

**State University System of Florida
Return on Investment
2016-2017 FCO LBR**

The Board of Governors has identified 7 projects for inclusion in the initial SUS FCO budget request, using the PECO allocation amounts for each year. These are projects previously requested by the Board; which have received partial funding from the Legislature and Governor this past legislative session. Other projects will be considered for inclusion following the September 22nd workshop. The Return on Investment (ROI) checklist has been included for each of the 7 identified projects.

These 7 projects are collectively forecast to result in 50,000 additional STEM degrees over the expected useful life of the facilities. This increase in degree production is led by the renovation and expansion of UNF's Skinner Jones Hall, with 19,000 physicists, chemists, engineers, and computer scientists; and the renovation and expansion of UF's Engineering Innovation Nexus Facility, which will produce more than 15,000 engineers.

UCF's Partnership IV clearly leads on the job creation/retention metric - based on an independent economic study indicating that over 60,000 high-wage jobs are linked to completion of funding for the Partnership IV project which will educate students pursuing modeling and simulation degrees for work in the military and other federal government agencies. The Commission on Higher Education Access and Educational Attainment's report, *Aligning Workforce and Higher Education for Florida's Future*ⁱ, shows a clear workforce demand for these specific degree areas.

In terms of future Florida jobs, the focus of these projects is clearly on expanding the STEM disciplines, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels:

- Science (Chemistry, Physics, Meteorology, Ocean Science, Biology)
- Technology/Computer Science; Simulation and Modeling
- Engineering
- Health and Medicine

The ROI detail that follows provides several illustrations of how the Florida business community is supporting these facilities, and that a major impetus behind these buildings are the private donations, led by the \$28 million received to date for the USF College of Medicine building in downtown Tampa. Each of these projects reflects the core mission of the SUS mission to 1) Serve Florida Students 2) Conduct Research to Benefit Florida and 3) Public Service to the Florida Community.

ⁱ This report may be found at flbog.edu