

Fall 2003

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Florida International University Division of University Relations

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42-1

FIU

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Fall 2003

MAGAZINE



'A Dream Come True'

Philanthropists Patricia and Phillip Frost make possible FIU's forthcoming signature art museum building.

Also in this issue:

A revolution in molecular manufacturing

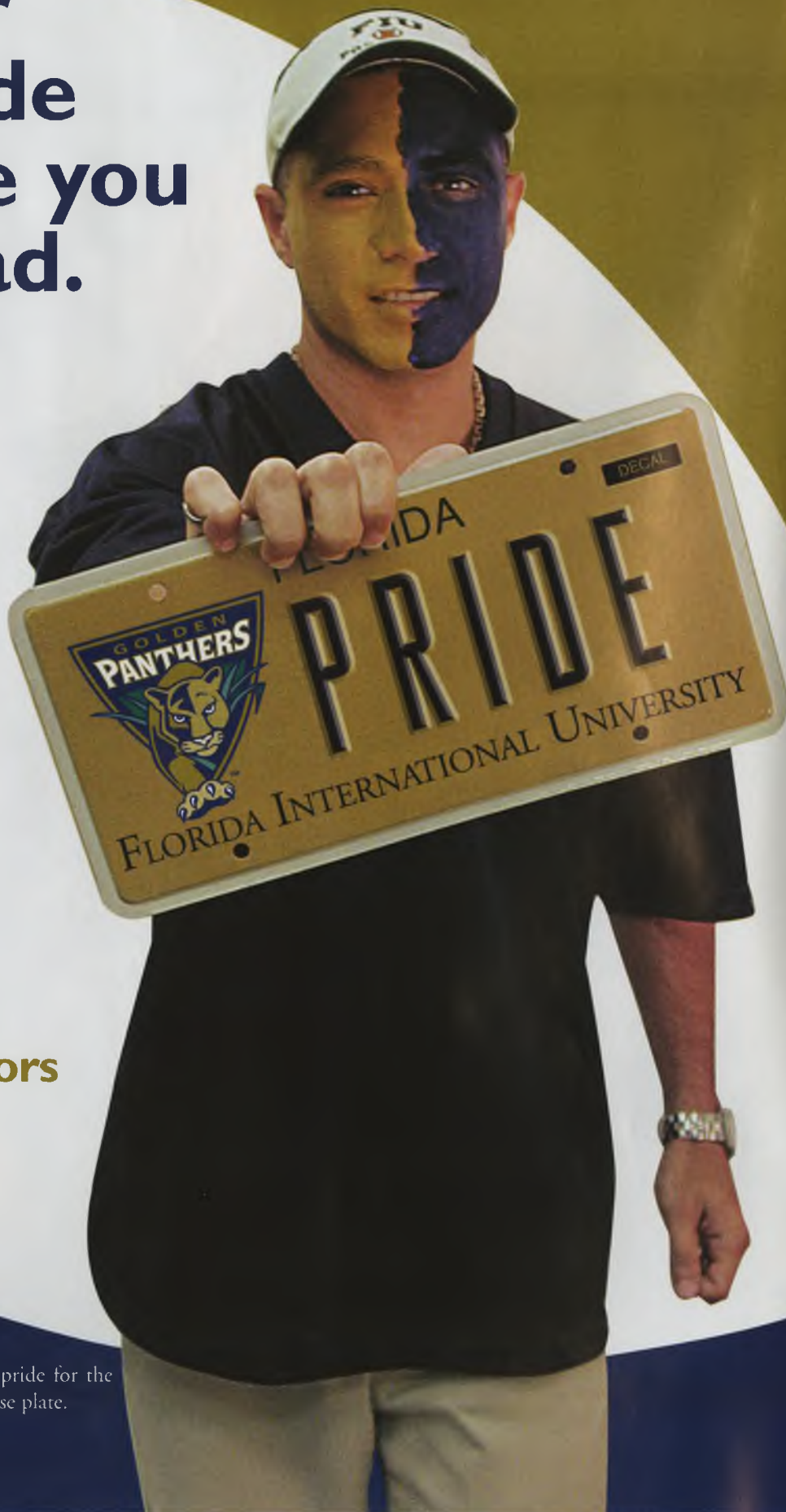
Educator redefines urban education

Drug dealers, cops and Ricky Ricardo

Show your school pride every time you hit the road.

Whether you're a member of the FIU Class of '03 or '73...or you drive around in a luxury sedan or an SUV...the new Florida International University Golden Panthers license plate is for you. With the Golden Panther on your vehicle, you'll show your school spirit every time you drive.

It's now easier than ever to receive a Golden Panther plate through the FIU Golden Panther License Plate Replacement Program. Go to www.fiu.edu/fiuplate and follow the instructions to order your plate. This is not part of your annual vehicle registration process—no additional charge will be incurred until your next license plate renewal. At that time, if you choose to keep your FIU plate, a fee of \$27.50 will be assessed to benefit FIU scholarship funds.



Show Your True Colors



FIU alumni, friends and supporters—show your pride for the Blue & Gold with your FIU Golden Panther license plate.

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from the AVP, Alumni Relations



Since joining FIU four months ago, I have been incredibly impressed by this very special university. It's wonderful to be part of the most exciting young university in the country—

with a truly phenomenal group of alumni.

Our 100,000+ alumni are incredibly important to the future of the institution, and the Office of Alumni Relations is committed to reaching out to all of you. We will be engaging and communicating with you on a regular basis and will soon conduct a study to determine what services and benefits you want from the FIU Alumni Association. We hope to develop lifelong relationships with our alumni—from current students who join the Student Alumni Association through graduates who left campus years ago—and develop traditions and programs that will serve you and help build pride for our University.

It is a privilege to be working with you, and I look forward to meeting you at a football game, a campus activity or one of our alumni events.

In the spirit of Blue and Gold,

Bill Draughon
Associate Vice President
Alumni Relations

from the Editor



Looking back on 2003 thus far, I am reminded of the “interesting times” my parents used to speak about.

These too are interesting times. The post-9/11 world is dramatically different from more “innocent” bygone times. The events of our day give pause to reflect on the state of humanity.

Perhaps that's why art seems especially important. Art is a reflection of one's times, but it usually rises above the mundane. History also shows us that freedom is a necessary condition for art to flourish. Therefore, it is appropriate that FIU, a bastion of free expression, is a thriving center of the arts.

Our cover story traces the remarkable history of The Art Museum at FIU, one of our community's cultural jewels, and the magnificent Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum that will grace University Park by 2005.

This issue of *FIU Magazine* marks a new beginning for this publication. It features greatly expanded alumni coverage, is being sent to all alumni and will be published quarterly. It is just one element of an unprecedented commitment to serve the needs of our 100,000+ alumni—one of the greatest assets of our University. We hope you enjoy it, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Todd Ellenberg '91
Editor

FIU MAGAZINE

Division of University Advancement

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on the cover



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Coming into its own: The Art Museum at FIU

The Art Museum at FIU boasts a big reputation — and, soon, a new facility to match, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum.

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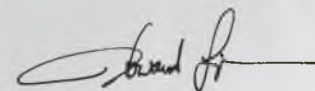
from the VP, University Advancement



There is phenomenal talent and creative energy among our 100,000+ alumni, the vast majority of whom live and work in South Florida. The untapped possibilities that exist within our collective power are endless. Alumni pride in FIU mirrors our own pride—in our students, faculty and alumni—as Golden Panthers everywhere receive increasing recognition for their accomplishments.

All great universities have one thing in common: an engaged alumni body that is proud and supportive of its alma mater. With a re-energized Office of Alumni Relations and a renewed commitment to reaching out and reconnecting with all members of the FIU family, we hope our alumni will help us to further develop the university. Please know that we're here for you. Let us know what you would like from us and how we can strengthen our University.

We also look forward to the continued support of our many friends and advocates throughout the community. We cannot achieve our ambitious programmatic growth and fundraising goals without the active participation of the community. FIU is an essential asset to South Florida's vitality and future, and we are grateful for your assistance in building the great public university our community deserves.



Howard Lipman
Vice President, University Advancement

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Nanotechnology: a revolution in molecular manufacturing

FIU is building a center of excellence in this hot area of research that is revolutionizing electronics, materials, biological systems and communication technology.

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Lisa Delpit:
Noted educator calls for new approach to urban education.

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Danny Pino '96:
drug dealers, cops and Ricky Ricardo
The 1996 alumnus is winning acclaim for his wide variety of starring roles on the stage and television.

in brief.



FIU launches center to develop hemisphere's energy resources

Center for Energy and Technology of the Americas and HCET sign \$5 million contract to help Western Hemisphere militaries with environmental cleanup

The Center for Energy and Technology of the Americas (CETA), a new interdisciplinary center supported by federal and private funds, has its first client thanks to a four-year, \$5 million contract signed between FIU and the U.S. Army. Designed to foster military-to-military information exchanges that promote collaboration on environmental issues and the enhanced use of renewable energy sources within the Western Hemisphere, the contract is in keeping with CETA's mission to enhance the energy security of the United States.

The contract will be managed jointly by CETA and the Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology (HCET). The program will assist in identifying environmental issues facing military installations of Western Hemisphere countries in which the exchange of information, expertise and lessons learned would benefit the environ-



ment and installation management of participating countries.

Ali Ebadian, HCET director, founded CETA and will manage and oversee its operation. He said that the center was FIU President Modesto A. Maidique's vision and its feasibility was initially discussed at a meeting between Maidique and U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham prior to September 11, 2001.

"Secretary Abraham talked about U.S. energy security and alternative sources of energy supplies from the Western Hemisphere so we won't be so dependent on Middle East sources," Ebadian said, noting that the new center is the first in the country to combine technical and policy know-how in the energy arena.

CETA will not conduct basic research but, rather, will evaluate, optimize and transfer technologies for niche applications.

Through the participation of faculty experts from FIU's Latin American and Caribbean Center and Director Eduardo Gamarra, CETA will work on policy and regulatory issues that have impeded foreign investment and technology transfer in Latin America and the Caribbean. CETA will also engage the expertise of the FIU colleges of Business Administration and Law and its pub-

lic- and private-sector partners to work with governments, industries and universities throughout the hemisphere.

In addition to increasing cooperation on energy issues among the nations of the hemisphere and supporting Department of Energy initiatives, CETA will train a new generation of professionals in the energy policy and technology fields, including many members of minority groups who are underrepresented in these fields as well as foreign students who can advance energy-related industries in their native countries. ■

Research awards hit all-time high

FIU secured more than \$75.5 million in grants and awards in fiscal year (FY) 2002-03 – an all-time record for the University. The latest figure represents an 18 percent increase from last year's figure.

18%
increase from last year's figure

"We rebounded in nuclear cleanup and environmental management areas, and we are now coming on strong in biomedical and biotechnology funding," says Thomas Breslin, vice president of Research, referring to the sharp increase. "NIH funding is virtually the same as our Department of Energy funding. This is a sign that the University is now generally aligned with the national funding agenda of the federal government."

A total of 673 proposals were submitted in FY 2002-03, but because of multi-year awards, a total of 719 grants and contracts were counted toward the \$75.5 million figure.

"The faculty are increasingly successful on the national scene," notes Breslin. "They're involving more students in their research and are responsible for bringing even more tax dollars back into the state. The growth in proposals is a good indicator of additional growth in contract and grant funding." ■

in brief



FIU establishes European presence with Madrid Center

FIU has partnered with the governments of Miami-Dade County and Madrid to establish a groundbreaking academic center in the Spanish capital. The center's physical space, a refurbished office suite, was donated by the San Pablo-CEU University Foundation.

The idea for the Center quickly took root last year when Alberto Ruiz-Gallardon, president of the Community of Madrid, made FIU his first stop on a visit to the United States. "President Maidique broached the subject, and President Ruiz-Gallardon said that he was very much in favor and would be happy to support it," explains Douglas Kincaid, vice provost for International Studies. FIU contacted Miami-Dade Mayor Alex Penelas and other county officials, who expressed interest in matching the monetary support, about \$100,000 annually, that the Community of Madrid agreed to provide.

