

# highlights

## 1999-2000

### INCREASED ACCESS

Enrollment of degree-seeking students reached an all-time high of over 20,000, with entering freshmen having an average GPA of 3.3.

Nearly \$1.2 million in scholarship funding was donated to the FAU Foundation to provide critically important assistance to deserving FAU students.

The four-year, residential Honors College on the John D. MacArthur campus at Jupiter opened to an inaugural class of 79 academically distinguished students whose average grade point average exceeded 4.0. Included in their number were four National Merit Scholars, a Horatio Alger Scholar and three high school valedictorians.

For the fourth year in a row, FAU was named one of "America's 100 Best College Buys" by the Student Guide

Series. Additionally, the University entered its second decade of being included among the nation's top large, comprehensive universities in the annual rankings published by *U.S. News & World Report*.

FAU's Presidential and Honors College Scholarships were listed among "America's Best Scholarships - 2000," a compilation published by an independent company that surveyed more than 1,500 four-year colleges and universities.

FAU is ranked among the top 100 schools for Hispanics in three categories, according to a national study by the *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* magazine.

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Three faculty members won Fulbright Awards, and a visiting Fulbright Scholar from Poland spent part of the year in residence at FAU. Dr. Harry Kersey of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Rozzano Locsin of the College of Nursing and Dr. Hugh T. Miller of the College of Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs were named recipients of prestigious Fulbright Scholar Awards, while Polish Fulbright Artist Marek Wasilewski was a visiting faculty member in the departments of Communication and Art.

Dr. Y.K. "Mike" Lin, Charles E. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in Engineering, earned the highest professional distinction an engineer can

receive when he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Engineering.

Edward Vilella, acclaimed dancer and arts educator, joined FAU's faculty as the Dorothy F. Schmidt visiting Artist-in-Residence. He is founding artistic director of the Miami City Ballet and a recent recipient of the National Medal of the Arts.

Helen K. Persson, a registered nurse with strong ties to South Florida's health care community, endowed the Helen Karpelina Persson Eminent Scholar Chair in Community Caring. This became the second Eminent Scholar Chair in the College of Nursing.

FAU's five-year bachelor's degree program in architecture became one of only two in the last decade to earn initial five-year accreditation from the National Architecture Accrediting Board. FAU now stands among 109 schools in the U.S. that have earned the accreditation.

The School of Public Administration received a glowing review and a seven-year accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. Offering bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, the school enrolls more than 200 students.

The School of Accounting received a major gift that included a multi-faceted software program, hardware



and technical support to provide students access to the world renowned SAP R/3 system. The gift package was put together by Boca Raton-based HostLogic, Inc.

Dr. Ellis Youngkin, professor and graduate program coordinator in the College of Nursing, received the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties' award for Outstanding Nurse Practitioner Educator in 1999-2000.

### RESEARCH ADVANCES

FAU researchers attracted more than \$36 million in external funding during fiscal year 1999-2000, a record high and an impressive increase over the previous year.

A 500MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer, the only one of its kind in South Florida, went into use in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. The highly sophisticated research tool, which probes the inner workings of molecules, was purchased with part of a \$341,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation. FAU is the first university in South Florida to be awarded the Kresge Foundation's highly competitive Science Initiative Challenge Grant.

The Internet Institute and the Adams Center for IT Product Management and Entrepreneurship was established as a joint program of the Colleges of Business and Engineering through a major gift from FAU alumni Scott Adams, a nationally



known Internet technology pioneer, and his wife, Shelagh. The initiative is aimed at spurring the growth of South Florida's Web-based industries.

The programs and facilities of the top-rated Alexander D. Henderson University School, a unit of the College of Education, were showcased before nearly 300 educators attending the annual conference of the National Association of Laboratory Schools.

"The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe," a 48-minute documentary narrated by actor Theodore Bikel, had its world premiere at FAU before a standing-room-only audience. Marian and Nathan Crosby, longtime supporters of the FAU Libraries' Judaica Collections, provided substantial financial support for this invaluable cultural and historical resource.



Arthur and Mata Jaffe donated a unique rare book collection valued at \$525,000 to the FAU Libraries. The stunning 2,200 piece collection, titled "Books as Aesthetic Objects," celebrates visual alphabets, art, printing, bookbinding, papermaking, calligraphy, graphics and design. One of the most significant collections of its

kind in the world, the Jaffes' gift is an extraordinary resource for arts, graphics, design and literature scholars.

### **INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation made a \$2 million gift to the Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems to create The Abacoa Project, an initiative focused on building sustainable communities through principles of "New Urbanism." The Abacoa Project is based on FAU's Jupiter campus.

FAU and Hebrew College of Brookline, Massachusetts, came together in a cooperative relationship to enhance opportunities in Jewish education and Holocaust studies. The initiative made FAU the first university in South Florida to address the need for continuing professional

education in the field of Judaic Studies.

The Edna Hibel Art Foundation announced a plan to enhance cultural resources in northern Palm Beach County through construction of the Hibel Fine Arts Building on the John D. MacArthur campus at Jupiter. The 13,000-square-foot facility will provide classrooms and

academic offices for the Honors College and will house the main branch of the Hibel Museum of Art.

Enterprise Development Corporation of South Florida, a non-profit organization, began managing the new technology Business Incubator in the Florida Atlantic Research and Development Park. With tenant space for up to 28 companies, the Incubator supports the University's research activities while offering valuable help to emerging technology-based enterprises.

The Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems claimed a role as a key player in the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative, a public/private effort to ensure effective management of the vast, subtropical estuary.

