

**MEMORANDUM**

January 1, 2011

Dear FIU family,

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed your holidays and are refreshed and ready for another exciting semester.

Last semester ended on a high note. SACS approved our bid for reaffirmation of accreditation, we pulled together as a university and raised more than \$220,000 for United Way, and thousands of FIU students graduated during six ceremonies that celebrated excellence at our university.

Our football team also captured the Sun Belt championship and we went to – and won – our first bowl game, which was nationally televised. Thanks to the students, alumni, faculty, staff and other FIU fans who supported the team during our breakthrough season. Special thanks to those of you who braved the cold to cheer the team on in Detroit. This spring we hope to have another great sports season. Our baseball team, in particular, will be playing to repeat as Sun Belt champs. I hope to see all of you in the stands this season, rooting for all of our athletic teams.

We are very pleased that long-awaited new construction projects will commence on the northeast side of our campus. We regret any inconvenience that may be caused.

I am also proud to welcome you back to a tobacco and smoke-free campus. You will see “Breathe Easy” signs around campus. We are committed to promoting a healthy campus environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors. For more information and to learn about smoking cessation programs, please visit the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus website.

The beginning of the semester promises to be exciting, with many activities planned, including “Hope for Haiti” events; new exhibits at the Frost Art Museum; the grand opening of our new SIPA building; and the ribbon cutting for an FPL call center staffed by student interns on campus that marks a new chapter for strategic partnerships that benefit our university, our students, and our community.

This semester I will be counting on you to help us take FIU to the next level through student and faculty excellence, research and creative initiatives, engagement of the local and global community, and revitalizing and expanding our financial base through our \$750 million fundraising campaign.

Together, we can continue to turn the impossible into the inevitable.

Have a wonderful, invigorating, Worlds Ahead semester!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark B. Rosenberg', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Mark B. Rosenberg  
President