# WHEREAS REPLACING THE TITLE OF 'LECTURER' WITH 'ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE, OR FULL INSTRUCTIONAL PROFESSOR' WILL:

#### • Ensure that instruction-intensive faculty enjoy the respect they deserve, as:

o Faculty members "holding Lecturer and Instructor titles" were estimated by faculty respondents to a survey conducted by Beth Morling (University of Delaware) and Jeong Min Lee (Georgia State University) to be "lower in status" than those holding the title of Assistant Teaching Professor.<sup>1</sup>

## • Enhance UF's ability to recruit the best candidates to these instruction-intensive faculty positions, as:

- 'Lecturer' is an ambiguous title, occasionally applied at other institutions to part-time and/or adjunct faculty positions that lack opportunities for promotion and/or career advancement;
- Many potential applicants decline to apply for what they believe will be a low-status, temporary position with limited opportunities for advancement, while;
- O The title of 'Instructional Professor' more clearly aligns with the prestige and career opportunities enjoyed by UF's instruction-intensive faculty.

### • Bring the titles of instruction-intensive faculty into line with those of other non-tenure track faculty members at the University of Florida, as:

- o UF already uses the titles of Assistant, Associate, and Full Clinical Professor as well as Assistant, Associate, and Full Research Professor to designate non-tenure track faculty members in the areas of biomedical science and/or grant-funded research.
- Align UF's title conventions for instruction-intensive faculty with those of our peer and aspirational peer institutions, as:
  - o The University of California system, the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and Penn State University have, in recent years, adopted the titles of Assistant, Associate, and Full Teaching Professor for instruction-intensive faculty.

### THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The University of Florida move:
  - O All 'Lecturers' to the rank of 'Assistant Instructional Professor'
  - o All 'Senior Lecturers' to the rank of 'Associate Instructional Professor'
  - o All 'Master Lecturers' to the rank of 'Instructional Professor'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Beth Morling and Jeong Min Lee, "Are 'Associate Professors' better than 'Associate Teaching Professors? Student and faculty perceptions of faculty titles," *Teaching of Psychology* (January 2020).

ii This transition is ongoing at the University of California system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iii</sup> These proposals should only apply to classroom instructors holding an instructional assignment of 50% or greater. They should not apply to academic advisors and other individuals who, while currently holding the title of lecturer, are not primarily classroom instructors.