"The Center will support FIU's activities in Spain, which are many and diverse," Kincaid says. These activities include joint research projects, study abroad, exchange and cooperative-education programs.

Three issues of common importance to South Florida and Greater Madrid comprise the center's initial research agenda: immigration, economic development and information technology. Having a physical address in Spain,

Kincaid explains, will make securing research funding from European agencies that much easier for FIU. FIU researchers will conduct their work in partnership with faculty at roughly a dozen public and private universities within the Community of Madrid. Fernando Gonzalez Reigosa, former dean of Undergraduate Studies and the founding dean of the FIU Honors College, who resides in Madrid, heads the Center. ■

BusinessWeek ranks International MBA Program among best in the U.S.



BusinessWeek ranked the International MBA program at FIU's Alvah H. Chapman, Jr., Graduate School of Business among the best in the U.S. in its "2002 Best B-Schools Guide" published last year. The magazine placed the program in the third-tier group along with programs from American, Fordham, George Washington, South Carolina, Tulane, Rutgers, Syracuse and others. FIU's Chapman School was one of only three Florida schools appearing in the ranking, the others being the University of Florida's Warrington School and the University of Miami.

"Having our full-time International MBA program ranked among some of the best in

the country is quite an honor and an accomplishment considering the program is only three years old," said Jose de la Torre, dean of the Chapman School.

The rankings, which are based on the quality of teaching and research, the measure of each school's intellectual capital and other key factors, result from the opinions of 219 corporate recruiters and 11,518 students at 88 business schools. More than 300 schools in the United States and the rest of the world are graded in the study poll.

The Chapman School also received a top ranking last year from *America Economia*, a premier pan-regional business journal, which rated the School among the top 50 international MBA schools for Latin American students. ■

New Pines Center building boosts FIU Broward Programs

FIU's presence in Broward County, where the University has offered courses for 30 years, recently took a bold step forward with the opening of the FIU Broward-Pines Center. FIU is leasing the new building in Pembroke Pines in the Academic Village that houses the city's charter high school, a county library and a branch of Broward Community College. More than a year ago, the University brought together its Broward programs, then operating at two other locations, and began sharing temporary space at the Pines Center. The move to its own two-story building will make possible a greater number of course offerings and a larger on-site staff.



in brief

Select master's and doctoral degree programs are being offered, along with a number of bachelor's degree programs and certificate and continuing education programs. Additional credit and non-credit programs will be added over time and personal enrichment classes will be offered through the Office of Lifelong Learning.

The Pines Center is located one mile west of the I-75 Sheridan Street exit. For information, go to www.fiu.edu/orgs/broward.

New FIU Board of Trustees announced

Earlier this year, Gov. Jeb Bush and the state Board of Governors made their appointments to FIU's new Board of Trustees. The new FIU Board looks much like its predecessor, with three notable additions: media executive Claudia Puig, real estate developer Sergio Pino and FIU Faculty Senate Chairman Marcel Escoffier.

The appointments were made following the approval of a constitutional amendment in November 2002 that reconfigured the way Florida public universities are governed. Under the new system, each university retains a local Board of Trustees that works with a statewide Board of Governors to steer the institutions.

Three trustees who served on the former Board – Chairman Armando Codina, Vice Chairman Paul Cejas and Alvah Chapman – declined to be considered for appointment to the new Board.

The appointments made by Gov. Bush: Adolfo Henriques '76, chairman/CEO of Union Planters Bank-Florida, FIU alumnus and regent under the former university governing system, who was elected chairman by the new Board; Sergio Pino, founder, director, president and CEO of Century Partners Group, the parent company of his numerous business investments; Claudia Puig, vice president and general manager of Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation, which owns some of the top-rated Spanish-language radio stations in Miami; Rafael Calderon, former president of Costa Rica and currently the managing partner of Calderon & Associates law firm; Albert Dotson, Sr., chairman and CEO of consulting firm Puryear, Inc., and member of the FIU Foundation Board of Trustees since 1983; and Patricia Frost, retired public school principal whose affiliation with FIU dates back to 1984.

The appointments made by the Board of Governors: Betsy Atkins, president and CEO of Baja LLC, an independent venture capital firm; Miriam Lopez, president and CEO of TransAtlantic Bank; David Parker, managing director, The Archstone Partnerships; Rosa



Sugrañes, member of the FIU Foundation Board of Trustees since 1995; and Dr. Herbert Wertheim, former chairman and vice chairman of the FIU Foundation Board of Trustees who served as co-chair of FIU's last

Resnick wants your search to be successful

For millions of Internet users, Marc Resnick is a hero in the making. An associate professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Resnick wants to help create the perfect search engine.

"What got me interested is the fact that they're hard to use," says Resnick, 34, who a few years back worked on upgrading space shuttle launch systems. "I have trouble using them myself."

Resnick has plenty of company: 71 percent of respondents in a 2000 survey said they were frustrated by search engines, and another study conducted the same year found that only 21 percent of respondents could locate what they were looking for every time. The question remains: Why does something intended to save us time and trouble instead serve as such a great source of aggravation?

"They're pretty much all the same," says Resnick of the more than one dozen better-known general-information search engines available. "You kind of have to guess" how best to proceed when faced with the query box. "We need to design search engines for people with no training and no desire to learn."

Enter Resnick, who is exploring several ideas to help hone searches. One has to do with the creating of a personal profile that would be stored, for privacy reasons, on the user's own computer. Another idea involves trying to model how users conduct their search tasks.

"Unfortunately, I haven't come up with a solution yet. I'm still looking at the problem," says Resnick, who is working with others in the field, including designers at such firms as Microsoft, Netscape and

The trials and tribulations of creating a perfect search engine

Oracle. He hopes that together the group will design truly user-friendly search engines within the next five years.

In the meantime, Resnick recommends that users choose one engine for all their needs and invest 30 minutes to learn to use it properly. "Just that half hour might save you 20 or 30 hours in fruitless searches," Resnick says.



in brief



New School of Public Health Established

In recognition of work conducted by a professor of Public Health who passed away last year and his

family's generous financial contributions to the University, FIU has honored his memory with the naming of the Dr. Robert R. Stempel School of Public Health. The entity is one of just two such institutions in Florida and the only in South Florida.

"The creation of this school for me, our faculty, students and community represents an extraordinarily important moment," said Ronald Berkman, dean of the College of Health and Urban Affairs, within which the new school is located. Berkman explained that a research-oriented school of public health remains critical to supporting the needs of the local poor,

urban community. Recent research conducted by FIU professors, for example, on the incidence of childhood lead poisoning in low-income neighborhoods and the high rate of new AIDS cases in South Beach, have suggested concrete ways to tackle those problems.

The Stempel family and the Starr Foundation each made a donation of \$1 million toward the founding of the new school, which brings together a number of previously existing departments. Those gifts qualify for state matching funds to bring the initial endowment to \$3.5 million.

Stempel earned a doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley and joined FIU's Department of Public Health in 1991. Responsible for developing most of FIU's epidemiology courses, Stempel had experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Malaysia, a Foreign Service reserve officer in Vietnam and a disease control specialist in New York City and San Francisco.

The creation of the Stempel School "is part of the grand strategy of FIU in the 21st century," said FIU President Modesto A. Maidique during a dedication ceremony in May. Maidique further noted that health is a teaching and research priority area within the University's strategic plan as well as for several academic units. ■

Capital Campaign, which raised more than \$200 million.

The Board of Trustees includes Clayton Solomon, president of the Student Government Association at FIU-University Park (UP) and Marcel Escoffier, chairman of FIU's Faculty Senate and associate professor of Management. As the chairman of the FIU Foundation Board of Directors, Donald E. Lefton serves in an ex officio advisory capacity to the Board. FIU President Modesto A. Maidique is an ex officio member and secretary of the Board.

As part of its final meeting last December, the former Board awarded the title of "chairman emeritus" to Armando Codina. The board took the action in honor of Codina's energetic and talented leadership during the board's 18-month existence. ■

From South Carolina to FIU



Dunlap named new dean of Arts and Sciences

R. Bruce Dunlap, the former Fred M. Weissman Professor of Chemical Ecology at the University of South Carolina (USC) and associate director for Administration of the USC Nanocenter, assumed responsibilities Aug. 1

as dean of FIU's College of Arts and Sciences. Dunlap succeeds Art Herriott, who served as dean for 13 years and has returned to teaching duties.

"I look forward to partnering with faculty and staff and serving as a liaison to higher administration. My door will always be open," said Dunlap, who liked the "take-charge, go-after-it" attitude present in his interview meetings with FIU faculty, higher administration and the Board of Trustees. "Having been a faculty member for 32 years, I'm well aware of where the strength of an educational institution lies." Some of Dunlap's goals include targeting undergraduate and graduate education, increasing external funding for research and training, and participating in development work for programs and scholarships within the college.

Dunlap holds a B.S. in chemistry from Beloit College and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Indiana University. He was a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral fellow at the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation. He was hired at USC in 1971 as the first biochemist in the Department of Chemistry. During his 32 years at USC, he has published more than 150 refereed journal articles and his research has received nearly \$5 million in support from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation

and the American Cancer Society. He has received numerous recognitions for his work, including a 1993 R & D 100 Award for Innovations in Science and Technology from *Research and Development Magazine*.

He held a number of leadership positions at USC, including six years as chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and he collaborated in the design and funding for a new 150,000-square-foot Graduate Science Research Center. He also helped build the nanoscience center at USC through support from the National Science Foundation and assumed leadership for the South Carolina Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network.

Dunlap assumes his new role on the heels of a period of major growth for the college. During Herriott's tenure as dean, the college achieved extraordinary benchmarks: enrollment grew 125 percent; eight new doctoral programs were initiated as well as three terminal MFA programs; external grants in support of research increased 800 percent (from \$2.5 million to \$20 million); and 60 percent of the 500 current faculty were hired. Dean Herriott led the successful proposal for FIU to be approved to establish a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, in 1990. ■

in brief

FIU Foundation spearheads major marketing, branding initiative for University

The FIU Foundation, in conjunction with Division of University Advancement, has launched an important initiative to enhance the University's profile.

Longtime member of the Board of Directors and current chairman Donald E. Lefton championed the contracting of a marketing company to help FIU effectively promote its increasingly impressive accomplishments.

"There are few, if any, major universities without a marketing firm," said Lefton, founder and vice chairman of the Continental Companies. "As we prepare to enter a major capital-fund campaign, which with current state budget cuts is more important than ever, I think it is critical that we go beyond our own in-house marketing efforts."

The Foundation in March brought in the national consulting firm of Art & Science Group, which has extensive experience with the marketing and branding of academic institutions. Representatives have performed analyses of the University's marketing initiatives and are interviewing key internal and external constituencies.

The company is expected to recommend a plan to the Board early next year. Upon its approval, FIU will implement the plan with assistance from Art & Science.

"The research phase remains an important first step in the University's critical retooling of its marketing efforts," said Ray Marchman, chairman of the Board's marketing committee.

"The Foundation will continue its support as the University implements changes and introduces a public rollout next year."

The project will generate marketing and branding strategies as well as preliminary materials for the upcoming capital campaign, which does not yet have an official start date.

The need to trumpet FIU boils down to competition, Lefton explained. "We are competing for students. We are competing for funds.

"Perception is key. Our achievements are wonderful. People are just not aware of them." ■

The ever-changing landscape Campus construction forges ahead

Construction activity on both campuses continues to bring FIU's physical environment in line with its impressive academic achievements. University Park, in particular, has seen a flurry of activity.

Befitting its status as an educator of outstanding future designers, FIU's School of Architecture in December moved into a distinctive new home. The 94,000-square-foot building, located on the northwest side of campus, was conceived as five structures, each devoted to a specific function: office space; studio space; a lecture hall; gallery space to showcase student work; and a model shop for building scaled versions of student designs.

The vision of internationally renowned architect Bernard Tschumi was realized in the \$15.5 million Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture Building, named for the former U.S. ambassador to Belgium, a local business leader who has been one of the school's and University's strongest supporters.

The four-story \$17 million Health and Life Sciences (HLS) building, in the campus's northeast quadrant, has 100,000 square feet of space dedicated to research labs and faculty offices for the Department of Biological Sciences and the School of Health.

