POINTS OF PRIDE
This past year, the University of Miami has made great strides in realizing our vision to become the hemispheric, excellent, relevant, and exemplary university the world needs as we approach our centennial in 2025. The Roadmap to Our New Century—a comprehensive strategic plan for achieving our aspirations—continues to guide our progress.
MISSION-DRIVEN RESEARCH

From basic discovery to complex interdisciplinary inquiries, research that translates into actionable solutions is among the top strategic priorities of the Roadmap to Our New Century.

• Selected for its expertise in genetics and genomics and its location, the University receives a $60 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to lead the SouthEast Enrollment Center for All of Us, a program to build the most inclusive and diverse health database in history. The center will enroll 100,000 participants as part of the more than 1 million U.S. participants expected over the next five years.

• To support teams of scholars in multiple disciplines as they tackle the world’s most compelling research problems, U-LINK (University of Miami Laboratory for Integrative Knowledge) provides funding for innovative, collaborative projects.

• University of Miami biologists lead an international team of scientists to discover that tropical and subtropical forests across South America’s Andes Mountains are responding to warming temperatures by migrating to higher, cooler elevations but are not moving quickly enough to avoid possible extinction.

• Ge-Cheng Zha, a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering and co-director of the Center for Green Aviation, continues his groundbreaking research to improve the efficiency of aircraft using a new airfoil he developed.

• The School of Law’s International Arbitration Institute and the ICC International Court of Arbitration collaborate on an unprecedented research project aimed at bringing greater transparency to international arbitration via a new data analysis platform.
• A study by researchers at the Miller School of Medicine and the School of Architecture finds that people who live in "green" neighborhoods—those with more tree canopy and street-level vegetation—have a 28 percent lower risk for depression and an 18 percent decreased risk for Alzheimer’s disease compared with residents on blocks low in greenery.

• A new study led by researchers at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science finds that a common coral species—Pocillopora damicornis, better known as the cauliflower coral—might have evolved unique immune strategies to cope with environmental impacts of climate change.

• The Miami Clinical and Translational Science Institute is awarded a five-year, $21.5 million National Institutes of Health grant for collaborative research to speed the discovery of new medical treatments and cures.

• The University of Miami Debate Team wins the Atlantic Coast Conference championship for the first time. Artem Sviridov and Zach Homeijer complete a perfect performance and push the team to victory.

• Kristiana L. Yao, a Stamps scholar and recent graduate of the School of Nursing and Health Studies and the Miami Business School, is among just 32 Americans named a Rhodes scholar.

• The University’s robotics team, RoboCanes, becomes the only U.S. team to place in the finals at the World Robot Summit in Tokyo, placing sixth.

• A team of College of Engineering students who created a new music streaming service that employs blockchain digital technology captures the runners-up prize at Pitbull’s Smackathon Blockchain Music Challenge in Miami.
During spring move-out, more than 4,000 resident students donate 38.5 tons (77,160 pounds) of goods to Goodwill Industries International, Inc., an increase of 7,570 pounds from the previous year.

Belen Fadrique, a Ph.D. candidate in biology, discovers 16 new species of bamboo in Peru.

Diverse backgrounds: 43 different states and 52 countries

The University of Miami continues to garner accolades for innovative programs that are shaping the future of education.

No. 26 on the 2019 U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges for Veterans list

No. 47 in the 2019 Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings

No. 53 on U.S. News’ 2019 Best Colleges list

FIRST-YEAR ADMISSIONS

54% first-year students speak two or more languages

34,267 most applications ever received

3.7 GPA average

2,342 largest first-year class enrolled

Diverse backgrounds: 43 different states and 52 countries
Other national honors

• **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute** is the No. 1 ophthalmology facility in the nation for the 17th time in the U.S. News Best Hospitals edition and is ranked for the second consecutive year by Ophthalmology Times as the No. 1 overall ophthalmology program, the best in clinical care, and the best residency program in the United States.

