

## Football inks 18 new recruits – 17 from Florida

### FIUSM SPORTS STAFF

All across the nation ink was hitting paper as high school prospects made their official decision on where to play college football.

On Feb. 6, National Signing Day hovered over the college football landscape as 18 high school seniors made the pledge to become Panthers.

Newly hired Head Coach Ron Turner's first recruiting class while at the helm for FIU features a plethora of in-state products as 17 of the 18 players that signed their letter of intents were from Florida. The lone out-of-state player was Israel Paopao, a 6-foot-1, 230-pound quarterback from Oceanside, Calif.

Turner hosted a signing day press conference to share some insight on the 2013 signing class. He stressed the difficulty and appreciation he has for newly acquired staff as they were forced to put together a solid recruiting class amidst the coaching change.

"I just want to commend our coaching staff and the tremendous job they did as

they were put tough circumstances from having a late start," Turner said. "They did a tremendous job with going out and identifying the players and talking to them and to their coaches. Some of the players that decommitted listened to us again, some of the ones that were opened listened to us."

Out of these 18 new Panthers, nine of which are offense and nine of which are defense, Turner raved about a pair of student-athletes that are projected to make an impact right away.

Turner spoke highly about offensive lineman Christopher Flaig. The largest recruit of this class, Flaig stands at 6-foot-5, 305 pounds, and hails from Vero Beach High School.

Flaig has the distinction of being one of the few players who can start in the 2013 season as a long snapper.

Turner also highlighted student-athlete Silas Spearman III, a running back out of Seminole Ridge High School in Loxahatchee, Fla. According to Turner, Spearman is considered a sleeper as a part the



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Xavier Hines, a cornerback from Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami, signs his letter of intent to FIU. Hines was also sought after by South Alabama and Louisiana-Lafayette.

2013 class as he went unnoticed until about two weeks ago when Turner caught a glimpse of his highlight tape and gave Spearman an offer to become a Panther.

"I watched his tape and he's one of those [players] that

it didn't take me a lot of plays to realize that he's good...I was surprised that kind of talent could go overlooked," Turner said.

From 8 a.m. to the late afternoon, all around South Florida football players faxed

their letters of intent to FIU.

In Christopher Columbus High School, FIU football commit Jordan Guest, an outside linebacker, was wearing his FIU hat and t-shirt while signing his scholarship.

"The program is great,"

Guest said.

He was nervous at first when he found out former Head Coach Mario Cristobal had been fired. Turner, however, decided to stay with the two-star recruit, according to Rivals.com.

"I knew when I went back for my second visit why I committed so quickly," Guest said. "Coach [Turner] said he was excited to have me on the team."

Turner runs a 4-3 defense, which Guest is familiar with.

"Jordan can adapt to any defense," Columbus football coach Chris Merritt said. "At FIU he will be a will backer, which means he'll be playing the weak side."

Guest is originally from Boulder, Colorado. When he moved to Miami in sixth grade, he inherited the nickname "Denver" to distinguish him from another Jordan on his Pop Warner team.

"The name stuck ever since," Guest said.

Leslie Portis, Guest's mother, is proud of her son.

**SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 6**

## E-books offer students more than just text

### JESSICA MESZAROS Contributing Writer

University students are taking part in an overall gravitation towards e-books on college campuses. According to Meaghan Connolly, manager of the Modesto Maidique Campus bookstore, digital textbook

sales went up 462 units sold in this year, which is a 54 percent increase from the 2025 units sold in the year 2012; while physical textbook purchases remained the same.

"E-books represent a small percentage of student purchases," Connolly said. "But one that is growing significantly."

She noted that as more content becomes available in digital formats, students will continue to test the new technologies to decipher which system makes the most sense for them.

In 2010, Barnes and Noble launched NOOK Study, a free downloadable software application that provides students with access to over 3 million titles on their NOOKs.

The app can offer students savings of up to 60 percent off of the new textbook price, according to Connolly. Students also get added features, such as the digital library search and course content organizer.

Jennifer Llanos, a junior majoring in dietetics, uses a NOOK for her Nutrition Counseling course. She said that she enjoys the freedom of writing and erasing notes on her NOOK e-book.

"There are certain things you can do with an e-book that you can't do with a textbook. If you highlight a textbook, you damage [it] forever," Llanos said.

Barnes and Noble is not the only company putting forth efforts to advance the textbook experience.

According to Angela Pontarolo, communications and social media manager for Chegg, one in four of Chegg's e-book Reader sessions was on a cell phone in 2012.

Chegg is an online based company that specializes in textbook rentals and purchases. They offer physical and digital textbook copies to students.

"Physical textbook purchases and rentals still reign supreme in the market, but there's a growing fascination and desire to use e-books on platforms like Chegg's HTML5 e-book Reader," Pontarolo said.

Students can access the e-book Reader on any connected device. Pontarolo added that students are now utilizing Chegg's online study tools, like the homework help service and the iOS Textbooks Solutions app.

