

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kellie Snaith, Marketing Director, SBDC at UCF, 407.420.4850 or ksnaith@bus.ucf.edu

SBDC at UCF and UCF Incubator Program Form New Partnership with Lake County to support new and existing small businesses

Orlando, FL – Thursday, March 12, 2009. The Small Business Development Center at UCF and the UCF Incubator Program are partnering with Lake County to support entrepreneurs at the UCF/Lake County Incubator. The new partnership will result in a shared staff position that will serve half-time as the SBDC area manager for Lake County and half-time as the Lake County incubator's site manager. Under the UCF Research Foundation umbrella, the UCF Incubator Program and SBDC at UCF will bring a variety of business development services, training and resources to the incubator. The business incubator is located at the Leesburg Business & Technology Center located at 600 Market Street, Leesburg, Florida. This will be the sixth sub-office for the SBDC at UCF and the seventh business incubator opened by UCF's Office of Research and Commercialization.

"We're excited about this new initiative with Lake County," said Tom O'Neal, Executive Director of the UCF Incubation Program. This partnership allows us to support the growth of new and existing small business in Lake County. We believe that a 'growing your own' strategy is an important part of a community's overall economic development program," said O'Neal.

The SBDC/UCF Incubator/Lake County partnership is a win-win situation and a natural fit for two UCF programs designed to assist small businesses in Central Florida. The partnership will enhance a proven collaboration between two UCF programs and enhance UCF's community outreach in Lake County. The shared position will result in a cost savings for both organizations. The Lake County incubator will benefit from having an on-site SBDC certified business analyst as well as training and workshops presented by the SBDC at UCF. The SBDC at UCF is part of the College of Business Administration at UCF.

"Our college continuously explores innovative ways to increase entrepreneurship opportunities in our region. This alliance will enhance economic development in Lake County. We are pleased to be included in this partnership," said UCF College of Business Administration Dean Thomas L. Keon.

UCF is currently accepting applications for the Lake County incubator site manager position. Interested applicants can find the job posting at www.jobswithucf.edu, position number 42993. For further information regarding the SBDC at UCF, visit www.sbdcorlando.com or call 407.420.4850. For further information regarding the UCF Incubator Network, visit www.incubator.ucf.edu or call 407.882.0202.

###

With its main office in the Disney Entrepreneur Center in Downtown Orlando, the SBDC at UCF is part of the UCF College of Business Administration and the Florida Small Business Development Center Network, providing business seminars and free one-on-one business consultation to small business owners. The SBDC at UCF serves an eight-county area that includes Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties and maintains five satellite service centers. The SBDC at UCF is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

SBDC at UCF, 315 East Robinson Street, Suite 100, Orlando, FL 32801
407.420.4850/ f 407.420.4862
sbdc@bus.ucf.edu, www.sbdcorlando.com