

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

MARK B. ROSENBERG



President Mark Rosenberg celebrates the 2010 Homecoming with Homecoming King Khristopher "Spike" Salado, a junior health services administration major, and Homecoming Queen Cecily Arias, a senior elementary education major. Photo by Ivan Santiago.

As president of Florida International University, I have the best job in the world. I am proud to lead an institution that puts students first, excels in research and is engaged in problem-solving partnerships in our community.

In the year-and-a-half since I took office, I also have been pleased – and humbled – by the support of the people in our community, including alumni and local leaders, who love FIU and want it to do well. This love for FIU was out in full force during Homecoming. Current and former students, parents, faculty, staff, FIU retirees and other FIU fans all came together to make it an electrifying day where we celebrated FIU's achievements and forged new traditions.

It was that pride in FIU that fueled our football team's spectacular season. We captured the Sun Belt championship and went to – and won – our first bowl game. Whether huddled around a television set at home, or at a restaurant watch party, or cheering in balmy indoor Ford Field, the FIU family showed off their Panther Pride. I expect more of that in the year to come as both our baseball and football teams look to repeat as Sun Belt champions.

And there are more great things ahead. Our five-year Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan will guide us as FIU fulfills its destiny as a student-centered urban research university that is locally and globally engaged. Under the plan, arts,

environment, global and health are the themes that will be the foundation for teaching, research and engagement at FIU.

In the next 10 years, our enrollment will grow by 20,000 students, making a quality education accessible for the many people in South Florida who need higher education to fulfill their dreams. At the same time, FIU will be a major innovation, economic development and job creation engine for our region.

To reach that next level, we will need the continued support and involvement of our community. As I have in the past, I encourage you to join the Alumni Association, if you have not already. Come to FIU lectures, games and other events. You can learn more about the latest happenings and news at FIU by visiting news.FIU.edu.

We also need your assistance in creating crucial partnerships that will benefit South Florida. We need you to offer internships and other opportunities for our students to obtain real-world experience that will give them additional tools to compete in the global marketplace.

If you love FIU, if you appreciate the vital role it plays in South Florida, we also need you to make a donation to FIU and encourage others to do the same. Your contributions will ensure that we can continue to provide a high quality education to our students and continue to have a positive impact on our community.

With your help, FIU will continue to be Worlds Ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark B. Rosenberg', written over a white background.