

Florida International University

# Student Affairs





# Message from the Vice President



2016-17 was another successful year for the Division of Student Affairs. Our division provides leadership programs and services that promote

student learning and success and give students the skills they need to think critically, solve problems, and develop identities rooted in civic and global engagement.

Every day, Student Affairs supports the **55,000 students** who chose FIU as their institution, where they have the opportunity to learn about themselves, others, and their communities outside the classroom. Our 23 departments are committed to the success of our students.

The Disability Resource Center awarded over \$300,000 in scholarship funds to over 70 students with disabilities in support of their academic success. The Center for Leadership and Service launched the GOJA-iChangeFIU social entrepreneur competition and implemented the Ashoka Changemaker Campus program. As further evidence of caring for our students, we implemented the Bias Education Response Team and the Haven sexual assault prevention program.

The Graham Center hosted the U.S. Department of State conference, "Prosperity and Security in Central America," which was attended by

Vice President Michael Pence, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly, Secretary of Commerce Will Ross, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, and by the presidents of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.

We expanded outreach to students, faculty, and staff by posting 96 news stories in FIU News, 5 stories in FIU Magazine, produced 13 videos, and 103 news stories appeared in outlets such as The Miami Herald and WSVN Ch. 7 News about our programs and services.

Sixteen construction and renovation projects are underway in Student Affairs, highlighted by the \$25 million expansion of the Wellness and Recreation Center at MMC. The U.S. presidential election and immigration and DACA matters brought student activism to campus. The 14th Annual Relay for Life raised \$115,003, and Roarthon (dance marathon) raised \$98,334. As a division, fundraising surpassed \$600,000.

We are thrilled to share our accomplishments in the following pages and look forward to another year of meaningful work with FIU's most valued asset—its students.

Sincerely,

Larry Lensford, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Student Affairs

# Health & Wellness

## Counseling and Psychological Services

Achieved reaccreditation from the International Association of Counseling Services

**Served 2,985 unique students** and provided 15,860 hours of direct service via 17,080 appointments. Of the appointments, 3,336 were for individual counseling and 298 group sessions were conducted

Hosted Lee Mun Wah, an **internationally renowned Chinese American documentary filmmaker**, author, poet, Asian folktale teller, educator, community therapist and diversity trainer

## Health Promotion Services

Developed a comprehensive educational plan for Zika disease prevention

**Collaborated** with Counseling and Psychological Services to further enhance their respective stress management services, resulting in **significant increases** in access and utilization

Completed renovation of the MMC Student Health Center building

## Disability Resource Center

Welcomed **236 new students** with disabilities to the university community, **served 2,223 students**, and **congratulated 144 students** with disabilities on their timely graduation

**Awarded over \$300,000** in scholarship funds to over 70 students with disabilities in support of their academic success and study abroad endeavors

Partnered with over 170 student volunteers and practicum students to provide **quality tutoring services** and testing support to DRC students

## Wellness and Recreation Center—MMC

Hired **new director** for the Wellness and Recreation Center and had three full-time **staff promotions**

Moved into final phase of completion on the center's **\$25 million expansion**

**Completed renovations** to the existing recreation field

## Wellness and Recreation Center—BBC

Two graduate/practicum internship students completed 850 hours of practicum experience and developed an HR guide manual

**Student staff** worked with Career and Talent Development staff to **enhance their professional and educational skills** that support their efforts toward graduation and career readiness

Added **three new adventure programs** based on responses from an annual survey to assess student requests for programming initiatives





# Involvement & Student Life

## Center for Leadership and Service

Launched the GOJA-iChangeFIU, the division's **first Social Entrepreneur Competition**

Designated as a **Voter Friendly Campus** by the NASPA and the Campus Vote Project

**Received two NASPA-FL Programs of Distinction Awards:** Student Food Pantry and the Advanced Leadership Challenge

## Orientation and Parent Programs

The 2017 Peer Advisor Team was chosen by fellow orientation leaders from schools within NODA Region VI as the **recipients of the Large Delegation Spirit Award**

**Seven student leaders** who have been involved in the office as Panther Camp Facilitators, Peer Advisors, and/or Student Assistants **won 2017 Outstanding Student Life Awards**

Held 18 freshman orientation sessions with **4,893 students**, 25 transfer student sessions with **5,084 students**, and virtual transfer sessions with **8,339 students**

## Veteran and Military Affairs

Successfully **lobbied** for the passage of 1.HB 799 - **Out of State Fee Waivers for Active Duty Service members**, which allows in-state tuition for active duty military stationed around the world

Successfully **incorporated operations** of the department into the Division of Student Affairs

Co-hosted the **first veteran's appreciation breakfast**

## Student Media

**Hosted forums** on **student-police relations** and **financials** with the collaboration of University Police, SGA, CARTA, and the Office of the President

Debuted **Panther Magazine**

**Rebranded** FIUSM to **Panther Now** and increased number of unique views by 10 percent

## Campus Life BBC

*(Panther Power, Student Programming Council, Council for Student Organizations, and Student Government Association)*

Hosted with External Relations and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications two separate **workshops** for students about the **effective use of social media**

Presented a **workshop** about how to prepare an **effective budget request** for the A&S Fee budget cycle

Launched an **engagement campaign** to share the benefits of being involved on campus. The increased marketing toward freshman students showed a **37 percent increase** in their attendance at **Campus Life events**

## Campus Life MMC

*(Student Programming Council, Homecoming, Council for Student Organizations, Black Student Union, Greek Life and Student Government Association)*

