



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Friday, March 3, 2017  
11:00 a.m. \*approximate start time  
Florida International University  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus  
Graham Center, Room 243

**Committee Membership:**

Cesar L. Alvarez, *Chair*; Natasha Lowell, *Vice Chair*; Jose J. Armas; Alian Collazo; Michael G. Joseph;  
Marc D. Sarnoff; Kathleen L. Wilson

**AGENDA**

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks                                       | Cesar L. Alvarez   |
| 2. Approval of Minutes   | Cesar L. Alvarez   |
| 3. Action Items  |                    |
| AP1. Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nomination                        | Kenneth G. Furton  |
| AP2. New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science            | Elizabeth M. Bejar |
| AP3. New Program Proposal: Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis  | Elizabeth M. Bejar |
| AP4. Honorary Degree Nominations   | Kenneth G. Furton  |
| 4. Information/Discussion Items ( <i>No Action Required</i> )              |                    |
| 4.1 Doctorate of Business Administration in International Business Tuition | Elizabeth M. Bejar |
| 4.2 Academic Affairs Regular Reports                                       |                    |
| ▪ FIU <i>Beyond Possible 2020</i>  | Pablo G. Ortiz     |
| ▪ Student Success  | Bridgette E. Cram  |
| ▪ Engagement   | Saif Y. Ishoof     |
| ▪ Enrollment Management and Services                                       | Luisa M. Havens    |
| ▪ Information Technology   | Robert Grillo      |
| ▪ Research and Economic Development/ University Graduate School            | Andres G. Gil      |
| ▪ Student Affairs  | Larry Lunsford     |

**4. Information/Discussion Items** *(Continued...)*

**4.3 Academic Affairs Special Report**

- Title IX Presentation

**Shirlyon McWhorter**

**5. New Business** *(If Any)*

**Cesar L. Alvarez**

**6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

**Cesar L. Alvarez**

*The next Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 2, 2017*

## 2. Approval of Minutes

### *Approval of Minutes*

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee**  
March 3, 2017

**Subject: Approval of Minutes of Meeting held December 1, 2016**

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**Proposed Committee Action:**

Approval of Minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting held on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms

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**Background Information:**

Committee members will review and approve the Minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting held on December 1, 2016 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

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<b>Supporting Documentation:</b>	Minutes: Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Meeting, December 1, 2016
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<b>Facilitator/Presenter:</b>	Cesar L. Alvarez, <i>Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Chair</i>
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**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 1, 2016**

**1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks**

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Vice Chair Natasha Lowell at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2016, at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

***Present***

Natasha Lowell, *Vice Chair*  
Alian Collazo  
Marc D. Sarnoff  
Kathleen L. Wilson

***Excused***

Cesar L. Alvarez, *Chair*  
Jose J. Armas  
Michael G. Joseph

Trustee Leonard Boord and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

Committee Vice Chair Lowell welcomed all Trustees, University faculty and staff to the meeting.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Committee Vice Chair Lowell asked that the Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting held on September 1, 2016. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 1, 2016.

**3. Action Items**

**AP1. Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nominations**

Committee Vice Chair Lowell noted that four candidates were nominated for tenure as a condition of employment, stating that the nominees were selected to receive tenure based on the caliber of their work. Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton provided a brief overview on each of the candidate's work and research activities.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the four (4) candidates for tenure as a condition of employment.

### **AP2. New Program Proposal: Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Digital Communication and Media**

Vice President for Academic Affairs Elizabeth M. Bejar presented the proposed Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Digital Communication and Media for Committee review. She noted that the program is an existing major, within the Bachelor of Science of Communication and is being proposed in recognition of the changing communications and media environment. She added that this degree is part of the reorganization and evolution of the School of Communication + Journalism. She stated that as the current degree program requires a 2.85 GPA for admission, the proposed Limited Access degree will require the same GPA standard.

VP Bejar provided a comprehensive overview of the University's academic program approval process, noting that FIU terminated 45 programs from academic year 2006-07 through academic year 2015-16. She added that while decisions to close programs are not made lightly, they are needed to position the University on a positive trajectory in an increasingly competitive environment. VP Bejar stated that the total academic inventory consists of 194 degree programs.

Trustee Marc D. Sarnoff inquired as to how the proposed program qualifies for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) designation. In response to Trustee Sarnoff's inquiry, VP Bejar noted that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has designated certain degrees in digital media as part of the new STEM classification given the course work, concentration in the technology aspect of STEM, and the ability to manage and produce technology.

Trustee Kathleen L. Wilson inquired as to how the University assesses the 2.85 GPA as the limited access entry point. In response to Trustee Wilson's inquiry, VP Bejar noted that the Board of Governors allows for limited access designation when programs are of such nature that in order to demonstrate potential for success in the program, applicants must attain a GPA that is above that required for admission to the University.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend Board of Trustees approval of the Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Digital Communication and Media (CIP 09.0702) new program proposal.

### **AP3. New Program Proposal: Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Public Relations, Advertising, and Applied Communication**

VP Bejar presented the proposed Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Public Relations, Advertising, and Applied Communication for Committee review. She noted that the proposed program will provide student's access to mentors and internships and will prepare students to work in marketing and media sales and media management. She stated that careers in strategic communication with a global focus are in line with the mission and strategic plan of FIU and also address one of the gap areas identified by the State University System, adding that this indicates that there are more jobs in the state of Florida than students graduating with the corresponding degree.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend Board of Trustees approval of the Limited Access Bachelor of Science in Public Relations, Advertising, and Applied Communication (CIP 09.0900) new program proposal.

#### **AP4. New Program Proposal: Master of Science in Data Science**

VP Bejar presented the proposed Master of Science in Data Science for Committee review, noting that the program addresses a critical need facing the marketplace. She added that the proposed program will prepare students for the global marketplace where critical decisions in every discipline are becoming increasingly “data-driven”. She noted that the MS – Data Science program will be a face-to-face program aimed at students with sound analytical skills holding a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Statistics, Healthcare Management, Management Information Systems, or related disciplines.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend Board of Trustees approval of the Master of Science in Data Science (CIP 11.9999) new program proposal.

#### **AP5. New Program Proposal: Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Mathematical Sciences**

VP Bejar presented the proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Mathematical Sciences for Committee review, noting that all R1 Carnegie institutions offer PhD degree programs in Math. She stated that PhD degree programs in English and Math are foundational to research universities.

Trustee Leonard Boord inquired as to the University’s future plans on Internet of Things or machine learning offerings. In response to Trustee Boord’s inquiry, VP Bejar stated that the University is in the process of reviewing funding sources and appropriate faculty.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend Board of Trustees approval of the Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Mathematical Sciences (CIP 27.0301) new program proposal.

