



FY 2020

Annual Impact Report



FAUTM

FOUNDATION INC.

Florida Atlantic University

MESSAGE FROM THE FAU FOUNDATION

Dear Friends of FAU,

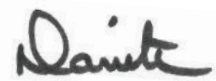
When Florida Atlantic University first opened its doors in 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson put forth a bold vision for what he believed the University would become, saying that FAU represents the “new future of full equity in educational opportunity for all Americans.” Nearly 60 years later, President Johnson’s message spurs us to fulfill that vision at a time when ensuring equity and opportunity is more important than ever.

This year has been a trying time for us all. But despite not being able to join together in person, we’ve been inspired by how our community has rallied to make a difference. And in this year’s Annual Impact Report, you’ll read how 9,944 donors did just that by supporting our people, places and programs.

The successes in this report wouldn’t be possible without the leadership of Immediate Past Chair Stewart Martin. Stewart played a key role in this past fiscal year’s success, and we thank him deeply for his contributions.

As we look ahead to the 60th anniversary of FAU’s founding, we continue to be inspired and motivated by the gratitude of donors like you. Your support not only nourishes our big dreams and big ideas, it also ensures that we flourish as a community. Together, we will continue to do a world of good for our corner of paradise.

Yours in Philanthropy,



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



FY 2020

by the numbers

9,944
DONORS
GENEROUSLY
GAVE
TO FAU
IN FY 2020

8,911

DONORS
gave gifts under
\$25,000

2,335

FAU ALUMNI

764

FAU FACULTY
AND STAFF

FAU FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

\$225,482,947 TOTAL VALUE
AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

502 ENDOWED FUNDS

[DOLLARS RAISED]

\$5.77
MILLION
SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1.75
MILLION
RESEARCH

\$7.86
MILLION
PROGRAMS

\$2.04
MILLION
CAPITAL

\$16.06
MILLION
OTHER

COVID-19 RESPONSE

IN THE FACE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WE'RE PROUD TO SAY THAT MANY OF OUR FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS AND DONORS ANSWERED THE CALL, MAKING AN IMPACT IN AREAS FROM HEALTHCARE TO UNEMPLOYMENT TO TUITION ASSISTANCE.



When the coronavirus closed in-person learning as well as many jobs, FAU students were greatly impacted. "More than 65 percent of all FAU students work to put themselves through school," said FAU President John Kelly. "During these unprecedented times, we want our Owls to know we are here for them." In response, donors raised over \$400,000 to establish the FAU Cares Emergency Fund. Between March and May, more than 15,000 students applied for aid from the fund, including rising senior Joel Ceruto.



FAU
Emergency Fund 2020

“When I learned that I would receive monetary help from the FAU Cares Emergency Fund, I was overwhelmed with gratitude for a university community that truly cares about their students. This kind gesture will go farther than you know.”

Joel Ceruto

Hospitality is the largest employer in Florida, but with the pandemic putting a hold on travel, roughly half of the industry's workers were laid off or had their hours reduced. In response, FAU's nationally ranked Hospitality and Tourism Management Program created a free online certificate course for those affected by layoffs. In the first few months alone, 85,000 people signed up for the course. And in gratitude, 3,360 of those who had enrolled donated to the program, ensuring that it can continue to grow and help workers in need.

For many students, walking across the stage at graduation is the ultimate culmination of their collegiate years. And with the spring Class of 2020 featuring the largest number of graduates in FAU history, it was poised to be a commencement to remember before coronavirus hit. When an in-person ceremony was no longer possible, President John Kelly sought a way to celebrate the class. Each graduating student received a special care package containing a letter from President Kelly and FAU gear. The University also hosted a virtual commencement for spring and summer grads with pre-recorded video ceremonies for each college.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, FAU faculty and staff took action in a number of ways: a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site — staffed by volunteers, including many students — was established at the FAU Tech Runway on the Boca Raton campus, providing free testing services to the region; the Feeding South Florida food bank opened a distribution site on the John D. MacArthur Campus in Jupiter; and the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing distributed lifesaving personal protective equipment (PPE) and healthcare services to low-income families and individuals experiencing homelessness in a neighborhood near the FAU Community Health Center in West Palm Beach.

