

THE STRUGGLE

Students, staff concerned with overcrowding in Green Library

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Like many students, Michelle Chavez roams the floors of the Green Library, trying to find a place to study.

A lot of times, she ends up sitting on the floor and waiting for a space to open up nearby.

"Finding space is a nuisance in general," said Chavez, a senior majoring in advertising. "I won't let myself roam for more than 15 minutes. I usually can't waste that kind of time."

Whether they go in groups or on their own, University students struggle to find a table, cubicle or even just an outlet to plug their laptops. The problem begins with the easy access to the University and its resources.

The University, like all state universities, is open to the public; anyone

“I’ve given up on trying to find space. I’ve resorted to staying home to study.”

Isis Perez
Freshman
Biology Major

can set foot on campus and go into buildings, buy a sandwich at Subway and use the computers in the library.

The library staff have noticed that students from private institutions — mostly online schools — are encouraged to do their schoolwork in the University,

leaving actual FIU students without space.

Unfortunately, the University can't do anything about it, said to Anne Prestamo, the dean of libraries.

"We have designation as a federal depository library, which requires all of our doors to be open to the public," she said.

Prestamo said that the staff is surveying and collecting data about the library space in general. Once the staff understands the extent of the problem, they can put a stop to overcrowding in both the shelving space and table space, she confirmed.

In a faculty senate meeting in early October, Associate Librarian Patricia Pereira-Pujol brought up the issue.

"Because we are a public institution, our resources can be used by people that are not FIU students or faculty," said Pereira-Pujol.

Students are concerned with the library overcrowding because they're the ones

paying tuition to use the resources and facilities, yet they can't because there is always a space issue.

Elaine Cordova, a sophomore majoring in public relations, feels frustrated that she can never find a place to study.

"I usually come alone, but when I do meet up with people, it's an even bigger struggle to find a space for us all," she said. "It's not cool if people from other schools are finding spots when I pay tuition."

Although it is more convenient to walk straight to the library and study after class, the problem has caused students to giving up on trying to find space in the library to study on campus.

"I've given up on trying to find space," said Isis Perez, a freshman majoring in biology. "I've resorted to staying home to study."

University, students gear up to fight the flu this season

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With Flu season affecting students, the Wellness Center has prepared multiple event days to educate on making healthier choices during the month in the Graham Center.

Through its Cold and Flu Random Acts of Wellness, the center will promote educative sessions with freebies and goodies to help students remain healthy during the season, said Ebonie Parris, wellness coordinator of University Health Services.

According to Center for Disease Control and Prevention, common symptoms and signs of flu include high fever, cough, runny nose, body aches, headaches, and fatigue. It is spread by cough, sneezes, and even talking.

In the northern hemisphere, the flu season typically lasts from October to May, so the Cold and Flu RAW days will help provide information on effective ways to prepare.

Parris said that the days will consist of educational information, surveys, and Cold and Flu Packs which include hand sanitizers, tissues, informational palm cards, and homemade cold and flu aromatherapy blends. She said these are goods to help students stay healthy.

The aromatherapy blends are available at the Wellness Center and are meant to open up the sinuses through the aromatherapy of essential oils such as peppermint, eucalyptus, and pine needle.

The homemade cold and flu blend, along with many other purposeful aromatherapy blends available at the Wellness Center, are made by Shardai Thompson, a junior biology major and wellness assistant.

Thompson is the aromatherapy lead, and she researches various essential oils and their purposes and with this is able to come up with a variety of concoctions. The blend in the flu packs will open up the sinuses through the aromatherapy of essential oils such as peppermint, eucalyptus and pine needle.

Some students like Dalgis Morejon, a sophomore

CARRY THAT WEIGHT



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

FIU's Smart Girls Group campus chapter host a Stand With Emma event, where students could write encouraging words. The event is based on Columbia University student Emma Sulkowicz's senior art thesis, Carry That Weight. Sulkowicz will carry her mattress around Columbia as long as her rapist attends the same university.

international relations major, prepare for the flu season by often washing their hands throughout the day.

Morejon said she uses hand sanitizer when a sink is not near and she takes Vitamin C tablets to support her immune system.

"I like looking for natural ways, like taking Vitamin C and eating foods that are high in Vitamin C, to keep my immune system at its best," Morejon said.

Besides encouraging students to fight against the infection, students who are interested in the health field also benefit. According to Parris, RAW days are planned by Student Health Services Wellness Assistants who are majoring in that area.

"By planning these events and participating in the events, these students get experience in their field of interest," Parris said. "These students will be educating others on how to prepare for this cold and flu season."

Thompson said that being a wellness assistant has helped her to decide if she is following the right career path for her.

"This is a job that is related to what I want to do [in the future]," said Thompson. "It gives me an opportunity to see if I'm in the right field."

“By planning these events and participating in the events, these students get experience in their field of interest. These students will be educating others on how to prepare for this cold and flu season.”

Ebonie Parris
Wellness Coordinator
University Health Services

The CDC and the World Health Organization state that the most effective way to prepare is for everyone to get vaccinated unless they have certain conditions like Guillain-Barre syndrome. These conditions can be discussed with FIU Health Services.

According to SHS, the vaccine is available at its clinic and is free for students. For non-students, the vaccine costs \$20, but the cost can be covered by most insurance plans. Both appointments and walk-ins are accepted.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

University of California plans steady tuition hikes

For the first time in four years, University of California leaders are proposing tuition hikes — as much as 5 percent in each of the next five years — to help cover rising costs and to expand the enrollment of California students.

For undergraduates who are California residents, tuition next year could rise to \$12,804, not including room, board and books. By the 2019-20 school year, that could increase to \$15,564.

UC needs more money to help cover rising costs of retirement benefits, fund recent pay increases in employee contract settlements, hire more faculty and raise the number of California undergraduates by 5,000 over five years from the current 166,250, according to the proposal being formally released Thursday.

Given all those pressures and goals, a tuition freeze could not continue into a fourth year, UC system President Janet Napolitano said.

Supreme Court to again decide fate of Obama's health care law

The Supreme Court will decide the fate of President Obama's health care law yet again, this time ruling on whether low- and middle-income Americans may receive subsidies in two-thirds of the states to make insurance more affordable.

Currently, about 5 million Americans have subsidized insurance they bought through a health care exchange, or online marketplace, run by the federal government.