### **4. Information/Discussion Items *(No Action Required)***

#### **4.1 Academic Affairs Regular Reports**

Committee Vice Chair Lowell requested that the Academic Affairs Regular Reports within the Information Items be accepted as written. There were no objections.

#### **4.2 Academic Affairs Special Report**

##### **■ FIU Preeminence Plan**

Provost Furton noted that in February 2016, FIU was ranked in the top tier of research universities in the nation - R1: Doctoral Universities – Highest Research Activity by the new Carnegie Basic Classification, which he added is a leading framework for recognizing universities in higher education. He stated that since the R1 Classification, FIU has continued to make progress in research, adding that the FIU *Beyond Possible 2020* strategic plan identifies an institutional process for supporting preeminent programs.

Provost Furton stated that the University is driving its growth and academic excellence through a focus on achieving preeminent designation within the next five years. He added that Florida Board of Governors preeminence designation rewards high-performing state research institutions that meet 11 of the 12 academic and research standards. He noted that in the State University System only Florida State University and the University of Florida are designated as preeminent. He indicated that universities that achieve or maintain preeminent designation receive \$10 million in annual funding to their base budget. Outlined by the FL legislature, he mentioned that emerging preeminence is designated upon achieving 6 of the 12 metrics and that these institutions receive \$5 million annually. He described the University's current and expected progress towards meeting the 12 preeminent designation metrics.

In response to Committee Vice Chair Lowell's inquiry regarding the University's progress from 14 to 31 patents in 12 months, Vice President for Research and Economic Development and Dean of the University Graduate School Andres G. Gil explained that there are several factors involved in the calculation. He mentioned that while the average length of time for patent processing is three years, processing times may vary. He reported that the average success rate on patent applications at FIU is higher than the 75% average.

Trustee Wilson noted that unlike performance based funding that can vary year to year, funding for preeminent designation is recurring. Trustees engaged in a discussion on the Board of Governors performance based funding metrics and the University's ranking relative to the other State University System institutions.

## **5. New Business**

*No new business was raised.*

## **6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

With no other business, Committee Vice Chair Natasha Lowell adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 11:01 a.m.

*There were no Trustee Requests.*

*KS 12.08.16*



*Agenda Item 3*

**AP1**

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee  
March 3, 2017**

**Subject: Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nomination**

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**Proposed Committee Action:**

Recommend to the Florida International University Board of Trustees the approval of one (1) candidate for Tenure as a Condition of Employment (TACOE).

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**Background Information:**

Pursuant to the Florida Board of Governors Regulation 1.001(5)(a), each board of trustees shall provide for the establishment of the personnel program for all the employees of the university, including but not limited to tenure.

The TACOE nominee had tenure at her previous institutions and has been selected to receive TACOE based on the caliber of her scholarly work.

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**Supporting Documentation:**

Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nominee  
Attachment 1 – Tenure as a Condition of Employment  
Nominee Bio

**Facilitator/Presenter:**

Kenneth G. Furton

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Florida International University  
2016-2017 Tenure (as a Condition of Employment) Nomination

Name	College	Department	Proposed Rank
Cynthia M. LeRouge	College of Business	Department of Information Systems and Business Analytics	Associate Professor

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## Attachment 1

**Cynthia M. LeRouge**  
Department of Information Systems and Business Analytics  
College of Business

Cynthia LeRouge, Ph.D., M.S., C.P.A. completed her Ph.D. at the University of South Florida. She held an appointment as tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Health Services at the School of Public Health and adjunct faculty appointment in the Department of Family Medicine in the School of Medicine, both at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, where she also served as Deputy Director of the Primary Care Innovation Lab and Associate Program Director of the Masters of Health Informatics/Health Information Management. She gained professional experience as a visiting scholar at the Center of Disease Control.

Dr. LeRouge's primary research interests in the field of health information systems focus on telemedicine, consumer health informatics, patient reported outcomes, and public health informatics. She has published her research findings in over 100 peer reviewed publications including nearly fifty academic journal articles, edited chapters in research-based books, and conference proceedings. She has received various grant awards, often serving as principal investigator. Dr. LeRouge has been honored with teaching, research and service excellence awards. She is currently co-editor in chief of *Health Systems* journal and has served in leadership roles for various health informatics special interest groups (American Telemedicine Association, Association of Information Systems SIG-Health). Dr. LeRouge has served as a grant review panel member for health informatics for multiple organizations, including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee**  
March 3, 2017

**Subject: New Program Proposal: Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science**

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**Proposed Committee Action:**

Recommend to the Florida International University Board of Trustees approval of the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science (CIP 11.0101) new program proposal.

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**Background Information:**

The School of Computing and Information Sciences in the College of Engineering and Computing at Florida International University proposes to offer a new Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science degree. The proposed program would award degrees in an area of strategic emphasis, as identified by the State University System's Board of Governors.

The proposed degree will place the College of Engineering and Computing at the forefront of pedagogical efforts to create new and diverse opportunities for students entering a changing and highly competitive field. Demand for Computer Science (CS) is extraordinary and well known, with roughly 800 active "official" CS undergraduate majors at FIU, a number that has doubled over the last six years. The new BA degree program removes the prerequisite needed for Calculus I, so that students can finish in a timely fashion, possibly without the excess hours incurred by repeated attempts at math courses.

The proposed program will easily double the number of CS majors by years 5 and 6, raise the overall graduation rate for CS, supply the needs of the local workforce for software engineers and computer scientists, and serve as a pipeline for our MS IT and MS Cyber Security programs. Given the large numbers of majors, the impact on South Florida and our place-bound students to now be successful in degree completion would be remarkable. FIU nationally ranks #1 in the production of computing majors for Hispanic students, and #3 for Black students. This BA degree would turn "majors" into "graduates" and fulfill FIU's mission of meeting the educational needs of the South Florida community.

Each university board of trustees shall approve for implementation new degree programs at the bachelor's, master's, advanced master's, and specialist levels in accordance with sections (3) and (5) of Florida Board of Governors Regulation 8.011 – *Authorization of New Academic Degree Programs and Other Curricular Offerings*.

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**Supporting Documentation:** Executive Summary: Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science (CIP 11.0101) New Program Proposal

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Elizabeth M. Bejar

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## New Degree Proposal: Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science

School of Computing and Information Sciences  
College of Engineering and Computing

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The School of Computing and Information Sciences in the College of Engineering and Computing at Florida International University is proposing a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science under the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) CIP code 11.0101.

