

FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

THE ROAR



JULY 2020

Celebrating

THE ROAR

MARCHING BAND

IN THIS ISSUE

Introducing The FMU Social Justice Institute

Creating Key Partnerships

FMU Alumni School Principals

FLORIDA
MEMORIAL
UNIVERSITY
A PROMISE. A FUTURE.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED AND EMPOWERED

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WORDS *of* ENCOURAGEMENT

Greetings Family,

This month, our Florida Memorial University family mourns the loss of three courageous iconic champions for equality. Congressman John Lewis, the Reverend C.T. Vivian and our very own, FMU Trustee Emeritus, Dr. John W. Ruffin, Jr. These esteemed gentlemen epitomized integrity, leadership, and dignity. Fueled by their personal mission and passion, they believed their purpose in life was to make the world a better place. Their voices, resources, and positions of influence helped to eliminate the systemic injustices that have subjugated many Americans for 400 years. They fought the good fight, they kept the faith, and finished their race. At Florida Memorial, we will continue to build upon the legacies of these outstanding icons of humanity.

The start of a new academic year is an exciting time because we witness the blossoming of life on university campuses. It is a time when current students reconnect and new students are trying to establish themselves. We are looking forward to the start of our new academic year (AY) when the Lion Pride reconvenes and welcomes new Lions to the Pride. This year, we are adding some exciting new initiatives to expand and elevate our university. Some of those new programming includes:

- eSports
- New degree and certificate/badge programs
- Rebirth of football
- Band
- Women's softball and flag football
- Competitive dance and cheer

Despite limitations associated with the novel coronavirus, our fall semester will be done in the safest manner possible to protect students, faculty, staff, and community partners. Utilizing a hybrid model, classes will be provided via face-to-face and virtually. Regarding details about our fall semester and the safety measures in place, please click on the following link: www.fmuniv.edu.

Although our nation is in a conundrum and dealing with racial tension, lack of leadership, and a pandemic, it is imperative that we do not lose site of the most important issues: Voting, eradicating systemic racism, and staying safe. The influx of obfuscated media messaging around the coronavirus pandemic and the reopening of our public schools, colleges and universities, to name a few, are being used as strategic distractors. It is imperative we remain attentive and take the upcoming elections seriously. Your vote is extremely important; so much so, that deliberate efforts are aimed at obstructing the very core of our democratic process.

It is my belief that we have more in common than not; therefore, let's focus on our commonalities to build a better world. If you have been blessed and fortunate in life, help me make a difference in the lives of students who need a little support to obtain a quality education. Please call me and let's discuss how you can establish a scholarship or support programs at Florida Memorial University. I can be reached at (786) 314-9704.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Dr. Jaffus Hardick". The signature is stylized and written in cursive.

Dr. Jaffus Hardick

Overcoming TROUBLE

JOHN 16:33 – “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

In this moment, we are all under duress or pressure (John 16:33, Job 14:1). We are dealing with COVID-19, an existential threat to our lives. We are watching middle class and poor families being pushed to the brink while the aristocrats thrive and set new records of wealth acquisition. We are watching the old story of racism continue to unfold as people relive and re-fight the Civil War over a disreputable flag and Confederate monuments while black lives continue to be indifferently taken. There are times in life when we find ourselves totally discomforted because nothing makes sense and our lives swerve toward chaos from one day to the next (Job 1:12-22). It appears that in a very short time life as we knew it has dissipated and all the institutional structures of government, religion, family and friendship have collapsed simultaneously.

People have begun to ask questions like: Have I been abandoned by God? Can I survive? Can I go back to my old life? It's not uncommon to feel desperation. Would you believe some people are thriving right now? Just when you think there is no hope, the Lord provides hints that everything will be alright (Philippians 4:19). The Lord will meet your needs. You can survive things that seem overwhelming (1 Corinthians 10:13). You can also do more than you think you are able to do (Ephesians 3:20). The troubles that we are dealing with help us to grow and prepare us to be patient through future troubles (Romans 5:3) because we know the Lord will deliver us (Romans 8:28). Think about what God has already brought you through (Isaiah 46:9). When we are tried in the difficult circumstances of life, our faith is tested so that we will not be frightened the next time something comes up (James 1:2-3). We find rest from desperation and fears in our Lord and Savior (Matthew 10: 28-30: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”). The Lord hears those who call out to him in their troubles and he will rescue them (Psalm 91:14-16). We can have confidence that the Lord hears us (1 John 5:14 – “And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.”).

In this text, Jesus was speaking to his disciples about leaving them via his crucifixion and going back to the father. They became disturbed because his presence provided protection; but without him, they knew hardships were imminent. In fact, in John 16:2, he tells his disciples this: “They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God.” Can you imagine a people so devious and so malicious that they would try to hurt you and believe they were doing God a favor through their evil? Well, there are such people. Psalm 36:3-4 speaks of people who sit on the sides of their beds and do nothing but think of evil things, having given up trying to be good. It is amazing that God continues to be merciful when so many people have taken on the mantle



of hurting others. Are you aware that there was a time when God repented that he had ever made people because their actions had become so abhorrent to him? Genesis 6:6 says, “And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.”

You need not worry about people who come for you, attempt to hurt you or declare themselves your enemies because the Lord will fight for you (Exodus 14:14 – “The Lord will fight for you and you have only to be silent.”). Read Psalm 37 in its entirety, which tells you not to worry about evil folk who seem to prosper by saying, “For they shall be cut down like the grass and wither as the green herb” (Psalm 37:3). This scripture reminds us that “the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord,” meaning the Lord is guiding your path even when you can’t recognize He is there helping you along (Psalm 37:23).

Finally, in Psalm 37:35-36, we are told that even if the wicked seems to flourish and grow, there will come a day when they will be literally wiped from the earth and even evidence of their presence will be consumed. So, don’t worry but keep trusting in your faith (Proverbs 3:5-6). Continue to have faith that moves mountains (Matthew 17:20) or faith that defies logic as did Caleb, an 85-year-old man who claimed that which God had promised him years before (Joshua 14:10-12) when he declared “Give me this mountain . . .” The Lord does not forget his to us (2 Peter 3:9). The simple answer to any crisis in your life is have faith in God (Mark 11:22).

