

President Kelly Invites You to Attend the Heart Walk Kick-off

Immediately after I arrived at FAU I saw how truly caring our university community is. Students, faculty and staff reach out in a multitude of ways with willing hearts and helping hands to make life better for people in our service area and beyond.

One of the best traditions at FAU is our participation in the annual Palm Beach Heart Walk. **Teams are forming right now for this year's Heart Walk, which will take place on Saturday, Sept. 27, in downtown West Palm Beach.** Now's the time to talk to your friends and co-workers about forming your own team under the overall umbrella of Team FAU. To get started, [click here](#). If you have questions or need help, please contact Lynn Laurenti at laurenti@fau.edu or Jennifer Mora Rhine at Jennifer.Mora@heart.org. The team coordinator on the Jupiter campus is Terry Gearing, gearing@fau.edu.

A kick-off event for FAU's Heart Walk participants will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, July 21, in the Majestic Palm Room of the Student Union. Captains' packets will be available, refreshments will be served and valuable door prizes will be raffled. All participants will receive regular email messages from the American Heart Association encouraging recruitment through drawings for prizes such as Apple iPad minis.

Special guests at the kick-off event will be Charles H. Hennekens, the first Sir Richard Doll Professor in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, whose pioneering research in cardiovascular disease has resulted in his being ranked #81 in the history of the world by ScienceHeroes.com for having saved more than 1.1 million lives; Kyle Bryan of the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, who is a two-time heart surgery survivor and physical fitness advocate; and 4-year-old Gavin Weiser, a Slattery School student who had successful heart surgery at the age of 8 days. Come meet these heart heroes!

Supporting the Heart Walk is a lot of fun, and it gives us a great way to join the fight against heart disease and stroke – the two biggest killers in our society. It also gives us the opportunity to help fund the critically important heart-related research that is taking place here at FAU and at other universities around the country.

So let's get out there and make some waves at the Heart Walk! Go Team FAU!

Sincerely,
John Kelly
President