

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Issue Title:	<i>Environmental Resilience</i>
Total Amount Requested:	<i>\$15,150,000</i>
Multi-Year Request?	<i>Yes. Request is \$15,150,000 recurring</i>

1. Is the Total Amount recommended in the proposed allocation sufficient? (Yes or No, then explain). No. We believe the original request reflected a critical approach to addressing the important issues facing the State of Florida and supporting Florida’s goals to lead in education and research at the national level. From its inception, FIU has been a leader in environmental research and is currently ranked **48** in Environment and Ecology among U.S. public universities by *U.S. News & World Report*. FIU’s first research center was focused on water and the environment and is currently the largest research center at FIU. As well, in FIU’s short history, we have a longstanding environmental research commitment with the NSF, leading the Florida Coastal Everglades Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program since May 2000. The Environmental Resilience initiative leverages these and other top-ranked programs that will have a significant ROI at the national, state, and local level. FIU developed a revised plan addressing the reduced funding to \$8M. This plan would slow the progress of our expected achievements and limit our ability to secure additional top 50 rankings. The reduction will also eliminate the water-quality component and delay our ability to contribute to the Governor’s new South Florida water-quality initiatives and dashboard. On the conservative side, the impact on incremental research expenditures will be approximately \$35M less through 2025.

The proposed program of distinction is positioned to improve FIU’s rankings and impact to the State of Florida. The FIU programs participating in the Environmental Resilience initiative will address some of the state’s most pressing environmental and economic problems. It will also drive FIU along a trajectory to increase its number of top National Rankings. The participating programs listed below represented \$66M in research grant funding in 2019 and are ranked nationally in the NSF Higher Education Research & Development Survey for public universities as follows: Environmental Sciences **54**, Psychology **7**, Computer Sciences **37**, and Civil Engineering **32**. In addition, in 2020, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the graduate program in Public Health **50** and Law **47** and the undergraduate program in International Business **2**.

2. If the Total Amount recommended is appropriated, how will these resources be deployed? We will strategically reallocate resources and adjust implementation timelines. The number of faculty recruited will be lowered from 51 to 36, representing a \$2.3M budget reduction. Similarly, the A&P/USPS positions will be reduced from 12 to 5, representing a \$588K budget reduction. Since fewer students will be involved, the student scholarships and retention grants have been reduced from \$1.5M to \$1M. The other significant reductions include reducing support for PhD students from \$777K to \$300K, Industry Partnerships from \$727K to \$300K and Field Deployment from \$2.2M to \$200K.

2020-2021 Legislative Budget Request
Education and General
Position and Fiscal Summary
Operating Budget Form II
(to be completed for each issue)

University: Florida International University
Issue Title: Program of Distinction in Environmental Resilience

	<u>RECURRING</u>	<u>NON-RECURRING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Positions</u>			
Faculty	51.00	0.00	51.00
Other (A&P/USPS)	12.00	0.00	12.00
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Total	63.00	0.00	63.00
	=====	=====	=====
<u>Salary Rate (for all positions noted above)</u>			
Faculty	\$5,822,869	\$0	\$5,822,869
Other (A&P/USPS)	\$749,962	\$0	\$749,962
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Total	\$6,572,831	\$0	\$6,572,831
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Salaries and Benefits	\$8,808,251	\$0	\$8,808,251
Other Personal Services	\$1,166,774	\$0	\$1,166,774
Expenses	\$4,674,975	\$0	\$4,674,975
Operating Capital Outlay	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
Electronic Data Processing	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Category (Specific)	\$0	\$0	\$0
_____	\$0	\$0	\$0
_____	\$0	\$0	\$0
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Total All Categories	\$15,150,000	\$0	\$15,150,000
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