

- March 5, 2025

- The UF Faculty Senate received queries at the February Faculty Senate Meeting on the UF constitutionality of having the Hamilton School of Classical and Civic Education outside of a College and reporting directly to the Office of the Provost.

- Interpretation: FL Stat § 1004.6496 (2024) states that “(2) Beginning January 1, 2025, and by each January 1 thereafter, the University of Florida must report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the progress toward establishing the center as a permanent college at the university.” The UF Constitution is clear that “The provisions of this Constitution are governed by and subordinate to Florida law...” Establishing the Center as a permanent College is mandated by state law; the Hamilton Center has the prerogative to determine the intermediate steps required to satisfy the legislative mandate and has proposed becoming a School (as defined in Article VI § 3) as such an intermediate step. The UF Constitution is subordinate to this legislative mandate and therefore should be interpreted in a way that accommodates such intermediate steps as long as they are prima facie reasonable. The establishment of the Hamilton School under its current reporting structure to the Office of the Provost is prima facie reasonable.