

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a tree-lined walkway on a university campus, likely the University of Florida. The image is covered with a semi-transparent blue filter. At the top, there is a thick orange horizontal bar. The text is overlaid on this blue background.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

# LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN REPORT

OCTOBER 2018

**UF** | UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA



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OCTOBER 2018

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## SECTION 1

# INTRODUCTION

This Landscape Master Plan is a significant additional step in the current extensive planning effort at the University of Florida comprised of the 2015-2025 Campus Master Plan (CMP), the 2016 Strategic Development Plan (SDP), and the 2016 Campus Design Guidelines. The Landscape Master Plan not only provides guidance for the implementation of the CMP and the SDP insofar as they impact the campus landscape, but it also provides direction for the development of a more cohesive, sustainable, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit friendly campus as befits a preeminent American university.



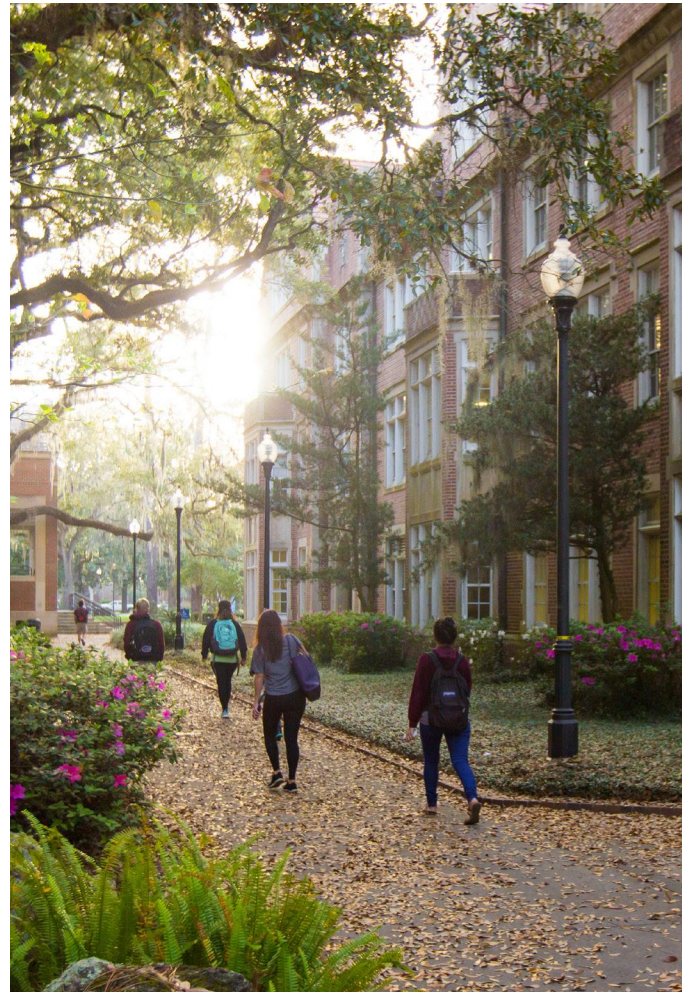




## THE ENDURING CHARACTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS

The number of original buildings that remain on the UF campus today is a testimony to the quality of those structures and the strength of the original plan for the University. While the landscape surrounding the original buildings has evolved through time, the spaces defined by the buildings persevere, from the grandness of the Plaza of the Americas to the intimacy of the courtyards defined by the residence halls.

The value that these original structures and their associated spaces bring to the University is immeasurable; they give the University its defining character and establish a positive image for visitors, current and prospective students, and alums. The historic core of the campus is a source of pride for the University as well as the City of Gainesville, and its enhancement will benefit both communities. In keeping with the focus on the eastern third of campus as recommended by the 2016 Strategic Development Plan, this Landscape Master Plan includes significant enhancements for the core campus, which includes the historic core.





## THE LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN PROCESS AND ITS COLLABORATORS

This Landscape Master Plan (LMP) represents a collaboration of the design team with the University's Planning Design and Construction Division (PDC), the LMP Steering Committee, the combined LMP and Civic Spaces Stakeholder Committee, the Department of Landscape Architecture, members of the administration, and University leadership. The collaboration began with a review of existing plans, an exploration of the campus and the collection of observations by the design team, the gathering of data from committee members, and meetings with members of the community to gain a further understanding of the campus.

A compilation of this large amount of information led to the identification of a vision for the campus landscape to serve as a framework for the LMP. Additional input from campus stakeholders following the design team's presentation of the landscape vision refined the team's understanding of the campus and identified thirteen campus areas to be studied in more detail. These thirteen priority projects were selected for their critical contribution to an enhanced campus landscape and for their ability to serve as models to guide the enhancement of similar campus spaces in the future.

The design team undertook the design of the priority projects with an eye toward the application of the selected design solutions throughout the campus and the establishment of campus standards. Input received following the presentation of the Landscape Master Plan and the preliminary designs for the thirteen projects was incorporated in the final designs. The landscape design guidelines in this report apply the various design solutions employed in the priority projects to guide the creation of a cohesive campus landscape.







## THE PLAN

While the Landscape Master Plan graphic included in this report encompasses the entire UF campus, some portions of the campus are addressed in more detail than others. The redesign of the thirteen priority projects and other areas of enhancement is in evidence on the graphic plan and described herein; the design guidance for other areas is better understood through the other tools of this report. For the redesign of any campus area, however, the key objectives are the creation of engaging campus spaces that support and educate the community, the reduction of hardscape and the increase of planted areas in keeping with LID practices, the stewardship of natural systems, the promotion of native species, the accommodation of multi-modal transportation, the development of a cohesive campus image, and the creation of a sustainably maintained campus landscape.

## THE REPORT

The size of the University of Florida campus makes it impractical for one report to provide design direction for every space on campus. Rather, this LMP provides a set of tools to guide the future development of the campus. In Section 2, the campus landscape vision provides a framework for addressing five critical components of the University of Florida campus—its edges, its core campus, its roadways, its natural systems, and its landscape elements—plantings, hardscape and furnishings. The graphic plan of the campus is presented in Section 3 and areas for enhancement are described. Further design direction for campus components and spaces is provided through a set of landscape principles and typologies in Sections 4 and 5. These two sections are also integrated into the Campus Design Guidelines. In Section 6, the designs for the thirteen priority projects not only provide design direction for the enhancement of these spaces but also for the improvement of future related spaces. The Landscape Design Standards in Section 7 provide specific guidance for hardscape, furnishings, lighting and planting. The final tools, located in the Appendices, are preliminary cost estimates for the thirteen priority projects and a project checklist to ensure that all future projects contribute to UF's pursuit of preeminence.



