

2017 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

STUDENT SUCCESS

FAU has embarked on its journey to become the nation's fastest improving public research university. Specifically, the institution is focused on increasing retention and graduation rates, and decreasing time to degree. In 2016, FAU tied with UCF as the state's top ranked university in the State University System Board of Governors' performance-based funding model. The University has risen from 10th place the first year, to 5th place last year, to 1st place this year. It is clear the University is reaping the benefits of its student success initiatives and strategic plan. Moreover, FAU remains committed to improving all aspects of performance and ensuring that its students stay at the institution, graduate as quickly as possible, and go on to successful careers.

JUPITER RESEARCH BUILDING

The Jupiter Research Building is a component of the University's Jupiter Life Science Initiative, which is transforming FAU's John D. MacArthur Campus into a hub of scientific inquiry, innovation, and economic development. Funds will be utilized to construct a 72,000 gsf facility that will provide research and instructional space to support the recruitment/retention of new research faculty and the program's student enrollment growth. In 2015, FAU, Scripps and Max Planck entered into a shared facilities agreement that provides faculty and students access to \$20 million of state-of-the-art scientific equipment, while simultaneously increasing operational efficiency and saving the state of Florida millions of dollars.

HONORS COLLEGE EXPANSION AND ENROLLMENT GROWTH

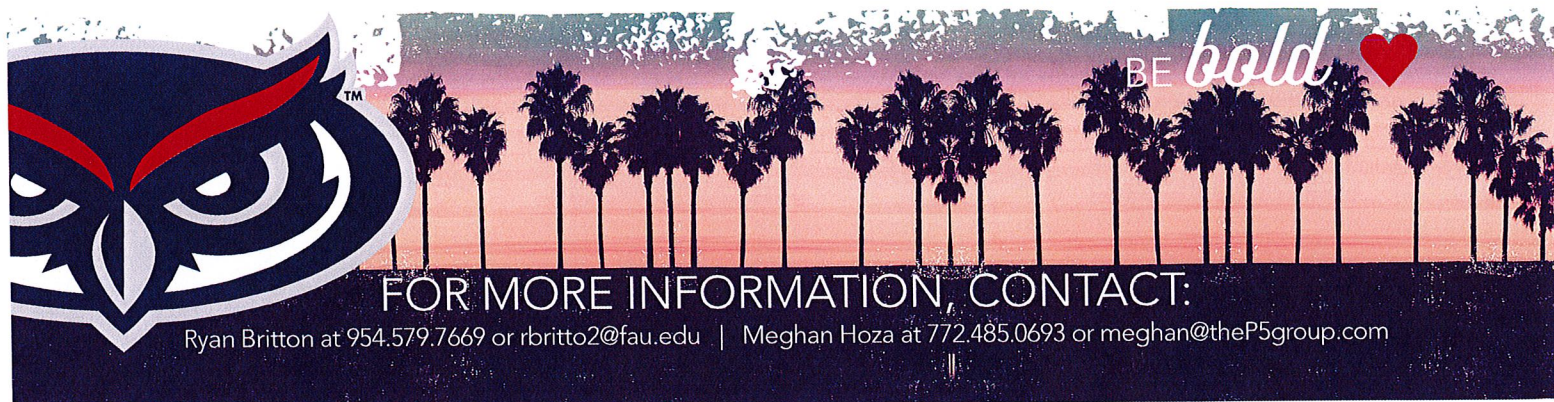
FAU's Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College is a selective, residential college located on FAU's Jupiter campus. Offering a BA and BS in liberal arts and sciences, the Wilkes Honors College boasts an 81% six-year graduation rate and 88% retention rate. Expanding the enrollments at the Honors College will have far-reaching impacts on the University's overall student success efforts. These students have the opportunity to engage in a 100% honors curriculum, as well as in hands-on state-of-the-art research experiences with outstanding faculty mentors. Specifically, this request will provide for academic planning, recruitment scholarships to accommodate increased enrollments, additional internships and start-up packages to recruit world-class faculty.

TECH RUNWAY

Tech Runway is based on best practices developed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Stanford University, and combines the resources of FAU with the local business community to create an ecosystem that is conducive to the development of successful technology start-ups. Since its inception in 2014, Tech Runway has launched 29 start-up companies, which collectively have raised \$17.976 million in capital and created more than 239 jobs.

KISSIMMEE RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

The restoration of the Kissimmee River represents a critical link in the ecological and economic future of the greater Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Estuaries-Everglades system. It is the largest of its kind ever to be undertaken, attracting interest from around the globe. FAU will expand its cyber-intensive, Indian River Lagoon monitoring network to the Kissimmee River. This expansion will further establish FAU as a regional resource and a global leader for monitoring, managing, and restoring water bodies while simultaneously catalyzing a new restoration economy in Florida.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Ryan Britton at 954.579.7669 or rbritto2@fau.edu | Meghan Hoza at 772.485.0693 or meghan@theP5group.com