5. ACADEMIC FACILITIES ELEMENT

The plan update proposes the accommodation of three USF academic facilities totaling 269,500 GSF over the ten-year planning period. Approximately 24,500 GSF of academic facilities were proposed in the 1995 plan (as amended in 1997). The Campus Development Agreement (April 1998) authorizes 339,200 GSF of academic facilities through 2003-2004. The program of academic facilities proposed in the plan update is as follows:

• Science and Technology Center	140,000 GSF
• Classroom / Office Building	70,000 GSF
• Future Academic / Research	50,000 GSF
	260,000 GSF

The "Future Academic / Research Building" is not currently programmed. It is included in the space projection through 2008-2009 to ensure academic capacity for the projected enrollment. The site of a proposed Ethics Center in 1995 (which is no longer proposed) will be given over to a new Multi-Purpose Student Center (see Element 6 below).

Plan Framework for Academic Facilities

The program of academic facilities reflects the need to accommodate a projected growth in full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment to , 5,000 FTE students by the year 2008-2009. The projected FTE enrollment includes (in rounded numbers) _____undergraduates, and ____ graduates.

The master plan framework for academic facilities on the St. Petersburg campus is based on several factors that are inherent in the size and configuration of the campus. The relative compactness of the St. Petersburg campus is such that practically all of the campus is embraced within the typical 10-minute academic class change area (nominally a circle with a diameter of 2,000 feet). While academic uses can be reasonably located at most any site within the boundary of the campus, the conjunction of the waterfront location with the major street grid, enables the placement of the academic and academic support uses in the focused and animated way that is appropriate for an urban commuter campus.

Thus, the academic core zone will be concentrated around a "Central Lawn" where the axis of Second Street terminates in front of the existing campus buildings arrayed along the bayfront. The academic core zone will be anchored on the southwest by the Library and on the northeast by Campus Activity Center and proposed housing, with the balance of the uses fronting on the Central Lawn being instructional, research and support facilities.

The master plan provides for a high degree integration of University and non-university uses that lie within the perimeter of the campus peripheral to the academic core zone (USGS, DEP, NOAA, etc.). The compactness of the campus allows for those uses to enrich the academic and research life of the campus without imposing on the integrity of the academic core. The peninsula itself will remain as a center of marine coastal, and oceanographic research, as well as a "working" waterfront where research vessels and other equipment and vehicles are accommodated. The blocks west of Fourth Street will be a reserve for agencies and other compatible enterprises that will be drawn to the University in the future for multi-disciplinary research and development activity.

The academic facilities program is identified in Table 5-a and on Figure 5-a.

It should be emphasized that the gross floor areas indicated for the academic facilities above are representations of capacity, based on the proposed locations of the facilities and on the intended height, massing, and building access envisioned in the plan to foster a compact, coherent academic core zone. Actual academic program development for the 10-year planning period may be less than the above total, depending on the availability of funding and the time.

The master plan recommends preferred sites or locations for each of the facilities in the program listed in this section. The locations reflect an assessment of the appropriateness of the site for the facility, confirmed by discussions with the working committees and University staff. Some of the facilities may ultimately be located on other sites than those indicated, depending on factors unanticipated at the time of preparation of the master plan, such as changes in locational imperatives, in relationship to other facilities, in sequencing, and in funding. The master plan is, thus, the best current guide to siting and location of facilities in the plan. The proposed locations are keyed to the land use areas described and delineated in the Future Land Use Element, and any prospective facility location changes should maintain the appropriate relationship between the facility and the use district in which it is located.

The plan illustrates the generalized form of building sites in order to impart an illustration of the intended mass, texture, density and organization of building sites on the campus. Specific building configurations may vary in actual execution, as may the arrangement of buildings within groupings. However, the master plan does identify recommended building frontage and setback lines and location of major passages through and between building groupings that should be maintained in order to frame and protect the system of major open spaces around which campus development is to be organized. See Figure 15-a in the Architectural Design Guidelines Element. The intent is to allow flexibility in the shape, articulation, and organization of facilities within the building "envelopes" that are created by the setback lines described in the Guidelines element.

Goal

The Academic Facilities goal of the USFSP campus master plan is to maintain a compact and coherent academic core zone readily linked with the academic and research functions of the affiliated institutions and agencies and provide academic facilities required to meet the needs of the projected student enrollment.

Summary of Objectives and Policies

Objective 5.1. Provide academic facilities as indicated on the Five-year 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to accommodate projected 10-year enrollment growth.

Policy 5.1.1. USFSP shall provide academic facilities as described on pages 5-1 and 5-2 in this Element and as shown on Figure 5-a. The timing and phasing requirements and priorities for these facilities are established in the Capital Improvements Element.

Policy 5.1.2. USFSP shall identify and secure funds for future academic facilities in accordance with the capital improvements program as described in the Capital Improvements Element.

Objective 5.2. USFSP shall recommend appropriate locations for future Academic Facilities as described and delineated in this element, based on currently known factors such as program requirements, affinities and relationships with other academic uses, and sequencing. However, the University may, due to changes or reconsideration of any factors affecting location, recommend sites other than those currently identified, provided that such alternative sites are consistent with general land use and density provisions set forth in Future Land Use Element. When a new site is deemed to be incompatible with the land use and density provisions, an amendment to the master plan will be required.

Policy 5.2.1. Locate academic facilities in a core location fronting on the Central Lawn in order to effectuate a sense of campus focus as early as possible.

Policy 5.2.2. Locate marine-oriented academic facilities requiring direct access to the waterfront and research vessels on the peninsula.

Objective 5.3. Reserve future sites in the academic core area for possible unanticipated opportunities for USFSP research or academic uses not currently programmed, as required to meet the needs of enrollment growth.

Policy 5.3.1. The adopted campus master plan shall be amended as needed to incorporate unforeseen academic facilities that may arise from grant awards, accelerated funding or other circumstances.

Objective 5.4. Phase development of future academic facilities in such a way that there will be adequate instructional and research facilities available for planned growth and change in student enrollment at all levels.

Policy 5.4.1. USFSP shall take into consideration comparative analysis for academic space formulas and shall reassess methods used to calculate space projections.

Table 5-a Academic Facilities Program (2008-2009)

• Science and Technology	140,000gsf
Total	140,000 gsf