

May 18, 2011

The budget passed by the recently ended session of the Florida Legislature did not include PECO funds for the construction and equipping of the State University System statewide high density facility and Shared Collection to be located in Gainesville. The previously anticipated schedule envisioned 2010-2011 as a planning year, with construction to begin in 2011-2012, and the start of operations in the high density facility in 2013-2014.

With no release of PECO funds to allow construction to begin in the summer of 2011, the timeline has been revised. If sufficient funds to begin construction are released in July of 2013, the anticipated schedule is as follows:

2011-2013 Planning years: hiring an architect; developing blue prints, schedules and the RFP for the high density shelving; preparing existing collections from the UF Auxiliary Library Facility (ALF) for transfer

2013-2014 Building and equipping the new high density facility; continuing to prepare existing collections from ALF for transfer and, if possible, begin transfer of the collections

2014-2015 Transfer the existing collections from ALF and other collections from participating libraries into the high density facility; begin renovation of the existing ALF building

2015-2016 Complete the renovation of the existing ALF building and relocation of personnel, furnishings and equipment into it; begin operation of the high density facility with shared operating funds

These are estimates, subject to change based on the schedule/availability of PECO funding, and progress of the construction and relocation of the shared use collection. Billing for shared operating expenses is unlikely to begin sooner than 2015-2016.

Meanwhile, interim storage space in Gainesville is being sought so that those with more immediate needs can join with the University of Florida in beginning to develop the Shared Collection in leased space. These collections will be prepared for rapid transfer to the high density facility when it opens. Cost sharing for the interim storage has yet to be determined.

Sincerely,



Judy Russell