



FAUTM
FOUNDATION INC.
Florida Atlantic University



2020
POINTS OF PRIDE





Florida Atlantic University's people took on this year's unprecedented challenges with our signature grit, tenacity and compassion. From philanthropy to community outreach, research to athletics, our students, faculty and staff continue to make a positive impact on our corner of paradise.

The accomplishments outlined in this book are just a snapshot of everything currently going on at FAU. Your philanthropy supports these triumphs year after year.

Thank you for unleashing possibilities for our people — and our purpose.

With gratitude,

Danita D. Nias

Vice President
for Institutional Advancement
and CEO of the FAU Foundation, Inc.

Steve Schmidt

Chair of the FAU Foundation, Inc.
Board of Directors

////// SILVER LININGS.



- >> The **FAU Cares Emergency Fund** initiative raised more than \$370,000 for students impacted by the economic effects of COVID-19. Between March and May, nearly 15,000 students applied for emergency aid after losing jobs that put them through college; many are still seeking support.
- >> A drive-through **COVID-19 testing site** was established at FAU Tech Runway in Boca Raton, and the Feeding South Florida food bank opened a distribution site on FAU's John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter.
- >> FAU's nationally ranked **Hospitality and Tourism Management program**, within the College of Business, offered a free online certificate to workers affected by the pandemic; more than 85,000 students signed up.
- >> The **Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing** distributed lifesaving personal protective equipment (PPE) and healthcare services to homeless and low-income individuals who live in a northwest neighborhood near the FAU Community Health Center in West Palm Beach.



- >> FAU's **Cane Institute for Advanced Technologies** at A.D. Henderson University School and FAU High School created 3-D printed PPE. Students ranging from ages 5 to 18, along with two faculty members, printed more than 15,000 face shields, 38 intubation chambers and 500 ear savers for several hospitals in Palm Beach County.



- >> Responding to worldwide shortfalls of PPE for healthcare workers, a team from the **College of Engineering and Computer Science** and **Institute for Sensing and Embedded Network Systems** identified a simple solution to rapidly produce more than 16,000 protective face shields — 8,000 went to Baptist Health South Florida, the largest healthcare organization in the region with 11 hospitals, including Boca Raton Regional Hospital.
- >> A team of scientists from the **Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine** is implementing a three-pronged approach to predict COVID-19 infection in healthcare workers through a study to identify patterns of onset, detection, progression and recovery from COVID-19. The study observes body temperature, heart rate, breathing rate, as well as illness symptoms such as fever, cough and fatigue.

PHENOMENAL PHILANTHROPY.



- >> In fiscal year 2020, nearly **10,000 donors** gave **\$33 million** in support of FAU's students, faculty and programs.
- >> An **anonymous donor** gave **\$10 million** for student scholarships, which will be split evenly among Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing students and first-generation students in the Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program.
- >> The Athletics department received an **anonymous \$2.5 million** gift earmarked for student-athlete scholarships.
- >> The **Taft Foundation** gave **\$1.5 million** to the College of Education's Academy for Community Inclusion, which supports students with intellectual disabilities.

- >> The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters received a **\$1.125 million** gift from FAU benefactor **Marleen Forkas** to name the Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre. This latest gift continues to build Mrs. Forkas' legacy across FAU's Boca Raton campus; she and her late husband, Harold, have supported FAU for more than 20 years.
- >> The **Avron B. Fogelman Sports History Museum**, a permanent exhibit featuring artifacts from the former Kansas City Royals owner and longtime Boca Raton resident's private collection, opened in the Schmidt Family Complex for Academic and Athletic Excellence. Part of a donation valued at more than **\$10 million**, the collection is widely considered one of the largest private libraries amassed and owned by an individual.

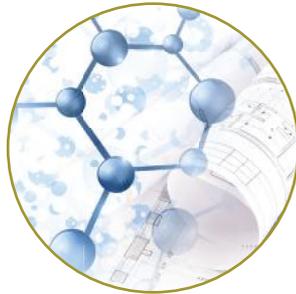


- >> The **Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation** gave **\$1.125 million** to create the Glenn W. and Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation Marine SEA Scholars program at the FAU Marine Science Lab. The gift will be used to support educational, research and equipment-based needs for students working at the lab at Gumbo Limbo, run by the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science.



WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH.

>> The Florida Board of Governors approved FAU's **University of Distinction** plan for applied artificial intelligence and big data analytics. This official distinction will enhance and expand degree offerings at the University and promote AI and data-driven engagement with the region's technology industry.



>> FAU High School has officially opened its **Owls Imaging Lab**, which provides students access to cutting-edge equipment to work on high-level research projects, including cancer treatment research, vaccine development and prosthetic creation, among others.