The conservative group that has brought the case now before the high court argues that such an arrangement is illegal. They maintain that the Affordable Care Act, as written, allows the government to subsidize health insurance only in the states that have set up their own insurance exchanges.

Thirty-six states have not set up their own exchanges, relying instead on the marketplace run by the federal government. If the challenge to the law succeeds, residents of those states would be unable to obtain subsidies unless the states involved change their positions.

Administration lawyers and the Democratic lawmakers who sponsored the law have called the argument absurd. They say the law intended to provide insurance subsidies nationwide, regardless of whether it was bought through a federal or state exchange.

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Volunteers help maintain University Nature Preserve

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With over 400 different plants and animals, 13 endangered plants and 17 threatened, the University's Nature Preserve is sustained through the help of many students who volunteer year-round.

A historical landmark, the 16-acre Nature Preserve represents how the Everglades once dominated South Florida before its waters were drained by the Tamiami Canal.

For over 35 years, students and faculty from the University along with community members, have visited the preserve to learn about ecosystems and organisms, and how to conserve it.

Alexandra Dutton, assistant director of the Office of Sustainability, said the preserve is a piece of historic Florida. With so many different habitats and plant and animal species to oversee, the University's Office of Sustainability offers volunteering sessions throughout the year.

"It creates a really good learning opportunity for students to come right here on campus and learn about these environments," Dutton said.

The preserve consists of three different ecosystems. The first is the Pine Rockland which has a dense shrub layer and a diverse vegetation of wildflowers, grasses, and herbs.

The second, the Tropical Hardwood Hammocks, consists of broad-leafed trees and densely vegetated shrub.

Finally, the Freshwater Wetlands is a vast and complex wetland.

Dutton said that both the preserve and students benefit from their interaction. "[Students] learn about South Florida ecology and all the different wildlife that resides in the preserve," she said. "[It] helps them connect to the nature that surrounds them."

“It adds a certain ambiance to the campus — sort of a getaway from all the surrounding buildings.”

Khari McIntosh
Junior
Advertising Major

On the other hand, Dutton said the preserve benefits from their visits because it increases the likelihood of students to try to conserve it. "The students help us preserve the Nature Preserve," she said.

According to the Office of Sustainability website, over 1,000 people from University to local community members volunteer each year.

Rain or shine, volunteers work on trail maintenance, tree planting, ecological restoration, and invasive

species work. Invasive species are plants and animals that are not native to an area that cause damage to the environment.

Janine Valera, a senior nursing major, said it is important to volunteer and learn about the importance of sustaining the environment.

"It is important to do so because once it's gone, it's irreplaceable," said Valera.

According to the website, 10,000 visitors come each year to hike, exercise, picnic, take pictures, draw landscapes, and do yoga.

The preserve is also surrounded by a 0.6 of a mile jogging path that was completed last November. In addition, it has an organic garden that contains nine areas for research and education — a shadehouse, an herb garden, a fruit grove, a meditation garden, and an aquaponics system, for example.

"The Nature Preserve is such a beautiful place. It's a retreat away from the busy campus, and I enjoy walking through it every time I go for my runs," said Valera.

Khari McIntosh, a junior advertising major, agrees. He said the Nature Preserve is a getaway at the University.

"It adds a certain ambiance to the campus — sort of a getaway from all the surrounding buildings," said McIntosh.

Four volunteering sessions remain this fall semester: Thursday, Nov. 13; Saturday, Nov. 29; Monday, Dec. 1 and Friday, Dec. 5. Pre-registration is not required. More information can be found at gogreen.fiu.edu.

Students and alumni fund film based on 'Dungeons and Dragons'

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A group of University students and alumni participated in a movie based on an unusual hobby: playing "Dungeons and Dragons."

The film, "Rolling 20s," based on a group of six friends — Danny, Shawn, Phil, Jake, Angie, and Lily — who play "Legends and Lore," a table-top fantasy role-playing game similar to "Dungeons and Dragons."

The characters are played by alumni Vania Vieta and Nakeyta Moore, as well as junior drama majors Caiti Wiggins, Steve Joseph Lopez and Valerie Villar.

Throughout the game, players roll a 20-sided die to determine their moves, hoping for the best roll, 20, which promises "instant success." During the film, they enter the game itself.

"Rolling 20s" is the second feature film produced by Studio214, an independent studio operating in South Florida. Previous productions by the studio include "Work of Art" and a documentary called "That Was Piddie

Korn," based on the '90s band Piddie Korn.

The film was proposed by screenwriter Mike Engelmann, an FIU theatre graduate and director Joel Sotolongo, a Miami International University of Art and Design alumnus.

Alumna Vania Vieta said

“We drink. We smoke. We're just like everyone else. Some of us are geeks, but people in D&D can be happy and have friends.”

Joel Sotolongo
Alumnus
Miami International University of Art & Design

she was enthusiastic about being a part of the film. Vieta plays Lily, Danny's younger sister.

"It was definitely different than the movies I've seen," said Vieta. "I don't know what other reasons I could come up with [for participating in

the film], other than the great people I work with," said Vieta.

During the film, Lily tries to switch to online play of the game to end the gaming session for good.

Sotolongo said gamers are typically portrayed as misunderstood losers and outcasts. Instead, he wants them portrayed as a relatable group of normal people.

"We drink. We smoke. We're just like everyone else," said Sotolongo. "Some of us are geeks, but people in 'D&D' can be happy and have friends."

He said most of the cast wanted entertainment industry experience, while others joined simply for their love of cinema.

Sotolongo hopes the part of the audience who doesn't play fantasy games can relate with Angie, even though the movie targets gamers.

The film, largely funded by Sotolongo, reached its credit limits, making the cast scramble for an alternative. Money is needed for production insurance, gas, food, lodging, costumes, on-set special effects, makeup, props, and even horses.

According to Sotolongo, the only scenes left to film are the fantasy ones. In order to do this, the team used IndieGogo, a crowdfunding website where people raise awareness about their cause and collect funds.

From Sept. 9 to Oct. 9, their campaign raised over \$3,600.

These funds will be used to travel to sites that work with the fantasy theme, such as Bok Tower and Gardens in Lake Wales, Florida. The team chose this area because of the 300-foot hill the director likes to call "a wizard looking tower."

The non-fictional parts of the movie have been filmed in Miami, including the Modesto A. Maidique campus.

"It's like 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail,' but with horses," said Sotolongo.

"Rolling 20s" will be shown in gaming conventions, like GenCon, that host film festivals.

