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HAAS CENTER RELEASES UWF EMERALD COAST ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT

FORT WALTON BEACH– The University of West Florida Haas Center for Business Research and Economic Development recently released a report titled “The Economic Impact of UWF Emerald Coast on the Regional Economy.” Haas Center Associate Director Melissa Neal also gave the report as a briefing Feb. 17 to the UWF Dean’s Council.

“The results of our study are fairly conservative because they do not include the impact of UWF Emerald Coast graduates and their wages on the community. We only considered the impact of currently enrolled students and the UWF Emerald Coast campus annual budget when conducting this analysis,” said Neal.

The study revealed that the presence of UWF Emerald Coast creates a demand for over \$40 million in goods and services across the region and increases the region’s gross domestic product by over \$27 million. Of the \$40 million in goods and services, approximately \$21 million is filled locally with the remaining \$19 million imported from outside the region. This demand for goods and services is driven by a \$12 million investment in state funds. In addition, UWF Emerald Coast is responsible for 245.1 full time equivalent jobs in the six-county region (Okaloosa, Walton, Jackson, Bay Holmes and Washington counties).

For more information or a complete copy of this report please contact Haas Center Associate Director Melissa Neal at (850) 833-9113 or via email at mneal@uwf.edu. For a complete report go to http://haas.uwf.edu/impact_studies.htm

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