Additionally, the rooftop boasts an aquatic-research center for use by Biology, and the first floor has clinical facilities that School of Health students will eventually utilize to offer occupational, physical and speech therapy services under the direction of their professors. A related building has broken ground nearby.

The 83,000-square-foot Management and Advanced Research Center (MARC), located south of the Graham Center, boasts a wood-paneled auditorium that serves, among other functions, as a lecture room for students in the College of Business Administration's two international master's programs, which are headquartered on the second floor. The five-floor structure houses, among other departments, the University's research administration and the fund-raising and alumni relations offices.



School of Architecture

In a renovation project that will provide critically needed space and increased services, the Ernest R. Graham University Center is currently undergoing a \$5.2 million, 31,000-square foot expansion. Work should be completed by June.

Under construction on the west side of campus is a new recreation center. The 50,000-square-foot facility will include two hardcourts for recreational basketball, volleyball and badminton play as well as two multi-purpose exercise rooms and space for fitness machines and other equipment.

On the Biscayne Bay Campus, a \$3 million renovation and expansion of the Wolfe University Center will add more than 14,500 square feet to the facility. The work is scheduled to commence in the spring and be completed within 12 months. And construction will begin in early 2004 on the BBC's much-anticipated Marine Biology building. Designed by one of Miami's foremost architectural firms, Spillis Candela, the 57,000-square-foot, three-story building will house state-of-the-art classrooms, offices and laboratories into which seawater will be piped from an 80-foot well reaching beneath the bedrock of Biscayne Bay. ■



With the addition of Everglades Hall, which opened last year, FIU now has 2,200 residential hall beds. Plans are moving forward on a new residence hall with 826 beds, which will open Fall 2006 and will primarily house freshmen.

DANO TECH NOLOGY:

A REVOLUTION
IN MOLECULAR
MANUFACTURING

FIU developing centers of excellence in cutting-edge discipline

Bigger is better. For the greater part of history and for much of society (particularly Western) that maxim has rarely been challenged. But in more recent times, in certain fields, there has been a shift toward smaller. And perhaps that shift is no more pronounced than in the field of technology.

Today, miniaturization is a primary concern in conceptualization and design and has entered a realm that once was the stuff of science fiction. Components can be produced that are so small they can't be seen by the naked eye – they require the space-age magnification of an atomic microscope. It's the world of nanotechnology, a realm so minute that it's measured in nanometers – a billionth of a meter, which is about one one-hundred-thousandth the diameter of a human hair.

The basic tenet of nanotechnology, introduced in 1959 by Richard Feynman, is that nearly any chemically stable structure that is not deemed impossible by the laws of physics can be constructed atom by atom.

Some 40 years later, nanotechnology is the rage in science and technology, – and at Florida International University internationally renowned scientists are spearheading groundbreaking research in the field.

“Nanotechnology today has the same potential to change the world that microelectronics have shown over the last four decades,” said Vish Prasad, dean of the FIU College of Engineering, whose unit is conducting most of the University's research in the field. “Its future impact on electronics, communication technologies, biological systems and materials is far beyond anyone's imagination.”

EXTREME CONDITIONS YIELD NEW NANOMATERIALS

In March 2001, FIU officially launched its entry into nanotechnology R & D with the inauguration of the Center for the Study of Matter at

New York, and is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He came to FIU in 2000 to develop CeSMEC, one of the very few facilities in the nation where materials can be subjected to pressures of many million atmospheres (the Earth's core is 3.6 million atmospheres) and temperatures up to several thousand degrees (the creation of plasma) and then studied with the most sophisticated x-ray and spectroscopy instruments.

The most well known example of high pressure transformation of a material is graphite to diamond. While pressure alone can create entirely new classes of materials, high pressure combined with

“IN TERMS OF INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS, WE'RE LOOKING AT REVOLUTIONARY WAYS WE CAN CONSERVE ENERGY AND MAKE NEW TYPES OF REACTIONS.”

Extreme Conditions (CeSMEC), which is dedicated to studying the behavior of materials under extreme levels of temperature and pressure.

“We're manipulating materials at the atomic, molecular level,” said Surendra Saxena, professor of Earth Sciences and director of CeSMEC, excusing himself for a moment to confer with one of the Center's machinists on the custom design of a part for an instrument in one of their state-of-the-art labs. “These new nanomaterials – new physical states of matter – have novel properties.”

Saxena, a distinguished professor of physical sciences, has been manipulating materials for several decades. He is a veteran of NASA, Sweden's University of Uppsala and the City College of

high temperatures has the ability to totally change chemical bonds and the nature of otherwise familiar elements and compounds.

“In terms of industrial applications, we're looking at revolutionary ways we can conserve energy and make new types of reactions,” Saxena said. “If we start with nanomaterials and apply these processes, we may get totally new materials. ... We're trying to synthesize nanodiamonds because they have great industrial applications; diamonds have high thermal conductivity. For example, instead of using silicon on [computer] chips, you could use diamond, and heat problems would vanish.

“We're trying to synthesize other nanomaterials and use them for different applications. The number of materials is so vast, and we've only explored a couple of percent of all materials.”

continued

Researchers Eric Crumpler and Anthony McGoron are developing nanoparticles for the precise delivery of medications within the body.



The storage medium for Renu's DVD is bacteriorhodopsin, a protein first discovered in the late 1970s.

PROTEIN AS A DIGITAL STORAGE MEDIUM

Venkatesan Renugopalakrishnan (Renu), Wallace H. Coulter Chair in Biomedical Engineering, is using a synthetically manufactured protein as a next-generation means of digital storage that dwarfs current technology.

Renu and his team at BioFold Inc., a California-based firm that he founded in 1999, in collaboration with FIU and other corporate labs are working on a DVD that can store an astounding 198 gigabytes of data – more than 10 times the capacity of existing DVDs, which store information optically on a metallic (transition metal oxides) surface.

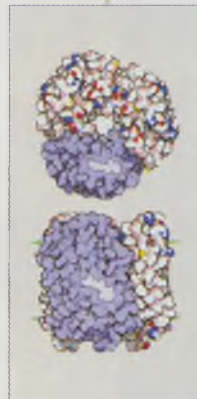
The storage medium for Renu's DVD is bacteriorhodopsin, a protein discovered in the late 1970s that thrives naturally in salty marshes.

"When bacteriorhodopsin absorbs light, it undergoes structural changes – it goes through a cascade of states," explained Renu, an internationally recognized expert in protein structural biology and engineering. "It flip-flops from one state to another just as it does in a binary-switching mechanism."

Like existing DVDs, as well as other disc-based storage systems, a laser will be used to read and write on the new DVD. In addition to the vastly increased storage capacity, the new DVD will have access speeds much faster than existing systems and comparable speeds of reading and writing data. In addition to DVDs, the technology could be used for computer hard drives.

Renu has more than 28 years of research in protein engineering. He joined Harvard Medical School as an assistant professor in 1985 and eventually rose to full professor. He is the author of over 200 papers in biophysics and biochemistry and holds many patents, including five that make up the core intellectual capital for BioFold Inc.

Renu, who joined FIU in September 2002, is developing three laboratories at the University that will, among other things, develop methods to manufacture the product, which is expected to enter the consumer market by next year.



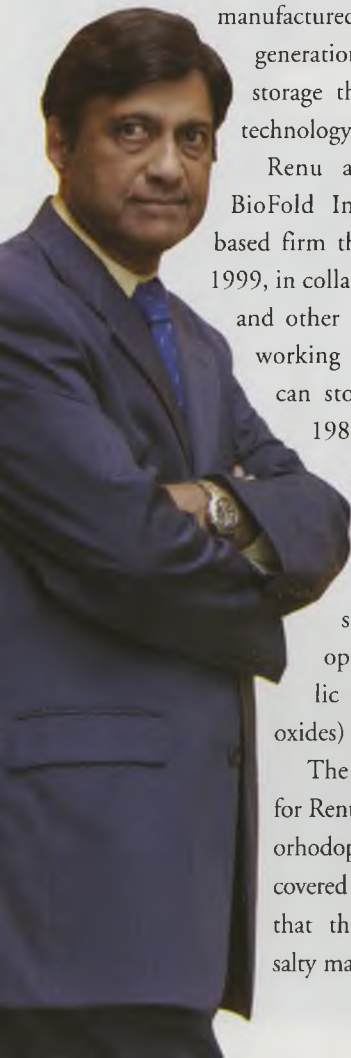
A major Japanese corporation is an investor in BioFold and will manufacture and market the protein-based DVD under the name Tsunami 2004.

Renu and his team are studying other applications of bacteriorhodopsin for flat-screen monitors, high-definition television, optical switching and photographic film as an alternative to conventional silver-based film. Photography giant Kodak has shown an interest in his research in this latter area.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING AT THE MOLECULAR LEVEL

Nanotechnology has entered medicine, and there are research efforts at FIU to harness molecular-sized particles to fight human disease. The possibilities remind one of *Fantastic Voyage*, the 1960s science fiction film in which a team of scientists are miniaturized and sent into the bloodstream of a patient to relieve a blood clot.

"When we administer medications, it is generally done systemically; there's no way to localize them in any way, shape or form," explained Eric Crumpler, assistant professor with the FIU Biomedical Engineering Institute (BMEI). "The technology has developed to a point of controlled release, to miniaturizing it where we can use the elements of particle





Scanning electron micrograph of nanospheres

Scanning electron micrograph of cell growth on polymer fibers

Scanning electron micrograph of polymer fibers

chemistry to direct these medications to precisely where we want them.”

Crumpler and fellow researcher Anthony McGoron, also a BMEI assistant professor whose expertise is imaging and drug delivery, are working on developing nanoparticles that could be targeted to specific sites in the body and then activated at that site.

“One of the features I’m interested in is to combine therapy and imaging,” McGoron said. “If you administer a drug, you hope it goes where you need it to go. If it’s a controlled-release drug, you can modify the release with heat or ultrasound or some other external application. You use imaging to see that the drug gets to the site where it is needed, then activate it to initiate the therapy. It’s a better way to deliver drugs to the site where we need them so they don’t affect organs we don’t want to target.”

The two researchers have been working with particles with magnetic properties that can be manipulated externally so that they can be directed to the organs where the medicine is needed. In the case of a cancerous tumor, for instance, the medicinal magnetic nanoparticles would be directed to the tumor using external magnetic guidance. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can be used to track their journey or, as in the case of the current research, if the particles are further labeled with a radioactive material, they can be traced using nuclear med-

icine imaging. Upon arrival at the tumor site, the particles would be activated by an external energy source, releasing the chemotherapy drug. Crumpler also noted that they are studying ways to encapsulate drugs in materials that can bind to specific areas in the body.

BUILDING A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Two other nanotechnology scientists recently joined the College of Engineering as associate professors:

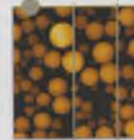
Wonbong Choi, a leading scientist at Samsung Corporation who invented the vertical carbon nano-tube transistor, a device with tremendous implications for the future of nano-electronics, has joined the Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering. He has received or applied for 30 patents and published more than 50 journal articles. He is now working on the development of a carbon nano-tube field emission display, direct e-beam lithography, fuel cell and carbon nano-tube memory devices. He and Renu plan to collaborate to develop new bio-nano devices.

Sakhrat Khizroev, a highly recognized research scientist in the field of nano-magnetic recording at Seagate Research, has joined the Department of Electrical and Computer

Engineering. Research under his leadership at Carnegie Mellon University and IBM Research demonstrated the feasibility of nanoscale magnetic devices and other innovations using nanotechnology for data storage. He has filed for 32 U.S. and international patents and has authored more than 50 scientific articles.

At press time, FIU had received a multimillion-dollar gift of equipment from Motorola Corporation that will enable it to develop a complete nanofabrication facility to create nanoelectromechanical systems (NEMS). A 10,000-square-foot facility being built on the ground floor of the University’s Engineering Center will include “clean room” laboratories to house the new equipment. In addition, FIU is one of the lead organizers of the IEEE-sponsored International Conference on Nanoscale Devices & System Integration that will be held next February in Miami and will attract prominent scientists from throughout the world.