Sotolongo said the movie will not be finished for another year, but webisodes will be released before the first screening.

THE BEACON

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Does the end justify the means?

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When you're questioning war — more specifically, when a government official questions whether to go to war — do you think about the ethics of it in the moment of choosing? Is it worth going to war to fight for your country, invade another and bring violence into people's lives?

When there is civil unrest, the quickest thought is to fight back. Yet, bringing justice at the cost of human lives through violence is simply wrong.

War deliberately kills innocent individuals, abuses human rights, displaces people and costs a lot to finance.

I believe that there can always be an alternative method to handling situations but one may give you less advantage than the other; war will procure more of an advantage than acting benignly.

War is necessary, but it's never ethical. It never will be.

Violence should never be the answer, and I know I am contradicting myself, but it depends on the situation and which side you're facing.

A group of citizens could rebel against an unjust government. Public demonstrations can quickly turn into violent acts to call upon the government and seek global attention for help. Would that justify war? Is it ethical?

The answer is no; however, it does achieve a certain level of progress where the end justifies the means.

Even when a country lacks a functioning government and its citizens go to war against it, it is effective in the end. The country will slowly pick itself back up again and endure through time as a stronger and richer society.

An article in the "Washington Post" by Stanford University Professor Ian Morris explains.

"Since 1914, we have endured world wars, genocides and government-sponsored famines, not to mention civil strife, riots and murders. Altogether, we have killed a staggering 100 million to 200 million of our own kind. But over the century, about 10 billion lives were lived — which means that just 1 to 2 percent of the world's population died violently," he said.

“When there is civil unrest, the quickest thought is to fight back. Yet, bringing justice at the cost of human lives through violence is simply wrong.”

If you think about it, the long term effects of war create a stronger and prosperous civilization.

Humanity keeps going and the means taken through war are necessary. Discussing the rights and wrongs of war will never give an easy answer.

Wars are not always officially declared; they just happen nowadays.

Societies are in constant war and conflicts are tentatively solved. Although never good, war is unfortunately necessary.

If the ends could not justify the means and we were ethical all the time by attempting to solve without force, most nations would not be where they are now.

Case for a youth sabbatical

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American culture is pretty successful at creating a nation that is productive, free and economically affluent. However, it is that same culture which tells children from a very early age that there is one path to success.

Usually, that path is to work hard in high school, followed directly by working to death in the best possible university and busy, long working hours after that. This is a great system for absorbing academic knowledge, but is it the best system for building a well-rounded, productive member of society? No.

It creates a society of people that lack the basic social skills that can prove useful in family life, interactions with other humans and even the building of meaningful business connections.

For most of us, school started being unpleasant in the ninth grade. That transition from middle school to high school brings with it a lot of added baggage. Suddenly, grades matter much more. Sport teams become extracurricular activities. Community service hours become a prized commodity. Somehow, this crucial phase in our social and cognitive development gave way to extreme academic expectations.

At an age in which people are discovering who they are, what they like and dislike and what they believe in, society

locks them in a box. I know this because I knew more than a few high schoolers who were more interested in exploring their textbooks than their sensuality.

Perhaps there is a school somewhere which offers a class that can emulate the joy of first love, the pain that comes once it ends, the rebelliousness of youth or the first time that you did something crazy; but that's not likely. These are all lessons which are crucial to our development, but they happen outside of school.

A balance is always required, or as Buddha would put it: "a middle way."

After surviving the hormonal nightmare that is high school, we go straight to college. If a student spent his entire time in high school working hard, then that student is rewarded by attending a university with very high academic standards where the work is non-stop. After four years of hard work, that student will find a job that will probably pay well, but will have very long hours. This person might have money, but he/she is not rich.

For this reason, I encourage everyone to take some time off from formal education to learn about themselves and the true nature of life, to learn what makes one happy, to dedicate some time to others and to experience new things.

Ideally, the best time to do this is right after high school. I realize that if you are reading "The Beacon," it is probably too late for that, but one can always take a semester off.

With six months off, there

are many things that one can do. I encourage everyone to travel.

While travel isn't necessarily affordable, it is definitely worthwhile. There are plenty of destinations to visit on a low budget. There is so much to see in the world and so much to learn.

It seems irresponsible to put on our blinders and walk in a straight line like horses.

I highly recommend getting a job in the field that you plan to major in. It seems a little silly to choose a career without fully knowing what that career is all about. Sure, one can work in the summer and have a basic idea of what it's like; but if two months is educative, six months is even better. Besides, an experience like that looks really good on a resume.

I also recommend volunteering. This might sound like hippie propaganda, but I really struggle to find something that gives me the same satisfaction as helping others. Volunteering puts life in a different perspective.

At the end of the day, it is important to recognize that lessons aren't exclusively learned in classrooms. I'm not suggesting to throw away formal education, but life only gets more complicated after college. For those who want to have families, you can probably kiss your dreams of adventure goodbye once you feel the baby kicking.

I guess it comes down to the fact that we have just one life to live and I think that we should take advantage of this rare gift. YOLO.

SKATERS GONNA SKATE



SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

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Miami-Dade public school teachers flock to University for Arts@FIU



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE VIRES AND THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Teachers from all over Miami-Dade County met at the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, Nov. 4, for one of the biggest art events of the year: ARTS@FIU. The event was a professional development day art teachers to gain knowledge and learn techniques to engage the students in their classes.

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On Tuesday, Nov. 4, teachers from all over Miami-Dade County flocked to the Wertheim Performing Arts Center for one of the biggest art events of the year. ARTS@FIU was a professional development day for any and all arts teachers to gain knowledge and learn techniques to engage the students in their classes.

Bryan Petorak, district supervisor of the Performing Arts Division of Academic Support and the Office of Academics and Transportation for the Miami-Dade Public Schools system, was the man behind the event. Petorak oversees professional development for teachers,

curriculum related to the performing arts, implementation of legislation that affects the performing arts, scheduling district performances and much more, so it was important to him that ARTS@FIU be engaging and informative.

Petorak met with FIU faculty prior to the event to shape ARTS@FIU into a day that would benefit Miami-Dade County teachers.

"I wanted to identify sessions that we could offer for all of the disciplines that we have here with art, music and theater," Petorak said.

According to Petorak, ARTS@FIU has just focused on music education the last two years but expanded to include theater and art this year.

