

**CUBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE
2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT**

PART I: MISSION, GOALS, AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. MISSION AND AREAS OF FOCUS

The CRI was established in 1991 to generate and disseminate research about Cuba and Cuban Americans. The CRI combines advanced scholarship with the substantial resources of the Greater Miami community to produce research, training, and public service programs at the local, national, and international levels.

B. ORGANIZATION, EXTERNAL TRENDS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1. Organizational Issues

Dr. Lisandro Perez is the director of the CRI. Dr. Uva de Aragon is the Institute's associate director. A program coordinator position is funded with resources from the Ford Foundation. The rest of the staff is comprised of an administrative assistant, a senior secretary, a program coordinator (externally funded) and three undergraduate assistants. (Please refer to LACC's organizational chart.)

2. Advisory Board Members

The CRI has an internal advisory board made up of faculty members who specialize in, or have an interest in Cuba or Cuban American affairs. In addition, LACC's Americas Board also provides support for the CRI.

ADVISORY BOARD

Carlos Alvarez
Ed. Foundation & Prof. Studies

Guillermo Grenier
Director Center for Labor Research

Isabel Castellanos
Modern Languages

Ivelaw Griffith
Political Science

Leonel de la Cuesta
Modern Languages

Sherry Johnson
History

Damian Fernandez
International Relations

Anthony Maingot
Sociology/Anthropology

Nadine Fernandez
Sociology & Anthropology

Kathleen Martin
Sociology/Anthropology

Eduardo Gamarra
Director

Juan Martinez
Visual Arts

Orlando Garcia
Music Department

Salvador Miranda
Library

Fernando Gonzalez-Reigosa
Undergraduate Studies

Dario Moreno
Political Science

Ana Roca
Modern Languages

Vicky Silvera
Library

Mark Rosenberg
Provost

John Stack
Institute for Public Policy

Reinaldo Sanchez
Modern Languages

Mark Szuchman
Associate Dean
Arts and Sciences

3. External Trends

Fundamental change in Cuba will radically alter the external context within which the CRI carries out its work. The CRI has been preparing for such an eventuality to position FIU in a leadership role in future academic contact between the US and the island.

4. Strategic Directions and Areas of Emphasis

The CRI has long been emphasizing three areas: 1) leadership within the US and international academic institutions in the field of Cuban and Cuban American Studies; 2) extension and service within our local community; and 3) development of extensive contacts within Cuba's academic community. In five years, the CRI will be the preeminent center for the study of Cuba and Cuban Americans as its current activities continue to expand and occupy a central role in the development of the discipline. In five years, the CRI will have the following characteristics: 1) an established reputation as the principal US based center for academic work on Cuba; 2) an extensive network of working contacts with individual academics and academic institutions in Cuba, the United States, and throughout the world; 3) a record of sponsoring the premier academic international conference on Cuba and Cuban-American Studies; 4) a record of editing the leading journal in the field, *Cuban Studies*; 5) substantial external funding to support the CRI's many activities, especially faculty research and travel; 6) a record of providing quality programs on Cuban and Cuban Americans to our local community; and 7) support for undergraduate teaching, graduate teaching, and research programs on Cuban and Cuban American Studies.

A. 2000-2001 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CRI long-range goal 1: To support the growth of undergraduate and graduate course offerings in the area of Cuban and Cuban American Studies across the various departments and colleges within the university

2000-2001 objective: Continue to develop the Undergraduate Certificate Program in Cuban and Cuban American Studies.

Accomplishment: The strengthening, in both offerings and enrollment, of the Undergraduate Certificate Program in Cuban and Cuban-American Studies

CRI long-range goal 2: To develop programs that complement the course offerings and that further enhance the educational offerings to undergraduate and graduate students.

2000-2001 objective: establish a Study in Cuba Program that provides opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to have first-hand knowledge of contemporary Cuba through a program in Cuba taught and directed by FIU faculty.

Accomplishment: 23 students and two faculty members traveled to Cuba in June 2001 in a highly successful Study in Cuba program.

CRI long-range goal 3: Support thesis and dissertation research projects on Cuba or Cuban Americans.
2000-2001 Objective: Fund research in Cuba of at least 4 students.