Implemented the **Worlds Ahead DC Fly-in program**, which exposes student leaders to DC opportunities for internships and full-time opportunities

Implemented a new campaign, **Roar it Forward**, to raise awareness and funds for students who are in crisis and in need

Expanded the **Leadership Development Series** to include four tracks to meet the needs of students: the Student Organization LDS, Advisor LDS, Blacklimate, and Worlds Ahead DC

## Women's Center

Hosted author and feminist activist, **Angela Davis**, who facilitated four sessions with students at BBC and MMNC during the annual **Women Who Lead Conference**

Developed the **Student Ambassador Leadership Team (SALT)**, a **new program** at BBC to foster the leadership development of students as they educate the FIU community on women's issues and empowerment

Moved the BBC Women's Center and Center for Leadership and Service office to a **new location** in WUC

# Student **Facilities**

## Graham Center

**Hosted the U.S. Department of State conference**, “Prosperity and Security in Central America,” which was attended by the Vice President, Michael Pence, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, and by the presidents of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala

Completed two first-of-its-kind projects at FIU: **washing stations** to provide Muslim students with dedicated, convenient, and **comfortable stations for ritual washing prior to prayer**, and installed four solar-powered outdoor tables

Implemented a DAS (distributed antennae system) for cell phone **reception enhancement** in the building for AT&T customers and for **improved two-way radio signal** for emergency personnel

## Planning & Operations

Initiated **expansion** of the **MMC Wellness and Recreation Center** for opening Fall semester

Completed the multipurpose recreation and practice field expansion project at MMC, which will provide **two additional recreation fields** for student use as well as **support student athletic programs**

The **Graham Center remodeling** project will provide a **new SGA office suite**, an additional **large multipurpose meeting room**, and other **student support spaces**

## Wolfe University Center

Installed **live streaming cameras** in eight spaces, serving students’ need to access and engage in the union’s daily events and programs

Installed an **unrestricted restroom** that affords students and the FIU community access to a physically accessible (**ADA compliant**) restroom open to people of any gender, commonly referenced as a “gender neutral restroom,” in an attempt to demonstrate the **facility’s welcoming and inclusive environment**

Created a **new mission statement** that summarizes the purpose and intentions of the unit. The new mission statement **aids students, employees**, and the **FIU community to understand where their contributions fit** into the unit’s objectives

## Housing

**Collected \$29.4 million** revenue from student rent, fees, commissions, and conferences

Renovated the University Towers and added **new lounge furniture** to Everglades and Lakeview Halls

Spring 2017 housing move-out resulted in **students donating 16,550 pounds of items** to Goodwill and **1,053 pounds of food** to the FIU Food Pantry





# Student Support

## Residential Life

**Offered 1,685 programs** tracked via online proposal and evaluation forms

Participated in **Homecoming events** for the fourth year, with 100 staff participating in the Homecoming Parade. **Won first place** in the **Blue Spirit Office Decorating Contest**, the **Float Competition**, and the **Spirit Vehicle Competition**

Offered several **signature programs** to increase retention and promote a four-year graduation, including Knock Knock, a faculty and staff engagement program with first-year residents, FIU NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program, and the Academic Resource Center, **tutoring services** offered for and by residential students

## Multicultural Programs and Services

The MPAS/Golden Drum scholarship students who were enrolled Fall 2016 had a **25 percent higher** number of **cumulative credits earned** than their matched cohort. During the Spring 2017 term, MPAS/GD scholars also outperformed a matched cohort with an eight percent higher cumulative GPA

**Student Support Services (SSS)** cohorts **outperformed matched cohorts** in their cumulative GPA from 5.78 percent to 8.57 percent. The SSS cohorts also had higher number of credits earned than the matched cohorts by **nine to 21.5 percent**

**Fundraising** efforts totaled **over \$380,000**

## Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution

**Significantly enhanced** the efficiency of the admissions clearance review process to ensure that the admissions clearance process better adheres to **best practice standards** set by the Department of Education

Marked decrease in case turnaround; 30 percent decrease in time elapsing between the reporting of an incident and adjudication and 34 percent decrease in time elapsing between the occurrence of an incident and an adjudication

**Emphasis** on **promoting the Civility Initiative**, with over 850 students, staff, and faculty signing the Civility Pledge

## Activity and Service Business Office

**Implemented new procedures** that permit student organizations to continue purchases for their events

**Served over 1,300 students** during Fall and Spring with direct purchases for events and/or group meetings

Worked with the Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) to **develop a procedure** so that graduate travel is standardized with general approval by ASBO office

## Victim Empowerment Program

Provided **crisis and advocacy services** to 314 students

Provided **violence prevention education** presentations to 1,856 students

Engaged with the community through service on the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition of Greater Miami, Miami-Dade County Domestic Violence Oversight Board, and the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee for the Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center

## University Ombudsman & Dean of Students Office

Implemented mandatory sexual training requirement for all new students. A total of 1,153 undergraduates and 271 graduate students admitted during the Spring 2017 semester completed the training.

**Engaged** with **more than 2,300 employees** and **parents** about sexual assault and responding to students of concern.

## Children's Creative Learning Center

**Increased visibility and collaboration** throughout the university by collaborating with eight university departments to **facilitate student-learning projects**

Served more than 150 students by enhancing **educational hands-on learning opportunities** related to their field of study or employment at the center

**Increased** semester break program **enrollment by 16 percent**



**Florida International University**  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus  
11200 SW 8th Street, GC 219  
Miami, FL 33199  
305-348-2797

**[studentaffairs.fiu.edu](http://studentaffairs.fiu.edu)**