

MEMORANDUM

To: University Community

From: Douglas Wartzok, Provost & Executive Vice President

Date: 5 January 2012

Re: Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Rosa Jones has informed me that she will be retiring as Vice President of Student Affairs this year. She has served as Vice President of Student Affairs since 2004 with the additional duties of Undergraduate Education until 2008. Thanks to her leadership campus life, housing and residential life, career services, multicultural programs and programs such as the *Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program*, the Title V project focused on *Strengthening Hispanic Serving Institutions*, and *Upward Bound Math Science* have seen tremendous growth and touched the academic and personal lives of countless students.

Dr. Jones joined FIU on its founding faculty in 1972 as Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work. She then moved up the ranks as Director of the Department of Social Work, Associate Dean of the Office of Undergraduate Studies, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Education and finally Vice President for Student Affairs and Undergraduate Education, and since 2008 Vice President for Student Affairs. She received a Bachelor's in Social Welfare and Master's in Social Work from FSU. She served as Maternal and Child Health Fellow at the Georgetown University and earned her Doctorate in Social Work from Howard University.

Dr. Jones retired once before in 2009. I remain ever grateful that she was willing to return to resume her responsibilities as Vice President. This time her decision is final and I will not be able to convince her to continue as Vice President but I am sure that likewise I will not be able to do without her sage advice in one form or another.

I have appointed Vice Provost Irma Becerra-Fernandez to chair the search and screen committee and the national search for a new Vice President of Student Affairs will commence early this year.

Recognized and cherished by students, faculty, staff and the community as a relentless advocate for students and academic excellence, and as a mentor and true friend to many, we will celebrate her accomplishments at a formal, public event before Dr. Jones retires.