



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1899

1. Title of Project: UF - Center for Artificial Intelligence

2. Senate Sponsor: Keith Perry

3. Date of Submission: 02/05/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

UF College of Engineering, proposes creating the State's first Center for the Application of Artificial Intelligence to serve as a national leader in the application and commercialization of AI through industry partnerships, education, innovative research, and community outreach. Housed on UF's campus, the "Center" will be a statewide resource working with industry, the military, government, and the community to build Florida's Artificial Intelligence Economy and become a world leader in applied AI research, education, technology and AI Systems analysis. The Center will aid in the development of a road map for AI development/deployment in Florida; serve an advisory capacity for state leadership on key areas of AI development impacting the state; steadily grow complementary engineering expertise funded from external sources; develop workforce certification standards; develop an AI undergraduate certificate; provide industry with access to UF's High Performance Computing Facilities.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Education

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	7,837,400
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	7,837,400

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	7,837,400	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	7,837,400	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 5,737,000

10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	5 faculty/6 support staff	1,437,400
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses associated with the new faculty/staff- \$300,000; research equipment- \$2.1M	2,400,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Competitive Interdisciplinary Grants for faculty	4,000,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		7,837,400

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

To create the State's first Center for the Application of Artificial Intelligence as a vehicle to harness and advance the power of Artificial Intelligence applications as a means of economic development for businesses & industries in the State of Florida. UF has been actively recruiting faculty in this field and has already demonstrated national leadership with the NSF in this area.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

The Center will develop a road map for AI development and deployment in Florida; serve in an advisory capacity for state leadership on key areas of AI development impacting the state; match the \$7.8M requested with facilities/related costs to support proprietary and classified research; steadily grow complementary engineering expertise using funding from external sources; develop standards for workforce certification in applied AI; develop an undergraduate certificate; and provide industry with access to UF's High Performance Computing Infrastructure at UF.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Increased certification and internship opportunities for students in AI; increased job opportunities for students; increased business spin-offs; increased profits for Florida businesses and industries (projected at 38% or more); 2.3M projected increase in job opportunities across the country in AI; increased business/industry/university collaborations



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d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Unlimited numbers of UF students, faculty, businesses, industries, and investors in the state that can benefit from Artificial Intelligence technologies, defined as follows: "A collection of advanced technologies that allow machines to sense, comprehend, act and learn."

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Measure of new degree/career opportunities and job placement; measure of collaboration and impacts on Fla Businesses/Industries; increased external research funding generated

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

None

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

None

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Kent Fuchs
- b. **Organization:** University of Florida
- c. **E-mail Address:** kent.fuchs@ufl.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (352)392-1311

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** University of Florida
- b. **County:** Alachua
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Samantha Sexton
- e. **E-mail Address:** ssexton@ufl.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (321)544-1577

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Samantha Sexton
- b. **Firm Name:** University of Florida



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d. Phone Number: (321)544-1577