

Date: November 22, 2021

To: University Community

From: FMU SACSCOC Task Force

Re: SACSCOC Follow Up

Today, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendations:

- Discontinuing 18 low enrollment, underperforming degree programs, which will result in the elimination of 15 faculty positions (eight current and seven vacant)
- Reducing salaries of \$60,000 and above by 10 percent for some faculty, staff, and all administration
- Accelerating repayment of the endowment
- Developing University-owned land for additional revenue streams
- Increasing Board of Trustees contributions and fundraising
- Adopting a restrictive endowment borrowing policy

In addition to the approved recommendations by the Board of Trustees, the administration has implemented a hiring freeze in non-critical areas, reduced University-wide travel, and cut department budgets by up to 30 percent, effective immediately.

Beginning January 2022, those affected will be contacted directly, and the changes will occur as a part of a phased process. For any specific programs that are eliminated, the University will ensure all students have pathways to degree completion and graduation.

Lions, please know we are working tirelessly to not only regain compliance with SACSCOC, but also to grow enrollment. These unavoidably difficult decisions are being made with the best interest of our University community in mind, and to provide the best possible FMU experience to our students, now and in the future.

As a way to keep the University community informed, we will continue to send out regular communication on behalf of the FMU SACSCOC Task Force.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Public Affairs at: mailto:publicaffairs@fmuniv.edu.