FIU
Office of the President

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

COHORT 2 (2017 – 2018)
Dr. Mark B. Rosenberg is fifth president of Florida International University (FIU). A public institution of higher education, FIU is the face of the country’s future in higher education demographics: it is a majority-minority institution that leads the country in the production of minority degrees in the sciences and engineering.

Dr. Rosenberg has served as the fifth president of FIU since August 2009. A political scientist specializing in Latin America, Dr. Rosenberg is the first FIU faculty member to ascend to the university’s presidency.

Under his leadership as president, FIU has increased enrollment to almost 56,000 students, improved graduation rates by nearly 13% and hired over 500 new faculty. As President, Dr. Rosenberg has provided leadership to grow the institution’s budget, improve student retention and graduation rates, expand internships for enrolled students, and coordinate FIU’s emergence as a leading producer of graduates in priority national and state areas focused on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The university has been named as a Carnegie “Highest Research” as well as an “Engaged” institution, and has developed path-breaking partnerships with the Miami Dade County Public Schools, JP Morgan Chase, Florida Power & Light and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Research expenditures have grown by nearly 30% to nearly $171 million, and over seventy new student advisers and counselors have been hired for a restructured and expanded student graduation initiative.

From 2005 to 2009, Dr. Rosenberg served as the second Chancellor (he was the first that was formally selected by the Board of Governors) for the State University System of Florida, which includes all of Florida’s public universities – over 325,000 students and an all-accounts budget of nearly $9 billion. As chancellor, Dr. Rosenberg led the system’s strategic development and financial planning and policy initiatives, working closely with Governors Jeb Bush and Charlie Crist and the state legislature to secure support for SUS priorities. During this era, major new strides were made in research support for the system, over $1 billion was provided for new facility construction, and a new SUS strategic plan was developed, approved and launched.

Prior to becoming chancellor, Dr. Rosenberg was integrally involved in the expansion and development of FIU into a major public research university. As Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1998 to 2005, Dr. Rosenberg spearheaded the establishment of a law school in 2002 and a medical school in 2006. Under his leadership, FIU increased enrollment, implemented major campus construction projects, and was invited to join the select national honor society Phi Beta
Kappa. Dr. Rosenberg was also instrumental in moving FIU into the top tier of Carnegie Foundation research universities.

Dr. Rosenberg’s academic career began at FIU in 1976 as an assistant professor of political science. In 1979, he founded the FIU Latin American and Caribbean Center, which today is one of the nation’s premier federally-supported research and teaching centers focusing on the region. Dr. Rosenberg subsequently served as the Founding Dean of the College of Urban and Public Affairs and Vice Provost for International Studies. He has also been a Visiting Distinguished Research Professor at The Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, and a Visiting Professor at the Instituto Tecnologico de Monterrey (ITESM) in Mexico.

Dr. Rosenberg earned a B.A. in 1971 from Miami University of Ohio and a Ph.D. in Political Science with a graduate certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies from the University of Pittsburgh in 1976. He has written or co-edited seven books and numerous scholarly articles in leading journals. His latest book, The United States and Central America: Geopolitical Realities and Regional Fragility (2007), is a Harvard University project co-authored with Luis Guillermo Solis of Costa Rica. Governmental and media organizations have frequently sought Dr. Rosenberg’s expertise on Latin America. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, has testified before Congress numerous times, and has served as a consultant to the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Firmly committed to service with national and local educational impact, Dr. Rosenberg serves as Chair of the Association of Public Land-Grant University’s (APLU) Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU); Chair of APLU’s Commission on Access, Diversity, and Excellence (CADE); and Co-Chair of the Board on Science Education’s (BOSE) Roundtable on Systemic Change in Undergraduate STEM Education. He also recently concluded his term as Chair of the National Academies’ Committee on Developing Indicators for Undergraduate STEM Education, as well as a member of the national Task Force of Apprenticeship Expansion.

Within Miami-Dade County, Dr. Rosenberg was the 109th Chair of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce (GMCC), one of Florida’s leading business associations; and also served a 5-year term as Chair of the Academic Leaders Council (ALC) for the Beacon Council, Miami-Dade County’s official economic development organization. He serves on the Board of Directors of City National Bank of Florida, and is active in a variety of other civic organizations, including the Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach, Florida Council of 100, and the United Way of Miami-Dade County.

