Hope, Knowledge and Opportunity

1999-2000 FACTS AT A GLANCE

Florida International University, one of Florida's 10 state universities, is a public, doctoral-granting institution that offers more than 170 degree programs, conducts basic and applied research, and provides public service.

HISTORY AND GROWTH:

FIU opened for classes in 1972 with 5,667 students — the largest opening day enrollment in U.S. collegiate history. Today it has more than 31,000 students, 1,200 full-time faculty, and 84,000 alumni, making it the largest university in South Florida and placing it among the nation's 25 largest colleges and universities.

PROGRAMS:

The University has 177 bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in 16 colleges and schools.

FACULTY:

Ninety percent of the University's faculty hold doctorates or the terminal degrees in their field. The ratio of full-time students to faculty is 18:1.

RESEARCH:

FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission. Sponsored research funding (grants and contracts) from external sources grew more than 500 percent over the last decade, from \$8.5 million in 1988-89 to \$45 million in 1998-99.

ALUMNI:

FIU's more than 84,000 alumni constitute the largest university alumni group in Dade County. More than half of all degrees now awarded by universities in Miami-Dade County are conferred by FIU.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

For the past four years, U.S. News & World Report magazine ranked FIU among the top 100 public national universities in its annual survey of "America's Best Colleges." FIU has been recognized as one of the top 10 public commuter universities in nation by Money magazine. Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine ranked FIU as the country's 18th best value in public higher education.

ATHLETICS:

FIU's intercollegiate athletic teams compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I, the nation's most competitive college sports division, and the Sun Belt Conference. Fifteen sports programs are offered, including basketball, track and cross country, soccer, volleyball, softball and baseball. The University's primary sports facilities include the Golden Panther Arena, a building which seats 4,500, the FIU Community Stadium, and lighted baseball and soccer fields.

BUDGET & ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The University's 1999-2000 operating budget is \$341 million. FIU has 2,500 full-time employees. The University has an economic impact of more than \$1.4 billion on the South Florida economy.

CAMPUSES:

FIU has two campuses — 344-acre University Park in western Miami-Dade County and the 195-acre North Campus on Biscayne Bay in northeast Miami-Dade County — and two educational sites that serve Broward County. In addition, a major research facility, the 40-acre Center for Engineering and Applied Science, is located near University Park.