



**Dr. Rosa Jones' Farewell Reception**

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg  
on August 29, 2012**

## Forty Years – A Triptych through FIU!

### A Tribute to Rosa Jones

FIU in '72.  
Were you really here then?  
FIU in '72?  
Two buildings, a torch and...  
Amen!

Charles Perry confidently  
gazing out  
from our Control Tower.  
His heady optimism made  
him  
the man of the hour.

But in the iconic Tower  
was more than Chuck  
A young Ms. Rosa  
would bring FIU some luck.

Hal Crosby, then Greg  
Wolfe –  
he at least had real hair.  
With a luminous smile,  
Ms. Rosa began social work  
there.

Then the deadly Liberty City  
Riots,  
And Mariel Boatlift  
*The 80s' in Miami – "Paradise  
Lost" –  
to a racial and ethnic rift.*

She served as Chair of Social  
Work –  
there was deep despair  
You see our fragile  
community,  
it needed her repair.  
Then Mitch Maidique –  
he brought hope and vigor,  
Rosa's will was strong,  
she showed equal rigor.

James Mau,  
he was our wise and modest  
Provost,  
This role model woman –  
she would never ever boast.

Assoc. Dean Undergraduate  
Studies –  
here her grace and charity  
come  
This leading lady now  
was on an incredible run.

Hurricane Andrew in '92 –  
a cataclysmic change –  
forget FIU in '72

Assistant Provost –  
she was all in...  
Because our temporarily  
flattened U.  
took a count of ten.

It had been two decades  
and all in all,  
She was always there  
to take our community's call.

Then Undergraduate  
Studies –  
she became our inspiring  
Dean--  
It's all about Y2K –  
you know what I mean.

Vice President for Academic,  
and then Student Affairs  
God Bless you Rosa –  
you never, ever took on airs.

2012 and here we are,  
Rosa Jones –  
you have unerringly  
raised the bar.

Forty Years.....  
Our Leading Lady  
throughout....  
Forty years...  
an infinity of hopes and  
cheers, no doubt!

It's not '72,  
but just as that day  
Rosa Jones, you will never be  
forgotten –  
because you did it your  
honorable way!