The University announced an outreach program to visually impaired senior citizens through a powerful partnership with the Mae Volen Senior Center and Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Florida Unit. Funded by a \$750,000 gift from the Gladys L. Davis Trust, the gift will be used to build the Gladys L. Davis Pavilion on the Boca Raton campus, where the program will be housed.

### **INTELLECTUAL ENVIRONMENT**

Dedication ceremonies were held for the 135-acre John D. MacArthur campus at Jupiter, and close to 1,800 students began the 1999-2000 academic year on the campus, which is home to upper-division and graduate-level students and the four-year, residential FAU Honors College.

Construction of a presidential home/university reception center on the Boca Raton campus was made possible by the generosity of Boca Raton

philanthropist Eleanor R. Baldwin. The Eleanor R. Baldwin House will add an exciting new dimension to campus life, providing a distinctive setting for functions of many kinds.

FAU and Indian River Community College broke ground for a \$21.5 million, three-building complex on the Treasure Coast campus. The new facility will link the FAU and IRCC campuses, providing 111,000 square feet of space for classrooms, laboratories, a library, offices and student services.

Ground was broken for the Florida Atlantic University/Broward Community College Higher Education Complex in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The second major FAU facility in that location, the 12-story, 147,000-square-foot structure will provide a permanent home for the School of Architecture, as well as tiered lecture halls for the College of Business and the College of Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs.

The Florida Atlantic Research and Development Park and the City of Deerfield Beach announced plans to expand the park to a second site in Broward County. The R&D Park's 52-acre Boca Raton site became filled to capacity with companies that have research connections to the University.

### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

Faculty members and students in the College of Nursing brought basic health care, disease prevention and health education to economically disadvantaged children and families through its highly praised Community-Based Nursing Project.

In one of the largest food distributions in U.S. history, the University teamed with

## highlights continued

Lipton and Feed the Children in a massive effort to bring relief to hungry children and families in South Florida. Some 400 FAU student volunteers loaded more than 270,000 pounds of donated Lipton products into trucks sent by food banks from Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

Nobel Peace Laureates Desmond Tutu of South Africa and Betty Williams of Northern Ireland were the featured speakers at "An Evening of Unity," co-sponsored by FAU and the City of Delray Beach. This first-of-its-kind event was designed to help the people of South Florida find new ways of dealing with the complex issues of youth violence, cultural diversity and community building.

The College of Nursing presented its award-winning Senior Place series for the sixth year in a row. Senior Place offers older adults free lectures and counseling on subjects such as holistic health, sexuality and stress. Services also include blood pressure monitoring and nutrition counseling.

FAU's Small Business Development Center, a unit of FAU's College of Business, increased its reach dramatically as its service area expanded to become the largest in the state, stretching from Fort Pierce to Key West. The SBDC is a comprehensive information resource center for small companies.

FAU joined Boca Raton's Adolph and Rose Levis Jewish Community Center in hosting the Olympic-style Maccabi Games for Jewish teen athletes from around the nation and the world.

Students and staff members in FAU's Division of Student Affairs hosted a five-week summer camp for 250 children from low-income families through the NCAA-affiliated National Youth Sports Program (NYSP). FAU became one of 12 new NYSP grant recipients.

More than 1,200 FAU students rendered 150,000 hours of volunteer and service-learning hours, valued at more than \$2 million, to non-profit organizations in Broward and Palm Beach counties through the Daniel B. Weppner Campus Volunteer Center.

### ATHLETICS

Five FAU athletes were named Player of the Year by the TransAmerica Athletic Conference (TAAC) for their respective sports. They are Melissa Bobby (women's soccer), Kristen Jordan (women's tennis), Juan Ros (men's tennis), Steve LeBrun (men's golf) and Nicole Myers (women's softball).

Head baseball coach Kevin Cooney was named State of Florida Coach of the Year by the State of Florida Baseball Diamond Club and Palm Beach County Coach of the Year for all sports by area sports reporters. Cooney led the Owls to a 54-9 record last season that landed them in

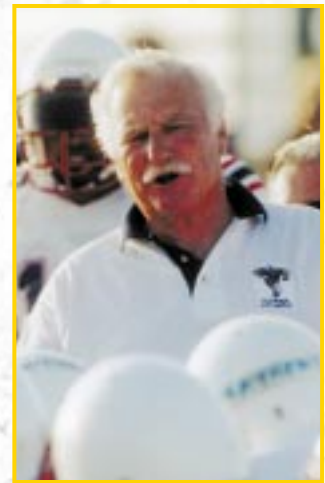
the NCAA Division I record books for scoring 34 consecutive single-season wins.

Shortstop Tommy Murphy was named a pre-season All American by *Baseball Weekly*, the first time an FAU player has received this honor. Murphy was one of nine FAU players to sign professional contracts after the college season ended. He was picked in the third round, making him the highest pick in the June draft in the University's history.

The women's softball team won its fourth consecutive TAAC championship, and Coach Joan Joyce was named TAAC Softball Coach of the Year. A new softball stadium was added to athletic facilities on the Boca Raton campus.

The women's volleyball team won its second consecutive TAAC championship, and head coach Jody Brown was named TAAC Volleyball Coach of the Year.

FAU hosted the prestigious National Independent Championships (NIC) in swimming and diving. Steve Eckelcamp was named Men's NIC Coach of the Year and Dave Burgering was named Men's Dive Coach of the Year.



The men's tennis team participated in the NCAA tournament for the first time in the program's history, and coach Mike Wheelen was named TAAC Coach of the Year.

Twenty-four high school athletes – most ranked as top prospects – signed to play on FAU's first football team. Football legend Howard Schnellenberger was named head coach of the football team, which will play its first season in the fall of 2001. Alumnus Tom Oxley donated funding for the Oxley Athletic Center, a major complex for all of FAU's men's and women's sports programs.

