IST was created to be the university's research arm in M&S. For more than 20 years the institute has stretched the horizons of simulation and training knowledge.

With one of the nation's first truly multidisciplinary graduate programs in M&S, the university and IST provide numerous opportunities for research and scientific advancement.
The Institute at a Glance...

- Simulation is a field of many disciplines. IST focuses on human-centered simulation and serves as a portal for others seeking expertise not organic to the institute. Disciplines include psychology, engineering, math, history, philosophy, computer science, digital media, business and medicine.

- The institute has 67 research faculty, supported by more than 100 staff. Approximately 110 students gain research and career-enhancing experience as IST interns.

- Although Defense supports many research efforts at IST, a strong bi-directional transfer exists among IST, Defense and non-Defense sponsors.

- IST research falls into these broad areas:
  - Computer-generated reality
  - Performance assessment/enhancement
  - Humans/systems integration
  - Simulation technology

Over the past 20 years

- More than 900 students have graduated from UCF with a minimum of one year working on MS&T-related research projects at IST. Most have secured positions in MS&T-related industry and in government.

- The institute has secured more than $200 million in research funding.

And today

IST has helped modeling, simulation and training emerge as a recognized field of study and a viable commercial business sector.

The institute continues to actively recruit UCF students to help its research scientists provide solutions to real-world challenges.

IST maintains close contacts with other UCF departments and centers participating in MS&T research. Joint faculty appointments, graduate research sponsorships and positions on various committees help accomplish this.

UCF provides an impressive pool of scientific backgrounds and laboratories available to augment IST’s research efforts.
Facilities (continued from previous page)
Clockwise from far left: IST’s simulation & training labs and offices occupy two floors of the five-story Partnership II building in Central Florida Research Park. The U.S. Army is a major tenant, occupying two floors.

Nearby Partnership III houses IST labs, training rooms and conference rooms on two floors. Three remaining floors are devoted to U.S. Army and Marine Corps simulation- and training-related activities.

The Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith Simulation and Training Technology Center (30,000 sq. ft.) houses labs for U.S. Army and IST research projects.

Ongoing research

Such ongoing programs as those listed here sharpen IST’s MS&T focus on areas related to enhancing human performance.

- Advanced performance assessment
- Augmented cognition
- Innovative I/O devices
- Modeling complex systems
- Information technology
- Team training
- Learning methods and systems
- Human-robotic interface
- MS&T maturation processes
- Human-agent, human-computer interface
- Mixed, augmented, virtual reality systems
- Multi-modal MS&T
- Mobile computing
- Teaching tools

Although its more recent logo (in use since 1996 and shown on the brochure cover) more closely identifies IST with the University of Central Florida, the institute’s original logo, at left, still serves as a symbol of leading edge research in modeling, simulation and training.