The event began at 8:30 a.m. with an introduction by Petorak and a video he

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The greatest thing about teaching music is watching the growth of the students, sharing music with them, and influencing their lives,

David Cruz
Arts Teacher
South Miami Senior High

”

showed in which Maya Angelou directly spoke about how to have a positive impact on peoples' lives. Petorak then read one of his favorite poems by Angelou, "On the Pulse of Morning," to prepare the teachers for a day of learning how to impact their students' lives.

At around 9 a.m. the teachers broke off into music, art and theater sessions.

"Teachers are participating in these sessions just as students participate in classes and courses. They can then take new information to their classes that will be useful," Petorak said.

One session, "Participatory Culture: Creativity in Music Programs" led by Evan Tobias, assistant professor of Education at Arizona State University, analyzed the song "Radioactive" by Imagine Dragons to reveal the ways in which society interprets music. The session featured a variety of covers, parodies, remixes and mashups of the song as a way to get music teachers thinking about how they can spark creativity in their classrooms and encourage students to share ideas with each other.

"My favorite part about today is getting together with colleagues and learning new techniques for the classroom," said Ana Maria, a music teacher at Laura C. Saunders Elementary School.

David Cruz, an orchestra, chorus and theater teacher at South Miami Senior High, enjoys connecting with his students.

"The greatest thing about teaching music is watching the growth of the students, sharing music with them, and influencing their lives," Cruz said.

Other sessions at the arts event included "Directing and Playwriting," an orchestra session in which teachers practiced playing their violins, and more.

FIU students played an integral role throughout the day.

"We made sure that we met and greeted the teachers and assisted with the workshops. It was beneficial for me to see how teachers think," said Namdzy Marcelin, a freshman majoring in music education.

ARTS@FIU was a chance for students to see what their work as future teachers will be like.

"The best part about today was being able to interact with people who will eventually be my peers and getting an idea of what I can bring to the school system," said Alex Toussaint, a sophomore majoring in music education.

ARTS@FIU is one of several professional development days for Miami-Dade County teachers and brought in a significant number of teachers this year.

'Footprint of Permanent Public Art' sheds light on Cuban imprint in Miami

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They make great cigars and great rum, but how many people know that one of Cuba's most prized crafts is in fact the artwork?

Sprawled all over Miami are numerous paintings, sculptures and artifacts carefully born into being through the meticulous hands of a Cuban.

In a city where Puerto Rico meets Venezuela, Venezuela meets Nicaragua, and Nicaragua meets every other Spanish-speaking country, this melting pot makes it very difficult for non-Hispanics and some Hispanics alike to differentiate between cultures.

This mixture of cultures and traditions has caused the cultures to dissipate into one, then making

a need for umbrella terms such as "Hispanic."

This is not a negative term in any sense, however, it does encourage people to somewhat ignore the differences between these vastly dissimilar cultures.

For years, Cubans have been attempting to set their mark in Miami, quickly differentiating themselves from other 'Hispanic' cultures.

Being the only country to have been allowed a "Wet Foot, Dry Foot" policy, Cuba has inspired as well as, opened the door to so many other countries finding their way into Miami and has, in many ways, shaped Miami into what it is today.

The artwork has played a drastic part in this transformation, decorating parks, buildings and more in an attempt to spread the Cuban culture. In recent years,

however, many more Spanish-speaking nations have been making their own mark on this city.

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Even though Cuban Americans still remain one of the largest populations in Miami, there is still a need to keep the Cuban cultures and traditions alive.

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Even though Cuban Americans still remain one of the largest populations in Miami, there is still a need to keep the Cuban cultures and traditions alive.

This is where Jorge Hernandez has stepped in to become the

messenger for Cuban culture and art. The Cuban native has made it his duty to host several lectures on the importance of not only

Cuban art, but also the Cuban-American, in Miami.

In his lecture, he exposes the wider public to the wonders of Cuban paintings, sculptures, monuments, etc. The viewer is taken on a historical and cultural

journey through the minds of Cubans who have travelled far to leave "a footprint in the city."

Jorge has not only strived to present these works of art to the viewers, but has also done research behind these pieces and their creators, thoroughly providing the viewers with the inspirations, trials and successes that helped to bring these murals, paintings and buildings into existence.

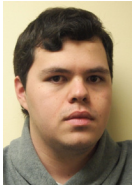
On Wednesday, Nov. 12, Jorge Hernandez will open up the opportunity for people to step into the "Footprint of Permanent Public Art" in Miami.

This lecture will serve as enlightenment and a learning experience for its students. It will tap into the very core, the heart of Cuban culture and expose its beauty and what it truly means to be Cuban-American.

‘Interstellar:’ Christopher Nolan’s ambitious project

CVI.CHE 105: chic over culinary

REEL TO REEL



RAFAEL ABREU

Writer-director Christopher Nolan has never done anything as ambitious as what he’s done with “Interstellar,” a science-fiction tale about space travel and family. Starring Matthew McConaughey as Cooper, a man who leaves his life on Earth to save the human race. It also stars Anne Hathaway, David Gyasi, Wes Bentley, Jessica Chastain and Michael Caine.

If the star-studded cast doesn’t rouse your attention, “Interstellar” is heavy on its visuals and delivers as it should. Scenes from farmland to space are photographed with excellence. The shots of the spaceships incredible, showing off extraordinary detail of the craft and the surroundings.

Although outer space is more fascinating than miles of crops, even interior spaces are pleasing sets to observe, with a nice contrast of tones from Earth to the outer regions of space.

The film’s visual effects bring to life an Earth in trouble and areas of space that unimagined. It all feels and looks genuine, even ordinary places on Earth are made interesting due to the dramatic circumstances. Bottom line: The effects of “Interstellar” are top-notch.

The narrative of “Interstellar” is surprisingly easy to follow, yet the story is what I found to be the film’s weakest element. At the beginning, not much happens; we see crops, people talking and outer space. I did not feel engaged or interested in the film’s story as much as I enjoyed the visuals or the score and general sound effects.

However, the film does

have a narrative shift around the halfway point, and from there my interest soared. It almost seemed like the Nolan brothers realized their script was boring, so added extra twists and conflict to spice it up. But to be fair, the script does set up these surprises in a way that feels fleshed out well and not tacked on.

I don’t believe “Interstellar” did anything too new on the Nolan front, but is a fantastic showcase of their capability. The story is entertaining, overall, featuring great acting, great visuals, and great music. It even has comic relief.

It’s an ambitious movie that does not accomplish some amazing, miraculous goal, but it’s still good at its core. If nothing else, “Interstellar” proves that Nolan can still wow us on an epic scale.

