



New Faculty Orientation

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg
on August 18, 2010**



*This speech was presented to attendees of FIU's New Faculty Orientation
on August 18, 2010.*

Welcome to the University! My name is Mark Rosenberg and I have the privilege of being the President of this great institution. I am proud of this university, and am proud that you have chosen to be a part of it.

Today, we boast an enrollment of over 42,000 students, and expect 20,000 more in ten years. Tomorrow's public university today, in terms of demographics, is illustrated as follows:

- 62% of our students are Hispanic,
- 13% are African American,
- over 90% are from Florida,
- 6% are international,
- our six-year graduation rate is 46-47%,
- we graduated nearly 8,700 students last year,
- will graduate 100,000 students in next ten years, and
- our 1000 faculty raised over \$100 M in research funding

~ Show 2020 video ~

Our goal as an institution is to be a leading student-centered research university known for its local and global engagement. We pride ourselves in being student-centered as we understand that that every student counts. We pride ourselves in developing win-win partnerships with such groups as Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, Florida Power and Light and the United Way.

How do we survive and thrive in this large comprehensive university?

1. Understand the context of Miami and South Florida – it is a rhythm, not routine
2. Focus on your work
3. Communicate with your chair or your supervisor or lab manager
4. Find a mentor
5. Stay out of politics
6. Appreciate your students
7. Learn about this community: show respect, you will get respect
8. Be positive – there is a great deal to celebrate every day
9. Avoid negative colleagues
10. Set a high standard – remember that your students are always watching you, understand your rights, and carry out your responsibilities
11. Help us build this institution – Campaign for FIU

This is a remarkable community – one that most of us here love and respect! My hope and expectation is that you too will come to appreciate this educational learning asset that has risen from the Everglades in just fifty years.

Your presence encourages and inspires me – it portends an even better education for our students and a stronger sense of direction for the FIU community.

We are Worlds Ahead because of you!