



Address at the Capital Campaign Leadership Summit

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg
on November 29, 2018.**



This speech was presented to the attendees of the Capital Campaign Leadership Summit held in the Graham Center Ballrooms on November 29, 2018.

Good morning!

Thank you for being here and for taking responsibility for the future of our FIU!

Today, we take the first steps toward our Next Horizon. We're fortunate to have so many of you as part of our FIU family, people who have always believed in our mission to be a force for good in our community – and beyond.

Because of you, we leverage the blessings of our talent in research, and in teaching and helping others - to move our students and our community forward. We turn the impossible into the inevitable.

We have grown to be one of this nation's top research institutions. We've made remarkable progress.

Second in the state in performance funding! Movement into the top 100 public universities in the nation! The Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges to Work For" Honor Roll! The best freshman class in our history! More sponsored research than ever before! More graduates than ever before! And the highest funding ever through our Ignite campaign – our faculty and staff expressing their commitment and investment in what we do!

We're on the move, we're on the rise, because of you!

Now, the time has come to do more; we must raise the bar on ourselves!

Higher education has always had a very important role to serve in society. In times of great change, people have always turned to education to grow their skills. We live in an era of exponential change. The future is going to require different skills sets – and it will require more, and better, from higher education.

The 21st century is a time of exponential growth - of knowledge and technological advances - and universities must meet the growing demand for learning, and for learning on demand, in new modalities.

Our FIU has a critical role to play. Our community is counting on us to get it right! We must help our community stay ahead of the change whether it is another degree, certificate, or competency. It's not a question of if we can do this... We MUST do this.

We have set an ambitious goal for our Next Horizon Campaign, because we know that you're going to help us make it happen!

As of today, we have raised 63 percent of our goal. Before we know it, January will be here, and our Next Horizon campaign will go public! We're going to need you! The success of this campaign depends on everyone here today.

You're going to be the ones to open new doors to us - and take us to that Next Horizon. We need you to help us tell the FIU story! We need you to share it with the people, corporations, and foundations that share our goals, and our passion for student success and our commitment to being a solutions center. This is how we're going to raise \$300 million in four years!

Today is just the beginning. Let's continue to build on today's momentum - and make our Next Horizon campaign a success!