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THE FOODIE



NICOLE ZUMMAR

I see gourmet-style dishes pass by me every few seconds. There’s a loud chatter this evening; the tables surrounding me sound as if they’re enjoying their company. How could they not? It’s CVI.CHE 105.

Known as the Peruvian go-to place in Miami, the restaurant is highlighted not only for its food, but its look. I could declare CVI.CHE 105 as “hip” as their website states.

The food is exquisitely served and the ambiance radiates chic with white-and-gray furniture and green finishes, giving the restaurant a lively yet stylish feel. Most of the crowd is comprised of regulars attracted to the unique setting CVI.CHE 105 offers.

When it comes to the food, though, it has a striking similarity to the menu of other Peruvian restaurants, like Sabor a Peru. Nonetheless, CVI.CHE seems to be going for “fashionable” over Sabor a Peru’s “I’m-only-here-because-of-the-good-food” vibe.

Don’t get me wrong, Sabor is not some throw-it-on-the-plate sort of restaurant, but it’s not known for getting recurrent visits from world-renowned artists like Marc Anthony either; it’s not uncommon for CVI.CHE 105 clientele to bump shoulders with artists and actors.

Back to the food, though: CVI.CHE serves a variety of dishes, and, of course, is best known for its ceviche selection. Whether you want the ceviche mild or spicy, with a pink or yellow sauce, this restaurant has it—and it has flavor.

The sauces’ texture is great: not too watery, not too dense. But as good as the texture is, I expected a more pronounced flavor.

As for my other typical order, the lomo saltado, it also could use a stronger flavor. Both hold a very passive taste, which, if intensified, would be amazing. The meat is rather tender and the onions, peppers and tomatoes are thoroughly soaked in the juice of the meat. I greatly appreciate the burst of juiciness when biting into these vegetables.

The problem I have with the dishes at CVI.CHE, is the size. Sure, they’re great if you’re the type of person that enjoys a normal portion, but with my huge appetite, I’m usually left unsatisfied. Additionally, I’m really annoyed by the fact that the lomo at this restaurant has more vegetables than meat, which leaves me even hungrier.

That’s why I usually go for delivery from Sabor a Peru.

CVI.CHE 105’s goal is not just to serve “traditional Peruvian gourmet,” as their website states, but to provide that hot, sociable atmosphere. If you go to this restaurant, know that you’re paying not just for food, but for the feel as well.

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Proximity to MMC: 2.5/5
Affordability: 3/5
Overall: 4/5

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FOOTBALL

RUMBLE, YOUNG MAN, RUMBLE

Starting freshman quarterback deserves coach's assurance

COLUMNIST



ANTHONY
CALATAYUD

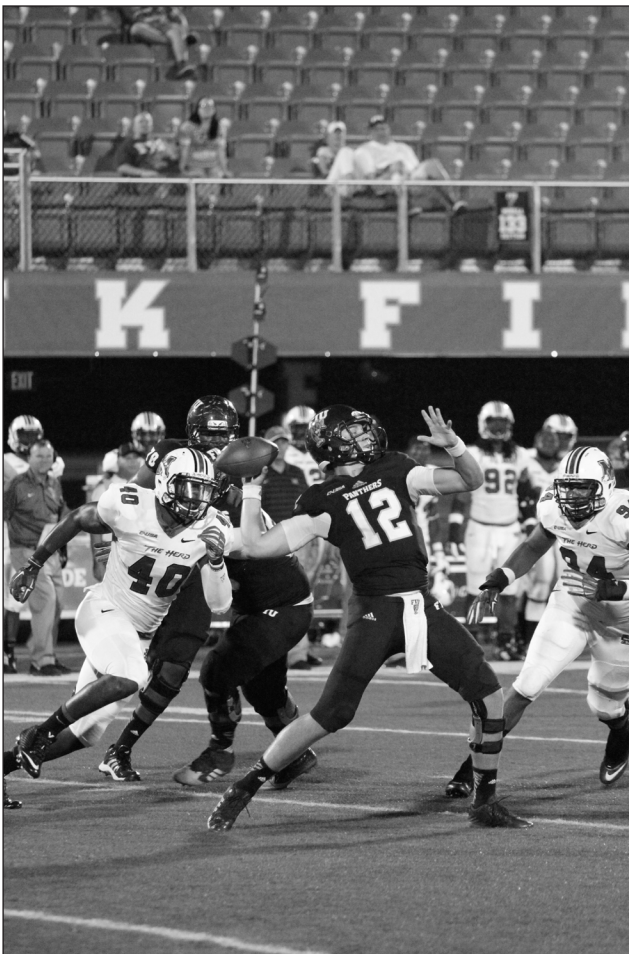
Pushing the envelope is something all writers do to a certain extent. Whether it's Upton Sinclair, José Martí, or even myself, someone has to challenge the social structure for the good of the people who need to hear the truth. Now obviously, Sinclair and Martí were advocates for social change in different ways, but they both shared the same spirit. A spirit of searching for truth even if it's not the easiest thing to do.

Did you know Sinclair, the author of "The Jungle," went undercover for weeks at a meatpacking plant to get the facts for his book, which exposed the horrors of the industry; that's tough to do. Martí, a Cuban poet and independence writer, was exiled and ostracized for his political beliefs that Cuba should be self-governed and break away from Spanish and American rule. Trying to break away from not one, but two imperial superpowers was a very tall task as well.

Finally we get to me, nothing hugely important or extremely difficult on my resume, like changing an entire industry's sanitation code or freeing a country with pen. No, I'm just a humble sports writer and radio host that noticed a trend that I believe FIU football fans should be aware of so they could ask themselves "Why?"

The Panthers opened the 2014-2015 season losing to Bethune-Cookman 14-12. Junior quarterback E.J. Hilliard earned the start after a promising campaign the year before where he played well out of the bullpen for shaky starter Jake Medlock. All throughout camp, freshman Alex McGough was nipping at Hilliard's ankles to get that starting spot, but Head Coach Ron Turner decided to go with the experienced Hilliard.

3-6 for 26 yards and 2 sacks were Hilliard's stats before Turner decided to go with his youngster McGough, who came in relief and almost led the Panthers to the win, throwing 13-27 for 117 yards and a touchdown. After that McGough drew the start and hasn't looked back on his way to starting the last eight games in a row and a record of 3-5. Three of the five



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACON

Panthers freshman quarterback Alex McGough passes the ball against Marshall University on Saturday, Oct. 18. The Panthers play Middle Tennessee on Saturday, Nov. 15.

losses were to Power 5 conference opponents in University of Louisville, University of Pittsburgh and undefeated Marshall University.