In April, the Cane Institute for Advanced Technologies partnered with two local high schools to 3-D print life-saving PPE for healthcare workers. Arranged by Giovana Jaen, a student at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, and Allan Phipps, the high schools' district science coordinator, students could check out 3-D printers to produce the materials at home. Together, FAU faculty members and students ranging from 5 to 18 years old worked tirelessly to create 38 intubation chambers, 500 ear savers and more than 15,000 face shields for hospitals in Palm Beach County.



PHILANTHROPY IN PARADISE



CATALYSTS FOR OPPORTUNITIES

Creating a clearing in the dense forest of opportunities to give back is a hallmark of Cindy Gruber's life as a philanthropist.

So when Cindy and her husband, Rubin, retired, "we looked to see where we wanted to make a difference," she said. "Both of us had the sense that if we opened the door, something interesting or bigger may happen. It would start with a crack, and if there was a bit of interest, we would open the door wider to see how we could make a bigger difference."

In 2019, the couple gave a \$1 million gift, part of which established the Rubin and Cindy Gruber Sandbox. Housed within the S.E. Wimberly Library at FAU's Boca Raton campus, the Gruber Sandbox will allow students from across the University to directly engage with the fast-advancing field of artificial intelligence.

"The Sandbox started with buying new computers and evolved into mentoring students," said Rubin. "Now, I'm involved with the Sandbox on a day-to-day basis, focusing on collaboration and how this can enhance FAU in a bigger, broader way."

For Cindy, the idea of students collaborating, developing relationships and having interactions that kindle an idea that could grow into something bigger is significant. She loves seeing students engaged in the real world, enjoying a different way of learning.

"There are so many ways for people to get involved, not just philanthropically. For anyone thinking about it, I encourage them to peek their head in the door and find their window of opportunity."

Cindy Gruber



"Sports are so ingrained in our identity that a great deal of our collective history could be shared through famous athletic moments. To serve as stewards of that story, we have to share our knowledge with the next generation and keep the passion for sports alive."

Avron B. Fogelman

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

For Avron B. Fogelman, sports represent an opportunity to examine our country's shared experiences.

To help share that opportunity with others, Fogelman, former owner of the Kansas City Royals and a longtime Boca Raton resident, partnered with FAU to establish the Avron B. Fogelman Sports Museum at the Schmidt Family Complex for Academic and Athletic Excellence. Featuring artifacts from Fogelman's private collection, the museum is part of a donation valued at more than \$10 million.

"History comes alive when we use the shared language of sports," said FAU President John Kelly. "Avron's passion, coupled with our commitment to providing South Florida with interactive academic opportunities, has created a unique museum. We are honored to be entrusted with his life's work and look forward to sharing America's history with all who walk through its doors."

The museum, which opened in February, offers visitors a visual progression of American sports, alongside vignettes of the country's growth and memorabilia from such sports legends as Arnold Palmer, Joe DiMaggio, Kobe Bryant, Muhammad Ali and Jackie Robinson.



*Do not try to save
the whole world
or do anything grandiose.
Instead, create
a clearing
in the dense forest
of your life
and wait there
patiently,
until the song
that is your life
falls into your own cupped hands
and you recognize and greet it.
Only then will you know
how to give yourself
to this world
so worth of rescue.*

*Martha Postlethwaite
pastor and author*

GIVING IN



ISABEL HILDALGO '20
HISTORY / DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF
ARTS & LETTERS

VISION: To help other first-generation students at FAU find their footing — and their academic passion.

SUPPORT: The Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program

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Isabel Hidalgo aspired to be the first in her family to graduate from college. Knowing she needed financial aid in order to pursue her dreams, the Cooper City native strived to attain good grades in high school.

Her work paid off, and Isabel was selected to join the first cohort of FAU's Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program. Established by Boca Raton philanthropists Aubrey and Sally Strul and FAU President John Kelly and First Lady Carolyn Kelly, the program provides full scholarships to first-generation Florida students.

In May, Isabel became the first Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholar to graduate. With the coronavirus putting the University's main commencement ceremony on hold, FAU staff brought the graduation to her, and she received her diploma in front of her professors and peers. Looking to the future, Isabel plans to stay at FAU to pursue her master's in history and mentor other first-generation students, bringing her journey full circle.

“This school has been a second home. I can't wait to help other students like me find their way and find family.”

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Isabel Hidalgo '20

“Oscar and I believe that you learn when you travel. It's important for architecture students to broaden their education by observing and experiencing design and cultures around the world.”

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Kitty Vagi '96



OSCAR VAGI TRAVELING ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP FUND
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

VISION: To broaden architecture students' education and worldview by helping them experience design and cultures both domestic and abroad.

