



West Kendall Hospital Grand Opening

**Given by Mark B. Rosenberg
on April 17, 2011**



This speech was presented to attendees of the West Kendall Hospital grand opening, a partner of the FIU College of Medicine, on March 17, 2011.

Good evening!

Thank you for joining us today to celebrate the opening of this state of the art hospital and the groundbreaking partnership between FIU and Baptist Health South Florida.

At FIU, we are committed to joining forces with key institutions for the benefit of our community. We are proud to partner with Baptist Health, a health care leader that has been a pioneer in patient and family-centered care.

FIU's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine is also committed to educating socially aware and responsive physicians who will practice medicine in a compassionate and comprehensive manner. But we cannot do that alone.

That is where the affiliation between West Kendall Baptist Hospital and our Wertheim College of Medicine comes in. Under the leadership of Wertheim College of Medicine Founding Dean Dr. John Rock and West Kendall Baptist Hospital CEO Javier Hernández-Lichtl, this affiliation will establish an accredited family practice residency program in the heart of West Kendall.

This will increase opportunities for our medical students and will allow us to meet one of the critical needs in our region -for family practice physicians - since most doctors remain in the communities where they do their residencies. And these doctors will receive a first-rate education, thanks to our relationship with Baptist. FIU is proud to count many Baptist doctors who are leaders in their fields as part of our faculty.

Our students – your future doctors – are learning from top physicians who have blazed trails in the medical field. Together, we are teaching our future doctors how to do good and do well.

We are excited about how our Worlds Ahead partnership with Baptist Health South Florida will impact health care in our region. We are leveraging our strengths to touch – and change – thousands of lives in our community.

Together, we are turning the impossible into the inevitable.