Even though McGough is playing well for a freshman

quarterback on a rebuilding team, I sense that Turner is hesitant to hand the reigns completely over to McGough. The reason I say this is because Hilliard has appeared in almost every game during the season, give or take a few.

Quarterback is a very sensitive position; internal and external confidence is a major intangible that every good quarterback has. Meaning, 'coach believes in me and therefore I believe in myself.' When you keep swapping out McGough for a cold off the bench Hilliard, it shakes both quarterbacks' psyches.

I understand if the game is a blow out and you rest your starter for injury and safety purposes; I'm all for that. What I'm not all for is watching the freshman starter with mountains of potential make a freshman mistake and be yanked for the guy who's been drinking Gatorade on the sidelines throughout the whole game. It's unfair to both guys.

Getting into the flow of the game usually takes time, especially for a quarterback who needs to have complete control of the situation he's walking into. Putting in the guy on the bench with a double-digit deficit to overcome is setting him up for failure. More than that is the stake that splits the locker room, what if half of the team supports the starter and the other half supports the backup? We see it in the NFL all of the time, you'd be naïve to think that college football is any different.

I believe that if the younger guy is just as good or better than the older guy, you start the youngster. McGough is the future of this program; as a freshman McGough is already tied for 10th all-time at FIU in touchdowns in a single season (9). If Turner believes that McGough is the future just like I believe it, he should have a longer leash with the freshman and reassure his internal and external confidence by leaving him in the game unless a blowout is at hand.

Just as the old football proverb goes: If you have two quarterbacks, you have zero quarterbacks. Let the young man rumble.

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SOFTBALL

Panthers look for fresh start with new coach

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The women's softball team will be looking for a fresh start come spring 2015.

After jumping to a fast start winning their first four "fall ball" games, the Panthers finished the 2014 season with a Conference USA record (34-19, 15-9). This was an improvement from the 2013 season (27-28), as they played their last season in the Sun Belt Conference.

Their home record was 21-7 with their first 15 home games resulting in outscoring their opponents 76-39 points during that span.

The Panthers proved to be tough to play in South Florida. However, they were mediocre on the road, finishing at .500 with a 10-10 record.

The Panthers visited the No. 3 Arizona State University Sun Devils in Phoenix, Arizona for a midseason game but lost 8-0 in a difficult matchup. Winning against No. 19 University of Minnesota 3-1, proved to be one of their better road wins of the season.

Because of the Panthers' successful season last year, many players were able to perform at a high level. Current sophomore infielder Stephanie Texiera led all starters in batting average (.438), runs scored (60), runs batted in (40), and home runs (11). Texiera won the C-USA Freshman of the Year and All-South

“We have a great group of players and a lot of talent on this team. I think being a local coach will bring a lot of excitement to this program.”

Gator Rebhan
Head Coach
Softball

selection.

Senior pitcher Shelby Graves took the bulk of the starts for the Panthers last season. Graves started 19 games and ended up with a win-loss record of 13-6. With an earned run average of .340 and pitching 109 inning, she proved to be a "workhorse" at her position.

Last season, the Panthers posted up impressive stats as a team, ending up with a batting average of .289 and ERA of 3.09.

Before the start of the actual season, the softball team will be participating in their annual fall ball.

They face off against Ave Maria University, Saint Thomas University, Miami-Dade College and Barry University. These teams will provide a preseason test for the Panthers.

On Friday, Aug. 1, Pete Garcia, FIU's Executive Director of Sports and

Entertainment, announced the new hiring of Head Coach Gator Rebhan.

"Coach Rebhan is a proven winner. Given the success he has had on the state and national levels, along with the early success he had last year as an assistant coach, it made the decision clear to us that he is the right person for the job," said Garcia.

Rebhan, who was an assistant coach for the team last year, is excited to start his first season as head coach for the Panthers.

"I've been a local coach in the area for over 20 years and I'm excited to be given the chance to lead this program. We have a great group of players and a lot of talent on this team. I think being a local coach will bring a lot of excitement to this program. Having been an assistant coach for the team last year, I have a great rapport with the athletes already and am extremely excited to begin," said Rebhan.

Lead by Rebhan, the Panthers look to be a legitimate contender once again in not only C-USA, but also the NCAA.



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACON

Senior pitcher Shelby Graves pitches a ball in the game against Saint Thomas on Wednesday, Oct. 8. Graves started 19 games and ended up with a win-loss record of (13-6).

FOOTBALL

Florida State leans on true freshmen to help extend win streak

MCT STAFF

It started with a 68-yard touchdown pass to Travis Rudolph and ended with a 38-yard score from Dalvin Cook.

Sandwiched between the scores were two additional touchdowns from FSU true freshmen — one more from Cook, one from Ermon Lane.

In less than one half of play, three first-year players broke off scores of 38 yards or more to salvage FSU's season and help the Seminoles overcome a 21-point deficit against then-No. 25 Louisville. Cook finished with 110 rushing yards, while receivers Rudolph and Lane combined for 134 receiving yards. In total, the freshmen accounted for nearly half of FSU's offense last Thursday, signifying the reliance and confidence FSU has in its rookies this season.

"How your team develops is going to depend on how those freshmen really emerge into the offense, defense and special teams," said FSU coach Jimbo Fisher, whose program is on a 24-game win streak.

"They need to emerge for a bunch of reasons: One, to give quality rest behind your experienced guys. Two, to provide those explosive [plays] when they have that kind of athleticism. And three, those guys are emerging into big-time players when you give them more and more reps and what they bring to our team."

The trio is expected to see plenty of

playing time when No. 2 FSU (8-0, 5-0 ACC) hosts Virginia (4-5, 2-3 ACC) on Saturday, although they will be far from the only freshmen to take the field.

Since taking over as FSU's head coach in 2010, Fisher has never shied away from inserting players right out of high school into the lineup. From 2011-13, 45 percent of true freshmen scholarship players on the roster have earned letters for FSU by seeing significant game action, according to ESPN. Other premier programs — like Alabama, LSU, and Ohio State — have put up comparable numbers.

But this year has been an anomaly, even by FSU's standards. The Seminoles have played 16 true freshmen, which is 61.5 percent of the team's freshman class.