This is a 120-credit undergraduate degree B.A. in Computer Science. This degree will be part of the existing high-demand field of Computer Science, complementing the BS degree while removing some required courses, and the Calculus I/II, Physics with Calculus I/II requirements. Many universities offer both a B.A. in Computer Science and a B.S. in Computer Science including FSU, University of Rochester, University of California-Berkeley, University of Minnesota, University of Indiana, and University of Colorado. These programs indicate that there is little to no difference in employment prospects between their two degrees, which remain exceptional. Employment opportunities include: Database Administrator, Operations Research Analyst, Programmer, Software Designer, Software Quality Assurance Engineer, Systems Analyst, Systems Designer, Systems Support, and Web Developer. The Department of Labor Employment Occupational Outlook Handbook indicates computer and information technology occupations are projected to grow 12 percent from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations. In addition to tremendous employment opportunities, this program would also serve as a pipeline for graduate education into our MS in Information Technology and MS in Cybersecurity degree programs.

Some studies have shown no correlation between math ability and performance in computing careers<sup>1</sup>, and one study has shown no correlation between math ability and object oriented programming skill.<sup>2</sup> A recent study shows that the Calculus I course is a barrier for women in STEM fields compared to men, with the difference being especially high in Engineering-related STEM fields.<sup>3</sup> Creating an alternative program

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<sup>1</sup> Caspersen, Michael E. *Educating Novices in the Skills of Programming*. University of Aarhus, Denmark: 2007. <http://www.daimi.au.dk/~mec/dissertation/Dissertation.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Nisen, Max. "Google HR Boss Explains Why GPA and Most Interviews Are Useless." *Business Insider* (June 19, 2013). <http://www.businessinsider.com/how-google-hires-people-2013-6>

<sup>3</sup> Willis, Jessica, Bailey K. Fosdick, and Chris Rasmussen. "Women 1.5 Times More Likely to Leave STEM Pipeline after Calculus Compared to Men: Lack of Mathematical Confidence a Potential Culprit." *PLOS* (July 13, 2016). <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0157447>

that removes these barriers will increase graduation and retention rates in Computer Science, and address the critical shortage in Florida of talent in Computer Science and software positions without negatively impacting future job prospects. Growth in Computer Science is extraordinary and well-known, and this BA degree would turn “majors” into “graduates” and fulfill FIU’s mission of meeting the educational needs of the South Florida community.

Implementation Timeframe	Projected Enrollment (From Table 1)		Projected Program Costs (From Table 2)				
	HC	FTE	E&G Cost per FTE	E&G Funds	Contract & Grants Funds	Auxiliary Funds	Total Cost
<b>Year 1</b>	375	375	\$3,276	\$1,228,456	0	0	\$1,228,456
<b>Year 2</b>	525	525					
<b>Year 3</b>	550	550					
<b>Year 4</b>	600	600					
<b>Year 5</b>	675	675	\$3,022	\$2,040,106	0	0	\$2,040,106

Agenda Item 3

AP3

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee**  
March 3, 2017

**Subject: New Program Proposal: Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis**

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**Proposed Committee Action:**

Recommend to the Florida International University Board of Trustees approval of the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (CIP 13.1299) new program proposal.

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**Background Information:**

The College of Arts, Sciences & Education proposes to offer a new Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (MSABA) degree. This proposal originates from a previous major within the Masters of Science in Psychology. The proposed program would award degrees in Critical Workforce – Education Category in the programs of strategic emphasis, as identified by the State University System (SUS) Board of Governors. The MSABA program would support the FIU and SUS commitment to high-quality graduate education, collaborative engagement with the local community, and serving the needs of the community's diverse populations.

The proposed program will have an emphasis on the use of applied behavior analysis in the classroom and other instructional settings, such as vocational training and early intervention programs. The program will meet the increased need and demand for specialized skills in behavior analysis in the greater Miami and South Florida area in these settings.

Each university board of trustees shall approve for implementation new degree programs at the bachelor's, master's, advanced master's, and specialist levels in accordance with sections (3) and (5) of Florida Board of Governors Regulation 8.011 – *Authorization of New Academic Degree Programs and Other Curricular Offerings*.

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**Supporting Documentation:** Executive Summary: Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (CIP 13.1299) New Program Proposal

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Elizabeth M. Bejar

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## New Degree Proposal: Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis

### College of Arts, Sciences & Education

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The College of Arts, Sciences & Education proposes to offer a Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (MSABA) degree, CIP code 13.1299. No other concentrations, tracks or specializations are proposed. The program will consist of 45 credit hours. Content courses will be taken in a hybrid format, with approximately half of the course content delivered online and half face-to-face. The purpose of the program is to prepare students to be highly-skilled and experienced Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) who can apply their skills in classrooms and other instructional settings. The BCBA credential is recognized nationally, by all states, and internationally. It will afford individuals with degrees in education and psychology greater professional opportunities to work in school systems and other educational, training, and intervention settings, such as early intervention, adult vocational training, rehabilitation programs, treatment centers and other clinical settings. The program will include all of the content and experience hours required for professional certification. Thus, students will be eligible to take the BCBA examination upon graduation. While the program certification affords graduates professional mobility, the high level of demand for behavior analysts in South Florida enables place-bound graduates to obtain a job in the area. The MSABA program will attract teachers and working professionals, and recent bachelors-level graduates in psychology and education.

The proposed program will award degrees in the Critical Workforce – Education category of the State University System of Florida Board of Governors Programs of Strategic Emphasis list. The program includes the use of applied behavior analysis in the classroom and other instructional settings, such as vocational training and early intervention programs. The program will also help meet the increased need and demand for specialized skills in behavior analysis in the greater Miami area. Due to the growing incidence of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities, schools, training programs and treatment centers are under increasing pressure to provide the specialized educational and therapeutic services these students need. Students in the program will provide behavior analysis services to the community through practicum placements.

The population of South Florida far exceeds the population surrounding (within approximately a 50-mile radius) each of the other state universities (US Census Bureau 2010 data) and has a comparably high demand for expertise in Applied Behavior Analysis. Therefore, the MSABA program is expected to attract greater numbers of students than many programs in the state. There is increasing demand for teachers and service providers with the BCBA credential. ABA is the intervention of choice for

individuals with ASD and other developmental disorders. Recent legislative changes in many states around the country, including Florida, have resulted in expanded insurance coverage of ABA services for individuals with ASD. As a result, the ABA field is growing. From March 1, 2016 to December 21, 2016 job announcements were received for more than 240 BCBA positions around the country, with salaries ranging from \$65,000 to \$90,000. At least 56 positions were within Florida. Typical job titles include Behavior Analyst and Behavior Therapist.