“We are committed to establishing a center of excellence in nanotechnology at the University,” said FIU President Modesto A. Maidique. “As a rapidly growing research university and with the outstanding faculty team we have assembled, we look forward to becoming a national leader in this cutting-edge field.” ■



profile

lisa
delpit

RENOWNED EDUCATOR
CALLS FOR NEW
APPROACH TO URBAN
EDUCATION

"We must take into account the culture of the children"

It is a measure of her sense of humor and quiet confidence that Lisa Delpit, director/eminent scholar of FIU's Center for Urban Education and Innovation (CUEI) and winner of a 1990 MacArthur "genius" fellowship award, has not erased a cartoon rendering on her office blackboard. It features a stick figure and the words "blah, blah, blah" emanating from the figure's mouth. When asked about its origin, Delpit smiled.

"I was having a meeting in here one day, and my daughter Maya, who had had a half-day of school, was in here writing on the board," she said. "I just happened to look up and see it."

While her daughter may not be impressed with what her mother has to say about educating our children, it seems that everyone else is.

An educator of national and international renown, Delpit is known for her expertise on the education of children of color and the perspectives, aspirations and pedagogical knowledge of teachers of color. She is the former holder of the Benjamin E. Mays Chair of Urban Educational Excellence at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Delpit has an interest in teaching and learning in multicultural societies, having spent time studying these issues in Alaska, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and in various urban and rural sites in the United States. She received a B.S. degree from Antioch College and an M.Ed. and Ed.D. from Harvard University.

Along with CUEI Associate Director Joan Wynne, Delpit has been meeting with educators in FIU's College of Education and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) — including superintendents of regions that have poorly performing schools that serve low-

income students — to establish relationships and create initiatives.

The Center has also held an inaugural Visiting Eminent Scholar Series that brought leading authorities in urban education to FIU and is sponsoring a major national conference next year.

"Miami is the perfect environment for an honest conversation on how we teach multicultural children in urban classrooms," Delpit said. With more than 19,000 teachers and nearly 380,000 students, MDCPS is a cultural melting pot; 90 foreign language groups are represented within the nation's fourth-largest school system.

Delpit believes that urban children of color are best served by teachers willing to learn more about these students and their cultures and willing to readjust their teaching methods based upon the children they are teaching — an approach that is rejected out-of-hand by some educators.

"When we find settings in which children aren't doing well, then I think we have to look beyond just doing the same things over and over again and expecting the results to be different," she said. "The adage that I hear all the time is, 'I don't see color, I just see kids.' On the surface, that sounds very positive, but what it really means is, 'I'm going to keep doing the same thing the same way.' We must take into account the culture of the children.

"There are other issues — and this is what most people blame lack of success in school on — like poverty, single-parent households, drugs, violence, welfare. My position on that is that those are not things you can change as a teacher. Let's focus on things you might be able to change or that you can change in your behavior that might have a different effect. There is sizable evidence now that good teachers, the right pedagogy and

good schools can make a big difference no matter what the child's background," she continued.

If there are some who disagree with her, there is a growing chorus of voices that considers her ideas a breath of fresh air.

"I can think of no other educator whose research has so profoundly influenced the education of urban students, particularly students of color. Lisa's work is characterized by her keen insight, brilliant analysis of complex issues and her passion and commitment for 'other people's children,'" said Jacqueline Jordan Irvine, Candler Professor of Urban Education at Emory University. "In addition to her notable writings, Lisa is a superb teacher, educator and mentor."

Delpit's writings include *Other People's Children*, winner of the American Educational Studies Association's Book Critic Award, Choice Magazine's Eighth Annual Outstanding Academic Book Award and a "great book" designation by *Teacher Magazine*; *The Real Ebonics Debate: Power, Language and the Education of African-American Children*; and *The Skin That We Speak: Thoughts on Language and Culture in the Classroom*.

In addition to her MacArthur fellowship, Delpit has received a number of other awards, including the Harvard University Graduate School of Education 1993 Alumni Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education and the Antioch College 2003 Horace Mann Award for winning "some victory for humanity."

"I particularly enjoy, and I'm really being sincere here, being a part of this university," she said. "I have not worked for a university before in which the local community and school system felt so positively about the institution." ■

"Miami is the perfect environment for an honest conversation on how we teach multicultural children in urban classrooms."

- Lisa Delpit



Hans Hofmann, *Out of this World*, 1945, gouache on paper

When the 40,000-square-foot Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum opens at University Park in 2005 — groundbreaking took place Nov. 16 — fans of the campus's current one-room gallery, known as The Art Museum at FIU, will feel like gourmands run amok. Used to enjoying fine cuisine in small doses, soon they will be feasting their eyes nonstop.

"I can't believe it, but it's happening," says Patricia Frost, one half of the couple whose munificence and long-standing vision have helped bring the much-anticipated building to the brink of reality. "This is a dream come true."

COMING into its Own

FIU's Art Museum boasts a big reputation and, soon, a new facility to match

Roy Lichtenstein, *Untitled*, from the *Stockholm Portfolio*, 1973, edition 100 of 300, silkscreen

Boasting several unique features, the \$11 million structure will stand as a gorgeous example of contemporary museum design (see accompanying story). Equally significant, its completion will serve as the high point of a truly distinguished 26-year history for The Art Museum.

"The building will be wonderful to have, and I fought to have it," says Director Dahlia Morgan, who has pined for such a new home for nearly two decades but has managed admirably with much less. "I've never felt our size precluded the highest level of intellectual and aesthetic achievement, but the extra space will allow us to do so much more."

Currently operating with a mere 2,000 square feet of exhibit space and a few small offices in a corner of the oldest academic building on campus, Morgan has presided over an era in which the museum has gained full institutional accreditation, acclaim for its exhibitions, a fiercely devoted following of serious art aficionados, thousands of pieces of high-quality donated artwork and a unique universitywide affiliation with the Smithsonian Institution, the only university art museum to boast such a lending and educational agreement.

"I'm very impressed with what the museum has been able to accomplish," says Betty Perry, widow of FIU's first president, Charles Perry, and a longtime supporter of the arts at FIU. Perry cites Morgan's academic background and personal dealings with both artists and the community as keys to the museum's excellent reputation. "I don't even think you'd be talking about a new museum if it weren't for Dahlia," she says.

Carol Weldon, who like Betty Perry has generously contributed to funding the building construction, likewise gives Morgan kudos. "Dahlia has done a wonderful job. She has worked like crazy for years. She has a natural talent for getting things done."

Part of Morgan's success lies in overcoming the museum's location in off-the-beaten-path southwest Miami-Dade County. An art historian, she regularly takes the museum "on the road" by giving lectures in Fisher Island and at other locales frequented by art devotees. Many of these are philanthropic-oriented collectors who make possible the museum's free public programs.

Even as she goes out into the community, however, Morgan has worked diligently to create a powerful draw to campus. Her acclaimed Critics Lecture Series, funded by an endowment

established by Dorothea and Steven Green, attracts hundreds of people to hear the biggest names in the art world.

"The series is probably one of the most amazing in the country," says Martin Z. Margulies, an internationally recognized art collector and local real estate developer. "I'm shocked Dahlia can even get some of them," he says of the heavyweight guest speakers. The list includes French artist Françoise Gilot, famed architect/designer Michael Graves, art critic Robert Hughes, past director of the Louvre Pierre Rosenberg, Smithsonian Institution Secretary Lawrence Small, Swiss curator Harald Szeemann and scores of others. Morgan has met these luminaries through her travels to the prestigious Venice Biennale and other international art shows.

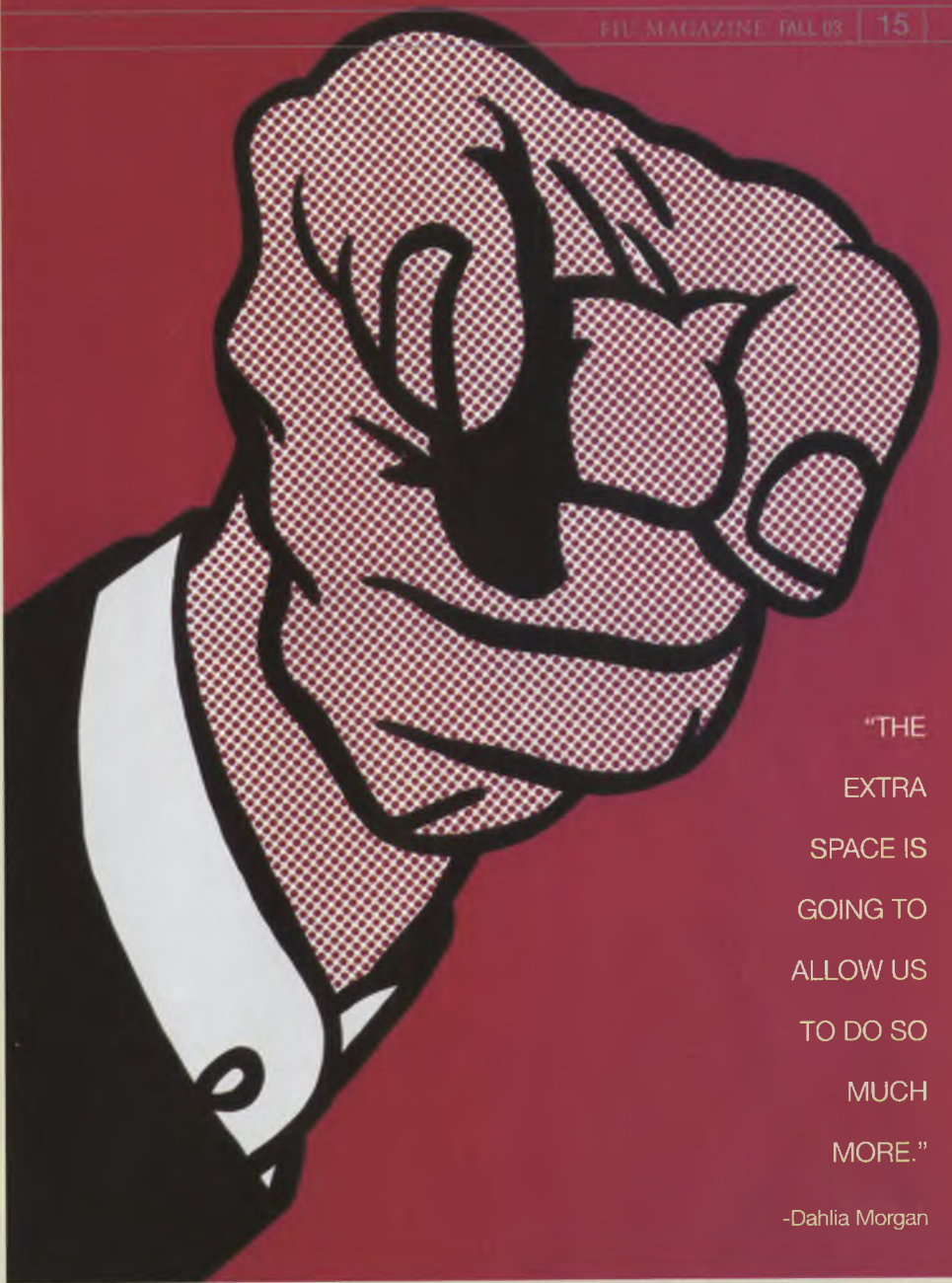
Also capturing attention for the museum, particularly in the early days, were exhibitions of the