You have to live through times like these with an overcoming spirit. First, God’s Word does not ever fail (Luke 1:37). If you are a believer, you have the power to overcome anything that happens in the world (1 John 5:4). We have victory over the world through Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:57). God’s light will shine through darkness (John 1:5). We are conquerors, not the conquered in the Lord (Romans 8:37). Spiritually, you have already overcome the world (1 John 5:5). The Lord himself has already overcome the Evil One (1 John 2:13). We should not fear anyone or anything (Psalm 27:1-4). If you submit yourself to the Lord, even the devil himself will flee from you (James 4:7).

Now, what are your tools to survive the present crises? First, you have the grace of God. Remember, when Paul talks about a thorn in his flesh in 2 Corinthians 12, meaning he had a lifelong problem that plagued his life; and the Lord said to him “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness . . .” (2 Corinthians 12:9). This means that we need not rely on our own strength but should trust in the Lord to carry us through difficulty. His “grace” or unmerited favor is a blessing that comes with living righteously even in perilous times.

Second, we have one another. Ecclesiastes 4:8-10 encourages us not to pursue life alone because there is no help at hand. It goes on to say, “Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.” Let’s stop pretending we can take life on by ourselves. Even in the best of circumstances, we can grow weak or weary and fall. Jesus encourages us to love one another (John 13:34-35) so that our caring and concern and support to each other becomes a trademark to the world that we belong to him. You are your brother’s and sister’s keeper.

Third, we can find peace in God as depicted in Psalm 46, which says, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1). We can be assured that the Lord is always a place of refuge even if “. . . the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof” (Psalm 46:2-3). Don’t be convinced that anything going on now has not already happened before. People have survived. You will as well. This is just another season of our lives (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8), but be assured that the Lord has not nor will ever leave you. Deuteronomy 31:6 says, “Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them; for the LORD thy God, He is who doth go with thee. He will not fail thee nor forsake thee.”



Remembering...

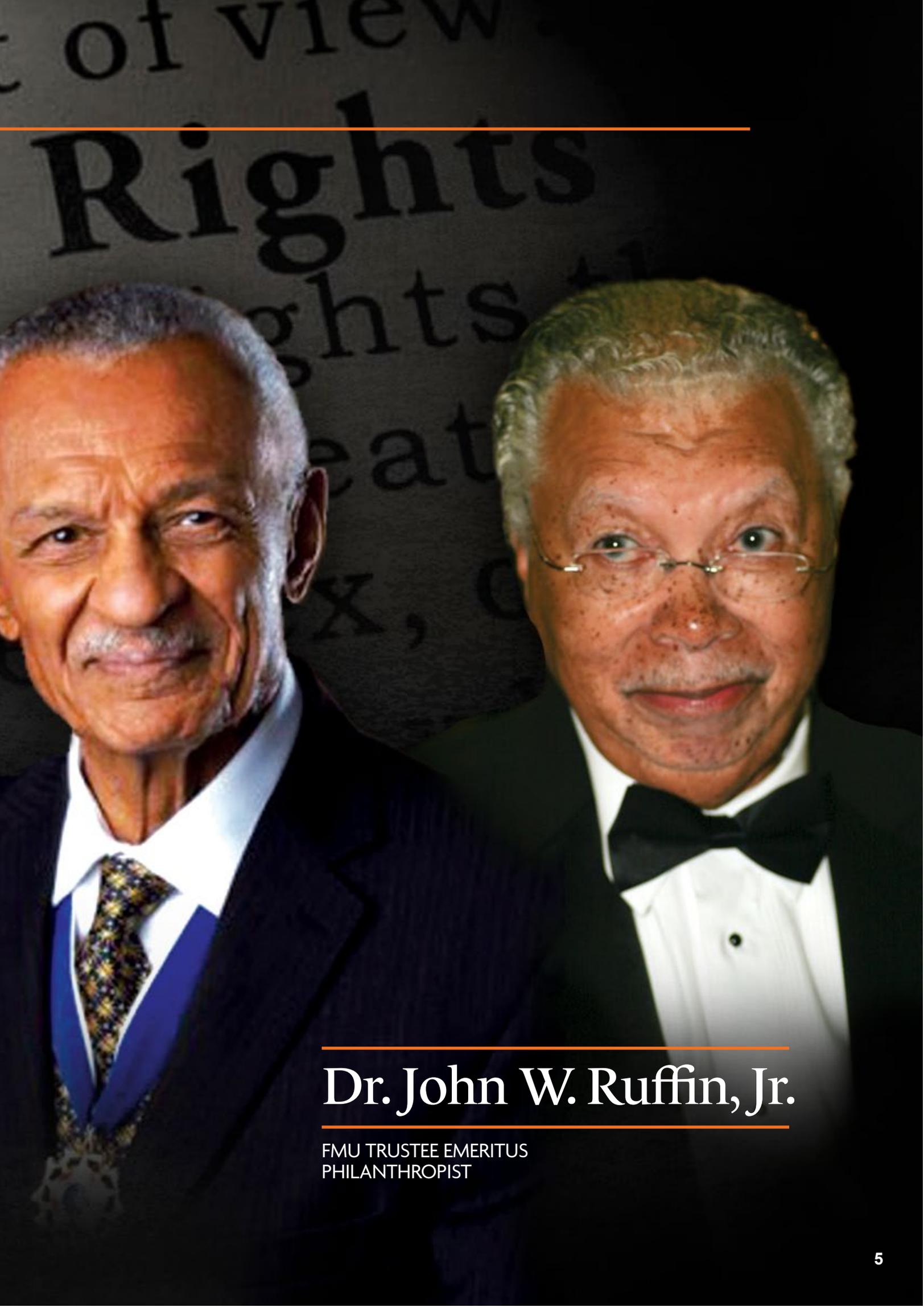


John Lewis

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AND
CONGRESSMAN

C. T. Vivian

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AND
REVEREND



Dr. John W. Ruffin, Jr.