Lauren Arnold, a senior psychology major, uses two e-books on Chegg. She said that she finds their homework help service useful.

"It's definitely easier to get in touch with people on [Chegg] than it is here sometimes," said Arnold.

NOOKs, tablets, laptops and cellphones allow for students to access their required college readings through a variety of new mediums.

Rahiq Noor, a sophomore majoring in sports management, prefers e-books because of fewer books to carry around campus. Noor uses his laptop to read an e-book for his Spanish lab course.

"It's easier to find stuff. You can just [hit] 'CTRL F' and then find everything," Noor said.

The key word seems to be "convenience" for students.

Freshman biology major, Sara Neuman said that e-books are convenient, but it "feels really different."

"I'm used to having a textbook that I can touch and learn from," she said. "It's your companion [that] you get to write in and highlight things."

Neuman currently uses a calculus e-book on her tablet, but wishes to have an actual textbook to flip back and easily locate the solutions. She said her tablet is not all that user friendly for turning pages.

**SEE TEXTBOOKS, PAGE 2**

### ART OF LIGHT



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Architecture majors Julian Ramirez, Alejandro Alvarez, and Stephania Soltau (left to right) explore how lighting composition is perceived from various angles and perspectives during a 'light and shadows' study.

## NEWS FLASH

### US military lifts ban on Afghan airline

The U.S. military has lifted a ban on contracts with an Afghan airline suspected of drug smuggling after the decision to blacklist the carrier sparked anger throughout the Afghan government.

In a statement released late Monday, the military said it had temporarily removed Kam Air from its blacklist pending an investigation into the allegations by the Afghan government. U.S. law prohibits the American government from contracting with companies with ties to enemy forces.

### Heating system suspect in Mexico oil company blast

A water-heating system may have leaked gas into a tunnel beneath the headquarters of Mexico's national oil company for more than seven months before it was accidentally detonated by a maintenance crew's improvised lighting system, officials said Tuesday, adding fresh detail to the narrative of the petroleum giant's worst disaster in a decade.

Mexico's attorney general said Monday night that a gas buildup was responsible for the explosion that collapsed three floors of the administrative building in Petroleos Mexicanos' Mexico City headquarters complex, killing 37 people and leaving dozens hospitalized.

– Compiled by Brandon Wise

For more world news, check out [www.FIUSM.com](http://www.FIUSM.com).

# Advising shows growth in graduation rate

ALYSSA ELSO  
*Contributing Writer*

Students are starting to take advantage of the resources that are available to them and it shows in graduation rates.

From summer semester 2011 to summer semester 2012, the University's graduation rate has increased from 41.6 percent to 47.4 percent.

The Graduation Success Initiative, a program which helps students stay in school and graduate, has improved the graduation rate since its creation in early 2012. This improvement comes as a result of the new advisement tools available to students.

The tools include MyMajorMatch, which matches a student's interests with FIU majors to give them the opportunity to explore possible career paths; Major Maps, a guide that is divided by semester and contains courses required for students to take; and My\_eAdvisor, which provides advisors and students with immediate feedback on their academic progress.

Freshmen and transfer students enrolled in summer or fall 2012 semesters are the first students to take advantage of the new advisement tools.

To figure out what methods will best increase graduation rates, the Office of Retention & Graduation Success began by looking at the fall 2005 cohort, a group of students who enroll at the university at the same time, and tracking them throughout 6

years to the summer of 2011, where the graduation rate was 41.6 percent.

Once advisors had contacted and met with seniors who were approaching graduation they followed the fall 2006 cohort through the summer of 2012 where the graduation rate had risen to 47.4 percent in one year.

"We surveyed students and they thought it was useful," said Consuelo Boronat, director of the Office of Retention & Graduation Success. "If we can help students figure out what majors they like early there is less struggling, and they take the right classes for their interests."

Advisers have also reported to the Office of Retention & Graduation Success that they have received more student visits and increased communication through My\_eAdvisor.

In improving the graduation rate among current seniors, advisors are contacting students who have reached 110 credits or more and are between their fourth and sixth year to guide them on the track to graduation.

"Retention Repository is a list of students who are on track to graduate that we send out to advisors and deans. From this list, advisors contact students to fix any problems that have delayed them from graduation," said Boronat.

According to Boronat, preliminary data has shown that 94 percent of students who enrolled in the past summer and fall 2012 semesters registered for spring 2013 semester, and 82

percent of students who enrolled in fall 2011 returned the following year. This year's information is still not

“Some students who were already eligible to graduate didn't even know it and their advisor helped them fill out an application for graduation.”

Consuelo Boronat  
Director  
Office of Retention &  
Graduation Success

available, but Boronat believes it will be above 82 percent.

"I think it is remarkable that doing something as simple as keeping a track on students can improve the number of students that graduate," said Boronat. "Some students who were already eligible to graduate didn't even know it and their advisor helped them fill out an application for graduation."

