



**Remarks from the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Commemorative Breakfast**

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg  
on January 15, 2010**



Office of the President  
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

*These remarks were given at the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast at FIU on January 15, 2010.*

Good morning! Welcome to this community gathering. It is now a long-standing tradition that our university comes together with the community to honor Dr. Martin Luther King.

It is very important for our community to be together now. Our hearts are heavy with grief for our neighbors in Haiti and for their friends and families here. No one in Miami is without loss as a consequence of the tragic events in Haiti.

Dr. King tells us that “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?” Clearly by helping Haiti, we honor Dr. King.

We are so pleased that Michael Eric Dyson can be with us. His focus aligns very directly with our local and global engagement agenda. His message of hope aligns with Dr. King’s message and life, and is most surely needed in this time of grief and sorrow for our Haitian community. This breakfast means so much to so many of us who are optimists and dreamers. It mirrors our belief that we can turn the impossible into the inevitable, just as Dr. King did. It celebrates the top three MLK essay award winners, and the Peace and Service Awards for our students and staff.

An army of honest workers has built this event over the last 18 years! Thank you. And I want to thank those of you in the audience for helping to keep the Memory of Dr. King alive and for daring to hope, sometimes against hope, that justice is the solution, and that working together, we can turn the impossible into the inevitable!

Welcome to FIU!