August 24, 2015

Dear College of Architecture + The Arts (CARTA) Students,

Welcome to the Fall 2015 Semester!

To our 500 new students, Welcome! To our 2,700 returning students, Welcome Back!

I am appreciative of your trust and your decision to pursue your goals in CARTA; I know you had options when selecting a university to pursue your dreams. I am confident you made the correct choice and am very proud that CARTA provides you with the unique opportunity to study with award-winning faculty members, in nationally acclaimed programs, among motivated and talented peers, in the heart of Miami and Miami Beach – two of the nation’s most exciting and creative cities!

To begin the semester and ensure you get off to a good start, I encourage you to visit my.fiu.edu. There you can review your class schedule, the University Course Catalog, your Panther Degree Audit (PDA), your unofficial transcripts, any university financial assistance you may be receiving, and the University’s Academic Calendar. You will also learn the name and contact information of your personal academic advisor. Like your department chair and the faculty members you encounter during your studies, your academic advisor will be an important source of information. If you have not done so already, I encourage you to contact your advisor to discuss any questions you have and to confirm you are registered for the correct courses -- putting you on track for a timely graduation.

In addition to focusing your energies on your studies, I also encourage you to take advantage of all the cultural and educational opportunities FIU offers. To get started, please visit our homepage, carta.fiu.edu. There you will learn more about the College’s engaged mission; the seven departments and 8 undergraduate and 9 graduate degrees within the College; and a listing of over 200 events offered on the Modesto Maidique Campus (MMC), the Biscayne Bay Campus (BBC), and the College’s 420 Lincoln Road location, CARTA | Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS). On our homepage, you will also find links to our social media sites and to CARTANews.fiu.edu, our own daily digital news service highlighting the activities and accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. So, if you enjoy concerts, plays, musicals, athletic events, operas, master classes, lectures, BBQ’s, exhibitions, workshops, panel discussions, or design charrettes, there is something for you to get involved in this semester.

In closing, thank you again for your confidence in FIU and CARTA. Your education is an investment in your future, and what you do now – or choose not to do – will influence future opportunities. I, like you, am excited about the upcoming year and the remarkable opportunities ahead of us!

Go Panthers!

Brian Schriner
Dean