FMU TRUSTEE EMERITUS
PHILANTHROPIST

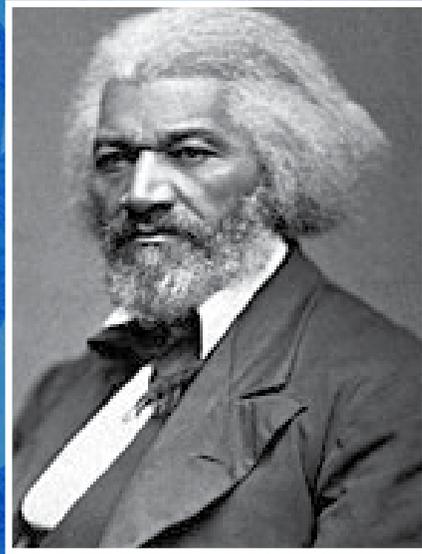
DR. JAFFUS HARDRICK | OUR

WISH YOU A

FLORIDA MEMORIAL
FAMILY

4 HAPPY
TH OF
JULY

INDEPENDENCE
DAY



“What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are, to Him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy — a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of the United States, at this very hour.”

- FREDERICK DOUGLASS
July 5, 1852



LET'S AGREE TO BE GREATER



REVELATION 21: 1A -

“Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth for the first
heaven and the first earth had passed away”



FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY:

These words are from the book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, and they speak of an age to come when the ills of this world will be behind us. In fact, verse four of Chapter 21 says, “. . . there will be no more death or mourning or crying, for the old order of things has passed away.” The “new heaven and a new earth” represent

a new order after a time of calamity. The reasoning is that the present world will become untenable and the Lord, at his return, will restore heaven and earth to their original purity. This theme of renewal is repeated throughout the Bible in the stories of Noah’s great flood and in the stories of Samson, David, Elisha, Paul, Mary Magdalene, and even the thief on the cross. Sometimes, the Lord has to wipe the slate clean and renew us altogether. The common thread is a passing away of the old and a new birth (2 Corinthians 5:17), literally being “born again” (John 3:3-7). The key is the Lord recognizes the need for collective and personal change (2 Chronicles 7:14). Change is usually provoked when we reach a seminal moment and the circumstance’s alteration of our path is the only logical action.

America is at a turning point, when it must rethink itself, re-evaluate its actions, and improve or fail. Hence, its institution should also undergo self-assessment as well. We are caught at the intersection of at least three national crises: a virulent pandemic, an upheaval of racial discord, and economic disconnection. The appearance and mismanagement of our COVID-19 problem is the result of a disjointed federal, state and local governmental infrastructure. Neither level is living up to its place in contributing resources or providing medical care and support for the citizenry. This failure has exposed our social inequities in healthcare. Also, America has failed to fully address its centuries-old sin of racism that has made black life cheap. The whole world sees the United States for what it is — a farcical nation that has never lived up to its ideals. Finally, the wealth disparity is so stark, and people are questioning how we’ve arrived at a place where billionaires are thriving while middle class and poor citizens are falling behind. Neither of these positions is tenable if we are to survive. We have reached that moment where we must change or risk calamity.

America is the sum of its institutions. They, too, must change or fail. Higher education is being questioned because it, too, has perpetuated imbalance and injustice. It must change and be more inclusive. The change can be voluntary or it will be forced. Florida Memorial University (FMU) has decided it will “ascend toward excellence.” However, what does that entail? How do you get there? What are the sacrifices to be made? How do we make old things – hindrances – pass away; and how do we make “all things new?” If we seize this moment to remake ourselves “new,” we will realize the vision of being a premier institution of higher learning. Our first step is to agree. Matthew 18:20 says, “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” Of course, Jesus was speaking of heavenly things; but the premise of the text is the Lord will infuse his divine presence and power into places where His people unite. We can be a great university if we agree on the following:

I Let’s agree we are a valuable institution of higher learning. God has entrusted us with a 141-year old legacy. Like its 106 peer HBCUs, FMU must remember its past but thrust toward the future. HBCUs were left to us by visionaries – black and white

– who could not imagine the resources we now have, the students we serve, or the caliber of scholars and professionals on campus. HBCUs represent only 3 percent of all American colleges and universities and enroll only about 9 percent of all black students; yet, some 20 percent of all black Americans earn their degrees at HBCUs. Twenty-five percent of blacks in STEM fields, “85 percent of black doctors, 75 percent of black Ph.D.s, 40 percent of black dentists and 50 percent of all black attorneys, engineers, and pharmacists, and more than 40 percent of black executives, dentists and teachers have earned their degrees on black college and university campuses. Let’s agree FMU is valuable.

2 Let’s agree to make students the center of our professional efforts. Whenever parents drop off their students as freshmen, they invariably say, “Take care of my child.” They expect us educate them at the highest levels but they also expect us to look after them. We are in the business of education, but it is a humanistic endeavor aimed at uplift and transformation. Titus 2:1-5 declares that older men and women ought to teach younger men and women before God. That is education. Every FMU employee is a mentor to students. We encounter them in classrooms, offices, cafeterias and residential halls; and they look to us for direction and protection – regardless of the titles we hold. Give them your wisdom and experience. We owe them excellence and integrity. We have a minimum of four years to share with them as scholars, parents and mentors. Let’s agree to always give students our best.

3 Let’s agree to serve faithfully. In Ephesians 4:1, Paul admonishes those God has called to ministry (i.e., service for the Lord) to “walk worthy of the vocation” they are called to. As professionals, we should adhere to superior standards of ethics and excellence in everything we do. This means our behavior and our work should be above reproach. Let’s set new standards as new policies are being written. What we put on paper means nothing if we don’t comply. Excellence is our bulwark against mediocrity. When people send their children to us, we are stewards of their care and intellectual, social and spiritual growth. Let’s agree to be more trustworthy, ethical and professional in our work.

