Attachment A

New Degree Program Proposal M.S. and Ph.D. in Planetary and Space Sciences

Michael Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

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M.S. and Ph.D. in Planetary and Space Sciences

- Developed from a current physics track that has increased in significance in this **highly interdisciplinary field.**
- UCF ranks highly in the placement of graduates in space-related fields in Florida, and the program builds on that expertise and aligns directly with the “Space Technologies and Systems” Area of Focus in UCF’s strategic plan.
- Greater than 95% placement rate upon graduation, including at highly competitive positions at NASA, space related industry, and universities.
- Clear support from industry leaders
    - International Space Station National Lab (CASIS)
    - Redwire
    - NASA Kennedy Space Center

M.S. and Ph.D. in Planetary and Space Sciences

International Space Station National Lab (CASIS)

- *Graduates from UCF's proposed program will be ideally positioned to contribute to our organization and the broader space industry. Their advanced knowledge and research capabilities will be invaluable as we tackle complex challenges and develop cutting-edge solutions. This program will maintain UCF's leadership in providing qualified candidates to the space industry.*

Redwire

- *The flexible program proposed will promote the training of scientists and technical project leads adept at multiple approaches to the challenging problems facing Florida's space industry. These include topics of particular interest to Redwire, such as regolith (soil) and dust properties, regolith surface mobility, dust behavior both on a planetary surface and on a spacecraft during an encounter with an asteroid or on the Moon, numerical data analysis, and flight instrument and satellite development.*

M.S. and Ph.D. in Planetary and Space Sciences

NASA Kennedy Space Center

- *Graduates from UCF's proposed program will be ideally positioned to contribute to our organization and the broader space industry. Their advance knowledge and research capabilities will be invaluable as we tackle complex challenges and develop cutting-edge solutions. We envision opportunities for these graduates to work on projects ranging from Additive Manufacturing for Space Exploration to Advanced Computing and Communications Technology. This program will maintain UCF's leadership in providing qualified candidates to the space industry.*