Dr. Rosenberg is a first-generation college graduate whose two children, Ben and Ginelle, are both graduates of FIU. He and his wife of over 40 years, Rosalie, are members of Temple Menorah in Miami Beach.
**Presidential Leadership Program – Program Director & Co-Facilitator**

**Valeria Espina Stevenson** serves as Executive Director and Head of Strategic Initiatives and Projects at the Office of the President at Florida International University (FIU). In her role, she manages Presidential initiatives, serves as Program Director for the Presidential Leadership Program, is a member of the President’s Executive Committee and serves as liaison with university partners such as Royal Caribbean and Florida Power and Light. Additionally, Valeria represents the Office of the President on several university-wide committees. Valeria Espina Stevenson is a two-time graduate of FIU, earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Accounting (’13) (’14).

**Presidential Leadership Program – Founding Program Director**

**Dr. Breny DaParre Garcia** is the Associate Vice President for Student Health & Wellness. In this role, Dr. Garcia provides leadership over key areas of Dean of Students, Counseling & Psychological Services, Health Promotion Services, Victim Empowerment Program, and Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution. She works across academic and student affairs, and collaboratively with units across campus, to support the university’s strategic goals related to building and supporting a culture of healthy living, promoting mental health initiatives across the university, and representing the university at the state level on such matters. Dr. Garcia brings with her 14 years of experience from FIU’s Office of the President, previously serving as the Associate Vice President for Institutional Relations. She holds three degrees with FIU: a B.A. in Political Science, an M.S. in Higher Education, and Ed.D. in Higher Education with research focus in crisis leadership.
Alexandra Mirabal
Deputy Controller
Office of the Controller

Alexandra Mirabal serves as the Deputy Controller in the Office of the Controller at Florida International University and is a proud FIU alumni. As Deputy Controller, she is responsible for the management and supervision of all accounting staff performing the university’s financial accounting and reporting functions, including general accounting, accounts payable, payroll, asset management, tax compliance and financial reporting. Throughout her years in her role, she has successfully led various projects for system and process improvements and implementations and directly supported Finance related initiatives. Alexandra completed her Bachelor of Arts in Accounting at Florida International University (’92) and obtained her Florida CPA license in 1999. From the start of her career in a CPA firm, she worked her way up from entry-level accountant to Accounting Director to her current position as FIU’s Deputy Controller. She has over 25 years of extensive experience in the accounting, auditing and finance areas in various capacities primarily in the government sector, including K-12 public education, county government and higher education. She has been in the Office of the Controller since December 2010.

Alexina E. Alonso (NO LONGER AT FIU)
Alina Dominguez
Manager of Academic Advising Services
College of Arts, Sciences & Education

Alina has worked with the University for 15 years in various roles and has found a love for advising in the past nine. She earned her BS degree in Biological Sciences and then a master's degree in International Business. Alina draws from her varied work experience covering multiple industries and educational background to add to her expertise. She currently works with the college and various university centers on initiatives to build student engagement to the college and university. Whether it's working on an online project, helping a student create a strategy to bounce back, or riling up a crowd of freshmen during orientation, Alina's passion for FIU's current and future students is clear.

Anabelen “Ana” Gaeta
Assistant Director, Finance
Parking & Transportation

Anabelen Gaeta is the Finance Manager in the Parking & Transportation department at Florida International University. She is in charge of managing and maintaining a $15 million budget for Office of Parking & Transportation, and Office of Sustainability. She oversees department schedule for all operations and serves as the liaison between the Office of the Controller and the Parking & Transportation in order to maintain policy and procedures up to date and within University guidelines. Anabelen received both her Bachelors in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance, and her Master in Business Administration from Florida International University.
Bridgette Cram  
**Assistant Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs**  
**Division of Academic & Student Affairs**

Bridgette Cram serves as Assistant Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, where she serves as a liaison for Academic and Student Affairs on matters related to policies, procedures; and other strategic initiatives related to retention, graduation, and post-graduation success. She also works with external partners and our local school board to ensure success of incoming and current students. Bridgette received both her Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs and Spanish and her Master of Science in Higher Education from Florida State University. In 2017, Bridgette received her Doctor of Philosophy, Public Affairs from Florida International University. Her academic and professional interests include: higher education access & success, social equity, and cultural competency assessment.

