



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 14, 1978

STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT HAROLD BRYAN CROSBY TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM

The people of Broward and Dade Counties need and deserve the finest postsecondary educational opportunities the State of Florida can provide. With this goal in mind, Broward and Miami-Dade Community Colleges and Florida International University have established the Southeast Florida Educational Consortium to plan and coordinate the delivery of services on a four-year basis to our combined enrollments of nearly 90,000 students.

During the past several months, the faculty and staff of all three institutions have begun to prepare joint advisement guidelines to assist students during their four-year programs of study. Miami-Dade will gradually offer more courses at our North Miami Campus, and the University will gradually offer more courses at the New World Center Campus of Miami-Dade, so that by 1981-82 students can begin or complete their entire four years of study toward the baccalaureate degree in selected programs at those two campuses. We are now planning four-year scholarships to encourage and reward student achievement. FIU now has the Faculty Scholars program which was developed, and will be conducted, in consort with Broward and Miami-Dade Community Colleges.

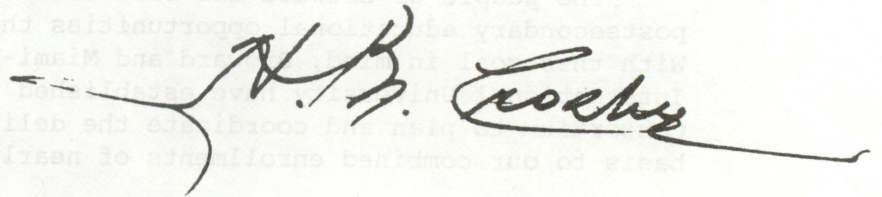
The career planning and placement services of all nine campuses are open to any student and the alumni of our three institutions. Broward and Miami-Dade students can arrange cooperative education job placements in federal agencies through FIU. We are already sharing library and audio-visual materials, and are cooperatively purchasing supplies and jointly publishing program information. Students can attend cultural events on each other's campuses. We are jointly scheduling performing groups and offering tickets to area cultural events at reduced cost.

The Community Colleges and the University are each concerned about equal educational opportunity and quality instruction within our assigned levels of responsibility under the Florida 2+2 Higher Education Plan. That plan is the public policy of our state. The Presidents and leadership of all three of our institutions are determined to respect each other's missions, and to continue cooperating closely through Consortium arrangements to provide coordinated and continuous programs and services in cost effective ways.

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The recent public statements of some individuals calling for a full four-year range of programs at FIU are really expressions of concern about educational quality, and should lead us to increase our efforts to make the 2+2 higher education system work even more effectively. It is my personal view that Florida International University can best serve the people of South Florida by moving to expand the number and type of graduate and professional programs which are not now accessible to many qualified students in this area.

Approximately 70% of the current FIU enrollment comes from the two Community Colleges in our Consortium. That trend is very likely to continue. We simply owe it to the people of Broward and Dade to deliver higher education programs and services through the system long ago adopted by the State of Florida.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. B. Crosby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.