SUPPORT: Kitty Vagi '96

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Kitty Vagi was a 20-year old university student in Hungary when she married her husband, Oscar. Shortly after, the communist regime took over and the couple were forced to flee. Settling in Fort Lauderdale, Oscar started his own architecture firm and served as an adjunct professor at FAU, teaching design studio.

As a tribute to her late husband, Kitty established the Oscar Vagi Traveling Endowed Fellowship Fund, which enables FAU architecture students to take part in a travel program to enhance their studies. Since its inception, the fund has supported nearly 50 students, who've traveled to places such as Thailand, the Netherlands, the Balkans and Washington, D.C.

“Studying the Bauhaus style of design where the movement began was amazing,” said Andrea Steffen, who studied in Germany as a 2008 Vagi Fellow. “My designs are better as a result of this program. And meeting kids from all over the world was eye-opening.”

GIVING IN ACTION

“Tomorrow’s legacy is being fashioned today by the College’s students and teachers who earnestly believe in honor, reciprocity and joy — those were Kay’s most cherished qualities.”

B G Carter



KAY CARPENTER “PAY IT FORWARD” SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING

VISION: To create access to excellence for the next generation of nurses

SUPPORT: Kay Carpenter and B G Carter

When B G Carter and Kay Carpenter moved to St. Andrews Estates - South years ago, Kay was on a mission: she was motivated to create an association of retired nurses in the neighborhood who could not only share their experiences — they could take action in support of nurses who would follow in their footsteps.

A perpetual pioneer in her field, Kay wanted one stipulation: as the students graduated and found employment, they would repay the scholarship over a period of 10 years, creating a never-ending cycle of philanthropy — and caring.

The Kay Carpenter “Pay it Forward” Scholarship was established at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing in 2018. Many of its recipients helped push that year’s class to a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination. Most recently, the fund has become a lifeline for nursing students struggling to continue their studies in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis.

After an extraordinary life, Kay passed away in March 2020, proud that she had achieved her vision to perpetuate the cycle of caring and open the doors of opportunity.

THE MARCUS INSTITUTE OF
INTEGRATIVE HEALTH
CHARLES E. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

VISION: To transform integrative medicine by fusing access and academics.

SUPPORT: The Marcus Foundation

Bolstered by \$4 million in grants from the Marcus Foundation, FAU’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine launched the Marcus Institute of Integrative Health in Boca Raton. The grants will support the College in launching innovative clinical and educational integrative health programs to meet the growing interest in integrative health by both patients and students. The center is now open and offers a variety of clinical services.

The grants will also enable the College to provide its medical students with enhanced educational offerings in nutrition and mindfulness, as well as offer opportunities for healthcare professionals to enhance their knowledge of integrated medicine.

“I am delighted to support these clinical and educational innovations as part of FAU’s academically focused and accessible approach to integrative health,” said Bernard Marcus, co-founder of The Home Depot and Chairman of the Marcus Foundation.



“We are deeply grateful for the very generous support from The Marcus Foundation, which has enabled us to develop a new clinical integrative health practice that utilizes a full spectrum of evidence-based approaches to promote health and well-being.”

N. Anton Borja, D.O., MATCM
Director, The Marcus Institute of Integrative Health at FAU Medicine

GIVING IN ACTION



**GLENN W. AND CORNELIA T. BAILEY FOUNDATION
MARINE SEA SCHOLARS PROGRAM**
CHARLES E. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

VISION: To give future marine scientists the hands-on experiences they need to create a healthier future for our oceans.

SUPPORT: The Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation

For budding marine scientists, getting their feet wet in the field is a crucial educational experience. Thanks to a \$1.125 million gift from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, more FAU students will be able to take part in such an experience as part of the Glenn W. and Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation Marine SEA Scholars Program.

The gift will support a cohort of scientists-in-training at FAU’s Marine Science Laboratory in Boca Raton, which focuses on studying sea turtles and what they can teach us about environmental impacts on marine life. Under Director Jeanette Wyneken, students will participate in the research and become unofficial spokespersons for the unique lab.

“This gift will allow for the next generation of marine scientists to ensure that important work and discovery will continue,” said Ata Sarajedini, Ph.D., former dean of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science.