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## CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 59, the story entitled "Comptroller position filled," it was noted that Freddy Juarez monitored \$150,000. It should have said that he monitors \$15,000.

Also, on page 4, the photos for the story titled "Uncommon materials used in sculpture exhibits" were credited to the artists. This is incorrect. The correct photographer's name is Alfredo Aparicio.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

# E-book sales going through the roof

## TEXTBOOKS, PAGE 1

"At least for colleges, I'm seeing [the] move towards e-books. Even my friends who ended up buying a textbook- they all prefer to have that extra copy to be able to carry around with them,"

Neuman said.

Journalism and Mass Communication professor Moses Shumow said that e-books have a lot of room for improvement.

"I haven't seen a lot of e-books yet that are really multimedia in their

core- that embed videos, that embed photos, that embed interactive graphics that can lead to a richer learning environment," said Shumow.

He said that he sees promise in the idea, but that there are many kinks

needing to be worked out.

Shumow said, "I would guess that in the next 10 years we'll see increasing use of tablets in the classroom rather than printed books."

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# THE BEACON

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Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

## Speaking out: retaliation against rape

**ISAAC ORTIZ**  
*Contributing Writer*

An unspeakable event occurred on December 16 in New Delhi, India. A 23-year-old woman was brutally beaten and raped by five men. She died later due to her severe injuries.

Now, the women of India are protesting against rape violence and trying to get the attention of the media. But is there a message getting across?

Women have gone generations keeping quiet about violence like this.

A similar rape case surfaced recently in Sri Lanka and this has given me, and hopefully the world, a wake-up call.

Dr. Yesim Darici, the director of women studies at the University, has a strong opinion on the subject.

“Women have gone unseen with these events for generations,” she said.

Many times it’s because culture forces these women to stay quiet. But for Dr. Darici, “it’s no culture” to allow women this pain.

I personally agree. No person should have to go through such suffering and injustice. And we, as citizens of this world, as human beings, should be talking about what’s going on here and question the root of this problem. Somehow, some men feel that the incident wasn’t

really the fault of the men, blaming the women for dressing provocatively.

According to a recent report from the British Broadcasting Corporation, a Toronto police officer said, “women should avoid dressing like sluts in order not to be victimized.”

The amount of ignorance and insensitivity behind that statement is unbelievable! It’s like saying that I’ll get hit for wearing a certain color.

In New York, and in other major cities around the world, parades are held in order to bring awareness to the injustice and discrimination. These parades are known as “slut walks.” These walks are part of a movement to raise awareness against violence on women. The women there dress very provocatively and do it on purpose. It’s a way to express their message and get it across.

I would say the changes to come are in favor for all women.

“The punishment should be severe for men who commit rape,” said Dr. Darici.

In such a progressive culture you would think more consequences would be placed on the offenders and that more would be done to prevent the crimes.

We are not doing enough.

The government and the people are not placing

enough emphasis, or even instituting, the proper punishments when these types of crimes occur—leaving the victims vulnerable and unprotected.

Women aren’t puppets, there aren’t strings attached to them that you just pull and maneuver whichever way you want. And there are certainly consequences when they are treated as objects.

The rapes that have happened in New Delhi and in Sri Lanka also gave voice to the few men that have the balls to say what is right.

Darici states that only two good things came of this: men became men because they also spoke out against the crimes and the Internet helped raise awareness globally.

Ten years ago, we wouldn’t have heard anything about this, but now the web keeps everyone and everything connected. It’s helped the victims develop a voice—not just locally but internationally.

One Billion Rising is a movement against violence on women. The organization began as a call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped in her lifetime.

In Florida the reported statistic is 1 in 6.

On Feb. 14, 2013, the



PHOTO COURTESY OF VDAY.ORG

V-Day organization will be celebrating its 15th anniversary and will celebrate it with the world’s largest global event, One Billion Rising. The V-Day organization is a global movement that strives to end violence against women and girls. OBR is an invitation for one billion women and those who love them to walk out, dance, rise up, and demand an end to this violence.

FIU, Miami, and its surrounding communities will be joining millions of activists in over 170 countries. They will rise and dance across borders to bring attention to this violence.

**What:** One Billion Rising @ FIU  
**Where:** between the Blue & Gold parking garages  
**When:** Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**For more info visit:** [onebillionrising.org](http://onebillionrising.org)

On that day we will be dancing with millions, or billions, worldwide to demand an end to this violence.

The event is scheduled from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and will take place between

the Blue & Gold parking garages. Join this movement to honor the women in New Delhi, Sri Lanka and worldwide to bring awareness internationally.

-[opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

## Some education on classroom etiquette

**DIANA ANAYA**  
*Contributing Writer*

The more I look around, the more I notice a growing level of disrespect in my classes. People coming in 30 minutes late in a 50 minute course, always seated in the back and leaning over to loudly ask someone whether they could borrow their notes.

