

FLORIDA ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

STRENGTHENING FLORIDA'S INNOVATION ECONOMY



Executive Director
Erik Sander

The **FLORIDA ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION**, or FLEX Station, is an arm of the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering at the University of Florida dedicated to driving economic and workforce development around the state and strengthening Florida's role in the global innovation economy.

Initially created by the Florida Legislature in 1941 in part to fulfill UF's role as the state's land-grant university, the extension represents UF's commitment to serving the state's citizens and industry – and beyond.

Economic Impact



Supporting growth of high-tech, high-wage jobs



Establishing a pipeline of engineering talent and technology



Fostering new startups



Providing access to R&D talent and infrastructure



Supporting workforce development

The Benefits of Public-Private Partnerships

TALENT & TECHNOLOGY PIPELINES

Key factors for succeeding in the 21st century economy include access to a robust engineering research engine, a talent pipeline to faculty experts, and opportunities to recruit interns and employees into the region who are prepared for engineering leadership.

INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

Access to the faculty and facilities of a world-class research university gives startups, government agencies, and high-tech companies the ability to attract funding, expand process and product development, prototype new ideas, and expedite technology commercialization.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

With the expansion of high-tech, high-wage jobs, Florida is becoming a nexus for international technological leadership. Through distance learning and workforce development programs, citizens can advance their careers and contribute to the growth of the state's innovation economy.

K-12 INITIATIVES

Exposure and participation in targeted engineering outreach programs encourage bright, young minds to become the technology leaders of tomorrow and serve as role models for future generations of Floridians.

The Next Generation of Engineering Leaders

The **ENGINEERING INNOVATION INSTITUTE** and the **ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE** at the University of Florida are an important part of Florida's engineering extension.

OVER 1,500

engineering students are enrolled in the institutes annually. They engage in curriculum and experiential programs designed to encourage creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership.

Graduates of the institute are prepared to take on the greatest challenges facing our world.