“This gift provides amazing opportunities for marine biologists in training to gain hands-on experiences in science.”
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Jeanette Wyneken
Director, FAU Marine Science Laboratory

“I greatly valued the many hands-on activities, which included laboratory experiments, field studies and a scientific cruise aboard a research vessel. The meaningful connections that I gained during this program have inspired, prepared and supported me as I have advanced through my career.
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Gabby Barbarite, Ph.D.
Semester by the Sea '08

SEMESTER BY THE SEA
HARBOR BRANCH OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE

VISION: To restore this vital educational program and foster future generations of ocean stewards.

With the pristine shores of Florida’s Indian River Lagoon — one of the most biologically diverse estuaries in North America — as the program’s backyard, FAU’s Semester by the Sea program is an unforgettable experience at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute.

For nearly 20 years, the immersive program instilled a passion for ocean science in more than 400 undergraduate students. Program alumni have gone on to graduate programs and professional careers in the field of marine science — paths only made possible by Semester by the Sea.

Last year the program was put on hold due to budget constraints, but demand has not waned. As environmental changes increasingly put the future of our oceans — and our corner of paradise — at risk, educating and supporting the next generation of marine scientists is more important than ever.



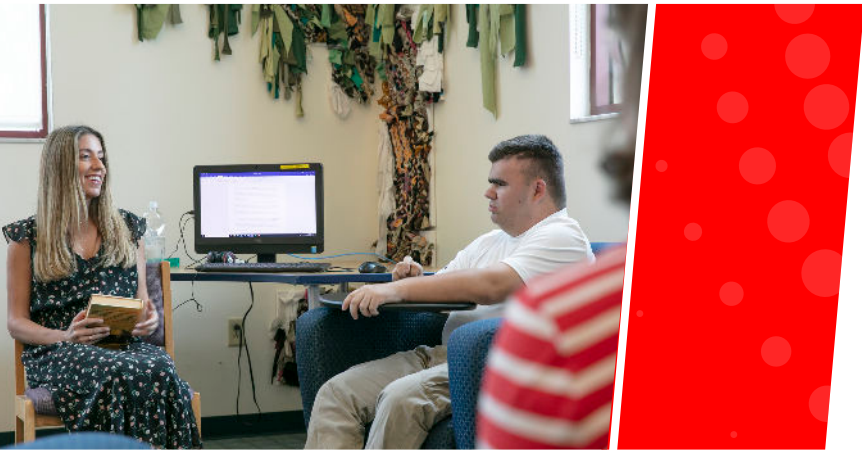
GIFTS OF NOTE

In May 2020, the FAU Department of Athletics received an anonymous **\$2.5 million** gift commitment, earmarked for student-athlete scholarships. This generous gift will make a positive impact on the lives of future generations of Owls.



Before we had to cancel the 2020 President’s Gala, donors gave nearly **\$14.8 million** toward student scholarships. While we were unable to celebrate this year, we continue to be thankful for the generosity of FAU donors, volunteers and sponsors.

The Taft Foundation gave **\$1.5 million** in June 2020 to the College of Education’s Academy for Community Inclusion. The four-year grant will enhance and expand the Academy, a college program for high school graduates who have been diagnosed with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Academy’s programs are offered in an inclusive college environment on the Boca Raton and Jupiter campuses, allowing students to earn certificates in a number of areas and to participate in campus life.



The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters received a **\$1.125 million** gift from FAU benefactor Marleen Forkas to name the Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre. The theatre serves as a production and performance training venue for students, and public events are presented there throughout the year. This latest gift continues to build Forkas’ legacy across FAU’s Boca Raton campus.



Through a **\$7 million** gift from Phyllis and Harvey Sandler, FAU transformed the Sandler School of Social Work into a modern, technology-focused learning center. The Sandlers were first introduced to the School through their daughters, Robin Rubin ‘07, ‘09 and Amy Ross ‘07, who hold degrees in social work and are involved in local philanthropy. Rubin earned her master’s degree from the School and is now an FAU instructor. Renovations to the School were completed in early 2020, and we look forward to celebrating the completion of the new space in the near future.



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Florida Atlantic University Foundation, Inc. unleashes 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 opportunities to 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 gifts in accordance with our donors' wishes.

In March of 2020, the Foundation's Investment Committee switched to an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer (OCIO). Despite ongoing market volatility across the country, we believe that by switching to an OCIO model, our consultants' Fund Evaluation Group is empowered to make decisions, while making sure the Committee is well informed.



FOUNDATION INC.

FAU Foundation, Inc.
777 Glades Road
AD 10, Suite 247
Boca Raton, FL 33431

