

**News Release** – *Immediate Release*

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**Everglades University Gains Regional Accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**

Boca Raton, FL –Nov. 18, 2010–Everglades University now has regional accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The Commission on Colleges (COC) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools announced that Everglades University has officially been awarded “accredited membership” status and is now an accredited member of the SACS COC.

“This is the culmination of more than five years of preparation and hard work,” stated Kristi Mollis, President/CEO of Everglades University. “As a University, regional accreditation offers more accessible transferability of credits and degrees to and from other regionally accredited institutions. The process of attaining regional accreditation makes a university stronger and through the support of the commission, the process is ongoing and effective in ensuing continuous quality improvement and compliance. We are excited about what this means for our alumni and the entire university community, especially our students.”

Everglades University hosted a reception to announce its new accreditation, which included a ribbon cutting, as well as an awards ceremony honoring individuals that have exemplified dedication and commitment to Everglades University and the local community. The awards included Everglades University’s President’s Award, Leadership Award, and Community Service Award. In addition, the final award of the night recognized the Academic Team for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to students and alumni. Key community leaders in attendance were Chair of the Everglades University Board of Trustees, Gregg Wallick, Owner of Best Roofing, Susan Haynie-Deputy Mayor of Boca Raton, Troy McClellan-President/CEO of the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, Commissioner Steven Abrams, and Kelly Smallridge-President/CEO of the Palm Beach Business Development Board.

This distinction signifies that Everglades University meets the requirements and standards for accreditation published in the *Principles of Accreditation* and has been judged by its peers as worthy of membership in the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Membership will provide opportunities for the university to continue to grow and be eligible to further enhance and expand its programs to better serve its current and future students. SACS membership covers all Everglades University campuses and programs of study at the Boca Raton Main Campus (including its Distance Education Division) and their two branch campuses in Sarasota, and Orlando, Florida. The COC has awarded Everglades University membership at Level III and authorized the institution to grant accredited bachelor's and master's degrees.

Everglades University is a regionally accredited, private not-for-profit university offering bachelor's and master's degree programs that prepare students to advance in their careers or fields of study. Everglades University offers degree programs in majors such as Alternative Medicine, Aviation, Business, and Construction Management. With small class sizes, innovative degree programs, and convenient scheduling to accommodate working students and adult learners, Everglades University is committed to student success. Everglades University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's and master's degrees.

Visit our website at: [www.EvergladesUniversity.edu](http://www.EvergladesUniversity.edu)

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