Implementation Timeframe	Projected Enrollment (From Table 1)	
	HC	FTE
<b>Year 1</b>	18	13.5
<b>Year 2</b>	22	16.5
<b>Year 3</b>	24	18.0
<b>Year 4</b>	25	18.75
<b>Year 5</b>	26	19.5

Projected Program Costs (From Table 2)				
E&G Cost per FTE	E&G Funds	Contract & Grants Funds	Auxiliary Funds	Total Cost
0	0	0	\$534,558	\$534,558
0	0	0	\$697,045	\$697,045

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee**  
March 3, 2017

**Subject: Honorary Degree Nominations**

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**Proposed Committee Action:**

Recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees endorse Mr. Jorge M. Perez as a recipient of a doctoral degree *honoris causa* and Mr. Peter W. Harlem as a recipient of a posthumous doctoral degree *honoris causa* from Florida International University.

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**Background Information:**

The nominations were recommended by the Faculty Senate on Tuesday, June 14, 2016.

The nominees were approved by the University President and Provost to receive an honorary degree at Commencement.

Florida Board of Governors Regulation 3.004, Honorary Degrees, provides that each university board of trustees shall establish policies and procedures for recommending candidates for honorary degrees.

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**Supporting Documentation:** Nomination letter for Mr. Jorge M. Perez  
Nomination letter for Mr. Peter W. Harlem

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Kenneth G. Furton

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## Office of the Dean

January 13, 2016

Chair of Honorary Degrees & Awards Committee  
Florida International University  
Faculty Senate Office, PC 225  
Modesto Maidique Campus

Dear Chair of the Honorary Degrees & Awards Committee:

We are honored to nominate Mr. Jorge M. Pérez, founder, Chairman and CEO of the Related Group and distinguished art collector and philanthropist, for an honorary degree supported by the College of Architecture + the Arts and the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs.

Born in Buenos Aires to Cuban parents and raised in Bogota, Colombia, Jorge Pérez has made significant contributions to our South Florida community for over 30 years. In 1979 he founded The Related Group, a division of the Related Companies headquartered in New York. The Related Group has grown to attract national and international attention and buyers to South Florida through innovative design of luxury properties. The company has diversified and built quality affordable housing, mixed-rate rentals, and mixed-use centers.

The transformation of the South Florida community, economy, and built environment created by The Related Companies cannot be overstated. Mr. Pérez's and The Related Company's patronage has supported an eclectic mix of significant new architecture in Miami. The Pérez Art Museum Miami, a 21st century modern masterpiece that transforms the architecture of Stiltsville into an elegant public art museum, is one of Pritzker prize winners Herzog and de Meuron's most important works in North America. The Jorge M. Pérez Architecture Center, a new classist folly for the University of Miami School of Architecture, is an important built work of new urbanist leader Leon Krier.

Mr. Pérez began his career in real estate in the public housing market, in neighborhoods like Little Havana and Homestead. He saw opportunity where others did not, contributing to the evolution of these important diverse communities. These early successes fueled global interest in the South Florida market, spurring economic growth along with the changing skyline.

With Jorge Pérez's success came significant opportunities to enrich the South Florida community. Mr. Pérez currently sponsors the Miami International Film Festival's Emerging Cuban Independent Film/Video Artists Program and The National Young Arts Foundation's Residency in Visual Arts. He chairs the Miami Dade Cultural Affairs Council and is Director of the Miami International Film Festival.

STEVEN J. GREEN SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Mr. Pérez is a role model and leader in philanthropy. A \$40 million contribution to the Pérez Art Museum Miami, which stands as one of the major public cornerstones of Miami's growing global stature in arts and culture, set a high standard for public philanthropy in South Florida. He continues to inspire others through his generosity in the fields of Art, Design, Education, and Cuban heritage.

In 2013, Jorge and Darlene Pérez, an FIU alumna and nurse practitioner, made a \$680,000 gift of 21 paintings constituting 100 Years of Cuban Art to the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs and the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum. The purpose of the gift was to enrich multidisciplinary approaches to the study of the history, culture, sociology, and politics of Cuba's past 100 years. He also requested that the gift be used to foster the study of Cuba in the Miami Dade Public Schools. During summer 2015, 30 Miami Dade County teachers attended a week long workshop to incorporate multidisciplinary narratives in the classrooms. He also established a visiting artist in residence program bringing Cuban artists to Miami.

Mr. Pérez signed The Giving Pledge, a campaign founded by Warren Buffett and Bill Gates, which states he will donate 50 percent of his wealth to philanthropic purposes. In 2005, Time Magazine named Mr. Pérez one of the top 25 most influential Hispanics in the United States.

Jorge M. Pérez embodies a singular commitment to free expression, the development of innovative and livable communities, and a fundamental belief in the critical role played by accessible public education in South Florida. His contributions to South Florida and Florida International University are ongoing.

We are pleased to nominate Mr. Jorge M. Pérez for an honorary degree.

Sincerely,



Jason R. Chandler, A.I.A.  
Chair and Associate Professor  
Department of Architecture  
College of Architecture + The Arts



Frank O. Mora  
Director  
Kimberly Green Latin American  
and Caribbean Center

March 15, 2016

Chair of the Honorary Degrees & Awards Committee  
Faculty Senate Office  
Florida International University  
Primera Casa (PC) 225  
11200 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami, Florida 33199

Dear Honorary Degrees & Awards Committee Colleagues:

We, the undersigned faculty and staff, respectfully nominate Mr. Peter Wayne Harlem for an honorary doctorate degree from Florida International University. Regrettably, this nomination is arriving after Pete's recent and untimely passing. We therefore request that this earned honor be awarded posthumously.

Pete was a trained geologist who committed over 35 years of his life to the study of marine environmental change, especially as related to the coastal geomorphology and sedimentology of Biscayne Bay. The knowledge he produced in these areas is beyond measure, and the insights derived from his research undertakings continue to inform the discourse on local environmental management policy to this day. Pete is also well-known and highly regarded as a local pioneer in sea level rise and inundation/flood mapping at regional and state scales. His mapping and geospatial data visualization work have made him quite the celebrity within the scientific and climate action advocacy communities in South Florida and beyond. Pete's intellectual contributions, scholarly achievements, educational outreach accomplishments, and service to the Florida International University, and outside, communities have earned him the honor of a doctorate degree. Indeed, to us, Pete is already thought of as "Dr. Harlem". We wish to honor him formally with that moniker.

Pete earned his Master of Science degree in Marine Geology from the University of Miami in 1979. His thesis, titled [\*Aerial Photographic Interpretation of the Historical Changes in Northern Biscayne Bay, Florida: 1925 to 1976\*](#), was published as a University of Miami Sea Grant Technical Bulletin (No. #40). In that work, Pete established himself as an expert in the analysis of aerial photography to identify landscape changes at the land-water nexus.