Carleen Vincent-Robinson  
**Teaching Professor & Associate Chair**  
**Criminology & Criminal Justice**

Dr. Carleen Vincent is a Teaching Professor and Associate Chair in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. She earned her Ed.D. in Higher Education (2016) and her M.S. in Criminal Justice (2004) from Florida International University. She also holds an M.A. in Sociology (2010) from the University of Miami with dual concentrations in criminology and race/ethnicity, a Juris Doctorate (2001) from Louisiana State University, and a B.A. in English Professional Writing (1998) from Baylor University. As the Associate Chair, she oversees the credentialing and scheduling of adjunct faculty, supervises office staff, and facilitates the development of partnerships with various agencies and institutions. As the Field Experience Director, she oversees internships, the Law Enforcement Apprenticeship Program, which allows law enforcement personnel to earn course credit for their prior work experience, and the teaching practicum for doctoral students. Dr. Vincent also serves as the department Diversity Advocate and Dual Enrollment Faculty Mentor and is a Hybrid Faculty Fellow. Called to action by the racial unrest resulting from the killings of several African Americans by law enforcement, Dr. Vincent co-authored the faculty resolution on Race, Social, and Community Justice and was asked to serve on the FIU Equity Action Initiative Committee to assess diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. In furtherance of her diversity and equity work, she recently accepted a faculty fellowship with the Office to Advance Women, Equity, and Diversity and began a one-year term as the SIPA Equity Advisor.
Carolyn Robertson is the Associate Director of the Extreme Events Institute. As Associate Director, she provides administrative direction and operational leadership to all business and support functions. She also formulates and administers annual operating budgets and projections for all accounts within the IHRC and EEI groups. She plays a key role in program development including: the Wall of Wind Experimental Facility, Public Loss and Storm Surge modeling, and the Disaster Risk Reduction program. Carolyn received her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology ('97) from Skidmore College and her Masters in Environmental & Urban Systems from Florida International University ('04). Aside from her education, she worked as an environmental consultant including various industrial clean-up projects early in her professional career and later in the reinsurance industry during a hiatus from FIU. She decided to take advantage of opportunities in Miami assessing how natural disasters affect man, infrastructure and the natural environment. Her passion for science and research in environmental engineering exposed her to grant writing and grant management. After she obtained her Master’s degree, she had the opportunity to work directly for a Center Director that led to a career shift into administration.

Daniel Molina (NO LONGER AT FIU)
Dale Gomez
College IT Director
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Dale Gomez is the College IT Director at Florida International’s Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. As Director, Dale designs, implements, and maintains the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management’s network and wireless systems. These systems include: Servers, computer laboratories, classrooms/teaching facilities, and faculty/staff systems. Dale received both his Bachelor of Business Administration and his Master of Science in Management of Information Systems from Florida International University. With over 19 years of experience, Dale provides the vision and direction needed to achieve accelerated and sustained information technology growth.

Ellen Thompson
Professor of Linguistics
English

Ellen Thompson is a Professor of Linguistics in the English Department at Florida International University. She received her Doctorate in Linguistics from the University of Maryland. Her professional interests include language processing, syntactic theory, heritage language syntax, and semantics. Ellen Thompson’s research focuses on understudied dialects - Caribbean and Heritage Spanish, Miami English - and Hijazi, Najdi, and Libyan Arabic, to develop a more accurate picture of the possible variation and processing shown in natural languages.
Eric Michael Feldman  
Associate Director  
Student Success & Academic Programs  
FIU in Washington, D.C.

