



Department of Emergency Management

9300 NW 41 St

Miami, FL 33178

Email: eoc@miamidade.gov

Phone: 305-468-5400

Fax: 305-468-5401

July 6, 2011

Shu-Ching Chen, Ph.D.
Florida International University
School of Computing & Information Science
College of Engineering & Computing
11200 SW 8th Street, ECS 354
Miami, FL 33199

RE: 2011 NACo Award

Dear Dr. Chen:

Recently, Miami-Dade County received a 2011 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for its Business Recovery Program. The Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Each application is judged on its own merits and not against other applicants. This is a national honor for Miami-Dade County and it would not have occurred without the essential support from its partners in the Business Recovery Program like Florida International University (FIU).

FIU's School of Computing and Information Science has been an integral partner from the inception of the program, and has provided unwavering support, creativity, resources and ingenuity. The development and implementation of the Business Continuity Information Network (BCIN), has provided the program with a key tool necessary to carry out many of its critical functions including real-time data collection and sharing. BCIN is quickly becoming a nationally recognized information sharing tool for use by public-private collaborative programs. Additionally, Mr. Steven Luis, Director, IT/Business Relations, in particular, as well as other staff, has been a valuable team member to the Program's Executive Steering Committee and a number of other initiative sub-committees. FIU's contribution to the success of Miami-Dade County's Business Recovery Program is truly immeasurable and thus, we would like to honor FIU's partnership by recognizing its role in the achievement of this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Sommerhoff", is written over a horizontal line.

Curtis Sommerhoff
Director