



From the President's Desk
November 13, 2007

I am delighted that my official first day at FGCU finally has arrived, and as of today I am with you on campus! I am even *more* enthusiastic than I was on August 25 when the FGCU Board of Trustees selected me as your third president. The transition from my presidency at Metropolitan State University has gone smoothly, and I have been eager to get to FGCU and begin our journey together.

You may recall from the presidential interviews that my wife, Jo, and I are from Florida, and we are very happy to be back in this magnificent state we consider home. We are looking forward to getting to know you and also the many community supporters of Florida Gulf Coast University.

As we celebrate the tremendous successes of FGCU's first decade, it is important that we look ahead to the next 10 years. Together we can dream, plan and work hard to shape FGCU's next decade as we fulfill our mission of providing access to quality higher education in Southwest Florida. I will be scheduling meetings with all of FGCU's departments in an effort to better understand your respective goals and challenges – and to discuss where we are heading, where we need to be, and how we want to get there.

I hope that you will be able to join me on Thursday at 9 a.m. in Alico Arena. This will be my first opportunity to address the faculty and staff, and I'm looking forward to talking with you.

When the FGCU Board of Trustees honored me with their selection, I pledged that I would give them my best. I make that same pledge to each of you – and I am eager to see all that we will accomplish together in the name of higher education and Florida Gulf Coast University.

Thank you.

Wilson G. Bradshaw, Ph.D.
President