CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Continuation of Operations Plan Complete

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UF Information Technology

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# Table of Contents

Continuation of Operations Plan Complete .................................................................3
Continuation of Operations Plan Complete

The Florida Legislature (statute number 252.365) this year mandated a statewide Continuation of Operations Plan for many state agencies, including universities. The Plan is designed for disaster preparedness and post-disaster recovery. UF’s plan is comprised of the plans of each of its departments and sections, including CNS.

CNS recently completed its plan, which consists of disaster preparedness and post-disaster responses for Computing, Networking, and Telecommunications.

The legislation requires that state agencies coordinate with local emergency-management agencies to ensure continuity of essential state functions under all circumstances.

The relevant legislation reads, in part:

"(3) [The emergency coordination officer] shall be responsible for ensuring that each state agency and facility, such as a prison, office building, or university, has a disaster preparedness plan that is coordinated with the applicable local emergency-management agency and approved by the division.

"(a) The disaster-preparedness plan must outline a comprehensive and effective program to ensure continuity of essential state functions under all circumstances. The plan must identify a baseline of preparedness for a full range of potential emergencies to establish a viable capability to perform essential functions during any emergency or other situation that disrupts normal operations.

"(b) The plan must include, at a minimum, the following elements: identification of essential functions, programs, and personnel; procedures to implement the plan and personnel notification and accountability; delegations of authority and lines of succession; identification of alternative facilities and related infrastructure, including those for communications; identification and protection of vital records and databases; and schedules and procedures for periodic tests, training, and exercises."

Allan Pither, CNS special projects coordinator, will serve as the CNS Emergency Coordination Officer. In addition, our security teams will be working to help ensure that we can continue to serve our users in the event of an emergency. To read the full text of the legislation, see http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm. Go to Search Statutes, set the year to 2003 in the drop-down menu, and enter 252.365.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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