Florida Polytechnic University was established in 2012 and opened its doors in 2014 as the only member of the State University System of Florida dedicated exclusively to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). With an enrollment of about 1,400, Florida Poly offers a unique environment where students work closely with faculty in a hands-on approach to learning.

One of the University’s first milestones was the construction of the Innovation, Science, and Technology (IST) Building. The visually striking, 162,000-square-foot centerpiece of Florida Poly’s Lake- land campus is a moveable and functional work of art. Its louvered roof system moves throughout the day to provide passive lighting to the second-floor atrium while curved metal pergolas ring the exterior to shade its outer terrace and walkways. The building has won global awards and was recently named among the most breathtaking buildings in the world.

A pair of major milestones followed when Florida Poly received regional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) in July 2017, and its computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, and mechanical engineering degrees were accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET) in 2019.

With nearly 500 alumni, the University offers nine undergraduate degrees, two graduate degrees, and dozens of concentrations, all focused on high-tech disciplines. Small class sizes and a project-based curriculum position Florida Poly to provide industry-aligned professional degrees, two graduate degrees, and dozens of concentrations, all focused on high-tech disciplines. Small class sizes and a project-based curriculum position Florida Poly to provide industry-aligned professional degrees, two graduate degrees, and dozens of concentrations, all focused on high-tech disciplines.

Creating close working relationships with companies throughout Florida is another key to providing industry-aligned majors and fueling the state’s economy. That’s why the University constantly adds to the many internships already available to students to further enhance their world-class STEM education.

Robust growth around the Florida Poly campus is also critical to bringing the Florida Poly 2.0 vision to life. The University’s long-term success grows exponentially when supported by an adjacent research park serving as a magnet for industry. Today’s problems are complex and multi-dimensional, and economies grow best when they bring government, industry, and academia together to commercialize innovation. The research park will be the catalyst for bringing financial and faculty capital to the area and will feature academic buildings in the park and industry partners on campus. The park will be a livable-play-environment with apartments and homes, office buildings, a town center, schools, and golf courses and hiking trails. It will be a place of creative collisions, where companies come to the park to gain access to high-quality students and talented faculty.

Florida Poly’s Advanced Mobility Institute also looks forward to the completion of SunTrax, a large-scale, cutting-edge facility dedicated to the research, development, and testing of emerging transportation technologies in safe and controlled environments. SunTrax is a long-term partnership with Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise and includes a 2.25-mile oval track on a 400-acre site near Florida Poly’s campus. This adds to Florida Poly’s focus on the rapidly evolving field of autonomous and connected vehicles. Its place as a leader in this area was demonstrated at the national level when Randy K. Avent, Florida Poly’s president, testified before a Senate committee on autonomous vehicles.

Florida Polytechnic University has positioned itself to provide a world-class STEM education in a way that not only prepares students to productively enter the workforce, but provides them with lifetime employable skills that have an immeasurable impact on the local and state economies.