A few key forces are driving rookies onto the field.

NFL.com's Mike Huguenin, who has covered college football for 28 years, has seen programs become more and more reliant on true freshmen during the past decade.

"Coaches are realizing that if a kid is a really talented player, he won't be there for four years, so let's throw him into the fray," Huguenin said. "Even if as a true freshman he's only a backup, at least he's on the field."

Huguenin points to the growing trend of college players declaring for the NFL Draft as underclassmen. In 2013, a record of 74 underclassmen left school early for the draft. In 2014, that record was

shattered when 98 underclassmen declared the draft.

As a result, coaches are more apt to maximize their opportunities with players while they're on campus. At the same time, there is a need for more players to step up, even if they're right out of high school, because someone has to fill the void left by the standouts who jumped early to the NFL.

One other reason so many young athletes are getting early opportunities is that more prep players are ready for college burdens.

"There's personal training and football is more year-round than it used to be," said Chris Nee, who covers Florida recruiting for 247Sports.com. "There are more guys that walk through that door and are physically prepared right away. It comes down to whether they're mentally prepared or not to contribute from Day 1."

Fisher has taken a "best player will play" approach since he's been a head coach and does not shy away from inserting inexperienced players into the lineup if he believes they're ready.

However, Fisher said he does not enter a season relying on true freshmen or projecting which ones will help him.

"I can't predict which one of those guys are going to emerge," Fisher said. "You think you know coming in, but it just shows you what kind of expert you are if you look at the odds. You just have to let them play out and watch how they

practice."

FSU's has relied more on true freshmen than any other team ranked in the top 10 of the College Football Playoff rankings. The next closest team is No. 4 Oregon, which has played 52.9 percent of its freshman class. The top 10 teams, not including FSU, have given 34.7 percent of their freshman class playing time.

The Seminoles have dealt with an abundance of injuries at running back this year and also had openings at receiver after losing starters Kelvin Benjamin and Kenny Shaw. Highly-regarded prospects Cook, Rudolph and Lane have embraced the opportunity. Cook is third on the team with 456 yards of total offense, while Rudolph and Lane have emerged as starters, combining for 456 receiving yards.

It's a change from last season, when true freshmen accounted for just 483 yards of total offense for the Seminoles.

FSU's defense has relied on rookies this season.

Freshmen defensive ends Jacob Pugh and Lorenzo Featherston have also become regulars in the rotation, adding much-needed energy and athleticism to FSU's pass rush.

"You're gonna have an opportunity to play," Fisher said. "How you play and how you practice will determine [that]. And I promise I'm gonna play all the good players. So you just kind of let it work itself out."

BASKETBALL

Chicago Bulls still need Derrick Rose, but not as much as before

MCT STAFF

Near the end of Wednesday night's 95-86 victory over the Bucks at the Bradley Center in Milwaukee, an audible chorus of "M-V-P! M-V-P!" arose from boisterous Bulls fans as Derrick Rose went to the free-throw line.

Watching at home on TV, I slightly cringed.

The sooner Chicago stops thinking of Rose in those terms, the easier it will be for everyone to accept Rose's new normal.

For Rose, the new normal includes interpreting every ache and pain as a potential injury as he paces himself for a deep playoff run rather than pushes his body through the discomfort of readjusting to the NBA grind.

After two knee surgeries cost him all but 10 games the last two regular seasons, Rose perhaps is so in tune with his body that anything out of whack immediately warrants his concern.

That reality can be frustrating for outsiders to endure, as local fan and media overreaction — present company included — to Rose missing two straight games with sprained ankles attested.

But, whether we like it or not, the better-safe-than-sorry approach should guide every decision for Rose and the Bulls until he gets more comfortable re-establishing his body's limits.

For everybody else, Rose's new normal means never being surprised when he misses a practice or game to injury, never taking his presence on the floor for granted and never forgetting he can't possibly be the same elite player he was before two knee surgeries — not for a long while, at least.

So stop thinking of Rose as the guy worthy of MVP chants.

That was then, in 2011. This is now, 2014, when it makes little sense to hold Rose to the same standard he set for himself when he won the award.

There will be times now when Rose can be most valuable to the Bulls by doing less.

And that's OK. The Bulls don't necessarily need or expect Rose to be that dominating player — at least not until the playoffs, and maybe not even then.

They gladly will celebrate if Rose somehow does, but Vice President John Paxson and general manager Gar Forman

built a roster deep and talented enough that the Bulls still can win big this season without Rose returning to MVP form.

On the day Luol Deng was traded last January, Paxson conceded it was time for the Bulls to start building with Rose instead of around him.

Five games represent a small sample size, but it looks like the 4-1 Bulls did exactly what Paxson promised.

Two takeaways emerged from Rose's return against the Bucks, when he scored 13 points and had seven assists in 31 minutes:

Rose demonstrated to everyone, maybe most importantly to himself, that he doesn't have to feel 100 percent healthy to affect a game by drawing double-teams and playing a smart floor game.

A Bulls team conditioned after two seasons to playing without Rose will continue to execute at a high level whether No. 1 is in uniform or a tailored suit.

While LeBron James tried calming Cavaliers fans on Twitter, quoting Aaron Rodgers by telling everyone to "RELAX" after a 1-3 start, the Bulls essentially issued a memo to the

Eastern Conference that says, "Look Out!" With or without Rose, the Bulls so far resemble a team with every right to start planning for June.

Is there an NBA team any more fun to watch?

Pau Gasol looks like the best free-agent signing of the summer, Carmelo Anthony included.

Gasol leads the Bulls in minutes, points and rebounds, a far cry from the washed-up player so-called analyst Shaquille O'Neal described in preseason.

Taj Gibson refined his game offensively for the second straight season, complementing the defensive presence that makes him a Tom Thibodeau favorite.

Jimmy Butler bet on himself, turning down an \$11 million salary before the Oct. 31 deadline, and then backed it up by emerging as a viable fourth-quarter option. Nobody on the Bulls draws the foul better than Butler, who clearly spent the summer improving his all-around game.

Backup point guard Aaron Brooks, the latest in a long line of short guys who can shoot, has yet to show fear.

Kirk Hinrich, who has been around long enough to think he succeeded Jerry Sloan, has yet to show age.

Rookies Doug McDermott and Nikola Mirotic — Threeeeeee-kolaaaa! — have been more up than down.