Pete's career at Florida International University began in 2000, where he worked in various capacities, most notably within the Southeast Environmental Research Center (SERC). Throughout his years at SERC, Pete was a core member of multiple research teams, collaborating on studies (many published in peer reviewed academic journals; many in government reports; many in white papers) that added to body of scientific literature on Florida's estuarine and coastal ecosystems. Notably, Pete was the lead contributor on a major 2012 Natural Resource Report by the National Park Service, [\*Assessment of Natural Resource Conditions In and Adjacent to Biscayne National Park\*](#).

In addition to playing an indispensable role as an applied scientist and trusted colleague whose insights added value to projects, Pete also became, and remains, a beloved friend. For many of us, he is, and always will be, family.

For the last four years, Pete has served as a Coordinator at the University's library-based Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center. While maintaining strong relationships with his colleagues in SERC and, more broadly, the College of Arts & Sciences, he began to redirect his efforts toward a subject on which few have any comparable level of knowledge: South Florida's historical aerial photography and ecology. Pete also continued to advance methods for mapping sea level rise using high resolution LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging)-derived imagery data. He was one of the first, if not *the* first, in the South Florida community to utilize these types of data for sea level applications, significantly improving the modelling of impacts on South Florida's social and environmental assets.

Pete's highly circulated maps of sea level rise have appeared in venues as diverse as the floor of the United States House of Representatives, the digital pages of *The Miami Herald*, and various other local, national, and international outlets eager to present the most up-to-date, highest quality maps of the phenomenon available. In fact, the data derived from Pete's inundation mapping efforts underpin the relatively new ["Eyes on the Rise: Sea Level Rise Toolbox in South Florida"](#) application developed jointly by the FIU School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the FIU GIS Center. Additionally, Pete has been interviewed by various media outlets on over a dozen occasions on the matter of climate change and sea level rise; for him, the proudest instance of which was for the famous 2015 *Rolling Stone* story: ["Goodbye, Miami"](#). His commitment to educating the public on climate change earned him an induction into the [Cleo Institute's leadership circle in late 2015](#), just a few months prior to his passing.

But Pete was far more than his scientific credentials. He developed a reputation among hundreds, if not thousands, of students, faculty, and staff he assisted over the years as being one of the most generous with his time and knowledge, and as being one of the most sincerely interested in engaging in meaningful conversations on anything from climate change to the state of the American political system. People would come visit him just to chat and extract his thoughts on any and every subject worth discussing. Pete was simply a great mind.

Prior to his three-and-a-half decade, community-impacting career as a scientist and academic, Pete was a soldier. He proudly served our country in the Vietnam War, and his time in the military helped develop his no-nonsense, yet laid-back, attitude toward work and life. Some of Pete's librarian colleagues joke that, while Pete never attended librarian school, he's more organized and has developed more sophisticated inventory systems than have the librarians themselves. These sorts of qualities permeate throughout all of Pete's work, including his work in aerial photography classification which will serve FIU and the broader academic communities for decades to come.

Indeed, in addition to being a scientist, Pete is also a vigilant collector, classifier, cataloger, tinkerer, and overall detail-oriented perfectionist. His time serving the United States in Southeast Asia instilled in him a healthy fascination for military equipment and technology. He is an award-winning competitor in building scaled helicopter, tank, and plane models (yes, award-winning!). In fact, Pete published the

authoritative book on building the US Sherman gun tank model: [\*Modeler's Guide to the Sherman: A Complete and Comprehensive Guide to Modelling the M4 Sherman in 1/35.\*](#)

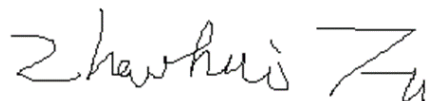
Over the decades following his time in the military, Pete has assembled one of the largest, as-of-yet unpublished collections of original Vietnam War photographs. In standard Pete fashion, he kept meticulous records of these photos. Recently, through the efforts of FIU Libraries, especially the FIU GIS and Digital Collections Centers, a new permanent collection – the [Peter Harlem Vietnam War Photography Collection](#) – of these invaluable historical photographs has been started. These photographs will serve the historical research community for decades to come. Such a collection would not have been possible without Pete's foresight and unwavering commitment to capture and preserve knowledge for future generations.

The truth, though, is that Pete's accomplishments go far beyond the professional endeavors that can be reported in a letter or even in a comprehensive curriculum vitae. Pete enriched the life and spirit of our University and community. He embodied the very best kind of scientist-soldier there is: a human one, eager to share his knowledge and make the world a better place. In that regard, Pete was exceedingly successful, for he not only made his world a better place, he made all of ours too.

It is on these grounds that we respectfully nominate Peter Wayne Harlem for the award of honorary doctorate degree at Florida International University. In light of the circumstances, we kindly request that this posthumous award be made in an expedited manner.

Sincerely,

Zhaohui Jennifer Fu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zhaohui Fu' in a cursive, stylized script.

Faculty and Staff at Florida International University

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## 4.2 Academic Affairs Regular Reports

Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee  
Academic Affairs Regular Reports



Florida International University  
Board of Trustees  
Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee  
March 2017

### Academic Affairs Report

#### Unit Reports

- I. *FIUBeyondPossible2020*
- II. Student Success
- III. Engagement
- IV. Enrollment Management and Services
- V. Information Technology
- VI. Research and Economic Development / University Graduate School
- VII. Student Affairs

#### I. FIUBEYONDPossible2020

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##### 1. FIU ComPASS

Communication Protocol for Accountability and Strategic Support (ComPASS) sessions bring together Deans and University Senior Leadership to use data to make informed decisions that impact the critical performance indicator goals detailed in the *FIUBeyondPossible2020* strategic plan.

The third ComPASS session, held on November 18, 2016, focused on metrics related to Strategic Enrollment Growth. In advance of the session, Deans submitted surveys to senior leadership about the following topics:

- College trends in the areas of 1) enrollment 2) attrition 3) retention 4) graduates
- Strategies to improve performance in these areas
- Challenges and potential solutions related to performance goals
- How the University can support their implementation plans.

Deans and leadership then engaged in a substantive discussion in-depth dialogue at the ComPASS session.

The session yielded 47 University and 66 college action items, bringing a total of 112 University and 312 college action items from the three sessions. These steps are being tracked by the Provost's Office, and Deans are updated regularly on the University's progress towards addressing these action items.

Additionally, the Provost's Office is working with the Division of External Relations to initiate a quarterly ComPASS newsletter. The newsletter will aim to capitalize on the momentum of the 2016 ComPASS season and will highlight progress in addressing University-wide action items.

The first ComPASS session of 2017 is scheduled for April 25, 2017.

## 2. Strategic Implementation Project Plans

The 33 strategic implementation projects that were awarded a total of \$6M are implementing their initiatives. The bulk of these projects fall under the categories of student success, strategic enrollment growth, and research innovation and entrepreneurship. The Provost's Office is offering strategic and program assistance to the projects. Projects have made great strides at the half-year mark, with many near completion and/or institutionalization.