4 Let’s agree that America needs our product – highly skilled, moral graduates. America has not responded to its race problem, its COVID-19 crisis, or its economic issues because the moral fiber of people is lacking. Unless people of good character occupy positions of power and privilege, their skills mean nothing. The graduates we produce can compete anywhere in the world. More than 80 percent of our faculty hold Ph.D.s and are among the best scholars and teaching professors in the nation. There is no problem our graduates should not be able to solve if they are trained properly. We have done it before and can do it again. Let’s agree to produce graduates who are extremely skilled and moral.

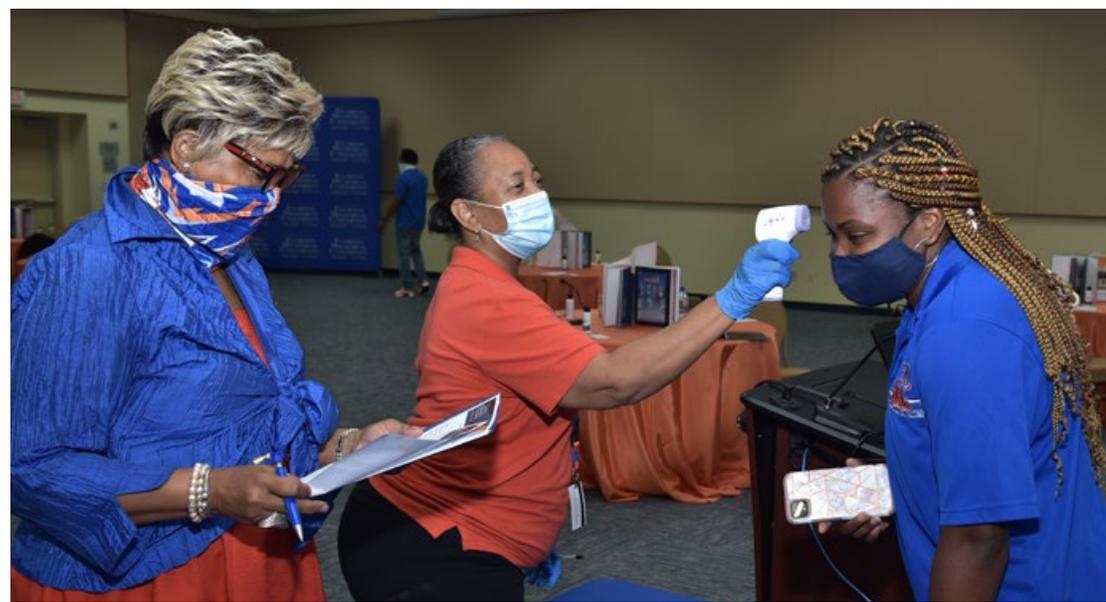
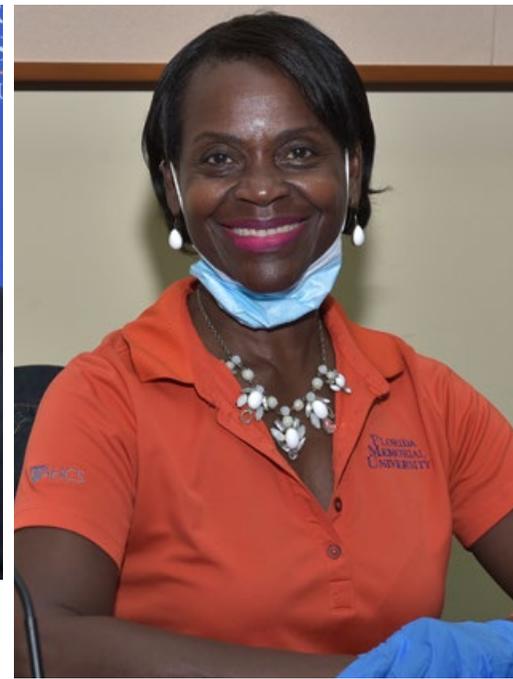
Black America needs FMU, and America needs it even more. As long as we are nearly 50 percent of all persons serving life sentences and 42 percent of people on death row, FMU is needed. As long as black home ownership is only 40 percent compared to 70 percent for whites, FMU is vital. As long as black males are 13 times more likely than their white peers to die from a fatal use of force and the mortality rates of black infants is twice that of white infants, FMU has a place. As long as blacks suffer from Diabetes and strokes and heart attacks at a higher rate than the general population, FMU must continue to produce doctors and researchers. Let us agree to be vital, strong, highly professional, dedicated and inspiring as an institution.



HARDRICK Leadership Retreat



El Pagnier K. Hudson - Vice President, FIU



To Disrupt the World for Good



Public Strategy Session

Join us on Facebook Live at facebook.com/FLMemorialUniv and YouTube bit.ly/fmulive for a discussion of the launch of the FMU Social Justice Institute and the work it will undertake to address racial disparities and nature of inequality in South Florida.

Thursday, July 23, 2020
7:00pm – 8:30pm



Dr. Tameka Hobbs

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs,
Moderator



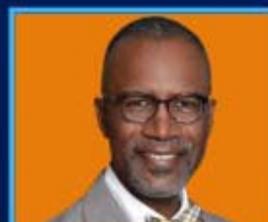
Dr. Jaffus Hardrick

President, FMU



Dr. Adrienne T. Cooper

Provost and Executive VP for Academic Affairs



Mr. Michael A. Finney

President and CEO,
Miami-Dade Beacon Council



Dr. Jacqueline Hill

Dean, School of Education & Associate Provost for Continuing Education & Professional Studies



Dr. Steve Gallon III

Vice-Chair, Miami-Dade County School Board



Ms. Valencia Gunder

Founder, The Smile Trust



Sen. Dwight Bullard

The New Florida Majority and the South Dade Branch of the NAACP



Dr. William Hopper

Associate VP for Institutional Effectiveness, Interim Dean, School of Arts and Sciences, & Professor of Chemistry & Environmental Science



Dr. Jeffrey Dean Swain

Dean of Campus Ministry



YOUR SOUTH FLORIDA

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

with **Pam Giganti**

Wednesday, July 22 at 7pm

Join *Your South Florida* host **Pam Giganti**, in partnership with the *South Florida Sun Sentinel*, for a virtual conversation on the candidates and key races in the **August Primary Elections** that could bring big changes to our area's criminal justice leadership.