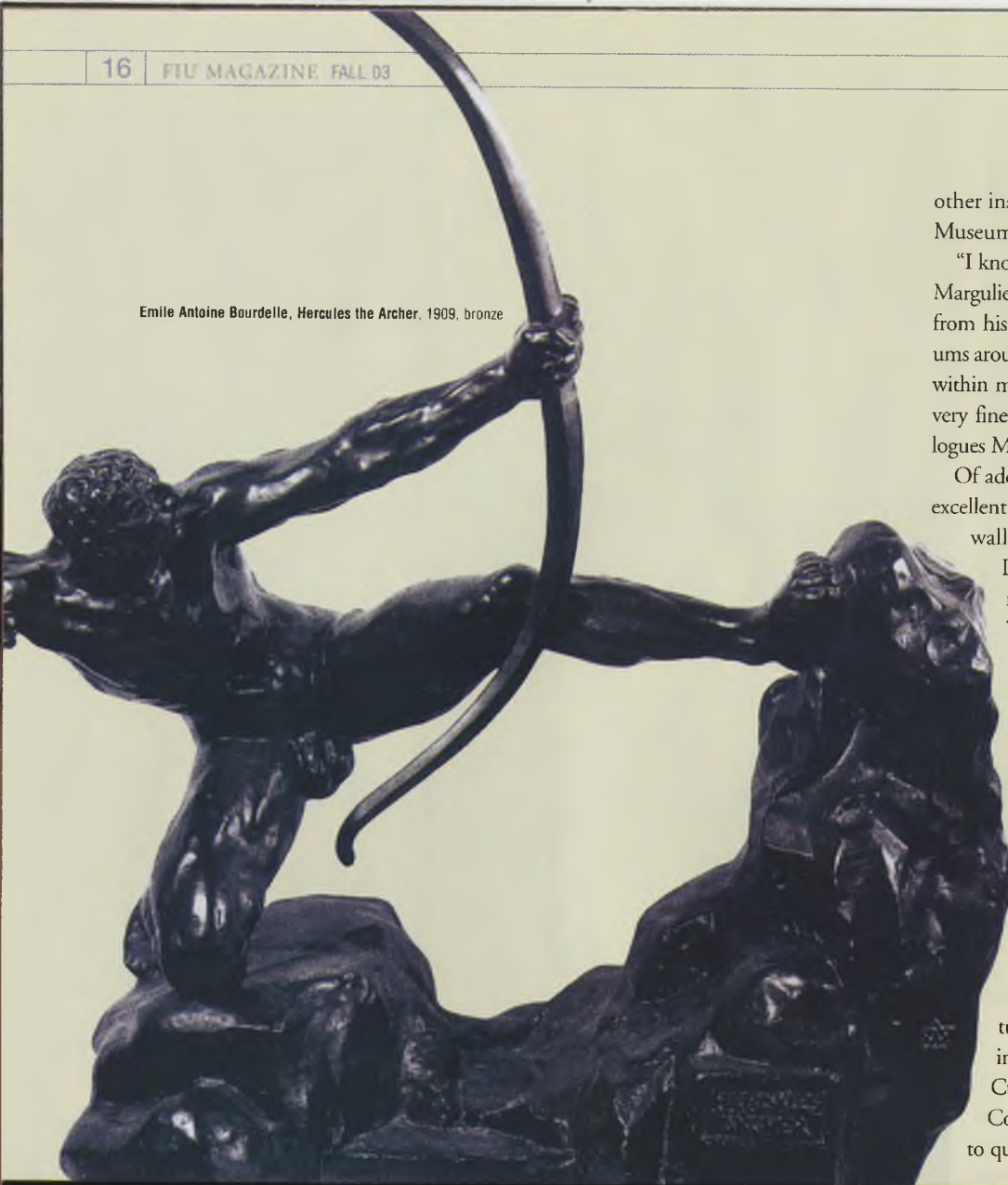
kind never before seen in Miami. Many recall Morgan's organizing original shows featuring surrealism and the avant garde, themes not commonly associated with the South Florida art scene in the 1980s. She opened the doors to the area's first exhibits of painter Marcel Duchamp, sculptor Louise Bourgeois, photographer Alfred Stieglitz and others.

The museum also has become known for mounting homegrown shows based on local collections. Back in 1995, Morgan curated a landmark exhibit of works by sculptors Joan Miro and Isamu Noguchi, for which Margulies loaned dozens of his priceless pieces. The collector — whose monumental stone and metal sculptures, on long-term loan to the University, comprise the bulk of its popular Martin Z. Margulies Sculpture Park — has hesitated to share his artwork with

"THE
EXTRA
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ALLOW US
TO DO SO
MUCH
MORE."

-Dahlia Morgan



Emile Antoine Bourdelle, *Hercules the Archer*. 1909, bronze

other institutions to the same extent he has The Art Museum at FIU.

"I know that Dahlia is going to present it well," says Margulies, who receives requests to borrow objects from his extensive and eclectic collection from museums around the country and even abroad. "I also know, within monetary constraints, she is going to put out a very fine publication," he adds of the exhibition catalogues Morgan produces to accompany the shows.

Of additional note are the museum's exhibitions of excellent work (items are commonly purchased off the walls) by students associated with the Department of Visual Arts and regular installations of its highly regarded American Art Today series, now in its 23rd year.

Taken together, Morgan's instincts and activities have paid off: Upwards of 115,000 visitors annually tour the museum and the outdoor sculpture park, both of which Morgan and her staff actively market to local tourism and convention organizations and to schools.

The current Art Museum was begun in 1977 as a small visual arts gallery that ran student shows and brought in exhibits from New York. Then a professor at FIU, Morgan took over the helm in 1980 with an eye to turning the little gallery — at the time approximately 1,000 square feet — into a "Major Cultural Institution," a title the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs grants to qualified organizations.

Architect and patron: the making of the Frost Museum

The planning of FIU's new museum building at University Park has brought together the perfect match: a wonderfully credentialed architect and a highly committed University trustee and donor.



From left: Yann Weymouth, Patricia Frost, Dahlia Morgan and Director of Facilities Planning & Construction Bob Griffith

From left: Bob Griffith, Executive Vice President of Business & Finance Paul Gallagher, FIU President Modesto A. Maidique and Patricia Frost confer at a planning session.

"We have been blessed in that everyone associated with the new building has given so much," says museum Director Dahlia Morgan. "Yann and Pat, especially, have spent countless hours and untold energy in making sure the final result is not only truly functional but also captures the imagination." She is speaking of Yann Weymouth, design director for the

Tampa-based global firm of Hellmuth Obata + Kassabaum, who is charged with creating a signature structure, and Patricia Frost, who, along with her husband, is the lead donor to the aptly named Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum. Weymouth and Patricia Frost, along with Morgan and the University's Facilities Management personnel,

have spent months discussing details of the long-awaited edifice.

"It's an exciting focal location," Weymouth says of the lakeside parcel on which the museum will be situated, between the Management and Advanced Research Center and the Wertheim Performing Arts Center. The three buildings — and a planned fourth to house the Department of

Visual Arts — will stand along what FIU President Modesto A. Maidique envisions as the "Avenue of the Arts," a tree-lined path intended to celebrate FIU's creative endeavors and heighten the University's cultural profile.

"Hopefully, this will be the jewel of the campus," says Frost of the building. She is a former Miami-Dade County Public School principal and a

By 1983, fast working toward her goal, Morgan managed to establish a full museum facility. She had expanded the museum's mission to include not only the exhibiting of artwork and the organizing of public programs but also the cataloging and preserving of the permanent collection, which today numbers 7,000 pieces and is noted for its growing body of work by Latin American and 20th-century American artists. Morgan's friendships with collectors, both local and out-of-state, have been central to acquiring many of the items. That comprehensive commitment eventually led to full accreditation by the American Association of Museums. Morgan's covered Major Cultural Institution status soon followed.

Rem Cabrera, chief of cultural development at the Department of Cultural Affairs, emphasizes the difficulty of obtaining the designation and declines even to discuss the specific requirements, lest anyone think it easy. "Let's put it this way," he says, "we've got about 1,200 cultural groups in Miami-Dade County. The museum [at FIU] is one of 18" that has earned the title. (The Wolfsonian-FIU, the Miami City Ballet and the Florida Philharmonic are others on the list.) Cabrera adds that the museum's programs, "recognized for their superior qualities," remain a large factor in its success.

In addition to the lectures and a popular Wednesday evening program of artist-led tours,

presentations and performances geared to the University community, the museum hosts educational programs for elementary and high schools and offers popular family days with the goal of fostering an interest in art among youngsters. (The Frost Art Museum will further develop that commitment with a Family Discovery Center aimed at making art accessible to students through grade 12 as well as other specialized audiences.)

As the only art museum in southwest Miami-Dade, Morgan takes seriously a responsibility to serve the local area. She has approached city officials in Sweetwater, which borders the University Park campus, in efforts to reach the surrounding, heavily Nicaraguan-American population and has strategies in mind for generally increasing foot traffic. All of which leads back to the new building and its capacity to support more exhibitions, more outreach programs and more art-related events than ever before.

The desire to engage a larger audience extends to, or perhaps even begins with, the University family, Morgan adds. "Students, faculty and staff will be strongly encouraged to visit the galleries throughout the school day, browse the museum shop, enjoy lunch in the café and study in the meditation garden," she says. "This should be a celebration of art and all that it brings to the different facets of life." The new museum's positioning near the center of campus — beautifully

situated on a lake and a short distance from the 107th Street entrance and the parking garages — should make it easy for most people, whether associated with FIU or coming from outside, to get to there.

With groundbreaking fast approaching, Morgan is quick to thank those instrumental in making the new building possible. She counts the influential "Friends of the Art Museum" as a driving force and credits the museum's major donors, among them B Landon Carlin and Francien Ruwitch, for their vision. Her highest praise she reserves for FIU President Modesto A. Maidique, who likewise expresses excitement about the building.

"I have long shared Dahlia's dream of a free-standing, architecturally distinctive art museum," Maidique says. "The University's friends, so many of whom have had special relationships with our museum for 20 years, have once again come forward to make something magnificent happen. We are truly grateful."

Caught in a rare moment of reflection — final planning sessions with the project's world-renowned architect and the important business of raising programming funds leave little time for such luxuries as sitting back — Morgan sees a brilliant future for her long-awaited Frost Art Museum and can imagine but one eventuality: "It has to be the dynamic heart of the campus." ■

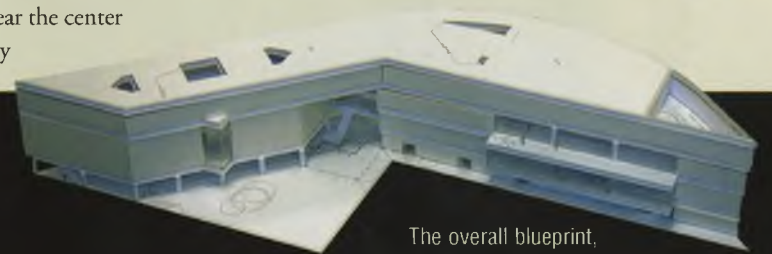
longtime art collector — she and Phillip, a medical doctor who is chairman of the board and CEO of the pharmaceuticals company IVAX, donated a 153-piece American abstract art collection to the Smithsonian in the 1980s — and served on the FIU Foundation board until her appointment by Gov. Jeb Bush to FIU's Board of Trustees.

Weymouth has praised Frost's dedication to the project, and she in turn compliments his talents. "He is not only a creative person who appreciates museum structures," she says "but understands the needs of the University community and its donors."

Weymouth was among five finalists invited to share their ideas for the museum in what amounted to a two-year search. He has worked with the famed architect I.M. Pei on projects for the Louvre

in Paris and the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. and currently has commissions with the Ringling Museum in Sarasota and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

For the three-story, 40,000-square-foot Frost Art Museum, Weymouth has dreamed up several distinctive features that he hopes will "indicate a way forward in museum design in Florida." He has drafted an impressive glass-atrium entrance that visitors will remember for its immediate, clear view to the lake and native trees behind the building. To bring indoors a bit of South Florida's famous and abundant sunshine, he has developed a program that incorporates natural lighting — the very condition under which most artwork is created. He adds, "I cannot even think of an art museum in Florida that has done this." A London-



based lighting expert is helping with the job, a feasible but delicate one given the subtropical sun's potential threat to works on paper.

Driving the design from a pragmatic standpoint are the site's crescent shape and Morgan's directive that Weymouth create a collection of galleries versus the alternative museum model of loft-style interior with moveable walls. At least five galleries are in the works, each planned for the particular size and kind of items it will exhibit: intimate spaces for smaller works on paper, soaring 26-foot ceilings for larger pieces.

