

MEMORANDUM

June 1, 2016

Dear FIU family:

Today marks the start of the 2016 hurricane season.

It has been more than a decade since a hurricane has made landfall in South Florida. While we have been extremely fortunate, the names of those storms that have torn through our neighborhoods and deeply impacted our communities remain in our minds forever.

The past should serve as a guide for the future. It is easy to grow complacent, but complacency is never an excuse for unpreparedness. It only takes a single storm to have widespread, devastating effects.

If you haven't started to prepare, now is the time.

Begin to review, revise or create your personal hurricane plan, become familiar with the University's emergency communication procedures – which apply to all potential hazards – and purchase the supplies necessary for your [disaster kit](#). Before a storm, you should always follow any protective actions issued by emergency officials.

If you are new to South Florida, there are resources available online and we urge you to review them to make sure [you are ready](#).

Dangers of storm surge

Storm surge poses a great threat to many areas of Miami. It is the primary reason residents must evacuate prior to a hurricane. As a result, the Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management has identified [Storm Surge Planning Zones](#) in areas where storm surge has the highest incident of occurrence.

Our School of Computing and Information Sciences has also developed a Storm Surge Simulator that allows [you to input your address](#) and see the possibility of storm surge affecting your home. Please understand that this technology is only for information purposes and should never be used to determine whether to evacuate.

Know FIU's emergency procedures

As a member of the FIU family, become familiar 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.

In the event of an emergency, we have an emergency notification system known as FIU Alert that will alert you through some or all of the following channels of communication:

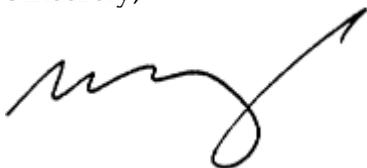
- Text messages
- Informacast (phones in classrooms and outdoor speakers)
- Email messages to your FIU account
- Updates on the FIU homepage fiu.edu and news.fiu.edu
- Social Media:
 - Facebook, facebook.com/floridainternational
 - Twitter, twitter.com/FIUnews
- FIU Help Line: 305-FIU-HELP (305-348-4357)
- 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, posted on news.fiu.edu and shared through social media. If you have not done so, please take a moment now to sign up for [FIU text alerts](#), which are only issued in the event of imminent danger.

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](#).

We care deeply about our entire FIU family, which is why we have taken the appropriate and precautionary measures to ensure their safety 24/7, 365. Being prepared and following these steps will make for a safer hurricane season and quicker recovery should a hazardous event affect our university community.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Rosenberg
President