Dear Panther family,

On behalf of the university’s faculty, staff, and administration, we hope that your first two weeks of the semester went well!

We are excited about last night’s Panther victory over UCF in Orlando, and about the upcoming football season. We hope you are, too! With the home football opener just 2 weeks away and Homecoming week just over 40 days away, it is time to kick our preparations and Panther pride into high gear. Unleash the Spirit for FIU’s 50th year anniversary and 35 years of Homecoming!

In our continued efforts to build affinity for our football team and create a true game day experience for all Panther fans, we have revised our tailgating plan for the 2015 season. Our home opener is Saturday, September 19, against N.C. Central. You can view the new tailgating plan and map of all tailgating areas by visiting https://parking.fiu.edu/tailgating/.

For students, here are some important items to note:

- Please click here to read the new university tailgating guidelines.

- Lot 6 (east of the stadium) is reserved for student tailgating. Each tailgate will be allowed 1 parking spot within the lot.
  - You may reserve a tailgating area via the online reservation form found at https://parking.fiu.edu/tailgating/.
• Should you prefer not to reserve a space, this lot will be available for tailgating on game day, but on a first-come, first-served basis and dependent on lot availability.

• You may also tailgate in the general tailgating areas, including the Diamond Lot, Nature Trail and Panther Trail.
  • Tailgating spaces in these lots must also be reserved in advance, but will also be available on a first-come, first-served basis should there be availability on game day.

• All garages, as well as Lot 5 (east of the WPAC) are available for general parking. We strongly encourage visitors to park in the Blue Garage, Panther Garage, or Lot 5 as these are the closest to the stadium. However, **tailgating is not permitted in these areas.**

• VIP & Disabled Parking will continue to be within the Platinum Lot (lot south of the stadium).

• All fans are expected to be respectful to university property and all of the fans around them. **We encourage you to review the tailgating conduct policy. All students must also follow regulations as noted in the 2015-2016 Student Handbook.**

• All designated Tailgating Lots and Trails will be accessible from 8:00 a.m. and until two hours following the conclusion of the game or midnight (whichever comes first). However, there are specific timelines for each game as it relates the university’s tailgating and open-container waiver hours. **For an easy reference on lot, tailgating, and open-container waiver times, please visit [https://parking.fiu.edu/tailgating/](https://parking.fiu.edu/tailgating/) to view a schedule for each game. Please note that there are some slight changes to the tailgating map for the Homecoming game.**
Speaking of Homecoming - we’re looking forward to FIU’s most exciting week in the fall! Join us October 16 - October 24 for fun events, free food, giveaways, and more! Highlights include:

- This year we are excited to present electronic music artists Flosstradamus and hip-hop duo Rae Sremmurd for the highly-anticipated Panthermonium Concert at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18. For ticket information, click here.
- Unleash the spirit for this year’s Panther Prowl. Meet us at the FIU Arena at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 21 for a chance to see comedians live! For ticket information, click here.
- Everything will culminate with our 2015 Homecoming Parade on Oct. 24 at 3 p.m. The parade will begin at the red statue at the east entrance of campus and continue through the south side of campus past the FIU Stadium. There will plenty of floats, spirit cars, and walking brigades, so come out and cheer on the students, faculty, staff, and community members who will be participating and Unleashing their Panther Spirit!
- Finally, at 6 p.m. our football team will rattle the cage for our Homecoming Game against Old Dominion University’s Monarchs. That's when we will announce the 2015 student Homecoming King and Queen and the 2015 faculty/staff Homecoming King and Queen.

For a full list of events and ticketing information, please visit hc.fiu.edu.

We’re looking forward to a successful season and we need you, our 12th Panther, cheering us on as we overthrow those Monarchs. We hope to see you on game day and we urge you to take part in the Homecoming festivities, give back and support our FIU, because there is no gold and blue, without F-I-YOU! Let them hear us roar!

Go Panthers!

Sincerely,

Mark B. Rosenberg
President