## 3. Preeminent and Emerging Preeminent Programs

One of the goals of the FIU *Beyond Possible 2020* Strategic Plan is identifying and supporting the University's preeminent programs to strengthen and further FIU's mission as a leading public research university in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Twenty-nine FIU programs responded to a University-wide request to apply for the designation of University Preeminent and Emerging Preeminent Programs as defined below:

- **A University Preeminent Program** is a collaborative endeavor that demonstrates extraordinary success in providing unique learning opportunities, pioneering research and engagement while expanding FIU's financial base. Designation as a preeminent program is recognition for outstanding contributions to advancing FIU's *Beyond Possible 2020* strategic plan and enhancing the University's reputation at the national and international levels.
- **A University Emerging Preeminent Program** is a collaborative endeavor with high potential to be designated preeminent. With strategic support, an emerging preeminent program could potentially build upon its distinctive merits, strengths, and successes to earn the preeminent program designation.

The Provost appointed an FIU Preeminent Program Selection Committee of nine faculty members, most of whom are tenured, representing a majority of colleges and departments. The Selection Committee reviewed the applications and submitted recommendations to the President and Provost. The President and Provost have selected the following programs for this designation:

### Preeminent Programs

- The Bridge Engineering Program
- The Center for Children and Families
- The Extreme Events Institute
- The Institute for Water and Environment
- The STEM Transformation Institute

### Emerging Preeminent Programs

- The Brain, Behavior and the Environment Program
- The Health Disparities Program
- The Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center
- The Tropical Biodiversity, Sustainable Agriculture and Conservation Program



Details about these programs can be found online at: <https://beyondpossible.fiu.edu> .

The Provost's team met with the principal investigators of all of the Preeminent and Emerging Preeminent Programs to assess their prioritization of support categories to advance their goals. Support may include cluster hire priority, marketing, media relations, fundraising priority, travel funds, grant proposal support, government relations assessment and priority, space priority consideration, student support priority, and bridge funding priority. The Provost is reviewing support requests and will disseminate resources soon.

## II. STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT

### 1. 2016-17 Fulltime FTIC Enrollment

Several strategies were employed after fall to reach out to all 2016-17 fulltime first time in college (FTIC) students who were not enrolled for the spring 2017 semester. These strategies included targeted outreach from advisors and the student success team. In addition, interventions related to nonpayment will be carried out during the enrollment cancellation process.

2016-17 Fulltime FTIC Freshman Cohort						
	Enrollment					
	Enrolled	Percent Enrolled	Not Enrolled	Percent Not Enrolled	Total	
GPA						
2.0 or Higher	3856	92.34%	117	2.80%	3973	95.14%
Less than 2.0	148	3.54%	55	1.32%	203	4.86%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4004</b>	<b>95.88%</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>4.12%</b>	<b>4176</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Preliminary as of 1/17/2017*

The fall to spring enrollment for the 2016 FTIC cohort demonstrates that 95.88% of this cohort has enrolled for spring classes, with 92.34% beginning their second semester with a 2.0 GPA or higher. This figure exceeds the 2015-16 fall to spring cohort, with a 2.0 GPA or higher, retention rate by 5.62% .

### 2. College Life Coaching and SLS1993

2016-17 FTIC students who are on warning or probation, or were on warning or probation prior to the application of the no credit (NC) grade were contacted by the Student Success Initiative office to enroll in Strategies for Success SLS1993 or the College Life Coaching program. Although enrollment in either of these programs is not mandatory, students who refused to participate must meet with Vice President for

Academic Affairs, Dr. Elizabeth Bejar or a College Life Coach. For spring 2017, there are 175 students enrolled in SLS1993 and 62 students enrolled in the coaching program.

### **3. Graduation Success Initiative (GSI) Grants**

For spring 2017, the GSI grant process moved towards a more proactive model. With the assistance of the Analysis and Information Management Office and the Office of Financial Aid, potential awardees were contacted with information on the GSI grant. Due to this proactive communication, more students applied for the grant, and as of 1/17/2017 over \$7,000 has been awarded to students who are within 30 credits of graduating and have a remaining tuition and fees balance after all aid has been applied.

## **III. ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

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### **1. Talent Development Network**

The Talent Development Network (TDN) was successful in its core goal of creating new industry specific internships. The two-year pilot program ended successfully at the end of December 2016. We are in the process of securing a transformational investment for the upcoming phase of TDN. It is aimed to help grow the program exponentially in the short and long term.

### **2. Together For Children**

With the leadership of Assistant Vice President, Caryn Lavernia, FIU has joined a coalition of government and law enforcement agencies, nonprofits, and business and education groups, spearheaded by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, to form an innovative new program to stop gun violence among school children. The effort has been called Together for Children.

These anchor institutions are all working with neighborhood stakeholders to identify the most vulnerable youth and implement intervention strategies that address the root causes of community violence and define solutions. In September 2016, the coalition invited all community members to attend planning meetings to contribute to the planning phase, hosting community meetings in each of the affected neighborhoods.

Since then, participation in the Together for Children coalition has grown exponentially. More than 2,000 community voices from across the county have joined the coalition to create holistic, comprehensive, neighborhood action plans formulated to address the root causes of youth violence. Together with parents, neighbors, police officers, coaches, clergy, community-based organizations, and youth, the coalition will address this reality and will proffer collaborative solutions.

### **3. FIU Veteran's Day Breakfast**

The first annual Veterans Day Celebration Breakfast held on November 9, 2016 at FIU, was aimed at recognizing the more than 52,000 veterans in the South Florida community, and more than a thousand veterans who currently attend FIU. FIU's Office of Engagement joined forces with the University's Office of Veteran and Military Affairs, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee to welcome more than 120 student and community veterans, who got the opportunity to hear from prominent veterans such as Miami-Dade Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and the CEO of Stinghouse Ad Agency, Alberto Padron.

The keynote address was by Lt. Colonel Constantine, United States Marine Corps. Constantine, a Purple Heart recipient, volunteered for deployment to Iraq in 2006, and served as a Civil Affairs Team Leader while attached to an infantry battalion. While on a routine combat patrol, Lt. Colonel Constantine was shot in the head by a sniper. The bullet entered in through the back of his ear and exited out through his mouth. Because of his injury Constantine suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, a traumatic brain injury, can't see out of his left eye, is missing teeth, and he can't run because the doctors had to remove bones from his legs to reconstruct his face. Today, he serves as a mentor and inspirational speaker for other war veterans who have to overcome life-altering injuries like the one Constantine overcame.

