

MEMORANDUM

June 1, 2015

Dear FIU Family:

Today marks the beginning of the 2015 hurricane season. As South Floridians, we know from experience that a single storm can have a deep impact on our community.

Now is the time to review or create your personal hurricane plan, become familiar with the university's emergency communication procedures, which apply to all potential hazards, not just hurricanes, and purchase the materials necessary for your [disaster kit](#).

If you are new to South Florida, we urge you to educate yourself and make sure [you are ready](#).

Miami-Dade Emergency Management has identified Storm Surge Planning Zones in areas where storm surge poses the greatest threat. Storm surge is the primary reason why Miami-Dade residents are asked to evacuate prior to a hurricane event. However, there are other factors involved in a hurricane evacuation order, so always follow the protective actions issued by emergency officials.

Our School of Computing and Information Sciences has developed a Storm Surge Simulator that allows [you to input your address](#) and see the possibility of storm surge affecting your home. Please note this technology should not be used to determine whether to evacuate.

As a member of the university community, you also have a responsibility to familiarize yourself with [FIU's emergency procedures](#), including the emergency communication plan, and be an active participant in your own safety by staying alert to messages from university and local officials.

FIU has a redundant emergency notification system known as FIU Alert. In the event of an emergency, FIU will activate some or all of the following channels of communication:

- Text messages
- Informacast (phones in classrooms and outdoor speakers)
- Email messages to your FIU account
- Updates on the FIU homepage fiu.edu and news.fiu.edu
- Social Media:
 - Facebook, facebook.com/floridainternational
 - Twitter, twitter.com/FIUnews

- FIU Help Line: 305-FIU-HELP (305-348-4357)
- Local media
- Radio (88.1 FM and/or 95.3 FM)

Information about pending hurricanes or tropical storms will be sent via email to your FIU account and posted on the FIU home page, fiu.edu, and news.fiu.edu. If you have not done so already, please take a moment now to sign up for [FIU text alerts](#), which are issued only in the event of imminent danger.

Faculty and staff should also take a moment to become familiar with your department's Continuity of Operations Plan now. As soon as possible after an emergency, you should establish contact with your colleagues and supervisor.

In addition, FIU's Department of Emergency Management has partnered with FIU Online to develop a free emergency preparedness course. The hurricane preparedness portion of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is available [here](#).

Being prepared and taking these simple steps will make for a safer hurricane season and quicker recovery should a hazardous event affect the university community. The university has taken steps to ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff. Please take this opportunity to do the same.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Rosenberg
President