These have always been little things I’ve seen in students behavior that have ticked me off, but I feel that recently, classroom etiquette has reached an all time low.

It’s more obvious in larger classes: in the auditoriums with rows so far back that the professor can’t see students texting or talking, occasionally shushing

them when the buzz of chatter gets too loud. But it’s happening in smaller classrooms too, with students shopping on Amazon or texting their friends while sitting in the front row, the teacher watching them flagrantly ignore the lecture.

And it’s not just disrespect towards the professors; it’s disrespect to the students, the ones that show up on time and care about the course.

Besides having the gall to ask for notes, there are some students that come in late, or are obviously not paying attention for most of the class, and then have the audacity to raise their hand and ask questions or make comments that have already been stated.

A mixture of annoyance and

embarrassment is created because everyone who’s been listening knows it has already been said, and the professor’s doesn’t always call them out on it.

And the eating during class – use some common sense. Most professors, in my experience, don’t have a problem with it. I always have my lunch in class, but for some things you’ve just got to wait until the class is over.

I don’t care how hungry you are; I do not want to smell your Subway sandwich or heated up rice and beans. Also, if you’re wondering if the crinkling of your potato chip bag and chewing of the chips is too loud, it probably is.

Not to mention, as I’ve already stated: the late arrivals. And I’m

not talking about people who every once in awhile are a few minutes late; they may have had car troubles or traffic was bad, any normal excuse. It’s the students that are constantly tardy, showing up in the middle of class with their headphones on and hood up, not even looking at the professor’s face.

More often than not their entrance halts the teacher’s thought process; whatever they were saying slows down, their focus disrupted by the inconsiderate student. My own attention is broken as well as that of the entire class as we watch the student shamble to their seat, pulling out pen and paper for mere appearances – they’re not going taking notes.

So if this is you, if you frequently participate in any of these activities, a word of advice: get your life figured out or quit coming to class.

College may be fun and games to you, but the students that take it seriously view this as the path to a career and future success. Or, at the very least, make yourself as inconspicuous as possible; engage in all your disrespectful behavior in perfect silence – in short, be invisible.

And if you’re the student who shows up to every class on time and participates or takes notes, don’t be afraid to throw a dirty look at these culprits. They deserve it.

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## Quail experiments bring new insights to prenatal care

**VICTORIA RIVERA**  
*Staff Writer*

The importance of a baby's environment before birth reaches way beyond the womb.

Researchers at the University's Developmental Psychobiology Lab have made several discoveries that show the tremendous impact of an unborn baby's prenatal environment even after conception.

The lab, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, focuses on prenatal origin on infant perceptual and social development through the animal model of a bobwhite quail.

"We can provide [the quails] with stimulation that we can't do with humans...and they are precocial animals, [which means] at hatch, they can take care of themselves," said Jimena Valliant, Ph.D graduate in life span developmental psychology and the lab manager of the Developmental Psychobiology Lab.

Some of these simulations include light, sound, increase or decrease in heartbeat, vibration of the egg, and elevation of the female hormone progesterone, a hormone essential to the health of a woman's uterus. The lab observes how these stimulations affect their learning and memory processing.

Joshua Herrington, a Ph.D student in lifespan developmental psychology and a researcher in the Developmental Psychology Lab, said, "[When we research] behavior, quails are great because you can give them one experimental manip-

ulation and follow them across development...and see how that exposure has affect them once they're born."

For example, through the elevation of the hormone progesterone to a pregnant bobwhite quail while she is forming her eggs, Herrington found that mothers have the ability to program their babies with information about their environment before they are even born, a phenomenon called fetal programming.

Almost 500,000 infants, which is one out of every eight babies, are born prematurely in the United States, according to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention. After they are born, they are exposed to more light and sound and, since they are injected with tubes, they experience less movement and less touch with their mother.

By exposing the newborn quails to a similar environment and observing the results of that exposure, the lab's research on prenatal and postnatal development is changing the way hospitals treat premature infants.

The Developmental Psychobiology Lab is currently working with Harvard Medical School and Brigham's Hospital School in Boston, Massachusetts to improve the treatment of premature infants by decreasing the sound of the monitors and exposure to excess light.

Their research has started "kangaroo care," a sling device that promotes more movement for premature infants. One of the parents can hold the child while sitting in a rocking chair,



COURTESY OF FIU'S DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOBIOLOGY LAB

FIU's Developmental Psychobiology Lab focuses on prenatal origin on infant perceptual and social development through the animal model of a bobwhite quail.

which imitates the movement that is beneficial to infants.

"The [goal] is to recreate what it's like inside the womb... in order promote better development," said Robert Lickliter, psychology professor and principal investigator of the Developmental Psychobiology Lab.

Lickliter's lab has exposed the bobwhite quail eggs to their mother's chirping, and they found that the quails prefer the sound of their mother's chirping over an unfamiliar sound even

after they are born.