The overall blueprint, which includes a museum shop and café as well as classrooms and administrative offices, takes its cues from an intensive building program study that Morgan commissioned from a top company last year. The document established the criteria, based on a construction budget of about \$11 million, for all features of the museum and set the parameters within which Weymouth and the FIU staff must work.

Outside, the building will feature a sculpture deck that will cantilever over the lake and beautiful gardens that will enhance the building.

"It's going to be a marvelous gift to South Florida," architect Weymouth predicts. ■

profile



D • danny
Pino '96

Drug Dealers, Cops & Ricky Ricardo

"Trust me, I would rather be in Miami enjoying the warm tropical sun," FIU alumnus Danny Pino '96 wrote in a recent email, "but this is the glamorous, dreamy, amazing price I have to pay for being in this crazy business."

That "crazy business" has taken Pino from the balmy comfort of his native Miami to settings in New York City, London, Los Angeles and points beyond and thrust him in the company of an unlikely bunch of characters ranging from a classic Hollywood star to sleazy drug dealers and corrupt street cops.

If it sounds like a motley bunch, it's just a career hazard, part of the business that Pino loves with a passion. It's the company Pino keeps to pursue his rapidly burgeoning acting career on the stage and television. Since last fall, Pino, a graduate of FIU's Theatre program, has bounced between Los Angeles and New Zealand for major roles in a television series and a "biopic."

Last May, Pino starred as Desi Arnaz in *Lucy*, a CBS television film about Lucille Ball. Arnaz, the Cuban-born musician, actor and husband of Ball, is best remembered for his role as Ricky Ricardo in the television series *I Love Lucy*. Pino had to learn how to play conga drums and guitar for the role. People magazine praised his "smooth, relaxed performance" in the movie.

"That was an opportunity to play a character that was so influential as an American icon and as a Cuban-American icon," Pino said during a recent phone conversation from Los Angeles. "He was the first Latino and the first Cuban in Hollywood to make it as a comedian actor and as a producer.

Pino's latest role is on the new CBS series *Cold Case*, which airs Sunday nights and is produced by major Hollywood producer Jerry Bruckheimer. Pino plays Scotty Valens, a detective recently pro-

Alumnus plays diverse leading roles on TV and stage



Above: Danny Pino '96 as drug kingpin Armadillo Quintero, the nemesis of strike team detective Vic Mackey (Michael Chiklis)
Opposite page: Pino '96 on the set of *Lucy*

moted to the homicide department in the Philadelphia police department. He is the partner of lead character Lilly Rush (played by Kathryn Morris), the lone female detective on the squad who is assigned to "cold cases," unsolved crimes shelved for several years that become active again.

"I am very excited to be part of this project," Pino said. "The cast is superior, the producers and creative team are exceptional and the network is an exciting place to be."

Earlier this year, Pino was seen as Armadillo Quintero, a sociopathic drug dealer, on *The Shield*, the critically acclaimed and Emmy Award-winning series on the FX Network.

"It was really, really fun – really challenging," said Pino, whose open and amiable nature belies his ability to believably portray the likes of Quintero. "It was certainly a challenge...you have to come from a place of truth [to be convincing]."

In the spring, Pino was in front of cameras again in a leading role of the pilot for Steven Bochco's new series, *NYPD 2069*. Unfortunately, the show was not picked up by FOX as was originally planned.

"It's humbling, frustrating and inspiring at the same time," he said. "You never want to let your guard down, the next big thing could be around the corner. I'm trying to find the next thing that will challenge and inspire me. It keeps you on your toes. ... I feel sort of flattered to be a working professional actor."

The road from Miami to Hollywood began as it does for many actors: on a public school stage. In Pino's case, it was a sixth grade musical in which he played an elderly professor who lost his glasses. The love of acting touched him immediately.

"It's obviously a way to use your imagination and escape from your own way of thinking and developing," he explained.

"More than that is the challenge of pulling it off and making somebody believe you're somebody else. That's what's most fulfilling, that constant challenge."

Pino landed a theatre scholarship to attend FIU. At the University, he played leading roles in plays including *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

"Danny was a charming and talented actor," said Theatre professor Wayne Robinson. "We are very proud but not surprised at his success."

Following his 1996 graduation, Pino received a scholarship to attend the graduate theatre program at New York University (NYU), one of the best in the country.

After NYU, Pino appeared in productions by the New York Shakespeare Festival, Lincoln Center Theatre and the Williamstown Theatre Festival. His first television role was as Clay on the WB TV sitcom *Men, Women and Dogs*, which aired in fall 2001. The show was not renewed beyond its 13-episode run, but Pino considered it an important step in his professional evolution.

"I didn't see myself necessarily as a sitcom kind of actor," he commented. "But the series was an education on how to survive in front of the camera and make it your friend."

After the WB series, Pino returned to the boards in London's West End in the summer of 2002 for a 10-week run of *Up For Grabs*, a play starring Madonna, who personally selected him for the role.

Even with a couple of television series, a starring role in a telefilm and a few plays under his belt, Pino feels like he's just getting started.

"I don't feel like I've necessarily achieved anything yet," he opined. "I say that in the most humble way possible. There's a lot more for me to attempt." ■

ALUMNI

Gayle A. Bainbridge '75



Message from FIUAA President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Serving as president of your Alumni Association has reinforced for me what I suspect many of us have known for a long time: FIU remains one of the most dynamic universities in the country. In response to the association's current theme, "Come Back and See Us Shine," thousands have returned to campus to witness the continuing evolution of our beloved alma mater. Building construction, the addition of new academic programs and increasing enrollment all underscore the University's vibrancy. The latest distinctions conferred by outside organizations and the noted accomplishments of our graduates further attest to the heights we are reaching.

In addition to celebrating these achievements and promoting them to the larger community, the Alumni Association Board of Directors also takes great pride in fostering camaraderie among our members. This past year we held the first Alumni Fishing

Tournament. With 15 boats trolling for the biggest catch, participants had a chance to get acquainted in an exciting setting. The Greek Alumni Reunion, another first that we hope to turn into an annual tradition, proved to be an equally entertaining gathering and an excellent networking opportunity. And during Homecoming Week, we brought together even more of our members at the annual Torch Awards ceremony and dinner dance, a wonderful occasion to honor alumni who have distinguished themselves and brought honor to the University.

Now that we are in football season, everyone has the perfect excuse to come back to campus. How can we better demonstrate our support for FIU's impressive rise than by showing our spirit in the stands!

Gayle A. Bainbridge '75
President
FIU Alumni Association

Alumni Association Board President Gayle Bainbridge '75 (center) with Alumni Association President-Elect Ty Javellana '88, '98 (left) and family



Alumni Association Annual Meeting highlighted by installation of new board

The FIU Alumni Association Annual Meeting in June brought together about 100 members for some serious association business and an entertaining evening of networking.

The primary focus was the introduction and inducting into office of the newly elected board of directors, which will lead the association's activities for the next year. The 2003-04 officers are president: Gayle A. Bainbridge '75, partner, USI Florida Kolisch Insurance; president-elect: Ty N. Javellana '88 '98, president, Javellana Financial Group, LLC; parliamentarian: William R. Trueba, Jr. '90, attorney, Fleit, Kain, Gibbons, Gutman & Bongini P.L.; secretary: Raul Perez Ballaga '97, attorney, Cohen Fox, P.A.; and treasurer: Jose M. Perez De Corcho '93, president, Financial Insurance Brokers, Inc.

The 2003-04 members at large, some of whom have served previous terms, include



rosanna fiske '94

When Rosanna Fiske '94 was 9 years old, she decided she wanted to become a journalist. "I would be in the darkroom with my dad as he was developing pictures of presidents and other hugely important people," says this daughter of a photojournalist who traveled the world with his family. "I used to think, 'Wow, to have that kind of accessibility into so many different people's lives would be kind of neat.'"

Years later, Fiske, an award-winning public relations ace, FIU alumna and adjunct professor in Advertising and Public Relations, has made a name for herself in a field that, while it doesn't afford the same accessibility, offers the variety she came to love as a

reporter after graduating from FIU with a degree in Journalism.

"I say to my students, if you really don't think public relations has a huge influence on what you see, watch and do, really take a look at what you're seeing, watching and doing because half of the stories that we see on television are introduced to the media by someone in public relations," says Fiske, sitting in the Coral Gables offices of Communique Group, the full-service public relations firm she founded with Lourdes Diaz in 1998. Fiske switched careers after being offered a marketing job at double her reporter's salary from one of the sources she interviewed regularly. "The core of public

Feel the Pride!

FIU Alumni Association members Roldan Torres '85 and board members Jose Riguera '86 and Jose Bofill '90



FIU Alumni Association members enjoy tours of The Art Museum at FIU led by museum Director Dahlia Morgan (left).



Former Alumni Association President Ralph Espinosa with '89, '94 Bill Draughon, exec. dir. and assoc. vice president, Alumni Relations



Sergio Abreu '94; Irma Becerra-Fernandez '94; Jorge Bofill '78; Jose C. Bofill '90; George B. Brackett Jr. '76, '77; Slenda C. M. Chan '94; Raymond del Rey '97; Ralph A. Espinosa '89 '94; Andrew Juska '87, '03; Lisa Peniche, '90; Justo Luis Pozo '80; Jose R. Riguera '86; Estelle Vera '88; Susan Webster '87. ■

From UF to FIU

Draughon on Board as New Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations

Saying that he was attracted by the University's "vibrancy and diversity," Bill Draughon has joined FIU as associate vice president of Alumni Relations.

The nine-year veteran of the University of Florida Alumni Association (he was director of Administration and Programs) called the chance to enhance and further develop FIU alumni relations a "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity.



Draughon says he looks forward to working with others to strengthen membership in the FIU Alumni Association. Some of his proposed strategies include enhancing outreach efforts and developing new events ("We can't expect our alumni to always come to us; we have to go to them"); engaging current students and expanding programs/services for them ("It's a fact that the quality of a student's experience while at a university greatly impacts their level of participation with the university after graduation"); retooling current communications with alumni ("We need to have a comprehensive, integrated communication strategy"); enhancing existing and developing new strategic alliances, partnerships and sponsorships ("We hope to partner with others to help develop FIU traditions, among other things"); and heightening focus on market research and program evaluation ("We need to know what our alumni are interested in and need so that we can

develop programs and future business plans that address those needs").

"When you look at how far FIU has come in a relatively short amount of time, it's on a sharp ascending level," he commented. "This is a university I want to be a part of and help grow." ■

First Annual Greek Alumni Reunion is a Success!

More than 275 former fraternity brothers and sorority sisters attended the First Annual FIU Greek Alumni Reunion held in July at the Big Fish restaurant in downtown Miami.

As one attendee commented, "Awesome turnout, good atmosphere and of course many interesting re-unifications. Way to go!"

During the course of the night many old friends reconnected and reminisced about FIU days gone by. Conversations moved from remembering mixers and parties to current life developments such as marriages, babies and new jobs.

relations is not only to inform the public, but also to persuade or change public opinion, not necessarily just communicate it."

Fiske has done it well, developing successful bilingual communications programs for local, national and international clients. She handled public relations for Charles Schwab's online trading launch into Latin America and American Airlines' 1997 pilot strike. She was vice president of Ketchum Public Relations Worldwide in Miami when she took a leap of faith and launched her own firm at the urging of a client. In the 12 years prior to that, she had earned a reputation as a leader in multilingual, integrated communications in local, U.S. Hispanic and Latin American markets. For Fiske, striking out on her own gave her

a chance to reacquaint herself with all that she loved about the field.

"When you are in a bigger agency and you grow in that agency, you spend a lot less time doing the actual work and more time just managing people and budgets and business development," she says. "I really, really missed the strategizing with clients."

Last year, the Multicultural Communications Section of the Public Relations Society of America honored her with the 2002 D. Parke Gibson Pioneer Award, a prestigious honor presented to a public relations practitioner for increasing awareness of public relations within multicultural communities and participating in the promotion of issues that meet the special

informational and educational needs of these diverse communities.