Steve Bousquet
South Florida
Sun Sentinel



Sean Foreman, Ph.D.
Barry University



Tameka Hobbs, Ph.D.
Florida Memorial
University



Rosemary O'Hara
South Florida
Sun Sentinel



Randy Schultz
South Florida
Sun Sentinel

In partnership with

SOUTH FLORIDA SunSentinel



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)





VOICES

WITH *JAWAN STRADER*

THE REALITIES OF RACISM: CONFRONTING KAREN

FEATURING



**TONIGHT
7:30PM**

Dr. Jeffrey Dean Swain, JD, PhD
Dean of Campus Ministry,
Florida Memorial University



**PLAY
VIDEO**



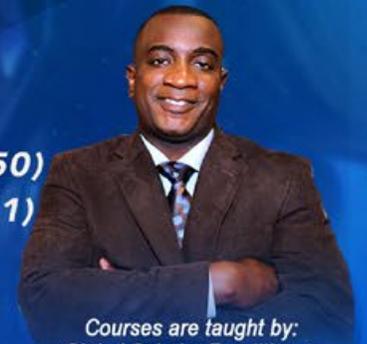
FALL 2020
VIDEOGAME AND ESPORTS COURSES

COURSE: "THE HISTORY OF ARCADES, VIDEOGAMES AND THE EMERGENCE OF ESPORTS"

COURSE NUMBERS: CSC-350 & CSC-351

**SCHEDULE: MONDAY 11AM-12:50PM (LAB CSC-350)
WEDNESDAY 11AM-11:50AM (CSC-351)
FRIDAY 11AM-11:50AM (CSC-351)**

CREDIT HOURS: FOUR (4)



Courses are taught by:
Global Scholar Practitioner,
Florida Memorial University

DR. MARC WILLIAMS



WIM STOCKS

CEO/General Manager;
WorldGaming & Collegiate
StarLeague



CHRIS CHANEY

Advisor, Investor, Entrepreneur. Founder,
Houston Outlaws, Op Tic Gaming, Infinite
esports & Entertainment



BRENDAN DONOHUE

Commissioner of the
NBA 2K League



NEIL DUFFY

Vice President,
Collegiate StarLeague



TOMMY KNAPP

Chief Esports Strategist
the City of Fort Lauderdale;
Podcast Host, Ultimate Gamer



HIPHOGAMER

Gaming, Media Personality



KEISHA HOWARD

CEO/Founder, Sugar Gamers



IVAN CURTISS

General Manager/Coach
Brooklyn Nets Gaming Crew



EUNICE CHEN

Advisor at Cloud 9
esports, Inc



**TAMIKA "REDINFAMY"
MOULTRIE**

Media Personality,
esports On air personality



CHRISTOPHER MANN

Vice President,
Dignitas



ZACH WEDDINGTON

Director, of the film
"Arcade Dreams"

GMAA July 2020 Luncheon "Senior Executive Women in Aviation Panel"

When: Wednesday, July 22, 2020; Noon

Moderator: Aviv Tzur, President, GMAA

Click [Here](#) for more information on event, including speakers' bios.

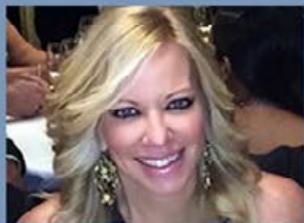
To register please contact Connie Devine at secretary@gmaa.aero.

Speakers



Donna J. Hrinak

Vice President, Boeing International
President, Boeing Latin America



Lee Kapel

President & CEO
TSI Aviation, Inc.



Ana Maria Robbin

Vice President
Sky Mart Sales Corp.



Vena Symonette

Assistant Professor of Aviation & Safety
Florida Memorial University



Caroline M. Vandedrinck

Vice President, Americas
SR Technics America, Inc.



Welcome Aboard!



DR. JORGE GUERRA

CHAIR OF AVIATION AND SAFETY



Guerra has been in aviation since 1977 where he started as a baggage loader for National Airlines while a high school student. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1980 after graduating from high school and served for 10 years as a jet engine mechanic working on the F-15 and F-16 fighter jets. After separating from the USAF, he began teaching at George T. Baker Aviation School where he taught systems and structures leading to an Airframe & Power-Plant license. In 2003 he served as the dean of the Aviation Institute and Transportation department at Broward College. Later he served as the executive director for Workforce Education and Partnerships at Miami Dade College. He has also served as interim provost and campus president. Dr. Guerra has a B.S. degree in Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, a master's in Educational Leadership and his doctorate in Higher Education from Florida International University. Dr. Guerra has a deep passion for students and their education. His vision is to have students be prepared for the world as outstanding citizens and exceptional professionals in the aviation industry. Dr. Guerra has been married to his lovely wife Vivian for 30 years and has 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

**FLORIDA
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A PROMISE. A FUTURE.



WE ARE A FORCE FOR CHANGE

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami is excited about its new partnership with FMU!

Become a Mentor! FMU Faculty, Staff and students will have an opportunity to be matched with children whose parents and/or siblings with a history of incarceration.

Internship Opportunities: FMU students will have internship and community engagement opportunities through the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami's BIG5 targeted areas of Academic Enrichment, Career Pathways, Digital Literacy, Health & Wellness, and Music & the Arts.

