

President Mark B. Rosenberg



Dear Undergraduate Students:

Welcome!

As I tell our incoming class every year: you belong here! Without you, we're not FIU. You uplift us! You make all our efforts possible and worthwhile! Our entire FIU community is committed to helping you achieve your dreams, especially during these challenging times we are all facing together. At FIU, we have everything you need to succeed - motivated and challenging faculty, courses that will take you to new levels of thinking and analysis, internship and career opportunities that will open doors to your future, and dedicated advisors who are here to help you stay on track so that you can graduate in four years and then go on to find or create a great job or to graduate school.

We will do everything we can to help get you to that special day when you proudly celebrate your commencement, motivated by the cheers of your family and loved ones. At FIU, we have recently developed a series of "Personalized Education Pathways." This approach allows our incoming students to find their own customized plan – one that works for them, their life, and their situation.

As one of the largest public research universities in the country, FIU plays a critical role in our community's and nation's future. We recognize the many challenges in our world today and we are committed to doing what is right. One of the things that is special about our FIU is that our students, faculty, staff, and alumni have a shared sense of purpose: we want to leave this world a better place than we found it. Never has this mission been more relevant than today, when our FIU family is showing up for the needs of our community during the coronavirus pandemic.

We demonstrate this commitment every single day by standing up to some of society's most pressing concerns – from sea level rise, to transportation, and more. We have a special kind of drive and determination that take our research efforts from the Arctic to Aquarius, the world's only underwater laboratory. We're constantly accelerating our research. In fact, FIU is in the top tier of research universities in the U.S., according to the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Today, FIU is a leading U.S. research university (R1), with a focus on student success, innovation and societal progress. Our university has been ranked 45 times in the top 50 in the nation among public universities, according to *U.S. News and World Report*. We offer nationally and internationally recognized bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs in business, engineering, nursing, medicine, public health, architecture, and other disciplines.

For four years and counting, BizBash has named The Food Network & Cooking Channel South Beach Wine & Food Festival (SOBEWFF) the #1 food and restaurant industry event in the United States. With this collaboration, FIU's Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management students get real-world opportunities to gain hands-on experience in hospitality, including staffing the star-studded events and working alongside the world's best culinary talent and food and beverage industry leaders.

We are committed to supporting the arts and cultural engagement through FIU's three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. And our colleges and programs are continuously taking that extra step to be innovative, relevant, and solutions-driven.

We are so honored to welcome you to the FIU family! When you graduate in four years, you will be ready for the career that you desire, and equally important, you will be ready for a good life as you work to make this world a better place! I look forward to meeting you very soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark B. Rosenberg". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long, sweeping tail that curves upwards and to the right.