As she considers her diverse ethnic background ("I'm a Cuban Spaniard Chinese Jewish woman, and I don't think many Cuban Americans can claim that," she says with a laugh), innate interest in the world's cultures and life with a husband who grew up in nine different countries, Fiske is still awed by this most recent accolade acknowledging her multicultural expertise.

"It has been pretty fabulous to join the company of previous winners such as Ofield Dukes, who was a member of Martin Luther King Jr.'s inner circle and still remains a counselor to the King family," she says. "To be recognized by my peers in this manner has been amazing and humbling." ■

ALUMNI

Greek alumni: (from left) Carmen Roca, Victor Romano '02, Cedric McMinn '01 and Maggie Jimenez '00

Greek alumni: (from left) Fernando '95 and Maggie Menendez, Marisel '96 and Jeff '97 Lieberman, Victor '97 and Michelle '95 Torres



President Modesto A. Maidique, Deborah Egurrola '99, '02 and Provost Mark Rosenberg

deborah egurrola '99

Florida International University College of Business Administration (CBA) alumna Deborah Egurrola '99, '02 had a lot to be proud of when she received the highest score in Florida on the May 2002 Uniform CPA Exam. Now, she has even more reason to be excited: Hers was the top score in the nation. As a result, she has been awarded the prestigious American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Elijah Watt Sells Gold Medal.

The AICPA award was created in 1923 to honor Elijah Watt Sells, a founding partner of Haskins & Sells, the predecessor to Deloitte & Touche. It is presented to the CPA candidates who attain the highest combined grades when taking all four sections of the Uniform CPA Exam at one administration.

Egurrola graduated summa cum laude from the CBA in 1999 with both a B.B.A. in Management Information Systems and a Bachelor of Accounting from the College's School of Accounting. She earned a Master of Taxation from the College in 2002 and currently is working toward a Juris Doctorate from Yale Law School. She plans to pursue a career in federal regulatory matters for both the public and private sectors.

"Dr. Rolf Auster, my professor at the CBA, inspired me to combine my dual interests in accounting and the law," said Egurrola. "Being a CPA helps me highlight the link between the law and its practice."

The Uniform CPA Exam is administered each May and November and taken by more than 120,000 candidates. Egurrola is one of only five candidates who earned the Gold Award from among a pool of more than 50,000 who sat for the examination last May. Three other FIU accounting students from the last two graduating classes also scored in the top ten on the Florida CPA exam. They are: Adrian Valencia, who graduated from FIU with a Bachelor of Accounting (1997) and a Master of Accounting (1999); Tian Shu Chu, who received a Master of Accounting (2000) and Jose Miguel Iglesias, who currently is in the College's Executive Master of Science in Taxation program. ■



A planning committee of current staff and alumni organized the event. The committee is looking to plan other events for the FIU Greek alumni and is in the process of creating the FIU Greek Alumni Chapter.

To assist in planning or to become a member, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 305-348-3334 or email kramers@fiu.edu. ■



FIU Alum's Book, *Mystic River*, Now a Major Motion Picture

FIU Creative Writing alumnus Dennis Lehane '01 received prominent

billing in the credits for the new star-studded, Clint Eastwood-directed film that hit theaters nationwide on Oct. 8. Lehane penned the book, *Mystic River*, a psychological thriller, on which the movie of the same name is based.

The story deals with three boyhood friends reunited following the murder of one of the trio's adult daughter. Starring in the big-screen version of the tale are heavy-hitters Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, Tim Robbins and Sean Penn. Critics have called the film "a masterpiece" and "a movie so powerful you won't be able to forget it."

Prof. John Dufresne still remembers celebrating with Lehane at a local pub following word that the then-graduate student's first novel, *A Drink Before the War*, had been accepted by a publisher. That success, Dufresne says, had a lot to do with Lehane's incredible drive, and the best-selling author himself claims to have gone through a dozen drafts of the book before striking pay dirt.

"He arrived [at FIU] with considerable talent and skill and, more importantly, a passion to write," Dufresne recalls. "All we had to do was turn him loose. Even as a student, he stayed up all night writing while his roommates played video games in the parlor. Nothing interfered with his work."

Lehane's undeniable writing abilities notwithstanding, his professors in the Creative Writing Program did agree that one story in the collection he submitted as his theses was weak, when compared to the others, and needed reworking.

"We asked him to rewrite [it]," Dufresne says, adding that even the first version "was still damn good, mind you." That story eventually grew into *Mystic River*.

Lehane's other novels includes *Darkness*, *Take my Hand*, *Sacred*, *Gone Baby Gone* and *Prayers for Rain* (to which Paramount Pictures holds film rights), all of which feature the same pair of Boston private investigators. His latest book, *Shutter Island*, which like *Mystic River* deals with new characters, was released earlier this year. ■

Catching the Big Ones:

First Annual Fishing Tournament a Huge Success

On June 22, 2003, the FIU Alumni Association marked another first when it hosted its first Annual Fishing Tournament. The teams departed from Monty's in Miami Beach, where the boats were registered by event organizers Jose Bofill '90 and Jose Perez de Corcho '93.

The event included teams from US Lec, Marine Max and others. Each team consisted of four anglers and prizes were awarded for largest dolphin, aggregate dolphin and largest kingfish.

Feel the Pride!

Showing off their catches (from left): Luis de La Aguilera, Jose Perez de Corcho '93, Oscar Bustillo Jr., Felix Garcia



Enjoying a whale of a day: (from left) Kevin Wu, Ty Javellana '88, '98, Tony Pornprinya and Pablo Guerra



Top educators: (from left) Elena Jakubowicz '01, Eva Hernandez '92, '00, Matthew Welker '76, '77, '89, Mona Bethel Jackson '01, Janet Hupp '75, '83



More than 15 boats and 60 participants competed for cash and prizes. The prize winners included: tournament winner “Top Anglers,” with Captain Tony Perez receiving a check for \$1,000 and a hand-crafted sculpture created and donated by Gary Traczyk; the largest dolphin was caught by Angler Alan Machado, who received a check for \$500 and a trident rod holder donated by Tigress; largest kingfish and Lady Angler Winner, Pamela Mullins, aboard “Pickup Line,” who received a check for \$250; and Junior Angler Winner and second place largest dolphin, Taylor Mullins-Flores. There were many other prizes and awards.

The event was preceded by a Saturday night Captain’s Party and followed by a Dock Party at the Weigh-in, with barbecued ribs and chicken for all participants.

A special thanks goes out to the sponsors of this fabulous event: Marine Max; Tigress Outriggers and Gear; Financial Insurance Brokers; Bofill & Vilar, P.A.; and Bacardi.

All proceeds of the tournament will benefit FIU scholarship funds. The event was a tremendous success, and plans already are being discussed for next year’s tournament.

FIU Education Alumni Win Four “Best Of” Awards from Miami-Dade County Public Schools

It was like sweeping the major awards at the Oscars.

FIU College of Education alumni garnered four major awards presented by the Miami-Dade Public Schools earlier this year — a reflection of the college’s excellence and impact on the local school system.

The following FIU alumni garnered the awards:

- **Principal of the Year:**
Janet Hupp '75, '83
Miami Palmetto Senior High
- **Teacher of the Year:**
Eva Hernandez '92, '00
Mae Walters Elementary School
- **Rookie Teacher of the Year:**
Elena Jakubowicz '01
The English Center
- **Assistant Principal of the Year:**
Matthew Welker '76, '77, '89
Dr. Michael Krop Sr. High School

Mona Bethel Jackson, the principal of Richmond Heights Middle School and a current doctoral student at FIU, was also named Runner-up to Principal of the Year.

Commenting on the award, Hupp said, “It’s an honor but it’s not about just one person ... it’s about a team of people working together, all of us being on the same page and sharing the vision of educational excellence. A lot of my education [at FIU] was cooperative, a lot of it was in the field. That cooperation helped me in good stead to learn how to work with people, cooperate and reach consensus.”

Hernandez, was honored at Spring Commencement exercises with its Alumni Service Medallion, reflecting the University’s strong support of the local education and its commitment to produce quality teachers for Florida’s classrooms.

“We are proud that our alumni teach many of our community’s children, and we are committed to providing the finest programs to educate tomorrow’s teachers,” said Linda Blanton, dean of the college. “We are

gratified when our alumni, the primary product of our mission, receive recognition for their outstanding work.”

More than 25 percent of the new teachers hired each year by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools are FIU graduates. Last year, the college attracted more than \$6.5 million in external grants and funding. ■

 **SEND US**

Your Latest Information and Photos

Do you have a new email address? Telephone number? Has your mailing address changed? We need your updated information so that we can share the good news with you about the latest FIU happenings – and so that you can share your good news with us!

The fastest way to notify us of changes is to do it online. Just visit the FIU Alumni Relations web site at www.fiu.edu/alumni and click on “Address Update” and/or “Class Notes.” It’s that easy.

In future issues of *FIU Magazine*, we’ll be running photos of Golden Panthers showing their “true colors” all around the globe. We’re inviting FIU alumni to send in photographs of themselves showing their FIU spirit. FIU T-shirts, hats or blue-and-gold outfits are desired. Send the photo along with a brief note including your name, class year, where you’re living and what you’re doing professionally. If you’d like to send a digital image, send it to Sean.Kramer@fiu.edu. If you’d like to send a print photograph, send it to Sean Kramer, assistant director, Alumni Relations, FIU, University Park, MARC 510, Miami, FL 33199.

ALUMNI

CLASS NOTES

1970s

Pamela Marie Moeler '72, is a special education teacher in the Oologah School System in Oklahoma. She received her master's from Oklahoma State University.

Carole Bernstein '73, is president of Get Smart Educational Superstores.

Regynald Washington '74, has been elected chairman of the National Restaurant Association. He is vice president and general manager of Disney Regional Entertainment, based in Glendale, CA.

Ana M. Guillen '75, owner of the accounting firm Guillen and Associates, is president of the Dade County Enrolled Agents Association. She also is president of the non-profit organization Friends of the Dade County Commission on the Status of Women.

Janet Hupp '75 '83, is principal of Miami Palmetto High School in Miami, where she also served as assistant principal of curriculum, teacher/department chairperson and school-based chairperson over the past 25 years. Under her leadership, Palmetto High was recently named one of the nation's "Top 100 High Schools" by Newsweek. Earlier this year, she was named Principal of the Year by the Miami-Dade County Public School System.

Gersie Hannah Arnold '76, is the activities director at Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School.

Doris Bass '77, is retired from the FIU Elders Institute, where she taught psychology courses, conducted training workshops for the South Florida Center on Aging and worked as a trainer and facilitator in the field of grief and bereavement.

Delmi B. Gunawardena '77, '90, is an assistant professor of literacy at Cleveland State University. She is currently on the board of trustees of Esperanza, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports Hispanic students through work-service programs and scholarships.

Dominique H. Carvonis '78, a hotel owner in Haiti, is working to raise \$3.5 million in cash and equipment for necessary upgrades to the not-for-profit Haitian Community Hospital in Port-au-Prince.

James S. Rosa '78, has served in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years, including two tours in the Pentagon and in Operation Desert Storm.

He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Air Force Association, the Retired Officer Association and the FIU Alumni Association.

Jessica Irene Carroll '79, '82, '92, has taught at Miami-Dade Community College since 1984 and serves currently as an interim associate dean.

Roberta Kressel '79, has been named executive vice president of Human Resources for BankUnited.

1980s



Jeanne A. Becker '80, has been named a director of the South Florida chapter of The Gift of Adoption Fund. The organization provides cash grants or interest-free loans to help qualified families adopt a child. She is president of Becker

Consulting Services, Inc., a public relations and marketing consulting firm based in Coral Gables and established in 1988.

Ronald Lee Bierman '80, is president and CEO of Lower Keys Medical Center. Additionally, he serves on the board of directors of the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association and the University of Miami's Advisory Board for its MBA in health administration program.

Alicia G. Moreyra '80, is the administrative director for the division in charge of language arts/reading programs in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. She also co-directs the consortium for America Reads! with five local universities, including FIU. She has taught for nearly 30 years at all levels from primary grades to university-level courses.

Dawn Tarnofsky-Ostroff '80, is president of UPN Entertainment Network.

Diane Delella '81, has been promoted to executive vice president and chief financial officer of MetroBank in Miami.

