

## State of the Student Body

Panthers,

On behalf of the Student Government, congratulations on a successful fall semester! These past few months as President have taught me so much about our university. This address will highlight a handful of the various achievements from this past Semester, as well as our priorities for the coming term.

I would like to start by thanking the students who have taken on the various leadership roles within this organization. Our senators, directors, and officers have all been working tirelessly to support our mission to enhance the student experience. Without this team, none of these accomplishments could be possible.

The Student Body Senate has been working tirelessly to support the student body and commemorate one of FIU's most significant accomplishments. This past fall, the Student Body Senate passed a resolution titled "Committing to Excellence: FIU's Preeminence Resolution", celebrating FIU on achieving its designation as a Preeminent Research University. This is a significant achievement, as only four state universities have been recognized with this incredible designation.

The Student Government has long provided scholarships for students. However, the rising cost of housing, goods, and basic necessities have placed a tremendous burden on our communities, most importantly our students. In recognition of this, I have approved an additional \$150,000 in scholarships to be made available for students that qualify for emergency aid. These funds aim to assist students struggling from a variety of sudden financial hardships. In addition to the emergency aid, the Student Government will be providing scholarships for a variety of other students, such as veterans, former foster youth, single parents, and students experiencing homelessness. The Student Government does not select students or disburse awards, all scholarships will be delivered through the FIU Office of Scholarship. I encourage all students who will benefit from these new programs to apply.

A few more of our partnerships and events include:

Meet Your Dean

CASE Club Fair

Business Club Fair

Panthers-giving with Residence Hall Association

Transportation for away Football Games

Cafecito With SGA MMC

Cafecito With SGA BBC

Summer Orientation / Fall Orientation

Recharge For Finals

Chick-Fil-A Lunch Break with SGA

Panthers Night Out with FIU Police

SGA in FIU in DC

Panthers Safety Walk MMC

Panthers Safety Walk BBC

Day on the Bay BBC

Our student lead organizations are the lifeblood of this university. We recognize the efforts of those who work to make their organizations better than they found it. We encourage organizations who strive to create experiences to use the student government resources as a tool to accomplish their mission. We want to help; we want to support you.

The state of the student body is strong, and we still have a lot of work left to do! I look forward to continuing this term alongside you all, paws up Panthers!

Francesca Casanova