FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY is a public university committed through its distributed campus structure to providing access to challenging opportunities in higher education for students in Southeast Florida and beyond. Its mission is to serve its region, state and nation by preparing students to make meaningful contributions in an increasingly complex global society, by encouraging reflection on and evaluation of emerging needs and priorities and by supporting research and service that enhance economic, human and cultural development.

FAU accomplishes its mission primarily through its teachers and researchers, its undergraduate educational programs, its graduate and professional offerings and its linkages to other educational institutions and the community.

TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS
Florida Atlantic University fosters an intellectual environment that values the role of faculty as researchers-teachers. As researchers and scholars, faculty discover and create new knowledge, design solutions and develop new means of expression. As teachers committed to effective student learning, faculty share results, processes and perspectives with students. Inside and outside the classroom, students at Florida Atlantic University find opportunities to become a part of a dynamic community of inquiry and learn to value intellectual activities and personal qualities that contribute to an enriched and productive life.

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
Florida Atlantic University prepares its undergraduate students to be productive and thoughtful citizens by offering a broad liberal education coupled with the development of competencies in fields of special interest. By providing both disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approaches to the pursuit of knowledge and the solving of problems, FAU encourages students to think creatively and critically and provides intellectual tools needed for lifelong learning. A variety of curricular and extracurricular opportunities enables students to appreciate the rich diversity that characterizes their region and world.

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL OFFERINGS
With its graduate and professional programs, Florida Atlantic University offers advanced education responsive to evolving societal needs. These programs promote original scholarship and basic and applied research, thereby contributing to the new knowledge and approaches needed to respond effectively to complex and critical issues. By working closely with faculty in the classroom, laboratory, studio and field, students experience first-hand the ways in which knowledge is discovered, applied and extended.

COMMUNITY LINKAGES AND EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS
Through its partnerships with other educational institutions, local businesses, industries and civic and cultural organizations, Florida Atlantic University enhances the economic, human and cultural development of Southeast Florida and beyond. By collaborating with others to address critical problems and expand cultural and educational opportunities, the University connects learning and discovery with the needs and priorities of the communities that it serves.

FAU was established in 1961 as the fifth university in the Florida State University System. Originally opened in 1964 as the first university in the country to offer only upper-division and graduate-level work, the University responded to the need to provide increased access to educational opportunities by opening its doors to freshmen in 1984. Since the first class graduated from Florida Atlantic University in 1965, more than 75,000 degrees have been awarded.

In addition to the original 56-acre campus in Boca Raton, FAU campuses are located in Broward County at Fort Lauderdale, Dania Beach, in northern Palm Beach County at Jupiter and in St. Lucie County at 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. One of the largest employers in the region, FAU employs more than 3,000 full- and part-time staff.

Ranked as one of the fastest growing universities in the nation, FAU offers a comprehensive array of 126 undergraduate and graduate programs and enrolls over 21,000 students who reflect the rich cultural diversity of the region.

The University is organized into nine colleges—Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs; the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters; Business; Education; Engineering; the Harriet L. Wilkes College; Liberal Arts; the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing—and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science.

Encouraging scholarship and research at the highest levels, FAU has 18 Eminent Scholar Chairs in complex systems and brain sciences, international business, social science, growth management and development, biological sciences, philosophy, Judaic studies, urban and environmental studies, engineering, performing arts, humanities, biomedical sciences, community education, Turkish studies and the fine arts.

A learning center for all ages, FAU is home to the Karen Slattery Child Development Center and the highly ranked 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, consists of 20,000 members who pursue intellectual stimulation, personal growth and cultural fellowship through a wide selection of specially designed course work. 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’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 superconductor development, electromagnetic testing, design of autonomous underwater vehicles and implementation of elementary and community education programs. FAU has also established an on-campus Research and Development Park in Boca Raton, with expansion plans for a second site in Broward County. The Research Park is situated on 52 acres of land and is facilitating exciting new research and learning initiatives by bringing high-tech industries into close collaboration with FAU’s faculty and students. Other areas of specialized pursuits can be found in the 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 serves as a model for urban, regional universities in the 21st century.