Since December of 2018, Eric has led the development of the Talent Lab in Washington, D.C., FIU’s comprehensive career and academic success program for students with goals to make an impact in the nation’s capital. Through funded, two-night themed experiential learning “fly-ins” and a cohort education model for students with DC internships every semester, Eric programs opportunities for students to engage with alumni and industry guest speakers, local authors and academics, and area professional development and networking groups. For eight years prior to this, Eric managed the signature student programs associated with FIU’s Global Learning for Global Citizenship initiative, including the Global Learning Medallion, Tuesday Times Roundtable, and Peace Corps Prep. During this time, he also served the Miami community as an advisory board member for CWS Miami Immigrant and Refugee Program, and as a volunteer college coach for Peer Forward. As a scholar-practitioner, Eric has had the opportunity to publish and present on topics related to his work at FIU including democratic practices, co-curricular engagement of online students, and is currently working on project examining law enforcement on K12 and college campuses, and intersectional identity development in fraternities.

Fang Shu  
Instructor  
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Fang Shu is an Assistant Teaching Professor at Florida International University. He teaches accounting at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management and various interdisciplinary courses (e.g. philanthropy, leadership, culture) at the Honors College. Also serving as the Factor Director of FIU Honors China Program, Fang organizes study abroad trips to China. Prior to becoming the Assistant Teaching Professor, Fang was the China Programs Manager. In this role, he oversaw all initiatives that took place in China with insight on cultural knowledge and oversaw the university’s relations with other Academic entities within the China region. Social responsibility and philanthropy are Fang’s passions. He strives to use his expertise and resources to fix social issues. As a faculty mentor of FIU Embrace, he has been mentoring students for 3 consecutive years. He focuses on corporate social responsibility/philanthropy research in the hospitality and tourism industry. Fang earned his Bachelor of Arts in Accounting from Shandong Agricultural University in Tai’an, Shandong, China (’10) and his Master of Science in Hospitality Management from Florida International University (’12). Fang expects to receive his Ph.D. in Hospitality Management from Iowa State University in 2023.
Joaklin Raphael currently serves as a Sr. Development Officer at Florida International University (FIU), helping the university achieve its $750 million capital campaign goal. He has also developed multiple scholarships and endowments to help many students reach their full potential—because for today’s students financial need is often a barrier to going to college. Joaklin is committed to giving back to students, and he values the payoff of investing his time in an educational institution that prepares students for the next generations’ challenges. As Sr. Development Officer, Joaklin exemplifies great organization with plans for current donors, fundraising goals, and management within his department. He received his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Florida International University. He is currently completing his Master of Public Administration. Joaklin is actively involved in both the university and local communities, serving in several organizations.
Kaitlyn “Katie” Pereyra
Director of Student Success Operations and Strategy
Academic and Career Success

Kaitlyn “Katie” Pereyra is the Director of Student Success Operations and Strategy in the Division of Academic and Career Success. Kaitlyn works closely with the Associate Provost to develop data-driven initiatives in support of the university’s student success goals. She leads the Division’s Student SOS team who works to identify barriers to students success and implement high impact strategies for improving student retention, progression, and graduation. They support the academic advising community and collaborate with college and university leadership to advance student success at FIU. Kaitlyn received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Florida State University and her Master of Science in International and Intercultural Education from Florida International University. She began her career at FIU in 2010 working with the graduate programs in the College of Education. She later served as the College’s Assistant Director of Enrollment Management and Special Projects. In 2016, Kaitlyn became the Director of Enrollment and Student Success for the newly integrated College of Arts, Sciences & Education. She transitioned to the Division of Academic and Career Success in 2018.
Karla Munoz Caamano
Associate Director of Research Administration
Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work

Karla Munoz Caamano is the Associate Director of Research Services at Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work at Florida International University. As Associate Director, Karla oversees the overall administration of federally and non-federally funded sponsored projects for the College. In her current role she oversees a research budget estimated to be $23 million and manages a team of skilled grant administrators who provide pre-and post-award assistance to our investigators. Moreover, she works closely with the Associate Dean of Research and the Dean in developing strategic initiatives that are aligned to our university’s strategic plan. Prior to joining Stempel College she was in charge of the administrative operations and financial activities within the Department of Immunology at FIU’s HWCOM. Karla is a double graduate at FIU with Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a MBA. Moreover, she received her Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences from Barry University. Aside from her education, Karla served as President of the Healthcare Alumni Affinity Council for the college of business and is a founding member of the Society for Personalized NanoMedicine. She has a significant number of trainings and holds a certification of research administration from the National Council of Research Administration, a Green Belt Lean Six Sigma certification, and is certified Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute. Karla has experience in organizational leadership, projects and strategic planning and management, personnel supervision, and budget analysis and planning.

