



OVERVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY

Florida Atlantic University, a member of the State University System of Florida, was established in 1961 and opened its doors to students in 1964. The nation's first successful upper division and graduate university, FAU expanded to include lower division studies in 1984, when a charter freshman class of highly qualified students was admitted.

The University ranks as one of the fastest growing universities in the nation, nearly doubling enrollment over the last decade. In 1998-99, more than 19,000 undergraduate and graduate students were enrolled at FAU.

A learning center for all ages, FAU is home to the Karen Slattery Child Development Center and the highly rated A.D. Henderson University School. Three of the University's campuses share locations with Florida's community college system to provide smooth transitions for degree-seeking students.

The Lifelong Learning Society, a unique program for mature learners, boasts more than 17,000 members

who pursue intellectual stimulation, personal growth and cultural fellowship through a broad array of specially designed course work. The Division of Open University and Continuing Education provides courses, workshops and seminars to tens of thousands of students each year through traditional and on-line settings.

The University is organized into nine colleges – Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs, the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, Business, Education, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Nursing, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science and the brand-new Honors College, which will welcome its inaugural class in Fall 1999.

In addition to the original 850-acre campus in Boca Raton, FAU campuses are located in Broward County at Fort Lauderdale, Davie and Dania Beach, in northern Palm Beach County in Jupiter and in St. Lucie County in Port St. Lucie. The University's seven campuses span a 150-mile stretch on Florida's

southeast coast, serving one of the fastest growing regions in the nation.

FAU offers undergraduate degree programs in 65 fields of study and master's degree programs in 59 disciplines. The University confers 16 doctoral degrees in areas including public administration, comparative studies, business administration, curriculum and instruction, educational leadership, exceptional student education, computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, ocean engineering, psychology, complex systems and brain sciences, mathematical sciences, physics and psychology.

Encouraging scholarship and research at the highest levels, FAU has 16 fully funded Eminent Scholar Chairs in complex systems, international business, marine biology, social science, brain science, Turkish studies, growth management and development, philosophy, Judaic studies, nursing, Holocaust studies, engineering, performing arts, humanities, community education and the fine arts.

The University's research community works closely with industry and local, state and federal governments on projects such as jet engine fault detection, bridge load and stability testing, high temperature super conductor development, electromagnetic testing, design of autonomous underwater vehicles and implementation of elementary and community education programs. The Florida Atlantic Research and Development Park on the Boca Raton campus provides strategic links between University research and commercialization efforts.

Other areas of specialized pursuits can be found in the FAU/FIU Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems, the Florida-Israel Institute, the Stuart-James Research Center, the Geographic Information Systems Laboratory and the Center for Electronic Communication. FAU's Department of Ocean Engineering, the first program of its kind and one of the Programs of Distinction within the State University System, has important partnerships in development with the U.S. Navy at the SeaTech campus.

A distributed comprehensive research university, Florida Atlantic University provides a dynamic learning environment and a center for scholarly inquiry that strives to create the model for universities in the 21st century.

