

## INTRODUCTION

As one of the youngest institutions in the State University System of Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University faces an exceptional opportunity to embody on its campus the best contemporary approaches to academic teaching, research, and service to society. This master plan seeks to build upon the thoughtful planning that set the initial physical patterns of the campus, and provides guidance for the facility development challenges that lie ahead. As an initial step in the process of updating the University's current strategic plan, a reaffirmation process of the existing mission and vision statements was conducted. This was open to the university and to the public through an online questionnaire and three public forums held in September 2009. Results of the process led to the adoption of the following slightly revised mission and vision statements by the FGCU Board of Trustees in January 2010. These efforts refocused the Vision Statement for the June 2010 Strategic Plan stating "Florida Gulf Coast University will achieve national prominence in undergraduate education with expanding recognition for graduate programs." Taking this information and guidance of goals, and mission, the planning team has derived the following material to align with all the material that developed the 2010 Strategic Plan for the university.

Over the next decade, Florida Gulf Coast will increase its student enrollment at an exceptional pace, with the number of full-time-equivalent students expected to double. Ensuring that the physical facilities continue to meet the ever-expanding needs of the institution requires careful forethought, some of which is reflected in this master plan update. This ground breaking plan will begin the new vision for the university as it plans to expand its academic needs into the Eastern Quad to begin establishing a final campus environment. Along with the increased student enrollment more and more freshmen are living on campus due to the South Village District. The freshmen population living on campus has grown from half the freshmen enrollment to 2/3rds the freshmen enrollment. The university is also pushing the limits for research and sustainability actions with the completion of the innovative solar field providing 18% of the universities total current power supply.

Growth at FGCU will affect not only the campus community, but the areas adjacent to the campus, the local host community, the region, and the state of Florida. A major purpose of this master plan update is to project the impacts of future growth of the FGCU campus on the host community, as the basis for an updated Campus Development Agreement that serves the needs of both the University and its host community.

This master plan has been developed in conformance with Section 1013.30, Florida Statutes, and rules adopted by the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida. In accordance with those mandates, this volume of the 2010 Campus Master Plan contains the Data Inventory and Analysis Report and the Goals, Objectives, and Policies intended to guide development of the campus over the coming decade.