## **IV. ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES REPORT**

### **1. Enrollment**

#### New Student Enrollment

As of January 17, 2017, we have seen an increase of 67% or 154 additional FTIC students enrolling in the Spring term when compared to last year the same period. . This is the first year of an enhanced admission strategy to increase access for those who are qualified by offering a spring start alternative.

Also as of January 17, 2017, enrollment for transfers is on par to last year's spring enrollment, with 2,686 new students enrolled.

#### University-wide Enrollment

As of January 17, 2017, 49,235 students have enrolled in courses for the Spring 2017 term. This represents a 3% or 1,255 student increase as compared to Spring 2016 enrollment of 47,980. FTE's remained flat at 13,931 in comparison to spring 2016. Student credit hour production increased by 13,467 or 3.0%, from 509,074 in Spring 2016 to 522,541 in Spring 2017.

## **2. Office of Graduate and International Admissions and Recruitment Services (GIARS)**

There are fewer graduate programs with Spring cohorts. New student enrollment stayed constant with 997 new students enrolled in Spring 2017 compared to 989 in 2016. Master's students comprised 95.8% (948) of the total new graduate enrollment, which represents a 1.83% increase over last year. Forty-four new research doctoral students enrolled this spring.

## **3. Financial Aid**

### Disbursement

The first Spring 2017 loan distribution resulted in \$89.5 million being disbursed vs. \$88.7 million as compared to the first Spring 2016 disbursement last year; a 1% increase.

For the Fall 2016 Semester \$198.5 million in aid was delivered compared to \$197.9 million for the Fall 2015 semester.

### Early FAFSA Campaign

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) became available for the 2017-2018 school year on October 1, 2016. A comprehensive awareness campaign is ongoing to inform current and prospective FIU students of the importance of filing the FAFSA early. The campaign sets out to increase the number of early FAFSA filers and to encourage Early Fall/Fall 2017 students to apply by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Preliminary results of our Early FAFSA Campaign have met our expectations. By December 1, 2016, 6,456 Early Fall/Fall 2017 new student applicants filed their FAFSA. Additionally, 18,045 current FIU students completed their FAFSA by December 1. We are preparing to make Early Fall/Fall 2017 financial aid awards by the end of January to new students. This is nearly two months ahead of prior years and will enable new students the opportunity to choose FIU with more complete knowledge of their financial aid award well in advance.

As presented when Early FAFSA first became a reality in September 2015, one of the goals was to utilize two years prior income data in order to have more accurate aid applications. One way this is measured is in the percentage of students who the U.S. Department of Education selects for the Federal Verification Process. Students selected for Federal Verification are required to provide additional data before aid can be awarded. The difficulty our families may encounter completing the process can present a significant barrier to enrolling at FIU. For the current 2016-2017 Academic year 21.77% of our students have been selected for this process. Currently, for 2017-2018, 18.7% of our FAFSA filers have been selected for Federal Verification. While the decrease of 3.07% seems small, with the size of our population it represents a significant number of students who will now receive their aid awards in time to make informed enrollment decisions.

#### **4. Office of Scholarships**

##### Establishment of the Office of Scholarships and University-Wide Scholarship Protocol

The Office of Scholarships was established on August 1, 2016. Our primary goals are to help students identify scholarship opportunities (both internal and external) and to ensure that scholarship aid is managed strategically throughout the University. We manage the University's scholarship application module, [Fiu.academicworks.com](http://Fiu.academicworks.com), and administer FIU merit scholarships and their prospective student cohorts. Part of our mandate is to establish scholarship protocol and deadlines. We are transitioning to a University-wide scholarship timeline. All scholarships will be posted, evaluated and awarded at the same time to allow timely financial aid packaging.

##### Identifying Unspent Scholarship Dollars

In the past six months, the Office has worked with units across the University to identify unspent scholarship dollars and develop awarding strategies to meet enrollment goals. In this short time we have identified \$500,000 in scholarship aid that could be leveraged to impact enrollment and retention. We are working on implementing awarding strategies and spending plans. Throughout the next year we will continue to work with units until all dollars are leveraged to support our students. We are also working with units and University Advancement to amend donor funded scholarship criteria that needs to be updated in order to allow for the distribution of awards.

##### Supplemental Programming

An important aspect of our office is to ensure the success of our FIU Scholars. Leveraging resources available from FIU departments like the Honors College and Career and Talent Development, we provide our students with access to workshops and training opportunities that complement their academic endeavors.

#### **5. Office of the Registrar**

For the end of the Fall 2016 term, we fulfilled a Faculty Senate Directive that called for the modification of our grading scheme to include NC (non-credit) grades for all University Core Curriculum (UCC) courses and specifically identified English and Math courses. Freshmen are eligible for these non-punitive grades during their first three terms as an active student at FIU. A qualified student can receive four NC grades during their career (no more than two per semester). During this first implementation, we provided 1,276 students with 1,833 NC grades; we had a positive impact on the academic standing for 242 students. We also experienced a direct and positive impact on the grade distributions for 510 sections of 106 courses.

### **V. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

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#### **1. Distributed Antenna System (DAS) Update**

In the Summer of 2014, the Division of IT finalized a Master License Agreement (MLA) with AT&T to implement a Distributed Antenna System (DAS). After approximately two years of implementation, the DAS is now active and is providing stronger mobile

internet coverage to multiple buildings at FIU. These buildings are part of the first phase and include the Steven and Dorothea Green Library, Primera Casa, Graham Center, Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, College of Law, Panther Hall, Everglades Hall, and Lakeview Hall. DAS is a network consisting of many antennas or antenna nodes connected to a common source and tuned to precisely match the areas of a geographic area or structure where boosted cellular service is needed. Students, faculty, and staff on AT&T's network are beginning to experience significant improvement in cellular coverage and network capacity. Discussions with other carriers are currently in progress to transmit their signals through the DAS and improve coverage for their customers at FIU. Phase 2 of this project is scheduled to include Deuxieme Maison, Parking Garage 5, Parking Garage 6, the Ambulatory Care Center and the MARC building.

## **2. Redesigned FIU Mobile App**

The Division of IT has launched a completely redesigned FIU Mobile app available for smartphones and tablets on Android and iOS platforms. The app includes new added features and functionalities while keeping some features from the previous version. The new FIU Mobile app allows students, faculty, and staff to stay up-to-date with FIU News, calendar events and the latest FIU Athletics' scores. The app also features the course catalog where students are able to search for classes. 'Places' provides real-time business hours and contact information for restaurants, retail, and services and is also integrated with Tapingo App. All locations on campus are sorted by distance with intuitive search capabilities. Other added features provide real-time location and arrival information for the Gold Panther Express (GPE) and CATS Shuttles and information on parking spaces at all six parking garages on Modesto A. Maidique campus.