Through the use of the quails as a model, these results can be applied to the development of human babies.

Along with making new discoveries in early life span development, the Developmental Psychobiological Lab is also preventing the bobwhite quail, an indigenous species in North America, from becoming extinct.

The lab receives 200 quail eggs per week from a commer-

cial hatchery in Georgia. After conducting research with the quail, the researchers give them away to local landowners who raised them and let them go into the wild instead of euthanizing them.

"We feel good about it because we're not making any manipulations that are evasive or that affect their health...and so, there's now more quail in Florida," said Lickliter.

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## Wolfsonian to use awarded grant for online material

**NATALIE MONTANER**  
*Contributing Writer*

The Wolfsonian-FIU brings both a library and museum to the Art Deco District of Miami Beach, as well as a research center. On Dec. 3, the Wolfsonian received a \$5 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation that will allow them to propel their visions for the future forward.

The grant will not be received all at once, but will be awarded over a five-year period where the Wolfsonian will be able to allocate it accordingly and kick start extensive online resources that can be accessed globally.

The vital portion of the Wolfsonian's five-year plan will come to life with the vast amount of online material it hopes to make available via the world wide web, in turn allowing their collection to be used and reached by a wider audience.

"A chunk of that initiative will be to provide greater access to our collection in an online space," said Cathy Leff, director of the Wolfsonian. "You know, we have such an extraordinary collection and we want to be able to allow people to pull from it and use it in ways to support their own

"You know, we have such an extraordinary collection and we want to be able to allow people to pull from it and use it in ways to support their own interests, their own research, and their own enjoyment."

Cathy Leff  
Director  
The Wolfsonian-FIU

interests, their own research, and their own enjoyment."

Providing anyone with Internet access the ability to view its collection will allow the Wolfsonian to globally inspire and further spread its mission statement, which in part states "it encourages people to see the world in new ways."

"Not everybody knows the range of the collection and one goal is to really provide

greater online access to it so it can be used and it can serve communities not based on geography but based on interest and how people want to work it on their own terms and in their own ways," Leff said.

Leff says the online gallery is more 'look and don't touch' because they don't know what rights they have to give away.

"People can see parts of our collection online but if they want to pull from it and use

it for their own work," Leff said. "We still have a chunk of work to do to understand what we can release in order to allow people to do that. Some of the Knight money will be used to really allow us to put our collection out there so people can not only see it online but can pull from it and use it."

So in short, the Wolfsonian's main goal with the grant money will be to expand its online resources as greatly and thoroughly as possible, providing art enthusiasts with the most access to its collection as legally possible.

The Wolfsonian is also working on preliminary plans that will involve the physical, tangible collections and the other real estate they own, such as a Wolfsonian-owned lot, to the north of the museum, that is currently rented out to retailers. To benefit the art community and best utilize their lots, there will be talk on how to use the grant money towards these locations and facilities.

The Wolfsonian-FIU is open daily -- except Wednesdays -- from noon to 6 p.m. and Fridays from noon-9 p.m. and is located at 1001 Washington Ave. in Miami Beach.

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# ‘Yoga and the Art of Meditation’ empowers students

**ALFREDO APARICIO**  
*Staff Writer*

The connection between the body and the mind and the pursuit of wisdom are just some of the topics students will explore during Professor Andrea Mantell Seidel's undergraduate course, Yoga and the Art of Meditation, at the Department of Religious Studies.

The course began in 2004 as part of the now defunct dance program at the University and came from Seidel's own experience in the study and practice of yoga.

After speaking with her department about offering a yoga class for dance majors, Seidel sought out Director of Asian Studies Steven Heine, and developed an interdisciplinary course that was offered under both majors as well as religious studies and is open to students studying other majors as an elective. When the Dance Department closed, Seidel made the transition to the Religious Studies Department.

"I was always looking for ways to move across departments and make connections between the body and culture and religion and society," said Seidel. "My own study of dance was primarily looking at cultures and religions where people used dance and music to connect to the cosmos. During my doctoral work, I researched

Native American sacred rituals and it's a practice you can't separate from their culture; it's the embodiment of the sacred itself."

The course, which Seidel has offered every semester thus far, uses three texts: "The

"The Sivananda Companion to Yoga: A Complete Guide to the Physical Postures, Breathing Exercises, Diet, Relaxation, and Meditation Techniques of Yoga," by Sivanda Yoga Center, a manual that students can use as a reference guide

of the material on a physical, visceral and intellectual level. Yoga is, in the end, a mind and body practice."

The course, meeting Tuesday and Thursday this semester, alternates between lecture and discussions on Tuesday and the practice of yoga on Thursdays, where students apply the topics discussed the previous class.

"Newer models of teaching rely on active learning and I think when the students are engaged in the interactive experiences, they are able to integrate the content of the course with the actual physical experience of yoga," Seidel said.