- >> Neuroscientists from the **Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine** and **Brain Institute** (I-BRAIN) have received a five-year R01 **\$1.7 million** grant from the National Institutes of Health to study neuroinflammation and behavior.
- >> Researchers in the **College of Engineering and Computer Science** received a **\$1.6 million** grant from the Florida Division of Emergency Management for a pilot project to create a framework for their Watershed Planning Initiative. The project is funded in part by the federal government through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and in part by the state of Florida.
- >> To help combat debilitating eye conditions with advanced regenerative medicine, researchers from the **Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine** have received a five-year R01 **\$1.7 million** grant from the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health for a novel project titled "Hypoxia Regulation of the Lens."
- >> Researchers from the **Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing** received a **\$1.5 million** grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to form a primary care workforce of practicing, registered nurses who understand the unique needs of military veterans and are willing to work in rural and underserved communities.

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT.

>> The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing opened its second **Community Health Center** in West Palm Beach.



>> FAU and **St. Lucie Public Schools** collaborated to develop the Social, Wellness and Emotional Learning Leaders (S.W.E.L.L.) program, designed to increase the number of school counselors in high-need schools.

>> The **Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine** and **Florida Blue**, the state's Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan, have teamed up to offer free community wellness programs and activities as part of an initiative – the **FAU Medicine Wellness Hub** – which launched in Boca Raton. The free programs focus on prevention, improving physical health, mental health and wellbeing, and enhancing quality of life for adults of all ages.



>> **FAU Tech Runway** celebrated five years of entrepreneurial success and disruptive innovation. Its mission of robust support for the University and to the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem fosters the growth of students, faculty and regional innovators.



>> Last spring, FAU launched the **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute** in Fort Lauderdale, where classes are held at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

>> The Phyllis and Harvey Sandler School of Social Work celebrated the opening of the **Robin Rubin Center for Happiness & Life Enhancement**, which aims to nurture the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being of the FAU community.

STUDENT SUCCESS.

>> In May, **Isabel Hidalgo '20** became the first Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program graduate after earning her degree in History from the Dorothy F. Schmdit College of Arts and Letters. Currently, there are 55 scholars in the Kelly/Strul Program, which aims to support first-generation college students through their FAU journey from convocation to commencement.



>> Twenty-five **FAU High School** students were named semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Competition.

>> FAU welcomed a record number of **National Merit Scholars** for the fall 2019 semester. A total of 35 National Merit Scholars are enrolled this semester and 11 of those finalists will join the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College at FAU's John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter.



>> FAU High School student **Connor Cane**, 15, recently was one of only four students to represent the United States and one of only 47 students from across the world to participate in the United Space School in Houston, Texas.

>> **The Leon Charney Diplomacy Program** recently received five delegation awards at the National Model United Nations competition in Washington, D.C. A team of 75 FAU students participated in the annual competition where schools represent countries and students step into the shoes of diplomats to solve global problems.



////// NATIONAL RECOGNITION.

- >> The **Carnegie Foundation** announced that FAU is one of the 119 U.S. colleges and universities to receive the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification for 2020, a prestigious elective designation that indicates commitment to community engagement.
- >> More than one dozen FAU graduate programs are included in the latest **U.S. News & World Report's** "Best Graduate Programs" for 2021; the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing soared to No. 7 (from No. 23 in 2019) for its online master's degree in nursing.
- >> FAU earned the **2020-2021 Military Friendly® School "Gold Designation"** for the first time, based on the expanding services and spaces offered by FAU's Military and Veterans Student Success Center. This is the ninth consecutive year FAU has appeared on the Military Friendly School® list.



>> FAU was recognized as one of the top programs for entrepreneurship studies, according to the latest rankings from **The Princeton Review**, ranking No. 39 among undergraduate programs in the 14th annual survey.

>> Underwriters Laboratories selected Florida Atlantic University Pine Jog Environmental Education Center as its **UL Innovative Education Award** grand prize winner.



>> The College of Business's Adams Center for Entrepreneurship has been honored by the **American Council of Trustees and Alumni** as an Oasis of Excellence.

>> A.D. Henderson University School was named the No. 2 Best Public Elementary School and the No. 9 Best Public Middle School in America by **Niche**, the largest website for researching public and private K-12 schools.

>> The College of Business's Executive Education program ranked No. 1 in both Florida and the U.S. Southeast and also ranked No. 11 nationally and No. 59 globally (up from No. 71 in 2019) in the **2020 Financial Times Executive Rankings**.



LEADERSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP.

>> **Borivoje "Borko" Furht, Ph.D.**, a professor at FAU's Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and director of the National Science Foundation Research Center in FAU's College of Engineering and Computer Science, was appointed as a member of the prestigious **Academia Europaea**.

>> Alex M. Azar II, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, named **María de los Ángeles Ordóñez, DNP, APRN, GNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN**, to the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services; she is the director of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center, operated by the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing.



>> Associate Professor of English **Ayse Papatya Bucak's** latest book, "The Trojan War Museum, and Other Stories," was listed in Oprah Magazine's "10 August Books You Should Read Right Now" list. Bucak's collection includes 10 stories that explore the author's Turkish roots.

>> **Ata Sarajedini** was named the inaugural Bjorn Lamborn Endowed Chair in Astrophysics, created by legendary FAU physics professor Dr. Bjorn Lamborn, in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. Dr. Sarajedini also became a consultant for PBS' national astronomy show "Star Gazers."



