



The picturesque University Memorial Auditorium has been seen in several movies, including "Just Cause" with Sean Connery and "Parenthood" with Steve Martin.



Plaza of the Americas



Three radio stations are broadcasted out of UF's Weimer Hall, which houses the College of Journalism.



Library West



UF's libraries form the largest information resource system in the state of Florida, containing more than four million volumes, 6.3 million microfilms and thousands of full-text electronic journals.

## GATORADE'S BIRTHPLACE

Gatorade, the sports drink that started an industry, was invented at the UF College of Medicine by a team of researchers led by Dr. Robert Cade. Gatorade was first field tested in a football scrimmage near this site and was first used in an October 1965 Gator victory. The invention was prompted by concern about the effects

### What Makes a University Great?

At the University of Florida, it's a long track record of outstanding achievements. UF's students, faculty and staff consistently rank among the nation's top performers in research, academics, athletics and a host of other fields.

- UF placed second on the 2008 Kiplinger Personal Finance "Top 100 Best Values in Public Colleges."
- Florida is a member (since 1985) of the Association of American Universities, or AAU, the prestigious higher-education organization comprising the top 62 public and private institutions in North America.
- The University of Florida contributes nearly \$6 billion annually to Florida's economy and is responsible for nearly 75,000 jobs. UF is one of the largest research universities in the nation.
- UF recently opened a new proton beam cancer treatment facility in Jacksonville, Florida. One of only three in the U.S., proton beam therapy represents a major step forward in the treatment of cancer.
- UF's Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred serves as the home of the world's largest citrus research center dedicated to a single commodity.
- UF partnered with Spain to create the world's largest telescope in the Canary Islands and is a nationally renowned leader in specialized aeronautics and space research.
- UF's Honors Residential College at Hume Hall is the first honors residential college in the United States designed and built specifically for honors students.
- UF is 7th among all universities — public and private — in the number of U.S. Patents awarded in 2006.
- UF consistently ranks among the top 10 universities in royalty income.



**The George Steinbrenner Band Building** - constructed in 2008 with generous donations from New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, Stephen Stills of Crosby, Stills and Nash, and numerous friends of music - represents the first phase of an ongoing project to install state-of-the-art facilities at the School of Music to serve UF's students, faculty and community.

- UF ranked third in AAU for professional degrees awarded to African-American students in 2006-2007 and second in the number of professional degrees to Hispanic/Latino students.
- Fall 2007 Student to Faculty ratio: 21.7 to 1
- UF's freshman retention rate of 94 percent is among the highest in the United States.
- UF has 331,500 living alumni in all 50 states and 137 foreign countries.
- Seven athletic teams had 100 percent Graduation Success Rate as reported by the NCAA in October of 2007. Fourteen of UF's 16 athletic teams were

above the national average and the overall athletic program checked in at 89 percent or 12 points above the national average.

- The University of Florida athletics program finished sixth in the 2007-08 Sports Academy Directors' Cup standings, marking the 25th consecutive year the Gator program has ranked among the nation's top 10 in all-sports standings.
- UF owns some of the world's largest magnets used to investigate brain and spine-related diseases and injuries.
- UF scientists are making some food healthier, such as lower-carbohydrate potatoes, dubbed "Gator Taters."
- The Microkelvin Research Lab extends forty feet below ground. In this physics lab, scientists are able to take matter to within one millionth of one degree of absolute zero (minus 459.76 Fahrenheit). This is the coldest temperature reached anywhere in the world!

### UF license plate first in the state to sell more than 100,000 in a single year

Thanks to the University of Florida specialty license plate, more than 100,000 Florida drivers now have The Gator Nation behind them wherever they go.

The UF plate outsold every contender and beat the second-place design, "Protect the Panther," by more than 20,000 sales.

The 105,361 sales in 2007 spell good news for the newly redesigned license plate. In addition to bragging rights, UF license plate sales bring with them a financial benefit to the university.



- Professor John Griggs Thompson won the 2008 Abel Prize for Mathematics, the world's most prestigious award in mathematics.
- In the past four decades, more presidents of the American Bar Association have come from the UF Levin College of Law than any other U.S. law school.
- With more than 28 million specimens, UF's Florida Museum of Natural History has the nation's fifth-largest natural history collection.
- UF's McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity at the Florida Museum of Natural History is the world's largest butterfly and moth research facility.
- Since 2004, UF has ranked No. 1 nationally for research and development expenditures in the agricultural sciences.

### Did You Know?

- A UF-created ink-removal technique allows plants to save trees and enhance profits by recycling multiple types of paper at lower costs.
- The Wendy's restaurant located in the J. Wayne Reitz Union is the busiest Wendy's in the world!
- UF's McKnight Brain Institute is one of the world's most comprehensive centers devoted to neuroscience.
- Over 200 campus concerts, art exhibits, speeches, and theatrical productions occur annually.
- Gainesville averages 2,803 hours of sunshine each year.
- UF has the largest occupied bat house in North America.
- Gatorade was invented at the University of Florida in 1965 by UF kidney disease specialist Robert Cade and his associates.

- In 2007, three UF professors won the prestigious Humboldt Prize, which honors international research cooperation. Only one other institution, Cornell University, had as many winners.
- In fall 2006, UF, along with Colorado State University and Washington State University, was one of the first three U.S. institutions to offer an undergraduate degree in organic farming.
- UF's Center for Food Distribution and Retailing, described by researchers as the first of its kind in the world, conducts research and education on the entire food distribution chain.
- UF's Tropical Research and Education Center in Homestead is the only state university research center in the continental U.S. focusing on tropical and subtropical crops.
- In the 1940s, collaborative work between UF's Citrus Research and Education Center, the Florida Citrus Commission and the U.S. Department of Agriculture led to breakthroughs in production of frozen orange juice concentrate, spawning an entire industry and making orange juice available worldwide.
- UF is a leader in developing processes to produce cellulosic ethanol, a fuel derived from fibrous plant material such as corn stalks.

