

“WE HAVE A VERY ENTREPRENEURIAL CLIMATE. FLORIDA IS OPTIMISTIC AND WELCOMING WITH AN EAGER, AMBITIOUS AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE.”

— JUDY GENSHAFT, PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SYSTEM

view. The Research Park at Florida Atlantic University is home to 33 companies with a regional economic impact of \$535.6 million annually.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: The Dementia Prevention Initiative within the Comprehensive Center for Brain Health in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine is one of only a handful of centers in the world focusing on dementia prevention.

Florida Polytechnic University

THE BASICS: Florida Polytechnic University opened its doors in 2014 in an effort to meet the needs of business leaders with a focus on advanced science, technology, engineering and math courses. “Our STEM-focused curriculum excels in the education, discovery and application of technology for today’s complex problems, with the goal of making Florida a top destination for high-tech companies,” says president Randy K. Avent.

ACHIEVEMENTS: The university already has achieved regional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. In early 2018, it received its first National Science Foundation grant.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: Florida Poly is making headway in the connected and autonomous vehicle market, partnering with the Florida Department of Transportation and Florida’s Turnpike Enter-

prise to develop a state-of-the-art testing facility for autonomous vehicles. Other unique programs include developing technology to better the physical and emotional health of astronauts and classes focused on cybersecurity.

Florida Southern College

THE BASICS: Founded in 1883, Florida Southern College is the oldest private college in Florida with 50-plus undergraduate programs as well as graduate programs in business, accounting, education and nursing.

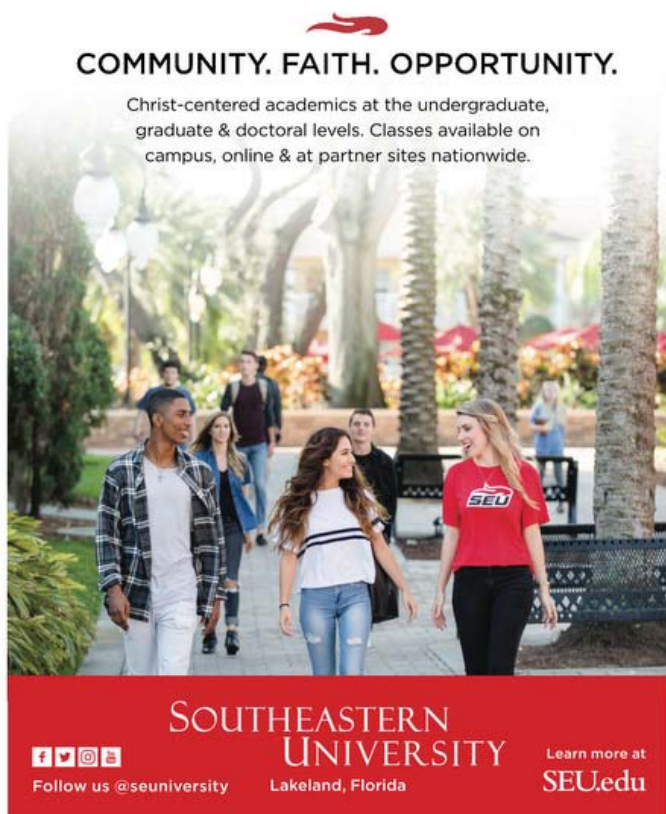
ACHIEVEMENTS: FSC is home to The Roberts Academy, the first transitional school for children with dyslexia in the state of Florida—one of only a few such schools in the United States.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: The Carol Jenkins Barnett Center for Early Childhood Learning and Health interdisciplinary program will be the first of its kind in the country.

Florida State University

THE BASICS: Florida State University is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida. It is classified as a Carnegie research 1 university, receiving \$210 million in research funding in the 2017 fiscal year.

ACHIEVEMENTS: FSU received more than 50,000



first-year applications for the 2018 summer and fall semesters and enjoys a leading 94 percent retention rate for freshmen.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: In 2016, FSU launched the Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences B.S. Degree Program—the first of its kind in the nation that offers a flexible track that primes students for jobs in health care.

Southeastern University

THE BASICS: Southeastern was founded in 1935 in New Brockton, Alabama, and moved to its current location in Lakeland in 1952. Today it has more than 80 extension sites, regional campuses and ministry partners across the country. SEU offers more than 70 degrees at the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral levels.

ACHIEVEMENTS: SEU was recently recognized by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of the fastest-growing private nonprofit baccalaureate institutions in the nation and achieved a record enrollment of more than 7,000 students in the 2017-18 academic year.

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: Students provide an estimated 100,000 hours of community service to Central Florida every year. SEU is also home to the Pathways School of Excellence, dedicated to students ages 11 through 22 with special needs,

who have the chance to dine in the university cafeteria, interact with college students and attend university chapels.

University of South Florida

THE BASICS: Established in 1956, USF is a Top 30 public research university, ranking No. 1 in the state and fifth in the nation for patent generation.

ACHIEVEMENTS: USF's 50,000 students represent 130 countries, and the university has seen a 196 percent jump in international enrollees since 2000. "As a top-tier research university, our pursuit of knowledge, innovation and emerging technology has created a global learning environment," says Judy Genshaft, USF System president. "Our academics are greatly enriched by a diverse community of students, faculty and staff whose unique perspectives and cultures add spirit and depth to conversations and classrooms."

UNIQUE PROGRAMS: In 2019, the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine and Heart Institute will bring nearly 1,800 students, faculty and staff to live, work and study at a new multiuse property in downtown Tampa. The site will provide quick access to the main teaching center at Tampa General Hospital with a goal of making advances in the fight against heart disease. ▽

CINDY SKOP



Florida Southern College is home to The Roberts Academy, a transitional school for children with dyslexia.

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