Karlene Cousins
Associate Professor
Information Systems & Business Analytics

Karlene Cousins is an Associate Professor at the College of Business at Florida International University. She is also the Faculty Director for Master of Science in Information Systems Program and Director of ATOM Think Tank. Karlene is responsible for the Master of Science in Information System Program’s course and curriculum development as well as the ATOM Think Tank’s faculty technology consulting practice. Karlene received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science from the University of the West Indies. She received her Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Information Systems from George State University and her Juris Doctor from Northwestern University School of Law. Karlene has experienced information technology professional with academic, business, technical and legal expertise.
Laura Castillo is the Director of the Office of Scholarships at Florida International University. As Director, she is responsible for the direction and coordination of all activities pertaining to management, awarding and monitoring of scholarships at the university. She also works collaboratively with units and Foundation staff to award restricted scholarship dollars. Laura received both her Bachelor of Health Service Administration and her Mater of Public Health, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention from Florida International University. During the past seven years, Laura has worked to improve the scholarship process for students and FIU’s campus community. Her professional goals include transforming the way FIU leverages scholarship dollars to support enrollment objectives, and improve student persistence and success.
Lilian “Lili” Solorzano  
**Senior Director, Academic Support Services**  
**Honors College**

Lilian Solorzano is the Senior Director of Academic Support Services for the Honors College at Florida International University. As Senior Director, Lilian oversees all student support functions and operations of the Honors College, including Admissions, Enrollment Management, Scholarships, Academic Advising, Career Services, Co-Curricular Programming, Special Events, and Graduate School Pathways. She is a member of the College’s senior administration, leads all student success initiatives and oversees the continuous improvement plan. Lilian has served on university-wide committees, such as FIU’s University Assessment Committee, the Council for Undergraduate Academic Advising (CUAA), and the MLK Comemorative Celebration Planning Committee. Lilian is a graduate of FIU’s Presidential Leadership Program (2018) and FIU’s Leadership Education Advancement Program (2017). She received both her Bachelor of Business Administration and her Master of Science (M.S.) focused in Sport and Exercise Science from Florida International University. Lilian has been at Florida International University for over twelve years where she has extensive experience in student support services and higher education administration. In the Fall, Lilian will begin working towards a Ph.D. in Teaching and Learning, with a concentration in Kinesiology.

Lynda Rodriguez  
**Director, Community Relations**  
**External Relations, Strategic Communications and Marketing**

Lynda Rodriguez is the Director for Community Relations within the office of Event Protocol & Community Relations at Florida International University. As Director, she leads FIU’s community outreach strategy including community receptions, community summits and major university-wide events. Lynda oversees the management of the President’s Council board. The President's Council is FIU’s premier community relations board. She manages the university-wide process of strategically nominating FIU constituents for awards and recognitions in the community and participation in community chambers. Lynda received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Miami (’01). With over 20 years of experience in event management, Lynda has demonstrated the ability to thrive in a fast-paced environment and can handle multiple responsibilities in an efficient and professional way.
Michelle Castro  
Associate Director  
Student Government Association

Michelle Castro is the Associate Director of Student Government Association at Florida International University. As Associate Director, she oversees the Student Government Association staff at MMC and BBC as well as helps to manage the everyday functions of the Student Government Association Senate, Cabinet, as well as manages a $800,000 Student Budget yearly, FIU Day in the State Capitol, and executes involvements with FIU in DC office for SGA. Michelle completed her Bachelor of Arts in International Relations at Florida International University, her Master of Arts in College Student Personnel at Bowling Green State University, and her Doctor of Philosophy at Florida International University. Aside from being Associate Director, she is currently Phi Sigma Sigma’s Panhellenic Committee Member and serves as an Area Advisor for Florida. She continues to stay active in all aspects of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Paige Johnson (NO LONGER AT FIU)

Rafael “Ralph” Prohias  
Senior University Counsel  
Office of the General Counsel

