

MEMORANDUM

August 19, 2018

Dear FIU family,

Welcome to fall! Here we are again at one of the most exciting times of year – the new semester lays before us full of hope and possibility!



Because of our FIU family, this university is the shape of things to come! We're putting learner success first – above all else – and making sure our students are successful, **“Finish in 4”** and graduate on time! Our work is paying off! The **Florida Board of Governors** (BOG) recently released the performance based funding scores and **FIU ranked second among public universities in the state!** One of the BOG's metrics we made significant progress on is our four-year graduation rate! Let's use this to motivate us to do more – so we can get to number one in the rankings!

We're also focused on moving from a more traditional institution of higher education to a more 21st century lifelong learner institution of higher education. As you know, technological advances and the rise of artificial intelligence are transforming society and revolutionizing everything – how we communicate, work and play. To stay ahead of the change, higher educational institutions must no longer just *educate* students. That is a linear term that insinuates an end. Instead, we must broaden our research and transition to a new mindset that **prioritizes lifelong learning and delivers a personalized learning experience.**

This fall, we're introducing degree programs to keep our students' and alumni's skills relevant in the ever-changing world of work. For example, our new [Master of Accounting](#) with a specialization in analytics will prepare accounting professionals to understand and use big data.

Make no mistake: We have a great fall ahead of us, because we have a lot to be proud of!

- [FIU was also recognized as a "Great College to Work For" by the Chronicle of Higher Education](#) for the third time in a row!
- FIU has 18 programs in the Top 100 of the U.S. News & World Report's Best College Rankings!
- This fall, we're welcoming many [inspiring and outstanding students](#). Our incoming freshman class is the best in FIU history! Their average GPA is 4.1 and their average SAT score is 1259!

It's the support from our talented students and graduates, our outstanding faculty and professional staff and our community supporters that is taking us to our next horizon!

I know this is going to be an amazing academic year... Now, let's go!

[Read more](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark B. Rosenberg', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Mark B. Rosenberg
President