Fall 2000 saw a record number of more than 3,000 freshmen and a record-high overall enrollment exceeding 21,000 students. These numbers included dramatic increases in enrollment of African-American students and Hispanic students, reflecting the diversity of the dynamic region we serve.

Four new graduate degree programs at FAU were launched this year. These important new programs are the Ph.D. degree program in chemistry and master’s degree programs in nonprofit management, social work and international business. The Ph.D. in chemistry is the University’s fifth doctoral program and is considered a key element in FAU’s implementation of its proposed medical education partnership with the University of Miami School of Medicine. A new initiative by FAU’s Open University and Continuing Education, smartCommunities is the first Web site in the nation to marry e-commerce technology and e-learning opportunities. The home site for the innovative new community is www.smartFAU.org.

The A.D. Henderson University School earned straight A’s on the elementary and middle school Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Henderson was the only one of Florida’s four university system lab schools to achieve straight A’s in the 2000 rankings. The school also received STAR (Schools Taking Action for Reform) recognition from the Florida Committee on Elementary and Middle Schools of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College saw its second-year enrollment more than double. As the Honors College prepares to enter its third year, the University is completing construction of a second residence hall.

Fall 2000 was a key player in a state-wide Education Summit, a partnership among FAU, Broward Community College, the Broward County School System and Nova Southeastern University, to address the imminent shortage of K-12 teachers with new recruitment and retention strategies. The campaign to devise innovative solutions to the imminent teacher shortage is supported by the Andrew Challenge and Apple Computer, Inc. FAU has created the Teaching and Learning Center on the Davie Campus and named Broward County education leader Dr. Robert D. Parks as acting director.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation donated $2 million to establish The Abacoa Project, a partnership between Jupiter’s Abacoa development and FAU’s Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems, to study and promote “New Urbanism.”

FAU sponsored its inaugural Continuing Medical Education Grand Rounds to bring together FAU’s research scientists and area physicians in a program that integrates research and clinical material.

FAU was named one of the Top 50 Business Schools for Entrepreneurs by Hispanic Outlook in Education magazine. Part of the development of FAU’s Partnership for Quality Medical Education with the University of Miami School of Medicine, the Broward Sheriff’s Office (BSO) is teaming up to provide opportunities for graduate students to conduct applied research to help enhance the administrative, support and law enforcement operations of the sheriff’s office, and to create an internship team of undergraduate students to work with BSO.

FAU became a leading partner in the Downtown Tech Park, which created a 15-acre site in Deerfield Beach. The R&D Park provides opportunities for businesses to collaborate with University researchers and to employ students in their enterprises.

FAU’s NASA Space Communications Technology Center (SCTC) and BellSouth showcased a major in-kind gift from BellSouth that has enhanced the SCTC’s breakthrough research using fiber optic cable as a medium for carrying high definition television images to improve the field of telemedicine.

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Dr. Sharon Schlossberg, director of Pre-Collegiate Programs, earned the first Strategic Environmental Achievement Award from the Florida Ocean Alliance.

Dr. Nahum M. Sarna, an internationally recognized scholar in Jewish studies, received the first Second-Year Enrollments Excellence Award from the Florida Ocean Alliance.

One of Ocean Engineering’s Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs) was selected to participate in NATO tests at Supreme Allied Command Atlantic’s Undersea Technology Test Center in Italy. Two other AUVs from the college participated in the U.S. Navy’s fleet battle experiments off Panama City, Florida.

ChemBond, an innovative strategy for teaching chemistry principles, earned a $100,000 grant from the Florida National Science Foundation. Developed by a partnership between the Department of Chemistry and the College of Education, ChemBond showed dramatic results in increasing the students’ proficiency in introductory chemistry—from 47.5 percent to 20 percent.

In addition to offering a computerized catalogue for access to all State University System libraries, the FAU University libraries have vastly increased the number of full-text data bases, dramatically increasing resources available for study and research.

Dr. Robert Arnold, associate professor in the Department of Communication, had his film “The Morphology of Desire” screened during the Director’s Festival at the Cannes Film Festival.

Dr. Natalie King-Pedroso, assistant professor in the Department of English, was awarded the prestigious one-year Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship for Minorities. Dr. King-Pedroso is working at the University of the West Indies, in Jamaica, where she will continue her analytical studies of Derek Walcott’s “Omeros,” a Nobel Prize winning autobiographical odyssey.