## **3. PantherSoft Campus Solutions 9.2 Upgrade**

The Division of IT is in the initial planning stages of the Campus Solutions 9.2 upgrade. The 9.2 upgrade will improve and streamline processes, improve user experience and will allow FIU to be on the latest, supported version of the application. The added features and functionalities include updated configurations for Admissions, Student Records, Financial Aid, Academic Advisement and Student Financials, guided "step-by-step" forms for students, faculty and staff, a new approval workflow engine integrated to notifications, and embedded analytics. Additionally, the new release will include work centers, similar to "portals," that will allow the University to develop job or activity specific work centers for department staff, such as the Registrar's Office, as well as activity specific work centers for advisors and students. The team is working with Enrollment Services, Office of the Controller, Academic Affairs, Academic Advising and Student Affairs on this upgrade and anticipates a go-live date of Spring 2018.



## **VI. RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL REPORT**

### **1. External Grant Awards' Performance**

During the first six months of fiscal year 2016-2017 awards received increased by 3.1%, when compared with the same period last fiscal year (\$57.03 M versus \$55.3M). The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, and the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work all experienced notable increases during this period (276%, 257% and 37% respectively). The amount requested in proposals submitted during this period increased by 6% (\$233.5M versus \$219.7M during the same period last fiscal year).

### **2. Key Research Awards**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded FIU over \$2M for a 5-year CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service (SFS) program designed to increase and strengthen the federal information assurance professional workforce, which protects our nation's critical information infrastructure. Annually, approximately eight FIU undergraduate and/or graduate students enrolled in cybersecurity-related degree programs will receive these scholarships in return for service in federal, state, local or tribal governments upon graduation. The scholarships may fully fund the typical costs incurred by full-time students as well as provide stipends for those participating in cybersecurity-related programs. Currently, there are only 69 universities in the U.S. with the CyberCorps® SFS program.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) named FIU a "Beyond Traffic Innovation Center" (BTIC). FIU's designation as a BTIC is DOT's recognition that FIU is a forward-thinking and influential institution capable of driving solutions to the challenges identified in Beyond Traffic through research, curriculum, and outreach, among others. Under this designation, FIU will serve the Florida megaregion by evaluating and researching new technologies relevant to tackling transportation challenges; identifying and developing training approaches for the megaregion's future transportation workforce; and convening practitioners, public and private leaders to help identify specific actions that can be taken to address its challenges over the next 30 years.

The Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC) University Transportation Center (UTC) received a \$7.5M renewal award, recognizing the success of FIU's ABC UTC. A combined match from the state and private sector will bring the award to more than \$10M. USDOT received 212 national applications and only 32 (15%) were selected for funding and designation as a Tier 1 University Transportation Center. In addition to research, the UTC will support graduate students with salary and full tuition. FIU's Bridge Engineering Program, part of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, is one of five newly designated preeminent programs at FIU.

### **3. University Graduate School (UGS) Initiatives**

The UGS team moved into the MARC building and is fully operational. As part of the professional development initiatives, on November 10, 2016, UGS hosted Dr. Paula Chambers, founder of the The Versatile PhD (<http://gradschool.fiu.edu/cs-professional-development-versatile-phd.shtml>). The Versatile PhD is a web-based community dedicated to providing valuable resources to graduate students who are interested in pursuing careers outside of the academy. FIU is subscribed with The Versatile PhD, allowing graduate students and recent alumni an opportunity to access both free and premium resources. These resources allow graduate students to explore and prepare for non-academic career paths, join online discussion boards with like-minded scholars and professionals at both beginning and advanced levels, attend online panels offered throughout the year, access job postings and opportunities appropriate for PhD and ABD candidates, and network with a community of over 50,000 successful non-academic PhD contacts and mentors. Sixty-five graduate students participated in the workshop led by Dr. Chambers where they engaged in several exercises to help them identify career paths and strategies to strengthen their CVs.

On January 6, UGS held the spring orientation section for newly admitted graduate students. Seventy-nine graduate students from all FIU colleges were welcomed by UGS and received basic information on policies, procedures and expectations. A panel constituted by members of various centers at FIU (Libraries, Health and Wellness, Counseling, Career Services) also made them aware of the many services and opportunities available for graduate students.

### **4. Innovation and Economic Development**

StartUP FIU's Cohort 1 Pitch Day boasted over 300 attendees, which included 30 investors. The sixteen teams that presented comprised of students, alumni and community members. StartUP FIU's second cohort will begin on January 30 with seventeen teams, one of which includes the first postdoctoral researcher team leader. During calendar year 2016, FIU researchers received 17 patents. During the first six months of FY 16-17, FIU inventors submitted 35 patent applications, were granted 10 patents, and three licenses/options were executed.

## **VII. STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

### **1. Counseling and Psychological Services Reaccredited**

The Student Affairs Department of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) has met the criteria for reaccreditation set by the International Association of Counseling Services. CAPS provides a range of effective services, including individual, couples, and group therapy. The reviewers commented that CAPS has strong and positive interactions with campus constituencies, has liaison relationships with important departments, and offers outreach services and consultation to the University community. CAPS offers an American Psychological Association-approved pre-doctoral



internship program as well as post-doctoral fellowships. CAPS continues to have strong leadership and a core group of dedicated professional and support staff.

CAPS was also notified by the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) that its postdoctoral program's application for continued membership in the APPIC was accepted. The next review for FIU's program will be in 2019.

## **2. Bias Education and Response Team**

The Bias Education and Response Team (BERT) was established to document bias-based occurrences on campus in order to better understand the reality of discrimination in the FIU community. After receiving a report, BERT will review it and determine the appropriate next steps, which may include referral to another department (e.g., FIU Police, Student Conduct, Equal Opportunity Programs and Diversity) for further investigation.

A BERT member will reach out to the reporter(s) of an incident and activate campus partners who will need to provide services to the victim(s) or reporters(s) in response to the incident. The team will also provide educational outreach to help the campus community understand bias-related incidents (micro-aggressions, hate crimes), mechanisms to report incidents or concerns, and strategies for addressing and changing the culture on campus. Visit <http://stopbias.fiu.edu/> for more information.

## **3. Roar It Forward Campaign**

The Department of Campus Life started a new initiative to support students in need at FIU. The program, called "Roar It Forward," is an educational fundraiser asking students to give to fellow students who have critical needs, ranging from homelessness to student/family crisis. The program raised in excess of \$2,000 in the Fall 2016 semester. Students attending signature events such as Homecoming, Cram Jam, Summerfest, and pep rallies were informed about the need of other students and asked to give \$1 toward helping their fellow Panthers. The money collected was deposited into the "Every Student Counts" Student Affairs Foundation account and used for students in crisis. The response from students has been positive and we have been able to provide much needed help to students in need.

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