• The **Miller School of Medicine** is among the top 50 medical schools on the U.S. News 2019 Best Graduate Schools list.

• The **Campus Pride Index** ranks the University a 4-star university, recognizing the openness of LGBTQ culture as indicated by LGBTQ support and institutional inclusion, student life, housing and residential life, counseling, health, and campus safety.

• The **Frost School of Music** makes Billboard’s list of the Top Music Business Schools of 2018.

• The **University is named one of only 14 Lead Advisory Institutions** by the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education for its Lead Initiative on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement.

• In just its second year of operation and first year of eligibility, **The Lennar Foundation Medical Center** earns a Guardian of Excellence Award for Patient Experience from Press Ganey, a national leader in health care performance improvement.
LEADERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP

- **Mary Lindemann**, professor and chair of the Department of History, is elected president of the American Historical Association, the largest professional organization serving historians in all fields.

- **Five Bascom Palmer Eye Institute faculty members** are honored among the Top 100 Most Influential People in the World of Ophthalmology: Eduardo C. Alfonso, Philip J. Rosenfeld, Harry W. Flynn Jr., Richard K. Parrish II, and Sonia H. Yoo.

- Miami Business School finance professor **Indraneel Chakraborty** is named one of the 2018 Best 40 Under 40 Professors by Poets&Quants.

- Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science professor **Martin Grosell**, who specializes in environmental physiology and toxicology in marine fish and invertebrates, receives the Award of Excellence in fish physiology from the American Fisheries Society.

- **Amina Gautier**, an award-winning short story author and creative writing professor, receives the 2018 PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story category.

- **Renowned neurologist and stroke researcher Ralph L. Sacco**, professor and chair of neurology and the Olemberg Family Chair of Neurological Disorders at the Miller School of Medicine, is elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

- The University’s **Office of the General Counsel** is named Legal Department of the Year by the Daily Business Review as part of the publication’s 2018 Professional Excellence Awards.

- **Ben Kirtman**, professor of atmospheric sciences at the Rosenstiel School and director of the Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies, is named a 2019 fellow of the American Meteorological Society for his outstanding contributions to weather, water, and climate.
Jean-Hubert Olivier, assistant professor in the chemistry department, is the University’s first faculty member to receive the Beckman Young Investigators Award, bestowed to foster inventions that “will open up new avenues of research in science.”

Pediatric nurse Cynthia Foronda, associate professor of clinical at the School of Nursing and Health Studies, receives the 2018 Educational Change Award from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation.

Composer and associate professor Carlos Rafael Rivera wins his first Emmy Award for the theme music from the Netflix limited series “Godless.”

Charles Huang, an associate professor in the biomedical engineering department, is elected a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, an honor bestowed on only 3 percent of the society’s members.

University of Miami Hillel is awarded the prestigious 2018 Philip H. and Susan Rudd Cohen Outstanding Campus Award from Hillel International Global Assembly.

The 90,000-square-foot Carol Soffer Indoor Practice Facility features two high-performance artificial turf fields and a football operations center with coaches’ offices, conference and meeting rooms, a video center, a recruiting suite, and displays celebrating the University’s football history.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

Among the most anticipated additions to the Coral Gables campus are the Student Housing Village and Centennial Village. Together they will transform the student living and academic experience. We also celebrate the rise of other spaces that foster learning, collaboration, and excellence in athletics and campus life.
• The School of Architecture’s Thomas P. Murphy Design Studio Building, a 20,000-square-foot building with a high-tech fabrications lab, modern workstations that optimize collaboration, and several innovative design features, is named the 2018 Building of the Year by World Architects.

• The School of Architecture’s B.E. & W.R. Miller BuildLab opens, giving students an open-air, covered structure where they can construct projects even in inclement weather.

• The Kislik Center at the Otto G. Richter Library opens, celebrating the landmark gift by the Jay I. Kislik Foundation of a significant collection of Early Americas maps, books, artworks, and other artifacts.

