



NEWS RELEASE

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

MEDIA CONTACT:

Joyce R. Forchion

(305) 626-3624

jforchio@fmuniv.edu

FLORIDA MEMORIAL COMMENDS FIRST GRADUATING CLASS SINCE GAINING UNIVERSITY STATUS

MIAMI GARDENS, FL [APRIL 24, 2006] – Various commencement activities will take place at Florida Memorial University throughout the week to honor the academic achievements of this year's graduates, who happen to be the first graduates of the institution since its university status was announced in 2005. While graduating students prepare themselves for commencement, the university family will bid farewell to retiring President Albert E. Smith, Ph.D. as he delivers his final keynote address during the ceremony. The schedule of events, which will all be held on the campus located at 15800 NW 42nd Avenue in Miami Gardens, is as follows:

Senior Class Banquet: This is scheduled for Friday, April 28, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albert E. and Sadie B. Smith Conference Center on campus.

Baccalaureate Service: The baccalaureate is a traditional religious service for graduates, families and friends and is also an occasion in which we engage in spiritual reflection and express appreciation for blessings. The baccalaureate will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. in the Susie C. Holley Religious Center on campus. The guest speaker is Reverend C. P. Preston, Pastor of Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Miami, and moderator of the Florida East Coast Association. A complimentary lunch will be served to graduates and their guests following the service.

Commencement Ceremony: The Commencement Ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the A. Chester Robinson Athletic Center (gymnasium) on campus.

For additional details about commencement activities, please contact Dr. Sandra T. Thompson, Associate Provost at (305) 626-3186.

###