Dr. Sharon Schlossberg, director of Pre-Collegiate Programs, was selected from leaders from 40 universities as the Outstanding University SCEME Director.

James Murley, director of the Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems, received the first Strategic Environmental Achievement Award from the Florida Ocean Alliance.

The Elder Mobility Project in FAU’s Safe Park will expand from its filled-to-capacity location in Boca Raton to a 15-acre site in Deerfield Beach. The R&D Park provides opportunities for businesses to collaborate with University researchers and to employ students in their enterprises.

Dr. Niara Sudarkasa joined the College of Liberal Arts faculty as a distinguished visiting scholar. Dr. Sudarkasa, a Broward County native, was the first woman president of Lincoln University, the nation’s oldest historically black university. In her work at FAU, she is helping to establish the FAU Research Center in the African-American Library and Cultural Center in Fort Lauderdale.

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President Anthony James Catanese was presented with the Broward County Urban League’s Diversity Champion Award.

College of Business was named one of the Top 50 Business Schools for Entrepreneurs by SUCCESS magazine.

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ENVIRONMENT

Ground was broken for the Charles E. Schmidt Biomedical Science Center on the Boca Raton Campus. Made possible by a record-setting $15 million gift from the Schmidt Family Foundation, the 90,000-square-foot facility will play a key role in supporting FAU’s partnership with the University of Miami’s School of Medicine to provide increased medical education opportunities in South Florida.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for a 600-bed, five-story residence hall to accommodate the growing freshmen population on FAU’s Boca Raton Campus. The new state-of-the-art residence hall will feature state-of-the-art technology and modern security systems.

The Education and Science Building on the University’s Davie Campus was renamed the Senator James A. Scott Education and Science Building to honor FAU alumnus Senator James Scott. More than 5,000 upper division and graduate students take classes on the Davie Campus.

The center includes commercial development of special interest to FAU’s student population, including Barnes & Noble Bookstores, Whole Foods Market and Organized Living, retailer of storage products.

Construction is well under way for the $21 million joint-use facility with Indian River Community College in Port St. Lucie. The facility will be used for classrooms, expanded library facilities, faculty, student services and administrative offices.

PUBLIC SERVICE

As one of the nation’s Universities of Promise, FAU was host to Secretary of State Colin Powell and a special forum for young people. The program, sponsored by the local affiliate of Powell’s America’s Promise organization, attracted more than 2,200 young people to FAU as part of Powell’s America’s Promise program.

Groundbreaking took place for a state-of-the-art 600-bed, five-story residence hall on the Boca Raton Campus.

The nearly 60,000-square-foot Tom Oxley Athletic Center opened, the first co-ed facility of its kind for men’s and women’s athletics.

ATHLETICS

The Tom Oxley Athletic Center opened to provide men’s and women’s athletics a new central home on the Boca Raton Campus, as well as serving as a resource for the entire University community.

Coach Howard Schnellenberger and the FAU football program completed a very successful second recruiting season, signing 31 new recruits on National Letter of Intent Day. The Owls will open their inaugural season at Pro Player Stadium on September 1, 2001, against Slippery Rock University.

The Education and Science Building on the Boca Raton Campus, as well as serving as a resource for the entire University community, the first co-ed facility of its kind, the nearly 60,000-square-foot Oxley Center includes locker rooms, strength and training rooms, offices, a recreational area, a media room, nine classrooms and an academic auditorium.

The University hosted 250 students through the National Youth Sports Program, sponsored by the NCAA. The five-week camp, featuring athletic and team-building activities, was offered to children from low-income families.

Barry Gregory, alcohol and drug counselor and program coordinator of FAU’s Counseling Center, released “The College Alcohol and Life Skills Workbook.” Adaptable by the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA), the workbook provides an alternative to traditional prevention strategies and assistance in developing social and academic skills necessary to work through the challenges of college life.

The Holocaust Outreach Center of Florida Atlantic University was among 15 centers nationwide selected for inclusion in the Holocaust Centers of Excellence Program sponsored by the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR). Program selection was based on the high level of ongoing teacher training that the FAU Center provides to middle and high school social studies and English teachers.

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