

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Adjunct Faculty, Advisors

From: Gitta Montoto, Member, Commencement Committee

Date: September 16, 2016

Re: Nominating Outstanding Graduates for Recognition at Fall 2016 Commencement

Once again this semester we plan to recognize and tell the stories of two or three remarkable students during our commencement ceremonies. Because you are closest to our students, you are in the best position to nominate commendable individuals. Our viability as a public institution depends in part on our ability to recognize and celebrate outstanding student achievement – both academic and non-academic. Our *Worlds Ahead* attitude should guide your identification and promotion of such students.

We now invite nominations for outstanding graduates for the Fall 2016 ceremonies. Nominees **must be in attendance at the Fall 2016 ceremonies** and be in good academic standing. We are looking to recognize graduates with unique accomplishments that showcase meaningful and inspirational stories intended for a broad audience (the graduates themselves, their families and friends in the audience, as well as the local and global media). With this in mind, please nominate students who fulfill one or more of the following criteria:

- Completed groundbreaking research projects with measurable/confirmed impact that exceeds the standard requirements for their degree;
- Have proven entrepreneurial skills that resulted in innovative products, processes or services, or may have secured a job beyond the general entry level, or created jobs for others;
- Won national awards or earned special recognition for their academic work or service contributions;
- Embodied *Global Citizenship* through engagement that solved real-world problems and helped to improve the quality of life for others;
- Overcome extraordinary personal or physical obstacles to complete their education;
- Have otherwise been *Worlds Ahead* in their conduct or efforts.

Please submit your nomination by Friday, October 7, 2016 online here: **Fall 2016 Nomination**.

Should you have any questions, please e-mail me at gmontoto@fiu.edu.

We look forward to receiving your *Worlds Ahead* nominations.