Accomplishment: obtained additional external funds to support graduate student research in Cuba through the MacArthur Foundation and supported the research in Cuba of 4 graduate students

CRI long-range goal 4: Support the growth and productivity of our faculty that works on Cuban and Cuban and Cuban American Studies.

2000-2001 New Objective: Expand level of external funding; implement MacArthur Foundation grant on research travel to Cuba.

Accomplishment: obtained a grant from the Mac Arthur Foundation to support faculty research in Cuba and collaborative research relations with colleagues in Cuba (\$100,000)

CRI long-range goal 5: Contribute to the continuing discussion on US policy issues towards Cuba

2000-2001 objective: Provide faculty expertise to the media, other public information sources, and interested parties on Cuba-related issues

Accomplishment: Successful continuation of a referral system for connecting faculty with needs and requests for information from the media and policy groups, resulting in a greater FIU faculty visibility on Cuba issues.

CRI long-range goal 6: Meet our community's need for information on Cuban and Cuban American issues.

2000-2001 objective: Sponsor programs aimed at the local community: lectures, video and slide presentations, and seminars. Sponsor 3rd Conference on Cuba and Cuban American Studies.

Accomplishment: sponsored a conference and several lectures and events to which the community was invited

CRI long-range goal 7: To establish the CRI as the foremost academic center outside of Cuba in the study of Cuba and Cuban Americans, placing FIU as the leading institution of higher education in the field of Cuban Studies.

1999-2000 objective: Edit volume 31 of *Cuban Studies* and Also, continue all of the programs listed previously which support faculty and graduate student research.

1999-2000 outcome:

2000-2001 objective: Finalize the program for the 3rd CRI Conference, to be held in October 2000. Edit volume 32 of Cuban Studies, finalize program for the 4th CRI Conference to be held in March 2002.

Accomplishment: Edited volume 32 of Cuban Studies, hosted the 3rd CRI Conference in October 2000, and supported faculty and graduate student research initiatives.

CRI long-range goal 8: After having obtained in excess of \$1 million in external contracts and grants since its inception in 1991, the CRI continues to seek contracts and grants that will support its programs

2000-2001 objective: Raise the level of C&G support to \$250,000, and continue exploring sources of private funding

Accomplishment: Raised the level of C&G support to \$297,000.

D. 2001-2002 ANNUAL GOALS

CRI long-range goal 1: To support the growth of undergraduate and graduate course offerings in the area of Cuban and Cuban American Studies across the various departments and colleges within the university

Measurable Outcome: further develop the Undergraduate Certificate Program in Cuban and Cuban-American Studies

CRI long-range goal 2: To develop programs that complement the course offerings and that further enhance the educational offerings to undergraduate and graduate students.

Measurable Outcome: take a second group of students, accompanied by two FIU faculty members, during summer 2002.

CRI long-range goal 3: Support thesis and dissertation research projects on Cuba or Cuban Americans.

Measurable Outcome: support the research in Cuba of an additional cohort of 4 students

CRI long-range goal 4: Support the growth and productivity of our faculty that works on Cuban and Cuban and Cuban American Studies.

Measurable Outcome: continue to expand the level of external funding to assist faculty in their Cuba-related research.

CRI long-range goal 5: Contribute to the continuing discussion on US policy issues towards Cuba

Measurable Outcome: continue the operation of the referral system and explore further other avenues for greater faculty involvement on the public debate regarding Cuba.

CRI long-range goal 6: Meet our community's need for information on Cuban and Cuban American issues.

Measurable Outcome: continue to offer quality programs that involve the community.

CRI long-range goal 7: To establish the CRI as the foremost academic center outside of Cuba in the study of Cuba and Cuban Americans, placing FIU as the leading institution of higher education in the field of Cuban Studies.

Measurable Outcome: edit volume 33 of *Cuban Studies* and host the 4th CRI Conference, to be held in March 2002.

CRI long-range goal 8: After having obtained in excess of \$1 million in external contracts and grants since its inception in 1991, the CRI continues to seek contracts and grants that will support its programs

Measurable Outcome: raise the level of C&G support to \$350,000, and continue exploring sources of private funding.