And it's a testament to Thibodeau that the Bulls, typically among the NBA leaders in opponent's field-goal percentage, have accomplished so much despite getting so little from leaders Rose and Joakim Noah.

The Bulls' starting five of Rose, Noah, Gasol, Butler and Mike Dunleavy has yet to play a possession together, yet nobody in the East has started stronger.

No wonder Thibodeau has appeared so relaxed amid all the will-he-or-won't-he questions recently about Rose's health status.

The answers don't scare the Bulls coach — which should make everybody on their schedule afraid.

Writers embark on expedition in the Everglades

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Preparing for a career in journalism, Zoraida Pastor, a senior psychology major, joined the debut “Everglades Wilderness Writing Expedition” course.

The National Park Service, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, launched the Expedition for Florida college and graduate students between the ages of 18 and 25 interested in pursuing journalism and creative writing.

“I found out about the program through FIU’s Society of Professional Journalists chapter,” said Pastor. “I wanted to do something different before leaving FIU and I thought it would be a great experience to be writing and getting [my work] published.”

The Everglades features the vast beauty and complexity of Florida landscape, with rich features like tropical wetlands to indigenous animals.

Pastor, heavily influenced by Walt Whitman, a renowned American poet, joined the first launch of the program to hone her writing skills and bond with the environment.

“I chose to apply because I knew that this experience will enlighten me as well as [help me] gain more skills as a writer.”

Johanna Piard
Freshman
English Major,
Miami Dade College

“His work and vision have shaped the way I look at nature,” she said.

She also said she was excited to go camping for the first time.

North Carolina Outward Bound, an educational program who partners with the National Park Service, provided students with techniques to survive in the wilderness.

Some advice Pastor gives to students interested in experiencing the Everglades through this course is to go beyond the familiar.

“My advice to anyone is to not be afraid to try. You lose more if you don’t try, and you might even gain more from going outside of your

ONE WITH NATURE



NATALIE REYES/THE BEACON

Hospitality senior Noam Smolley enjoys the weather by doing some yoga by the bay. “Yoga by the Bay” classes are held on the first Friday of each month.

comfort zone,” she said.

The program, teaching 10 aspiring writers and journalists, encourages qualified candidates to explore the wilderness and write about their experiences with the environment.

Six of the aspiring writers are University students, but Nadijah Campbell, a sophomore journalism major at the University of Miami, also joined the program.

“Our school sends out lists for every college, so when I scrolled through the email, I saw this thing about the Everglades and [thought]

this looked cool. I opened it up and read through the program details and got more excited,” said Campbell.

Johanna Piard, a freshman studying English at Miami Dade College, gave her input about the mission.

“I found out about the program through my supervisor for [our school newspaper] ‘The Reporter,’” said Piard. “The fact that it said ‘writing’ in the program’s title is what sparked my interest, since I barely hear of writing programs. So I jumped at the chance.”

“I chose to apply because I knew that this experience will enlighten me as well as [help me] gain more skills as a writer,” said Piard.

Piard also shared her goals with the expedition and what she hopes to achieve from it.

“My goal is to be completely knowledgeable about the Everglades, alongside creating a great written piece at the end,” she said. “I don’t really have a fixated goal though, so I’m keeping my mind open to the endless possibilities and the new experience.”

Chinese implement cash cow in film industry

MCT STAFF

The head of China’s powerful state-run movie enterprise that supervises film imports wants to strengthen ties with Hollywood by selling merchandise in theaters.

La Peikang, chairman of China Film Group, launched a new initiative aimed at spurring consumer product sales at theaters in China’s fast-growing exhibition sector.

To test the project, the group has selected 1,500 top-ranked theaters in China that will have shops selling movie-themed merchandise, such as toys, clothing, games and DVDs, La said in an interview with the Los Angeles Times.

The initiative could give major Hollywood studios a potentially lucrative share of ancillary revenue in the world’s second-largest film market. The Chinese box office raked in \$3.6 billion last year and is projected to reach \$4.6 billion this year.

The country is in the midst of a multiplex building boom. The number of movie theaters has more than doubled to 4,409

as of June.

Despite the box-office growth, market restrictions and rampant piracy of toys and DVDs have frustrated Hollywood executives eager to tap into the country’s expanding middle class that has a strong appetite for U.S. movies.

“In Hollywood, box office accounts for just 20 percent of total revenue, and the other 80 percent comes from merchandise, theme parks or other businesses,” La said. “In China, most film revenue comes from the box office, and consumer products is nearly zero. We need to expand that in order to build a mature film industry in China.”

Under the plan, China Film would set up licensing deals with studios. Profits would be shared between China Film Group and the studios based on the level of sales, La said.

La said he had already discussed his plan with major studio executives in Hollywood in March. “Of course, they showed their enthusiasm and interest in this project,” he said.

Analysts say it’s difficult to predict how much money studios would collect from in-theater stores, given that theater

owners and Chinese distributors also are likely to seek a share in the retail business. What’s more, studios currently collect only about 25 percent of box-office revenue from foreign movies imported into China.

Nonetheless, the strategy could help combat the piracy problem by giving the state a stake in protecting intellectual property.

“It remains to be seen what kind of merchandise will be sold, but given that the theatrical market (in China) is growing about 35 percent a year,” said Stanley Rosen, a professor of political science at the University of Southern California who specializes in China. “This is a concession to Hollywood, which is always clamoring for a chance to get additional revenue.”

In January, La took over as head of China Film Group, which produces and distributes mainland movies and oversees the export and import of films. He replaced longtime Chairman Han Sanping, who presided over a period of rapid growth in China’s film industry.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, NOV. 10

I-WEEK KICK-OFF BASH

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WHERE: Panther Plaza & Panther Square

SOC GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: WUC Ballrooms

TUESDAY, NOV. 11

VETERAN’S DAY

University Closed

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12

INTERNATIONAL GAMING DAY

WHEN: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Glenn Hurbert Library

SPC MOVIE: “THINK LIKE A MAN TOO”

WHEN: Showings at 12 p.m. & 5 p.m.

WHERE: WUC 157

THURSDAY, NOV. 13

VENTURE ABROAD FAIR

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WHERE: WUC Ballrooms

INTERNATIONAL LATE DAY LATTE AND SOC CLUB FAIR

WHEN: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

WHERE: Panther Plaza

FRIDAY, NOV. 14

FIU VIRTUAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WHERE: WUC Game Room

GLOBAL GAMES DAY

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

WHERE: Panther Square