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**UF Student Health to Dispense Free Menstrual Products in Main Facility**

**Dispensers will contain tampons and pads beginning Spring 2018**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The University of Florida Student Health Care Center (SHCC) recently installed menstrual product dispensers in its main facility for use beginning January 2018. The dispensers will deliver tampons and pads at a dispensing hub, located in the first-floor lobby of the SHCC main building, at no cost to the student. Students experiencing an unexpected period on campus are encouraged to visit the dispensers for products that meet their specific needs.

 The menstrual product dispensers were installed in conjunction with renovations on the first-floor lobby of SHCC. These renovations include a re-vamping of existing dispensers, previously limited to only free condoms. Now, students will be able to access free condoms alongside free pads and tampons.

 Previously, students experiencing an unexpected period on campus were susceptible to missed classes, anxiety as a result of uncomfortable conditions and increased expenses when forced to locate relief on or off campus for purchase.

 “Students have raised concern over not having free menstrual products on campus and we want them to know that we hear them,” said Guy Nicolette, Director of SHCC. “Ultimately, we are here for the students and their health needs.”

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*The UF Student Health Care Center (SHCC) provides services on campus to students seeking support for a variety of medical issues. Services include: Primary care, Women’s Health, Sports Medicine, Nutrition Services, Psychiatry and Immunization/Travel Clinics. The SHCC is located at 280 Fletcher Drive, along with an in-house pharmacy and laboratory for prescriptions and testing services. The UF Student Health Care Center is dedicated to helping every student achieve optimal health in the pursuit of personal and academic success. All activities and programs of the SHCC operate to assure a nonjudgmental environment and sensitivity to individuals with disabilities and those representing diverse cultural, racial, religious, gender or sexual orientation groups. For more information about services and resources, visit* [*shcc.ufl.edu*](http://www.shcc.ufl.edu/)*.*