FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:               **For information contact:**

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                   **FGCU Set for Commencement Saturday, May 10**

*Three ceremonies will graduate more than 1,300 students*

FORT MYERS, Fla. – Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) expects to graduate more than 1,300 students on Saturday, May 10, during three commencement ceremonies at Alico Arena.

     The 9 a.m. ceremony will be for students graduating from the Lutgert College of Business and U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering. The 1 p.m. ceremony will be for students graduating from College of Education and College of Health Professions and Social Work. The 5 p.m. ceremony will be for students graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences.

      **Members of the media will gain entry by presenting proper credentials at a designated table marked MEDIA REGISTRATION in the Alico Arena lobby.**

      FGCU President Wilson G. Bradshaw will confer degrees at all events. FGCU has awarded 20,000 degrees since fall 1997. FGCU’s 20,000th graduate will be acknowledged at the 5 p.m. ceremony.

     Edward A. Morton, member of the Board of Governors for the State University System of Florida, will deliver the commencement address at morning and afternoon ceremonies. Morton has served as a Principal and Managing Director of the investment firm Wasmer & Schroeder & Co. since 2007. He retired in 2006 after 34 years of service, as the CEO of the NCH Healthcare System, a diversified healthcare holding company.

     He is a Florida native and was raised in Islamorada. He holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Notre Dame, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Miami and a Master of Health Science from Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU). He is a past Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of FGCU and past Chair of the FGCU Foundation Board of Directors. He has served and currently sits on the board of a number of civic-minded organizations serving the citizens of Southwest Florida.

     The commencement ceremonies will be viewable via webcast at [www.fgcu.edu](http://www.fgcu.edu) beginning at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

     Alico Arena policy prohibits balloons and loud noise makers, and they will not be allowed indoors during commencement.

     For more information, contact Lillian Pagan, director of Media Relations, at lpagan@fgcu.edu.

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