Become a Big today!
www.bbbsmiami.org/beabig





Celebrating

PARTNERSHIPS

PLAY
VIDEO 

Gale Nelson - President & CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters
Dr. Jaffus Hardrick - President, FMU

CARLA PATRICK

Carla Patrick came to Miami, Florida from Nassau, Bahamas at the age of 14 in 1984 and was enrolled at Miami Jackson Senior High, where she proudly graduated with honors and attained a full college scholarship in 1986 to attend the prestigious Florida Memorial College now University. After



attending Florida Memorial University for her Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in communications, Ms. Patrick was awarded acceptance into a program, through Miami Dade County Public Schools, where non-education majors could receive their Master of Science in Education Degree from The University of Miami. Ms. Patrick earned her master's in 1992 with a 4.0 grade point average while teaching at Henry H. Filer Middle School. She taught for 10 years while holding numerous leadership positions. Ms. Patrick decided that she could have a greater impact on a larger population of students and decided to take the Educational Leadership coursework at Nova Southeastern University to become an assistant principal. Ms. Patrick became one of the founding assistant principals at the newly built Doral Middle School in 2000. She was able to experience a variety of socio-economic environments as an assistant principal, which helped to mold her as an aspiring principal. Ms. Patrick became the principal of Edison Park K-8 Center in October of 2009, and took the school to its first "B" grade. Ms. Patrick is still the current principal at Edison Park K-8 Center and has led the school from a grade of "C" to "B" and from "D" to "B" respectively. For the past three years Edison Park K-8 Center has remained a "B" school and is a few points away from being rated an "A". Ms. Patrick has since earned a Specialist in Education from Barry University. Ms. Patrick is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. She pledged as an undergraduate at Florida Memorial University in 1989. Ms. Patrick knows that education can make a change — after all, it did with her.

DR. KAREEM L. THOMPSON

Kareem Thompson is a native of Delray Beach, Florida who now resides in Lake Worth, Florida. Mr. Thompson received a Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education (varying Exceptionalities) from Florida Memorial University; a Master of Science in Administration and Management of Educational Programs and Educational Specialist from Nova Southeastern University (NSU); and an Educational Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership at Lynn University. While at Florida Memorial, Mr. Thompson served as Pre-Alumni Council vice president and president; Student Government Association vice president and president (2001-2002); and a board member of the National Pre-Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund as the Central Regional director (2001-2002). Shortly after, he became a program facilitator for Men Against Destruction Defending Against Drugs and Social Disorder (MAD DADS) of Greater Delray Beach.



He is a prominent leader in the field of education and works for the School District of Palm Beach County, where he serves as assistant principal at Congress Middle School in Boynton Beach, Florida. Mr. Thompson serves as current administrator for Sixth Grade Discipline, Science, ESE and Choice Programs. He has served in several positions prior to assistant Principal from Inclusion Teacher, ESE Coordinator and Response to Intervention Facilitator to a District Compliance Specialist. Most notably, Mr. Thompson served as graduation coach at Palm Beach Lake Community High School over two school years from January 2011 to November 2012, where he founded the "Opportunity Academy", a night program allowing students that dropped out or were off track for graduation an opportunity to earn needed credits, guidance, and support. For the past six years, Mr. Thompson has served as an adjunct at Palm Beach State College teaching the Introduction to the College Experience course. He is also firmly committed to supporting and advocating for special education. Locally, he has served as president for the Palm Beach Chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children, where he founded a scholarship fund that provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors with disabilities and summer camp scholarships for students with disabilities. He currently has served as president and other positions for the State's Board for the Florida Council for Exceptional Children. He currently serves on the International Board of Director for the Council for Exceptional Children.

Included in Mr. Thompson's civic activities is past vice president of the Board of Directors for MAD DADS of Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast; past member of the Board for the Roots Cultural Festival, Inc. of Delray Beach; and trustee and member of Supernatural Deliverance Church of Christ, Inc. As an ordained minister, he serves as acting youth pastor at Supernatural. He is also an officer and member of the Delray Community Choir where he serves as chairman of the Thowana Kemp Scholarship Fund.

As a result of his commitment to children and his community, he has received several awards and recognitions including the 2018 Palm Beach County Council for Exceptional Children Administrator of the Year; School District of Palm Beach County's 2016 Career & Technical Education Assistant Principal of the Year; 2014 & 2015 Outstanding Unit President for the Florida Council for Exceptional Children; 2013 Community Service Leader presented by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. (Omicron Delta Zeta Chapter); 2012 Distinguish Panelist for the Broad Prize for Urban Education; 2012 Special Educator of the Year presented by the Palm Beach Chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children; Praise & Worship Experience Magazine 2012, 2013, 2014 Black Educator of the Year & Minister of the Year; and 2005 Trailblazer Award presented by the City of Delray Beach & the CLASS program.

OOOL PRINCIPALS

DAWN FULLER-HARRIS

Dawn Fuller-Harris is an award-winning educator and CEO of Hunny'z Kitchen LLC. Dawn is committed to collaborative learning that engages students, staff, families, and the community. Her educational development began as a student at Florida Memorial University where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and was initiated into



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated (Delta Eta Chapter). She has amassed more than 13 years of success in the academic and business arenas teaching within Miami Dade and Broward County Public School Systems. Currently, she is a 10-year veteran educator with the Broward School District. She has been recognized and has been awarded a plethora of accolades in the capacity of leadership as a Ness Coach, Team Leader, Clinical Educator, BTU Steward, Peer Teacher in Induction of Coaching, and Credentialing, and several Teacher of The Year Awards.

Dawn performs in the role of Business Manager and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Edge of Seat Productions since its incorporation in 2007. Edge of Seat Productions is a theatrical company that hosts auditions and theatrical performances throughout Broward, Dade, and abroad.

She has extensive experience in Leadership and Finance, which has led to her success as a member of several professional, civic, and non-profit organizations. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, and she is among the elite cadre of women to serve on corporate boards; Black Teacher Association (BTA), Hollywood Jaycees Jr. Chamber, and Honey Cares Incorporated. She continues to contribute to leadership through volunteerism in the advancement of the global community by providing opportunities for people from all walks of life in developing leadership skills, social responsibility, entrepreneurship, and fellowship to create positive change. She also mentors to empower young girls through programs and outreach centers such as: Because I'm Beautiful Girls Club Inc. and PreCision Mentoring Program, while incorporating interactive workshops, guest speakers, field trips, community service, and educational activities.

Mrs. Fuller-Harris and her husband Chef Anthony are the owners and operators of Hunny'z Kitchen (www.hunnyzkitchen.com), which is a food experience and staple in the community. They were interviewed and featured in the Voyage Miami Magazine (<http://voyagemia.com/interview/meet-hunnyz-kitchen-bbq-liberty-city-miami>).