"What I ask for is commitment, self-discipline and application to the requirements of the course so students can be reflective and apply an intellectual understanding to the abstract concepts we discuss."

A graduate course, Yoga Theory and the Practical, is also taught by Seidel and is offered at least once every other year. The course offers students a chance to continue their studies via in-depth textual analysis and investigations and is open to students of any discipline.

"Students who take the course usually want to learn more or they take it as a complement to other disciplines, such as recreational theory or social work, because it contains a useful philosophy that can be

applied to everyday life. In my undergraduate course as well, I've had students from nursing, humanities; this year I have a lot of athletes, but it's a course that fills up fast and has been very popular from the outset."

The graduate course also offers students an opportunity to mentor and participate in the undergraduate section, from time to time, allowing for both sections to interact and open insightful discussions with each other.

"When they work together, the graduate course is able to raise the investigation to a more sophisticated level and the undergraduate course is able to expose the graduate to the interactive experience," said Seidel. "Both classes come up with incredible questions and it's exciting from semester to semester because the questions are never the same and that gives me an opportunity to learn from the students as well as teach them."

One of the new aspects of the course is Seidel's initiative to incorporate study abroad into the class, where students go for a week to the Sivananda Ashram Yoga Retreat in the Bahamas and immerse themselves into the culture through lectures, meditation and workshops. The location was chosen because of its relative closeness to Miami as well as its inexpensiveness.

"It's an intense immersion

into the culture. In fact, I think a lot of the students who went had culture shock but that's why you do study abroad, to experience another culture. Most of the students had taken yoga but they weren't immersed in it, however, they took the leap and were very committed to the experience," Seidel said.

When study abroad is offered again during the Spring semester next year, Seidel will adjust the course content to better prepare students for the upcoming experience. "We will have an orientation and meet a number of times to give them the proper preparation because the more I can prepare them, the more they will know."

In the future, as the class continues to thrive and change, Seidel will continue to adjust and evolve with it. "I've been challenged in new ways and deepened my own knowledge because the students are committed and engaged. I've changed and grown and learned something new from all my students as the class has evolved and I hope I'm successful in reaching each and every one of them."

For more information on the course, please contact the Department of Religious Studies at 305-348-2186 or email at religion@fiu.edu.

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“Newer models of teaching rely on active learning and I think when the students are engaged in the interactive experiences, they are able to integrate the content of the course with the actual physical experience of yoga.”

Andrea Mantell Seidel  
Professor  
Department of Religious Studies

Path of Yoga: An Essential Guide to Its Principles and Practices," by Georg Feuerstein, to give the students context and provide them with a history and philosophy behind the practice of yoga; "Essential Spirituality: The 7 Central Practices to Awaken Heart and Mind," by Roger Walsh, which offers students a way to apply the principles and theory of yoga learned in class to everyday life; and

to breathing techniques, diet, mantras etc. of yoga and utilize them in the physical practice of it.

"I make it very clear from the first day that this is an academic course," explained Seidel. "Yoga is more than just the postures or the practice you see at gyms or studios. I integrate both the theory and the embodiment of yoga so that students walk away with both and gain an understanding

## Spanish professor goes international

**HOLLY MCCOACH**  
*Staff Writer*

Being appointed as a member in a prestigious foreign institution is an honor that one FIU professor has gotten to experience.



MAIDA WATSON

Maida Watson, a Spanish professor in the Department of Modern Languages, has earned a membership position at The Institucion Gran Duque de Alba in Avila, Spain, located on the outskirts of Madrid.

The Institucion Gran Duque de Alba was founded in 1962 by the Duque de Alba, a descendant of the Duquesa de Alba, who was the inspiration for Francisco Goya's painting, "La maja desnuda."

Today, the House of Alba is headed by the Duquesa de Alba, the richest woman in Spain and one of the richest women in Europe. The House is a non-profit institution dedicated to the pursuit of educational and cultural manners.

Watson was accepted into the institution in October 2012 when a year and a half ago, they

requested her curriculum vitae, a document that presents the biography of one's training or career.

Her vitae shows that for the past decade, she has developed a devoted relationship to the city of Avila, including her yearly seminar.

"I have a seminar that I take every year. It's a week's seminar that is teaching Spanish for Business. I have been taking professors and graduate students there for 10 years," said Watson.

The seminar, titled, "Teaching Spanish for Business: A Global Approach" has allowed Watson to establish contacts throughout the United States, Spain, Panama, China, and Peru, and has also placed the University on the map.

"[My involvement] has brought very favorable attention to the University and resulted in opportunities to recruit top level graduate students for the PhD in Spanish program and to develop programs such as the possible BA in Spanish with Qingdao University, a program on which I have been working for the last seven years," said Watson.

Almost two decades ago, Watson began directing the summer study abroad program

in Salamanca, Spain. Here she organized a volunteer program for students, where they taught English as a second language to children in Salamanca's day camps.

