

Florida International University
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University Operational Efficiencies

Modesto A. Maidique, President

Below are three examples of ways FIU has leveraged partnerships with public and private organizations in Miami to enhance educational and research opportunities for our students without additional expenditures of state funds.

FIU-UM Doctoral Student Exchange:

FIU has entered into a PhD student exchange program with the University of Miami whereby doctoral students from UM may attend classes at FIU and FIU students may attend classes at UM. In each case, the doctoral student registers on his or her home campus and then takes the relevant class at the other university. This works because although there is a tremendous tuition differential between our two universities, almost all doctoral student at both universities are on fellowships or assistantships and do not pay tuition. No money is exchanged. What is achieved is an expanded doctoral course offering. UM has strengths in areas that FIU does not, and similarly FIU has strengths in areas UM does not. Rather than either university hiring additional faculty in these areas, we make use of the total faculty between the two universities as a seamless whole for the benefit of our doctoral students.

FIU—FL Department of Health Collaboration

FIU and the Florida Department of Health have agreed to locate the department's South Florida headquarters to the FIU-University Park campus. A joint use facility will be built that will house administrative offices, labs and a clinic, where FIU faculty and students will work hand in hand with Department of Health experts.

This relocation will facilitate the enhancement of education experience for our students, improve joint collaboration and research opportunities for our faculty and Dept of Health Staff. One of the long-terms plans for the relationship is to establish a nationally-recognized public health center to serve as a resource for the entire state.

Collaborative Partnerships Supporting Nursing Faculty

In recognition of the need for additional nurses in South Florida, a number of our health care partners have provided multi-year grants to allow the College of Nursing and Health Sciences to hire additional faculty. The Hospital Corporation of America, Tenet South Florida Heal System, Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Miami Children Hospital, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida have contributed approximately \$4 million to fund new faculty positions. Eventually the State of Florida needs to fund the faculty who instruct its citizens, but the jump start provided by our health care partners has allowed the establishment of programs such as our highly successful Nurse Anesthesia program with an overall pass rate since inception of over 93% on the certification examination.