

Thad Seymour, Jr., Ph.D.

Passionate Innovator and Ardent Collaborator

Short Version for Introductions

Thad is a respected leader, advisor and speaker on innovation, entrepreneurship and strategy. Among other projects, he led the development of the University of Central Florida's most recent strategic plan. Thad also led the team that planned and opened the UCF Downtown campus in 2019 and served as interim president of UCF beginning in February 2019.

Prior to working with UCF, Thad was senior vice president of Tavistock Development Company, leading strategy and business development. He also founded and served as president of the Lake Nona Institute, host of the widely acclaimed annual Lake Nona Impact Forum. Thad has been an active entrepreneur and board member of multiple technology companies and not-for-profit organizations. He holds degrees from Dartmouth College, the University of Wisconsin, and Northwestern University. Thad and his wife Katie have three grown children.

Longer Version

Thad is a respected leader, advisor and speaker on innovation, entrepreneurship and strategy. He worked at the University of Central Florida as Senior Advisor to the Provost for Strategic Planning for UCF, leading the development of a 20-year plan for the second largest university in the nation. That plan was unanimously approved by the UCF Board of Trustees in May 2016. Following completion of the plan, Thad was named Vice Provost for the UCF Downtown campus that opened to over 7,000 students in the fall of 2019. He was appointed VP for Partnerships and Chief Innovation Officer in July 2018 and served as interim president of UCF from February 2019 to April 2020.

Prior to his work at UCF, Thad served as senior vice president of Tavistock Development Company driving over \$3 billion in investment. Thad led planning, marketing and business development for Lake Nona, including its Medical City. His role encompassed institutional recruitment and new business ventures, driving innovation, and cultivating collaboration among the Lake Nona partners.

While at Tavistock, Thad founded and served as president of the Lake Nona Institute which works with the community and a group of global partners to innovate and model best practices in health and wellness, sustainability and education. The Institute created and hosts the widely acclaimed [Lake Nona Impact Forum](#) which has featured some of the top leaders and innovators in health, healthcare and technology. The Institute was featured in a [Harvard Business School Case Study](#), "*Designing a Culture of Collaboration at Lake Nona Medical City*" (2012).

Prior to joining Tavistock and Lake Nona in 2008, Thad led mergers and acquisitions for Priority Healthcare Corporation, culminating in the company's \$1.3 billion sale to Express Scripts in 2005, after which he served as a senior executive with ESI's CuraScript Specialty Pharmacy business. He also has extensive experience in healthcare informatics, including co-founding a venture-backed electronic medical records company. Thad has served on the boards of multiple healthcare technology businesses.

Passionate about expanding the life sciences industry in Florida, Thad served as a board member of BioFlorida and was the 2015 recipient of the BioFlorida Leadership Award. He co-chaired *bioOrlando*, and is past chair of the Florida Research Consortium. Within the Orlando community Thad has served on the board of VisitOrlando, the president's advisory council of Valencia College, and is past chair of Shepherd's Hope, which provides medical care to over 20,000 uninsured patients annually in five clinics throughout Central Florida. He also chaired the board of StarterStudio, a non-profit business accelerator serving the Orlando tech community.

Thad holds a BA from Dartmouth College, an MA and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. Thad and his wife Katie have three grown children.