and attempt to share facilities wherever feasible.

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**POLICY 1.2.3:** Future facilities shall continue to be developed in the south and northeast portions of campus, consolidating and strengthening recreation and athletic facilities. As these options become maximized, additional space shall be explored.

**POLICY 1.2.4:** Future on-campus development which impacts recreation and athletic land, shall occur in phases to coincide with the efficient relocation of recreational, intercollegiate athletic, and academic program laboratories. In order to implement this policy, the University's Facilities Planning and Construction Department, SDES, Intercollegiate Athletics, and the College of Education and Human Performance shall initiate a study to provide for the orderly, phased relocation of field and building facilities whenever such development occurs. The adopted Campus Master Plan shall be amended as needed to incorporate the results of this study, as well as space planning guidelines as recommended by the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA).

**POLICY 1.2.5:** As future campus development programs progress into the programming and design stage, the University's Facilities Planning and Construction Department, SDES, Intercollegiate Athletics, and the College of Education and Human Performance shall consider those facilities and programs which could be maintained in these areas as part of the campus open space scheme.

**POLICY 1.2.6:** The University shall provide an academic support facility, the Wayne Densch Center for Student Athlete Leadership, in the northeast corner of campus. This building will serve all student-athletes participating in intercollegiate athletics. It will also include office and meeting space for UCFAA administration and support staff.

**POLICY 1.2.7:** The University shall continue to identify in the Capital Improvements Element the timing and phasing requirements and priorities for improvements to athletic and recreation and open space facilities necessary to correct existing deficiencies and meet future demands.

- An intercollegiate Tennis Training Center will be built on the north end of campus. Intercollegiate Athletics currently shares a nine-court tennis facility with the UCF Recreation & Wellness Center, located on the south end of campus.
- Additional Intercollegiate Athletics facilities include a phased expansion of Jay Bergman Field (baseball stadium). and a minor expansion of Bright House Networks Stadium. This would include an expansion of the *Roth Tower* facility to provide additional premium seating and operational space. Major expansion is not anticipated during this planning period.

**OBJECTIVE 1.3: To promote unrestricted or managed public access to all campus recreation and athletics facilities or open space areas to the maximum extent feasible.**

**POLICY 1.3.1:** Campus open space areas shall be developed and maintained as areas of unrestricted public access wherever feasible. Such provisions for access would include those special provisions or design criteria necessary under federal regulations to provide for people with disabilities. Access to certain areas of environmentally sensitive habitat may be restricted (on occasion) if it is determined by the University to be necessary in order to protect animal and plant species.

**POLICY 1.3.2:** The University shall establish the priority use of campus athletic and recreational facilities for campus faculty, staff, and students. Non-campus user populations of campus facilities will be accommodated on a fee basis, to the extent that campus user demands are adequately met while allowing for reasonable maintenance and restoration periods for the particular facility.

**POLICY 1.3.3:** The UCF Athletics Association, Inc. shall establish the priority use of intercollegiate athletics facilities.

**OBJECTIVE 1.4: To protect and enhance present campus open spaces.**

**POLICY 1.4.1:** The University shall protect from encroachment the existing conservation easements and maximize the retention of open space by strictly enforcing the future placement of buildings, parking facilities, infrastructure, and other man-made improvements consistent with sites selected and adopted in the Urban Design and Future Land Use Elements. The pattern of open spaces established in Figures 4-1, Future Land Use Map and 8-1, Recreation and Open Space Map, shall not be subject to encroachment without amending the adopted Campus Master Plan.

**POLICY 1.4.2:** The University shall maintain densities and intensities for the development of the campus, which maximize the retention of on-campus open space as identified in the Future Land Use Element.

**POLICY 1.4.3:** The University shall select sites for infrastructure and academic and support facilities which are designed to maximize the retention of campus open space.

**POLICY 1.4.4:** The University shall create new, formal open spaces, or "greens" through the careful placement of buildings as adopted in Figure 8-1.