Florida International University continues to expand to help meet the needs of its growing student population. (Photos/Florida International University)

Florida International University continues to expand to help meet the needs of its growing student population.

Florida International University's Pines Center, its new building in Pembroke Pines is on schedule. The exterior walls are up, the roof is on, and occupancy is expected prior to the start of the Spring 2003 semester on Jan. 8.

Although FIU has offered courses in Broward since 1972, it will be the first time that its name will appear on a building in Broward County.

In addition to classrooms, faculty offices and computer labs, the contemporary-designed, state-of-the-art building will have two case study rooms, a student lounge, a bookstore, an exercise facility and a 450-seat auditorium.

The building has a convenient location: less than one mile west of the Sheridan exit of I-75. It will be a new addition to the Academic Village in the western part of Pembroke Pines. The Southwest Regional Library, where FIU houses its library, is also a part of the Village, as is Broward Community College (BCC) and the city’s Charter High School.

Most important, an array of degree programs will be available for the Fall semester. FIU is leasing space in BCC’s building and will continue to offer full degree programs at this site.

The College of Education will offer a master’s degree in Adult Education, Human Resource Development and in Reading, as well as doctoral programs in Adult Education/Human Resource Development, Curriculum & Instruction and Higher Education. Applications and additional information may be obtained from Eileen at 954-201-3735, or through email at Eileen.Carstine@fiu.edu.

The College of Business Administration will begin a new cohort for its innovative weekend E-MBA program. The director of this program is Steve Bostic, who can be contacted at 305-348-1713, or via email at sbostic@fiu.edu.

The College of Health & Urban Affairs has been an integral part of FIU’s Broward offerings. Degrees that are offered are the RN to BSN and the newly approved workplace Nurse Executive MSN. Dania can respond to any questions and may be contacted at 954-201-3714, or via email at emeryg@fiu.edu.

The Master’s in Social Work offers the traditional program (60 credits) as well as the advanced standing program for students (90 credits) who already have a bachelor’s degree in Social Work. Brochures, applications and additional information may be obtained from Jennifer at 954-201-3713, or email williams@fiu.edu.

The South Florida construction industry consistently looks to FIU to hire managers. At the Pines Center, FIU offers both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Construction Management. For more information, contact Prof. Jack Dye, the department chairperson, at 305-348-3712 or dye@fiu.edu.

As early as January 2003, FIU’s plans include a bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies, a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Parks & Recreation, and undergraduate Engineering core courses.

In addition, FIU’s College of Continuing and Professional Studies will offer credit and non-credit courses and programs tailored to meet the needs of Broward County residents. For more information, contact Pam at 954-201-3608, colangelo@fiu.edu.

This month marks the 30th Anniversary for one of the nation’s fastest growing and most prestigious universities. FIU is not resting on its laurels; important plans are under way. Highlighting this academic year, FIU will welcome its first law school class of approximately 120 students.

Known for its beaches and marine life, South Florida is a prime research spot for marine biologists. FIU is taking full advantage of the location of its Biscayne Bay Campus, directly on the water’s edge, to begin its Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology degree program. Classes begin this fall.

And there is excitement about the inaugural season of football. The first home game, under the leadership of Coach Don Strock, will be played on Aug. 29.

FIU boosts more than 180 baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degree programs in 16 schools and colleges: Accounting, Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Computer Science, Education, Engineering, Health and Urban Affairs, Honors, Hospitality Management, Journalism and Mass Communication, Music, Nursing, Policy and Management and Social Work.

Each of these academic units work together to provide students with challenging programs that have the end result of employers who actively compete to recruit its graduates.

FIU is a member of Florida Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society.

FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission and is ranked by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as Doctoral/Research Extensive, the highest ranking in its classification system.

An Honors College with programs at both the Biscayne Bay Campus and University Park Campus is a small community of academically talented students who work with select faculty members in an atmosphere usually associated with elite private colleges.

As the name implies, the Writers on the Bay Program, conceived and implemented by the Creative Writing Program, is at the Biscayne Bay Campus. This award-winning program, which is open to the public, brings published authors and poets to the campus to read and discuss their literary work. The Creative Writing Program has progressed from its founding 11 years ago to its current ranking among the top 10 creative writing programs in the country by "Who Runs American Literature?" in the Dictionary of Literary Biography.

The university’s Art Museum has received coveted accreditation from the American Association of Museums. Thanks to benefactor Marty Margulies, it has one of the world’s finest collections of outdoor sculptures. The Art Museum has signed a rare affiliation agreement with the Smithsonian Institution that will make many of the Smithsonian’s 42 million artifacts and specimens available for study and display at FIU.

To see the university in action, and receive answers to questions, take a virtual tour by visiting www.fiu.edu.