As a result, University students were provided with experience in teaching English, as well as connections with Spanish students in the day camps. Her involvement and dedication have stemmed into her nomination at the Institucion Gran Duque de Alba, allowing her to further spread her insight and intellect in the world of education.

As for Watson's seminar, it is still offered in Avila and Madrid, and will take place at the Universidad de Salamanca from June 9 to the 15 this summer.

The week long seminar introduces business terminology and the methodology of teaching Spanish for business, and is suited for university and high school Spanish instructors as well as Spanish graduate students. Workshops are offered, as well as excursions through the cities for exposure to the Avila and Madrid cultures.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2013

### FRIDAY, FEB. 8

#### FIRST DAY TO APPLY FOR SUMMER 2013 GRADUATION

WHEN: All day  
WHERE: MMC PC 130 and BBC AC1 100

#### SPC MOVIES: TOP 500 WRECK-IT RALPH

WHEN: 5 and 11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC GC 140

#### PHI ALPHA DELTA - RUSH WEEKS

WHEN: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC Second Floor Hallway, RDB

#### EXTENDING TIME AND EXTENDING SPACE

WHEN: 4-5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC SIPA 502-503

#### INTRODUCTION TO PARENT CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC AHC 1 Rm 140

#### HEALTHCARE RISK MANAGEMENT

WHEN: 8 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: Register  
WHERE: MMC

### SATURDAY, FEB. 9

#### MIAMI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT - A VALENTINE PREVIEW

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
WHERE: Concert Hall - Wertheim Performing Arts Center

#### FIU DANCE MARATHON

WHEN: All day  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC Rec Center

#### WYNWOOD ARTWALK WITH PROF. JOHN BAILLY

WHEN: 5:45-11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: David Castillo Gallery

### SUNDAY, FEB. 10

#### PRESTIGE CULTURAL SERIES CONCERT #3

WHEN: 4:30 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC Mary Ann Wolfe Theater

#### ATLANTA NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

WHEN: 12-4 p.m.  
WHERE: Georgia World Congress Center

#### PHI ALPHA DELTA - RUSH WEEKS

WHEN: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC Second Floor Hallway, RDB

To have your event featured, email us at  
[calendar@fiu.edu](mailto:calendar@fiu.edu)

## 2013 SOFTBALL PREVIEW

# Panthers ready to let their play do the talking

**BRYAN PALACIO**  
*Contributing Writer*

Hype can be defined as promotional publicity. In sports, it comes from the potential ability of a team or player. But for an FIU softball team without any, they're going to have to earn it with their play.

Standing around at what is supposed to be a media event on Feb. 4 in the softball fields, there are no reporters or cameramen. No one shows up to what's supposed to be a day to showcase the softball team. Minutes later, the event is canceled and the players start warming up for practice. Hype or no hype, that doesn't deter the team.

"Forty-plus [wins]," said senior Brie Rojas. "We're coming for the title. Go big or go home."

The Panthers are coming off a 28-27 season that left them sixth in the standings in the Sun Belt Conference. Forty or more wins would be a welcomed, albeit difficult, feat that would place them at the top of the conference.

The senior-lead team welcomes 10 new players as well as nine from last year's squad. The team consists of some notable four-year players, highly recruited freshman, all-American transfers, and even a two-time tournament champion. This lineup explains why even the coach couldn't stray away from the excitement.

"I'm excited to get going," said second-year softball Head Coach Jake Schumann. "Three of the



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

After a mediocre 2012 season, the FIU softball team is hoping an influx of new talent can help them rise to the top in their 2013 campaign.

biggest conferences play here that first weekend [Feb. 8-9]. We have a lot of home games, anytime you play in the south you have to take advantage of that. I can't wait to get started."

Depth and talent is something everyone is pressing to be the main difference this year as opposed to last, and they'll need it if they want to compete for the title. Last year being his first year, Schumann was left to deal with a roster he didn't put together. Now in his second year, he has the luxury of going into the season with a more ideal roster.

Players have stressed that this team is far more talented than any other they have played with since arriving at FIU. They received talent in the batting lineup where they finished with a team batting average of .262, seventh best in the conference.

Their pitching, which ranked sixth last year in ERA, rotation now includes transfer Shelbie Wagnon who finished last year 10-3 with an ERA of 1.66, and freshman Corrine Jenkins who earned numerous accolades in high school including Sarasota Herald-Tribune Player of the

Week, FACA All-Star, and FACA 8A Player of the Year, all in 2012. Jenkins' father also happens to be the assistant pitching coach for the Cincinnati Reds. The team looks to have four to five new starters.

"We usually have girls that come in and maybe one or two play, now we have more people than we have spots for, we've never had that problem," said senior Kayla Burri. "We're always like 'Man, we need someone to play here or play here' and now it's like 'Where are we going to put them?'"

