



Address at the Commemoration of the End of WWII

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg
on October 4, 2015**



This speech was presented to Members of the FIU community and community at large in attendance of the Commemoration of the End of WWII held at the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on October 4, 2015.

Welcome to all who come to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the end of WWII. Welcome to those who recognize China's important role in the war that caused such profound changes in Global affairs, in the course Asian History, and of course in China.

We are here because of our mandate to be a university that is global in outlook and global in its respect for other cultures and peoples.

We are here because we recognize the transformational role that China plays in 21st century public affairs.

We are here because of our respect for the people of China.

We should never forget the millions of Chinese who lost their lives as a consequence of the invasion of their country in 1937 – when World War II in the Pacific really started.

We should never forget the lowering up of the Yellow River Dikes in 1938.

We should never forget the harsh conditions of an occupation that lasted nearly nine years in China – including the famine in the province of Henan in 1942-43. The various uprisings in the Western and Northern part of the country; the fight to control the Manchurian railroad, the ignominies brought about by Yalta for the Chinese, and the hardline impose by Stalin. That is why we are here to honor Chinese and American veterans, who sacrificed and gave their lives for their country.

FIU is proud of its ties to China. For more than a decade, FIU has had a presence in China through our Marriott Tianjin China Program, part of our Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, in collaboration with Tianjin University of Commerce. We have more than 1,000 students in Tianjin and now in Qingdao at Qingdao U. These programs gives students the 21st century skills they need to compete in a vital global industry.

These partnerships have opened the door to other collaborations in China. Our partnerships in China demonstrate FIU's worldwide impact. They demonstrate the importance of working together across borders to enhance education and to help our students launch successful careers. We look forward to more collaboration in the future.