Rafael Prohias serves as the Senior University Counsel within the Office of the General Counsel of the University. As Senior University Counsel, he provides legal support to the FIU Foundation, Office of Advancement, Office of Alumni Relations, FIU Athletics Department, Division of External Relations, Frost Art Museum, Wolfsonian-FIU Museum, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. Rafael completed his Bachelor of Science in History and Broadcast Journalism at the University of Miami (’89) and his Juris Doctor at Catholic University of America (’94). He is currently admitted to both the Florida and Virginia Bar.
Rosangel Quintero  
**Director**  
**Office of Executive & Professional Education**

Rosangel Quintero is the Director at the Office of Executive and Professional Education in the College of Business at Florida International University. As Director, Rosangel develops and implements strategic growth plans for all areas in continuing education for the College of Business. She also conducts business development efforts in South Florida and Latin America. Rosangel completed both her Bachelors in Business Administration and her Professional Masters in Business Administration at Florida International University. Aside from being Director, Rosangel has raised over $10,000 to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through the participation of various marathons. With over 20 years of experience, Rosangel has shown her ability to work collaboratively and interact at the highest level with faculty and C-suite executives as well as her ability to solve problems independently and embrace cultural diversity.

Sandra Utset  
**Director, Foundation Board Relations**  
**University Advancement**

Sandra Utset is the Director of Foundation Board Relations in University Advancement. The Board of Directors for the FIU Foundation plays a significant role in the implementation and success of the capital campaign and strives to advance FIU’s position as one of the world’s premier public research universities. In 1999, she was hired by FIU as the Annual Fund Coordinator in the Office of Alumni Relations. In that position she developed a program to reach out to prospective alumni donors who became active members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and strong supporters of the university. She was also very involved with the in-house telemarketing campaign that was created for FIU students to personally reach out to alumni. In 2001, she became an Event Coordinator for the Office of Community Relations. She managed the many facets of Commencement and worked closely with the committee and departments that contributed to the ceremonies, including the President and Provost. Since then she has expanded her career at FIU and was recently the Director of Institutional Events Management in the Office of Events Protocol and Community Relations in the Division of External Relations, Strategic Communications and Marketing. She has extensive knowledge in coordinating hi-level special events such as groundbreakings, ribbon cuttings, Geopolitical Summit, special lectures, town hall meetings, visits of high-level dignitaries and the Florida Board of Governors. Sandra completed her Bachelor of Science in Social Work and is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Adult Education and Human Resources Development at FIU.
Scarlett Aldana- Bosch  
**Director, Academic Support Services**  
**College of Medicine**

Scarlett Aldana-Bosch is the Director of Student Programs & Career Services at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine at Florida International University. As Director of Student Programs, Scarlett supervises the development of medical student programs and services involving professional development, career guidance, community engagement, student organizations, international experiences, student-led initiatives, and special events. As a double alumna, Scarlett received her Bachelor of Health Sciences and MBA in Healthcare Management from Florida International University. She is a graduate of the Educational Leadership Enhancement Program, a six-year committee member for the Women Who Lead Conference and is a part of the American Medical Women’s Association National (AMWA) Membership, and the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Teresairis “Tere” Gonzalez  
**Enrollment and Recruitment Manager**  
**FIU Online**

Teresairis “Tere” Gonzalez is the Enrollment and Recruitment Manager for Undergraduate Programs at FIU Online. In this capacity, Tere manages the department’s recruitment and enrollment day-to-day operations for students applying and matriculating to fully online undergraduate programs. She is also responsible for conducting and overseeing virtual open houses for bachelor programs recruited by FIU Online. Tere began working at FIU as a student employee in the financial aid office in 2007. She then joined the full-time staff as a officer in the financial aid office in 2012, working closely with customer service, Federal Direct Student Loan processing, and managing the Federal Pell Grant program for over 23,000 students as well as Federal TEACH Grant program. She streamlined TEACH grant eligibility qualifications for FIU students and provided customer service and training/workshop support to OneStop Enrollment Services. In 2017, Tere joined FIU Online as an Enrollment Coach, providing support and guidance to fully online students throughout their matriculation and enrollment process to address concerns in orientation, connecting with academic advisors, transfer credit statuses, and course enrollment. Tere received both her Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences/Psychology and her Masters in Higher Education Administration as well as a graduate certificate in Academic Advising from Florida International University.