In the words of Shai Reshef, "When you educate one person you can change a life. When you educate many you can change the world."

RHONDA Y. WILLIAMS

Ms. Rhonda Y. Williams is a graduate of Florida Memorial University (College), class of 1981, and a former Ms. Florida Memorial with a degree in Mathematics and a minor in Chemistry as well as her Masters in Mathematics from Nova University. She was a member of the Women's Basketball team and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.



Ms. Williams presently works for Miami Dade County Schools as an administrator for 14 years, 10 of those years at Barbara Hawkins Elementary. Ms. Williams is one of the very few principals in the state of Florida who has improved a school from one of the lowest 100 elementary schools, to a top performing, two-time consecutive "A" rated school. In fact, she is a recipient of the Florida Tax Watch Award. This honor, awarded to only three Florida elementary school principals, recognizes the performance of schools in high poverty areas yielding the highest levels of academic proficiency. Ms. Williams was recognized as the top Tax Watch Elementary Principal for the State of Florida for the 2018-2019 year.

Ms. Williams is one of nine principals receiving this award and one of two principals from Miami-Dade County. She was recognized at a ceremony in Orlando where she had the opportunity to take home top honors. Ms. Williams will also select one of her students to receive a two-year Florida College Plan Scholarship.

Ms. Williams has been recognized as Principal of the Year for the 2018-2019 school year by the North Region. Equally important to Ms. Williams' vow to academic achievement is her unrelenting commitment to service. When she is not serving as principal, she unselfishly uses her time, talents, and treasure to serve her community. As an active member in her church, Ms. Williams uses her leadership skills to lead the choir.

THE ROAR

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MARCHING BAND



10K VIEWS

10,000
10,000

THANK YOU!

FROM THE 2020 ROAR BAND CAMP AT FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

The graphic features a blue background with a faint image of the marching band. The text is in white and orange. The numbers '10,000' are displayed twice, with the top one in orange and the bottom one in white. The 'THANK YOU!' text is in white on a blue rectangular background. The bottom text is in white on an orange background.

FMU ATHLETICS

FMU Announces Addition of Softball; Names Coaches for Softball and Flag Football

Florida Memorial University Director of Athletics Ernest T. Jones announced Monday the addition of softball to the athletics department, with competition slated to begin in Spring 2022. Jones also named the head coaches for nascent softball and women's flag football programs Monday.

Flag football, which was announced as FMU's 11th varsity sport in May 2020, is slated to begin Spring 2021.

Pedro Herrera was named as FMU's first head softball coach of softball while Jonathan Alvarez was tabbed as the women's inaugural flag football coach.

Herrera comes to Florida Memorial University after serving as head softball coach at Broward College before his season was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During Herrera's time at Broward, all players maintained a 3.0 or better Grade-Point Average.

"I am thrilled and grateful for the opportunity to build the Florida Memorial University softball program," Herrera said. "I want to thank Ernest T. Jones for the opportunity. We want to recruit the best student-athletes in the country, and I can't wait to get started."

In Alvarez, the Lions bring in a coach that has an extensive history in flag football in the state of Florida and previously served as the girl's flag football offensive coordinator at Mater Academy High School in Hialeah Gardens, Florida.

"I want to thank Florida Memorial University for giving me the opportunity to lead the Lions in their

inaugural collegiate flag football season," Alvarez said. "I am extremely excited for the season to begin and to compete in this league. Flag football runs deep in Miami-Dade County's veins, and we finally get to showcase what our women can do on the football field."

The addition of softball and women's flag football allows Florida Memorial University to continue to meet Title IX gender equity compliance requirements. FMU's other recent women's sports addition was beach volleyball in 2020.

"A myriad of factors go into not only adding a sport but finding the right one for your university and athletics profile," Jones said. "We believe we have an opportunity to immediately compete at the highest collegiate level. Additionally, we will attract new students from across the country and support our goal of providing women with more opportunities to participate in sports."

Follow Florida Memorial University Athletics on social media

Instagram: @GoFMULions

Twitter: @GoFMULions

YouTube: Official FMU Lions



WELCOME TO THE DEN

PEDRO HERRERA

HEAD SOFTBALL COACH

JONATHAN ALVAREZ

HEAD FLAG FOOTBALL COACH

**PRESENTS SOUTH FLORIDA'S
PROFESSIONAL
SPORTS TOWN HALL**

**SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER FOR
FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS**
BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOCAL HS STUDENTS & FMU
STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES WERE IMPACTED BY COVID-19

CONVERSATION FACILITATED BY
JAY WALKER
ESPN

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH
SOUTH FLORIDA'S SPORTS TEAMS

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\$100,000
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REGISTER FOR THIS IMPORTANT TOWN HALL FOR A DYNAMIC AND
ACTIVE DISCUSSION ABOUT RACE AND RACISM THROUGH THE
SPORTS, THAT WILL ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING AND POSITIVE CHANGE

**WELLNESS CENTER AT
FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY**
15800 NW 42ND AVE., MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33054

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9 | 6PM •



Florida Memorial University Athletics COVID-19 Scholarship DEADLINE: AUGUST 14, 2020

The Florida Memorial University Athletics COVID-19 Scholarship helps students whose families have been affected by COVID-19 pay for higher education. The scholarship is a competition based on a short essay.

The award must be used for any education-related expenses such as tuition, fees, books and room and board. Ten (10) candidates will be selected. Who is Eligible: A rising high school senior in South Florida in the class of 2021, or a student currently attending Florida Memorial University (freshmen, sophomores and juniors only). All candidates must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. Students may study any major or plan to enter any career field. All applications must be completed in English.

DEADLINE: All entries must be submitted by August 14, 2020. Only applications submitted electronically will be accepted and any incomplete applications will be disqualified.

HOW TO ENTER: Applicants must submit an unofficial transcript, and complete an application form, which includes submission of a brief essay (500 words or less) that addresses how his or her family has been affected by COVID-19 and how an FMU Athletics Scholarship will contribute to his or her educational expenses.