• The University celebrates the announcement of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Science and Engineering Building, which will house an intertwined network of institutes that will boost STEM disciplines across the University.

• The University hosts the first National Geographic on Campus conference, a two-day symposium that connects students to Nat Geo’s worldwide community of scientists, journalists, educators, and explorers.

• The University of Miami partners with entrepreneurial heavyweight Magic Leap, founded and led by alumnus Rony Abovitz, to create Project Alexandria, which will transform learning and make spatial computing an important part of the University’s educational experience.

• The University launches the Hemispheric University Consortium, a Roadmap to Our New Century initiative that provides a platform for students, faculty, and researchers to collaborate. The inaugural consortium meeting brings leaders from universities across the hemisphere to the University.
• World health experts meet at the University to discuss the findings, identify solutions, and call for action on The Lancet Commission’s report, led by Felicia Marie Knaul, director of the Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas, on the lack of palliative care and pain relief for millions of suffering people around the world.

• A regional joint meeting of the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine, held at the University, focuses on the potential for health care breakthroughs when doctors and engineers collaborate.

• The Dolphins Cancer Challenge, a partnership between the Miami Dolphins and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami, completes its eighth year and raises more than $5 million for innovative cancer research.

• Faculty, students, and staff engage with the community at a record level, completing nearly 209,000 hours of service. The economic impact of this service is estimated at $5.15 million.
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

• Former Prime Minister of Israel **Ehud Barak** speaks at the Miami Business School’s first World Leaders lecture.

• Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter **Alessia Cara** speaks to students at the Frost School of Music.

• Former U.S. President **Bill Clinton** convenes the second summit of his Clinton Global Initiative Action Network on Post-Disaster Recovery at the University, uniting business, government, and civil society leaders to make Commitments to Action that help communities in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Dominica, and Antigua and Barbuda recover from the devastating hurricanes of 2017.

• **Michelle Obama** leads a rally at the Watsco Center for When We All Vote, a national nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded to spark a conversation about the responsibilities of registering and voting.

• Hip-hop superstar **Drake** visits the University to film a video for his single “God’s Plan” and **donates funds to support student scholarships** and the Frost School of Music’s Donna E. Shalala MusicReach Program.

• Among the notable speakers imparting wisdom to graduates at the **May 2018 Commencement ceremonies** are Peruvian-born novelist and Nobel laureate **Mario Vargas Llosa** (left); race and gender equality champion **Nontombi Naomi Tutu**, daughter of Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu; and renowned flutist **Sir James Galway**.
ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

• Manny Diaz, who catapulted the Hurricanes defense to elite status during his three years as defensive coordinator, is named head coach of the Miami Hurricanes football team.

• Gino DiMare becomes the 10th head baseball coach in program history.

• Miami athletics launches the Building Women Champions campaign to enhance scholarship support, leadership development, and career coaching for female student-athletes.

• Women’s basketball head coach Katie Meier achieves the 250th victory of her stellar 13-year coaching career at Miami and leads the team to an NCAA tournament bid. Senior Erykah Davenport achieves the best single-season field goal percentage in program history.

• The Hurricanes men’s basketball team earns an at-large bid to the 2018 NCAA men’s basketball tournament, the fourth time in head coach Jim Larrañaga’s seven seasons at the U.

• Randy Ableman is named the 2018 ACC Women’s Diving Coach of the Year.

• UM student-athletes earn first place in the Division I category of the 2018 NCAA Team Works Helper Community Service Competition.

• Six Miami Hurricanes are selected in the April 2018 NFL Draft, with defensive lineman Chad Thomas leading the way as the 67th overall selection and going to the Cleveland Browns.

• Sophomore tennis phenom Estela Perez-Somarriba is named the Atlantic Coast Conference’s Player of the Year, becoming the fourth Hurricane to earn the prestigious award.

• Amy Deem, director of track and field/cross country, is named the 2018 ACC Outdoor Track and Field Women’s Coach of the Year, winning the honor for the third time.