>> The College of Business honored **Rita and Rick Case** of the Rick Case Automotive Group at its 28th annual Business Leaders of the Year breakfast. "Both Rita and Rick are widely recognized as people who are very smart with great business minds, but also have big hearts. They're an amazing couple in business," said Daniel Gropper, Ph.D., dean of the college.



>> The FAU Alumni Association's Talon Leadership Awards celebrated this year's local leaders who have shown outstanding support and service to FAU. From left: **Cecilia Mazzone Peters '90** received the Alumni Talon Award, **Christine E. Lynn** received the President's Talon Award, President John Kelly, **Mariana Ribiero '21** received the Student Talon Award, and **Myeongsub Kim** received the Faculty Talon Award.

FAU's FUTURE.



- >> Faculty, staff and students celebrated the 20th anniversary of FAU's John D. MacArthur Campus at Jupiter with a ceremonial groundbreaking for two new buildings:
 - The University will construct the 58,000-square-foot **FAU Neuroscience Building** to enhance collaborative research with Scripps Research and Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience. The \$35 million transformative research space represents a significant investment by the state of Florida, FAU and its research partners.
 - The \$17.1 million, 165-bed **residence hall** will provide a total of 435 beds for the Jupiter campus that is currently at max capacity. Construction will begin in spring 2020 with completion set for summer 2021. Residential students living in the new hall will enjoy a fitness area, study rooms, laundry on each floor, a computer lab and a rooftop patio.

>> The recently completed **Schmidt Family Complex for Academic and Athletic Excellence** will transform FAU's three key priorities: student success, executive education and athletic superiority. The cutting-edge, 166,000-square foot complex is the ultimate student recruitment and success center.



- >> Professor **Linda Johnson** was named Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs of FAU's Broward Campuses. She joined FAU in 1997 as an assistant professor; most recently, she served as associate dean in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters.
- >> FAU's newest college, the **College of Social Work and Criminal Justice**, officially launched on July 1 under the leadership of interim dean Dr. Naelys Luna.
- >> FAU is taking steps to make the downtown Fort Lauderdale campus the **hub for design and technology** by moving Multimedia Studies and Graphic Design under the same roof as the upper-division School of Architecture.



#WINNINGINPARADISE



>> **Willie Taggart** was named the Owls' head football coach. A Florida native, Taggart is considered one of the best offensive minds in the country and has proven to be very successful on the recruiting trail. He comes to FAU after serving as head coach at Florida State University.

>> The **women's soccer team** won the C-USA title, and its head coach, **Patrick Baker**, was named C-USA Soccer Coach of the Year.



>> In the fall, **FAU football** won the C-USA championship, the Boca Raton Bowl and finished the season 11-3. The team ranked 27 in the country in the final Associated Press poll, the highest in the program's history.



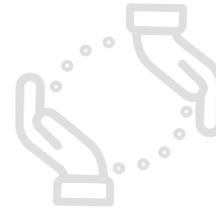
>> Tight End **Harrison Bryant** was named a first team All American, the first player in FAU history; he was also honored with the John Mackey Award, given to the best tight end in the nation. Bryant was drafted in the fourth round of the NFL Draft by the Cleveland Browns.

>> The **men's basketball team** had back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 2006-07.

>> Student-athletes recorded 10 straight semesters of average GPAs of **3.0 or higher**.

>> FAU student athletes continued to be involved in the greater FAU and Boca Raton communities, logging **3,000 community service hours**.

PREEMINENT PARTNERSHIPS.



>> FAU received a three-year, **National Science Foundation EDGE grant** totaling more than \$1.1 million to integrate the expertise of multiple laboratories at FAU, Stowers Institute for Medical Research in Kansas City, the University of Minnesota, and Barr-Ilan University in Israel to develop powerful tools and gene-editing technologies to study sleep and metabolism in Mexican cavefish.



About the size of a guppy, the blind fish became trapped in caves hundreds of thousands of years ago, and developed many traits that mimic human disease.

>> FAU has a reciprocity agreement with **Scripps Florida** whereby FAU faculty can access the Institute's core facilities on FAU's MacArthur campus.

>> The **FAU Max Planck Honors Program** provides Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College students with exclusive enrichment opportunities, including courses taught or co-taught with Max Planck scientists on FAU's John D. MacArthur campus in Jupiter.



Pictured: Jessica Baran graduated with a bachelor's degree in neuroscience and behavior in fall 2019. She is the first person in her family born in the United States, and was the first to receive her college degree. She was also one of the first students to graduate from the Max Planck Honors Program through the Max Planck Institute at FAU. Next on her list is to become the first person in her family to attend medical school and become a doctor.

ABOUT THE FAU FOUNDATION

The Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc. unbridles access to excellence for thousands of the University's promising people and programs. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Foundation connects private philanthropy with giving opportunities that advance the University's mission and strategic plan. Operating under the auspices of the Division of Institutional Advancement, the Foundation also serves as a fiduciary, caring for and distributing gift assets in accordance with our donors' wishes.



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