If you submit more than one application within the competition period, only your latest entry will be judged. Winners will be notified by August 28, 2020. All recipients must attend Florida Memorial University in Fall 2021 in order to receive the scholarship. The decision of the scholarship judging committee is final.

APPLY HERE: www.fmuathletics.com/scholarship

Questions? Contact ernest.jones@fmuniv.edu for any questions about the scholarship.

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- ✓ 301 S STATE ROAD 7, HOLLYWOOD, FL 33023
- ✓ 17650 NW 2ND AVE, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33169



Candidates for the Florida Senate's 35th District Virtual Town Hall Meeting



Dr. Tameka Bradley
(Moderator)



Daphne Campbell



Wilbur Harbin



Shevrin Jones



Barbara Watson



Cynthia Stafford



Erhabor Ighadaro

**Wednesday, July 15, 2020
at 6:30 p.m.**

Join us on Zoom & Facebook Live!

Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/TownHallMeeting6>

Facebook Live: <http://www.facebook.com/MiamiDadeNaacp>

Portions of this district include Miami Gardens, Opa-Locka, Pembroke Park, Pembroke Pines, West Park & Other unincorporated neighborhoods of North-Central Miami-Dade County. This district also includes all of a portion of the following zip codes: 33009, 33023, 33025, 33027, 33029, 33054, 33055, 33056, 33147, 33161, 33162, 33167, 33168, 33169, 33179



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2020



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**HOME
COMING**

OCTOBER 4TH - 10TH

#FEELTHEROAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

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11 AM — 12 PM

SUSIE C. HOLLEY RELIGIOUS CENTER

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

SILENT PARTY

8 PM — 11 PM

STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER

FMU STUDENTS ONLY. MUST PRESENT VALID FMU ID

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

REP YOUR SPORTS TEAM

11 AM — 1 PM

MARKET PLACE DINING HALL

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM JERSEY

CULTURAL NIGHT

7 PM — 10 PM

FRONT LAWN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

LIONS TRAINING CAMP TEAM TRY-OUT

2 PM — 5 PM

FRONT LAWN 50 YARD LINE

FLAG FOOTBALL

7 PM — 9 PM

FRONT LAWN 50 YARD LINE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

WELCOME HOME MIXER

6 PM — 12 AM

WELLNESS CENTER ARENA PARKING LOT

STROLL OFF | ROLL CALL | FISH FRY |

& FOOD TRUCK INVASION

CAMPUS PARKING \$10

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

NATIONAL ALUMNI CONFERENCE

9 AM — 4 PM

LOU RAWLS CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

10 AM — 2 PM

BETTY T. FERGUSON RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

3000 NW 199TH STREET, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33056

PEP RALLY

6 PM — 7 PM

WELLNESS CENTER ARENA

ADIDAS BREAK-OUT PARTY

8 PM — 12 AM

WELLNESS CENTER ARENA

ATTIRE: ADIDAS WEAR

TICKET: \$20 PER PERSON

PROCEEDS SUPPORT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

HOMECOMING PARADE

8:30 AM — 10:30 AM

183RD STREET, 42ND AVENUE NW

TAILGATE
11 AM

BETTY T. FERGUSON RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

TAILGATE REGISTRATION: HOMECOMING.FMUNIV.EDU

FOOTBALL GAME

1 PM — 4 PM

FMU LIONS VS. ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

BETTY T. FERGUSON RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

TICKET INFORMATION VISIT: FMUATHLETICS.COM

THE LION OVERTIME EXPERIENCE OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY

5 PM — 12 AM

SMITH CONFERENCE CENTER

TICKET: \$15 ADVANCE/\$20 AT THE DOOR

PROCEEDS SUPPORT BAND SCHOLARSHIPS

PARADE CANCELED

FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

We Did It!!

Florida Memorial University accepted the HBCU fundraising challenge. With the support of our alumni and all of you, FMU was able to raise **\$8,542.07!!**

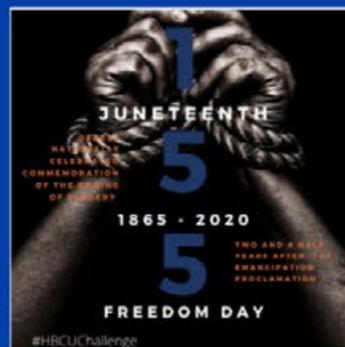
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@ Sharhonda.ford@fmuniv.edu

Qualifications

- Must have a 2.7 G.P.A.
- Good Judicial Standing

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Access and participate in all parts of the WLC experience from your own device in the comfort of your home.

WHEN



July 27th-31st, 2020

WHO CAN ATTEND



- All 2018, 2019, and 2020 HOBY Alumni
- International students at a US high school (currently Junior or Senior)
- Students outside the US between the ages of 15-17



LEADERS *connect* **HERE.**



For more information on how you can attend WLC 2020, click this link!



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Full Time Position
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WITH



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(available after August 10, 2020)

<https://meetings.hubspot.com/info2877>

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(available immediately)

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Deadline: 3rd Friday of the each month.

Send high resolution PDF file to

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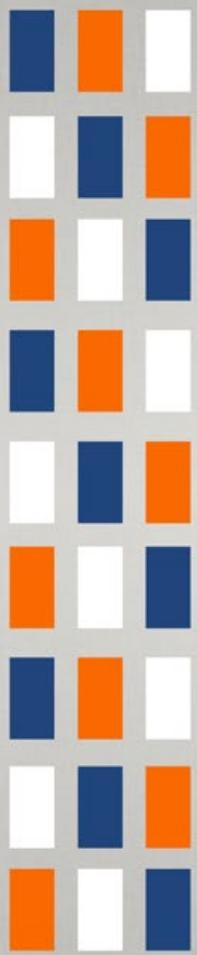
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A NIGHT CELEBRATING LIONS PRIDE & TRADITION

MONDAY, AUGUST 10 • 6 PM

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\$100 WITH EARLY REGISTRATION
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[FMUATHLETICS.COM/REBIRTH](https://www.fmuathletics.com/rebirth)

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