



**FLORIDA
MEMORIAL
UNIVERSITY**

Date: November 15, 2021

To: University Community

From: Dr. Jaffus Hardrick, President

Re: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Update

This communication is to apprise the Lion family of the latest updates related to SACSCOC. In June, Florida Memorial University was placed on Probation for Good Cause. Over the past 10 years, there has been a steady decline in enrollment which translates into a decline in tuition revenue. As we are all aware, enrollment is key to the financial solvency of any higher education institution. Although, the University's fall enrollment exceeded more than 960 students, thus surpassing the original goal of 850, we are not yet at a sustainable enrollment level. Therefore, the budget must be adjusted, which requires a serious examination of operations, staffing, and program enrollment.

FMU's leadership team and Board of Trustees have held meetings with SACSCOC and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) consultants, who have extensive experience dealing with accreditation matters in higher education. Additionally, the University engaged with Gray Associates, a leading strategy consulting firm, which utilizes a data-driven process to optimize course and program offerings. Their assessment revealed that FMU has a number of programs with extremely low enrollment. Based on the recommendations of SACSCOC and external consultants, the University must consider consolidating, revamping, and/or eliminating some of the current degree programs that are underperforming. If some academic programs are impacted, the University will ensure that students graduate in their respective degree programs. All non-academic areas are also undergoing the same level of review.

On November 22, 2021, the leadership team will present all possible actions to the Board of Trustees to be considered and voted upon.



**FLORIDA
MEMORIAL
UNIVERSITY**

To understand details about the University's response to SACSCOC's decision this past June, please access our website at: <https://www.fmuniv.edu/sacscoc/>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send your questions to publicaffairs@fmuniv.edu.

Watch the latest SACSCOC video updates:

Dr. Jaffus Hardrick: <https://youtu.be/wXSSHVfbnUo>

Dr. Heather Munns: <https://youtu.be/KAue0aWF3j4>