

MEMORANDUM

June 2, 2016

Dear FIU family,

A few weeks ago, our nation's National Security Advisor, Ambassador Susan Rice spoke to our graduating class and stated "*I'm asking you to serve your people, put your higher education to a higher purpose...make the 202 a little bit more like the 305.*"

Little did Ambassador Rice know what we had in store.

From our interdisciplinary leadership locally on sea level rise and STEM education; to national leadership on accelerated bridge construction and cybersecurity policy; and internationally-regarded research on Ebola and Zika virus research, FIU has developed an influential voice in many national conversations.

Our *Worlds Ahead* talent knows that our solutions require greater leadership and an amplified voice on the global stage. An engaged presence in our nation's capital is critical to forging new federal, corporate and international partnerships that propel our research that address the challenges of our time.

In the beginning of June, FIU will once again make history, when we officially open the doors to **FIU in Washington, D.C.** -- a dynamic, solutions-centered hub just blocks away from Capitol Hill. Join us as we inaugurate this new chapter with FIU DC Launch Week, a thematic series of relevant discussions including our students, alumni and national thought leaders.



For those who would like to be part of the launch energy from your home campus, we do have a few “watch parties” being organized at both MMC and BBC.

- Monday, June 6 at 3:30 PM -- **Connecting the Dots: A Multifaceted Approach to Enhancing Resilience in Coastal Ecosystems and Communities**
 - MMC – GC Pit
 - BBC – Panther Square
- Tuesday, June 7 at 10:30 AM -- **Equity and Equality of the Sexes in Communication: Are Women Getting There?**
 - MMC – GC, screens outside of SGA Chambers
- Tuesday, June 7 at 3:30 PM -- **The Dark Side of the Web: Cyber Threats in the 21st Century**
 - MMC – GC Pit
 - BBC – Panther Square
- Tuesday, June 7 at 6:30 PM -- **Celebrating those who “Turned the Impossible into the Inevitable”**
 - MMC – GC Pit
 - BBC – Panther Square
- Wednesday, June 8 at 2:00 PM -- **Lecture by Maria Elena Torano – Lessons in Leadership: What Washington Taught Me**
 - MMC – GC, screens outside of SGA Chambers
- Wednesday, June 8 at 6:30 PM -- **Insiders View: Hispanics and the 2016 Presidential Election**
 - MMC – GC, screens outside of SGA Chambers
- Thursday, June 9 at 9:30 AM -- **Opening ceremony**
 - MMC – GC Pit
 - BBC – Panther Square

There are also other activities being webcast throughout the week, so we encourage you to stay tuned via washingtondc.fiu.edu/launch.



FIU's new home in Washington, D.C. – 440 1st St. NW, Suite 860

This new initiative for FIU is a natural extension of our current efforts in Washington where we have had a full-time governmental relations presence for over 15 years.

Complementing this presence has been one of the most active regional alumni networks and a growing student internship community.

Now looking towards the future, this new era will entail a more robust university-wide collaboration, led by our Offices of Governmental Relations, Research and Economic Development, the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, and University Advancement and Alumni Relations.

We are also thankful for philanthropic support of individuals like Maria Elena Toraño, a trailblazer in corporate America, federal government service, and the small business sector, for investing in our vision for Washington.

FIU in DC, complete with state-of-the-art teaching and conferencing technologies, will serve as your access point and provide a competitive advantage for our students, faculty and alumni nationwide. These offices will offer our community a place to co-work, host meetings, assemble agency partners and engage with our driven Washington D.C. alumni network. And shortly, our academic units, led by the Green School, will begin offering short-term courses to current students and alumni.

This summer also marks the sixth D.C. Summer Internship Experience where we expect to support, mentor and provide immersive experiences to over fifty of our own students in the nation's capital. Most of those are thanks in part to strong leadership in our State Legislature, making a rich partnership with the Washington Center possible.

Community partners, like the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce have already hosted delegations at FIU in DC. We look forward to continuing our partnerships with others like Miami-Dade County, our region's municipalities and the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, for our dynamic presence in Washington should serve as a two-way access point for and to Miami: "Bringing a bit of the 305 to the 202."

More than just a physical space, it is important to note that this next chapter represents a recommitment to a more engaged presence with federal agencies, corporate partners and national thought leaders that will increase revenue and raise the overall profile of our FIU. Now ranked as a top-tier Carnegie research institution, I expect that our presence in D.C. will represent to the world the best of our research enterprise.

I want to personally thank the scores of individuals that have made this opening possible, most notably teams from Governmental Relations; Business and Finance; Information Technology; FIU Foundation; Student Government Association; Office of Research and Economic Development; and the Green School of International and Public Affairs. Countless others have also made our launch week possible, including our Honors College; College of Architecture + the Arts; College of Arts, Sciences and

Education; Division of External Relations; Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management; the Office and Engagement; the Office of General Counsel; and the Office of Alumni Relations.

Our university strives to create *Worlds Ahead* programs and solutions to tackle the challenges of our world. This endeavor serves to propel that mission further for both the FIU family and our partners.

For more information on FIU in Washington, D.C. or for information on reserving office and event space, [click here](#) or email federal@fiu.edu.

If you are a student interning in Washington, D.C. this summer and would like to be a part of our internship experience program, [click here](#).

We look forward to sharing our Washington, D.C. experience with all of you. Go Panthers!!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark B. Rosenberg', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark B. Rosenberg