Jeff Mylton '81, was promoted to senior vice president of Commercial Banking for First Charter Bank in Charlotte, North Carolina. Mylton specializes in commercial real estate and corporate lending.

Bert Medina '83, is general manager of Univision's Chicago television station, the company's largest station.

Bill Sablesak '83, has launched SableAir, an aviation consulting company. Sablesak, a former

mer pilot with Continental Airlines and Eastern Airlines, started the business with his wife Susan, a pilot for Northwest Airlines. The couple reside in Franklin, Kentucky.

Nura P. Gonzalez '84, '01, was the chief clinical dietitian at Cedars Medical Center for 10 years and now teaches the dietetic aide program at Lindsey Hopkins Technical Education Center in Miami-Dade County.

Dawn O'Flannery Walzak '86, vice president of Tishman Hotels, was selected by *Travel Weekly Magazine* as one of the top 40 young industry leaders influencing changes in the travel and tourism industry. Walzak serves on the board of industry advisors to FIU's School of Hospitality & Tourism Management.



Marcia Diaz de Villegas '87, is director of marketing and public relations of Miami Children's Hospital in Miami. The hospital's marketing department recently won awards from Healthcare Marketing Report and the Florida Hospital

Association for its "Dreams" print and television ad campaign.

Paul Jacob '87, is vice president for Advertising with Bell South.

Gabriel Gabor '88, is director of Communications for NBA Latin America.

Maria Amalia Volker '89, teaches in Douglas County high schools in Castlerock, CO.

1990s

Lidia Mayra Benitez-Gonzalez '90, is the assistant principal at Whispering Pines Elementary.

Raul Bermudez '90, has been promoted to vice president of Charter Sales and Marketing for The Moorings in St. Petersburg, FL. Bermudez has held several positions with the company since 1998.

Michael Baglino '92, has performed in movies and national commercials and is currently the lead singer for Michael Matone and the Masters of Jazz, performing at casinos, clubs and most recently for President George W. Bush at the Minneapolis Target Center.

Rita Ferro '92, is vice president of International Sales for ESPN, Coral Gables.

Georgette Menocal Guerra '92, received her master's degree in elementary education from Nova Southeastern University. She is certified in educational leadership and serves

Feel the Pride!

as the assistant principal at Olympia Heights Elementary.

Annie Roques-Hernandez '92, graduated from the University of Miami School of Law in May 2003.

Cristina McNenny Albernill '93, has been an art teacher in the magnet arts program at Norland Middle School and Palmer Trinity School, where she most recently served as chair for the Department of Visual Arts. She is a professional artist and has exhibited in South America, Spain and the United States.

Albert Corrada '93, started his own full-service accounting firm, Albert Corrada, CPA, PA, in Coral Gables.

Martin J. Jacobs '93, is an associate professor in and chair of the Department of Adolescent, Career and Special Education at Murray State University in Kentucky.

Lily Diaz Azel '94, is president of Children's Psychology Associates in Weston, the largest pediatric multidisciplinary psychology and rehabilitative practice in South Florida.

Gabriel Jimenez '94, has been reappointed chair of the Hispanic/Latino Lawyers Committee of the North Carolina Bar Association. Jimenez also recently formed Jimenez Law Offices, PLLC.

Eduardo Arista '95, president and founder of Arista Law, a boutique law firm in Coral Gables, has been admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court.

Paul Satty '96, is assistant principal at Lyons Creek Middle School in Coconut Creek, FL.

Jose Baldan '97, recently was appointed second lieutenant in the Army. Baldwin was a member of the Army Reserve prior to receiving his new post.

Judith S. Berson '97, was selected a "Woman Worth Knowing" by the City of Miami Beach's Committee on the Status of Women.

Christine Elisabeth Geschwill '97, is pursuing a career in project management for a company that focuses on the renovation and restoration of historic buildings in the Miami Beach area.

Kim Hogan '97, has joined Bode Trading Corporation as its chief financial officer. Bode is a Miami-based export company and purchasing agent.

Lyle Larson '97, a graduate of Georgetown Law School, is now partner with Balch &

Bingham LLP, practicing in the field of energy and public utility law.

Rebeca Barbra '98, is a Direct Marketing account executive for Royal Caribbean International, Miami.

Alan Lips '98, has been promoted to partner of the Miami Beach accounting firm Gerson Preston & Co., PA.

Javier Francisco Canut '99 is an active member of the American Red Cross. He teaches lifeguarding skills, first aid and CPR. He is currently employed by the City of Dania Beach as a marine safety officer.

Edson Mena '99, a financial analyst for Lennar Corporation in Miami, is attending Duke University where he will graduate with an MBA in 2004.

Mary Morla '99, graduated from Stetson University with J.D. and MBA degrees in May 2003.

2000s

Nicole De Lara '00, is press secretary for the Florida Speaker of the House.

Shivani Desai '00, is Basketball Operations coordinator for the Miami Heat.

Princell Hair '00, is news director for KCBA-TV in Los Angeles.

Steve Massena '00, is the chief of Information Systems for the U.S. Air Force and is stationed in Hawaii. Massena maintains more than 500 workstations and 14 servers, manages all of the telecommunication needs of the squadron and advises upper management on all IT issues.

Phoebe Moll '00, is an account executive with BBDO Worldwide Advertising, New York.

Amy Robin Wiesenberg '00, is a registered dietician at Jackson Memorial Hospital and teaches at FIU-Biscayne Bay Campus.

Lauren Colon '01, was promoted to Human Resource Services manager for onboard duty-free concessionaire Starboard Cruise Services, a subsidiary of Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessey in Miami.

Hal R. Pitts '01, lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard, is commanding the construction of the new FIR Coast Guard Cutter, a 225-foot-long vessel.

Ed Redlich '01, has been named vice president of ComReal Miami, Inc. He also was recognized as the top producer in 2002 for leading the commercial real estate side of the firm. Currently, Redlich is pursuing his Certified Commercial Investment Member designation.

Melissa Viana '01, was recently promoted to account executive for Burger King's advertising division in Miami.

Toni Arce '02, is assistant corporate buyer in the Burdines division of Federated Department Stores in Miami. Arce focuses on the purchasing and managing of the dress accessories areas of all Burdines stores.

Noemi Martinez '02, is the volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity in Miami.

Pilar Vasallo '02, is vice president of J.E.M. Quality Printers, Inc. The company has just expanded its operations.

Carlos Berrio '03, senior project estimator for Austin Commercial, is part of the development team of the Miami International Airport's North Terminal Program (NTP). The NTP is a \$1.5 billion project led through Miami-Dade County for use by American Airlines.

Richard Candia '03, has been named assistant vice president of Government Relations for the University of Miami. Prior to joining the University of Miami, Candia was the director of Government Relations for FIU for six years.

Monique Catoggio '03, was recently promoted to director, Alumni and Partner Relations, in FIU's College of Business Administration and Chapman Graduate School of Business. Catoggio is responsible for building the college's Alumni Chapter, Dean's Alumni Circle and its corporate partners.

Vickie Melendez '03, is production assistant for CBS' Evening News with Dan Rather.

Marc Poliquin '03, has been named global product leader, directors and officers liability, second vice president, for General Electric in Coral Gables.

Juan Felipe Wills '03, has been promoted to vice president in the Technology Infrastructure department of Citigroup Latin America in Miami. Wills is responsible for the technology infrastructure portion of Voice Engineering and Voice Operations Management in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

ALUMNI

FIU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following individuals are Lifetime Members of the FIU Alumni Association. We salute these alumni for their strong dedication and commitment to Florida International University. For information on Alumni Association membership, call 305-348-3334 or go to www.fiu.edu/docs/alumni-join.htm.

- Brian D. Abramson '96, '96
 Marjorie S. Acker '79, '96
 Paula I. Ackley '77
 Bobby J. Addison '01
 Mark W. Adkins '80
 Maria H. Alam '83, '96
 Ellen B. Alderman '82
 Manuel Almuina '86
 Sondra Alperin '80
 Judy Altman '77
 Cecilia M. Altonaga '83
 Judith G. Anderson '79
 Janet S. Antonacci '80
 Abraham S. Anzardo '98
 Stewart L. Appellrouth '80
 Gail Appellrouth '77
 Joseph Arbolaez '94
 Miguel A. Argueta '90
 Blanca R. Armenteros-Polo '86, '89
 Gene D. Arnold '76
 Tahir Awan '87
 Daniel Azel '96, '98
 Francine M. Azel '95
 Melba H. Badali, RN '84, '78
 Wade Bader '92
 Michael A. Baiamonte '86
 Jeffrey S. Bailey
 Gayle A. Bainbridge A.A.I. '75
 Edward T. Baker '89
 Jo Anne C. Bander '80
 Silvia C. Bannister '95
 Walter A. Barna '81
 Zoraida A. Barreiro '98
 John N. Barrett '81
 Paul E. Barrett '97
 Maria D.I.C. Barrios '97, '01
 Mehran Basiratmand '83, '88
 Doris Bass '74, '77
 John M. Baxter '99
 Ricardo J. Beato '78
 Carlos A. Becerra '98, '01
 Aina E. Becker '75
 Claude C. Beebe, Jr. '79
 Mayra E. Beers '95
 Frederick J. Beers '76, '77
 Robert Bell '81
 David G. Berry '92
 Philip S. Birmelin '90
 Richard J. Blohm '73
 Michael R. Blynn '76
 Jorge Bofill '78
 Frank J. Bolanos '78
 Lourdes M. Bonderud '77
 Denis L. Bonderud '77
 Doria V. Bonham-Yeaman '83
 Ronald L. Book, Esq. '74
 Robert H. Bosselman, R.D. '82
 Maria E. Brackett '74, '78
 George B. Brackett, Jr. '76, '77, '77
 Patricia E. Bradley '74
 Michael H. Braid '73
 Jorge L. Bravo '91
 H. K. Bressant '94
 Pamela S. Britton '76
 Ronald E. Britton '76
 June M. Buckle '77
 William L. Budd '75, '75
 Lisa Burt '94 B.Acc
 Carol C. Butts '82
 Onelio M. Cabeza '88
 Jodi L. Cabrera
 Carlos B. Cabrera, Esq. '97
 Rafael Cabrera, Jr. '82
 William J. Cachinero '89
 Maria I. Cadenas, CPA '83
 Debra L. Calabro
 Dominic M. Calabro, Sr. '78
 Armando Camejo '89, '94
 Teresita Camejo '01
 Manuel Caminas '77
 Ana R. Caminas, CPA '74
 Mark A. Campagnolo '80
 Miriam C. Campo '95
 Philip J. Campo '95
 Maryellen Canfora '79, '81
 James J. Canty '98
 Robert D. Caplan '85
 Michael Capote '98, '98
 Joseph S. Carvelli, II '75
 Joan D. Casanova '00
 Robert P. Castillo '00
 Carlos B. Castillo, Esq. '88
 Manuel J. Castro '93
 Monique Catoggio '03
 Kathleen A. Cegles, PT '76, '76
 Phillip H. Chait '83
 Arthur E. Chapman '73, '73
 Beverly Childress '78
 Dennis J. Chin, CPA '81
 Pyong H. Cho '81
 Margaret A. Christy '75
 Barbara A.H. Cilik '76, '79
 Hugh A. Cook '77
 Clyde G. Corley '84
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Profession

Group CEO, Union Planters Bank

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MSM Accounting, 1976

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Favorite memories of your time at FIU?

My best memories are of working as a graduate assistant, helping in the accounting lab and doing research. The research was on users of financial statements.

How has your FIU experience helped you in life?

In business?

My FIU experiences certainly helped me reach my educational and professional objectives—passing the CPA exam, for instance. I think that I have used what I learned at FIU in just about everything that I have done in my professional career. All the knowledge that I acquired there, from corporate social responsibility all the way through tax to auditing to accounting to management—everything.

Any advice you would offer to FIU students?

Balance. Dedicate the necessary and right amount of time to education, but also to enjoying all of your schoolmates and learning from them and their experiences. Have a good time while you're doing it.

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William Glackens, Portrait of a Russian Lady, 1910, oil on linen.



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