Dear FDU Community Members,

As you all know, we spent a great deal of time in the spring listening and sharing ideas on the main priorities ahead for the institution and the goals we wish to fulfill to help us overcome the challenges in higher education and reach a new level of excellence. From our discussions has emerged the next strategic plan in the institution's history. Titled "FDU Will Soar," the plan outlines the focal points that we believe will indeed enable us to soar and strengthen all areas of the University. You can find the plan along with my introductory message at the strategic plan website. The site also includes printable PDF versions of the full plan and a one-page summary.

I am asking all community members to not just read and review the document, but to instill the main priorities into each of our daily responsibilities and to help us deliver on the promise of the plan and the potential of this extraordinary institution. I believe strongly that the strategic goals outlined in the plan are the right priorities for us at this moment in our history. I also believe that the strategic goals provide direction for short- and long-term initiatives that all of us can create and develop to further our progress.

I greatly appreciate all the input that has been provided to help us create this plan. And I am extremely grateful for all the hard work that is already being done on projects relating to these goals and so many others throughout the University. Like all of higher education, FDU is facing significant challenges and we have hard decisions ahead of us, but we will overcome these challenges because we have incredibly talented and devoted community members who are passionate about their purpose and the institution's mission.

Thank you for all that you do for FDU, and I look forward to spending time with our community members this academic year and to sharing updates on new developments that will indeed help FDU soar!

Michael J. Avaltroni, Ph.D. President