Apart from just talent, the team has put an onus on working hard and putting forth maximum effort. Players come out earlier than scheduled and put in extra time afterwards in the batting cages. The mentality of the team has been chemistry and hard work, including in the classroom where all players are academically eligible and the coach stresses grades, studying, and even tutoring if need be. The coach even put together the schedule so that there are no games on a school night.

"This year everybody actually wants to be out. Everybody is actually working hard," said senior Jessy Alfonso. "The team chemistry is a lot better and everybody enjoys being out here. Everybody does extra, last year not many people would come out and do extra. It's a personal thing and a part of him, too. We all want to do good this year.

When it comes to being .500, Alfonso said, "That's average, we don't want average in this program."

FIU was slated to come in third in the Preseason Sun Belt Coaches Poll, which is voted on by all nine head coaches in the SBC. The Panthers start the new season this weekend and will take on University of Kansas, Georgetown University, and North Carolina State University at the Panther Invitational starting today at 4 p.m. in the softball field.

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## Pi Kappa Phi beats Theta Chi

**JOLSON DIAZ**  
*Contributing Writer*

In a game that did not even make it into the second half, Theta Chi suffered an embarrassing 50-5 loss against Pi Kappa Phi at FIU's Recreation Center on Feb. 5.

Things started quickly for Pi Kappa Phi with a couple of early layups from Jason Romero and a dunk from Ian Llanes gave them the early 14-0 advantage. Defense also played an important part as Greg Marte forced Theta Chi to give up some early turnovers.

Pi Kappa Phi had their 23-0 run broken up by a layup from Theta Chi's Alex Estrada. Continuous turnovers caused frustration for Theta Chi and it got the best of them as they committed a hard foul on Llanes after an attempted dunk. He responded by nailing both free throws.

Pi Kappa Phi's offense exploded and their defense worked well in transition. With just six minutes left in the first half they lead by 28 points. Practices held during the week proved vital.

"During practice we do a lot of repetitions of offensive and defensive schemes," Romero said. "We prepare for different things we might see against all these teams we face."

Omar Laachrate from Pi Kappa Phi kept the pace going dropping a total of 18 points, while Marte was the

SEE INTRAMURAL PAGE 7

## Turner welcomes in first class

### FOOTBALL, PAGE 1

"FIU was always number one for Jordan," Portis said. "As a family we're definitely excited he's staying home."

About six miles west of Columbus, another commitment was having his dream fulfilled in rival school Belen Jesuit Preparatory School.

"One step closer to getting out of high school!" said Xavier Hines with a smile after getting through signing day.

"I'm ready to enroll as soon as I can and start learning the system," Hines said.

Nicole Hines, Hines' mother, is extremely happy in the decision her son chose to play at FIU.

"Well of course you know mom is going to be happy because her baby is in the backyard," Hines said. "I get the chance to see all his home games. I'm excited for him."

Xavier committed early to FIU, but like Guest, there was an air of uncertainty surrounding his decision when FIU fired Cristobal. The Hines family just hoped that their son would be stable once the commotion of changes was settled.

"It was nerve racking for about two weeks," said Edmund Hines, Xavier's father. "They finally gave us a call and told us they would honor his commitment and it was just a relief for us all."

Even though Hines is a cornerback, defensive coordinator Josh Conklin told him he could double as a safety.

Turner said that this year's class did not have a common theme, rather he stressed the idea of bringing in "football players." He didn't want an underlying theme to his recruits like speed or height.

"Our staff's focus is the same as what it's going to be next year and the year after that; get football players. Too many people get caught up in numbers, how tall, what does he weigh, how fast is he or how many schools are recruiting him," Turner said. "I tell the coaching staff to evaluate the film, trust your eyes, trust what you see on the film and do not try to make a players something that he's not."

With the swirl of signing day finished, all the new recruits will wait to graduate high school later in spring, and will slowly trickle into FIU in summer and fall.

"Our coaching staff did a tremendous job on selling what we're all about and getting our name out there," Turner said. "I'm really excited about this class. All I know about them so far is through film, so I can't wait to get to know these guys better both personally as people, but also as football players."

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### FIU SIGNEES

| NAME                  | SCHOOL             |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Akheem Barton, DL     | Norland            |
| Jordan Budwig, OL     | University School  |
| James Cruise, OL      | Palm Beach Gardens |
| Jeremy Derrick, LB    | Hollandale         |
| Chris Flaig, OL       | Vero Beach         |
| Jordan Gibbs, LB      | Killian            |
| Jordan Guest, LB      | Columbus           |
| Xavier Hines, DB      | Belen              |
| Wilkenson Myrtill, DB | Jones              |
| Shug Oyegunle, WR     | Gaither            |
| Jonathan Pavlov, TE   | Benjamin School    |
| Israel Paopao, QB     | Oceanside [Calif.] |
| Alfonso Randolph, RB  | West Port          |
| Jonnu Smith, TE       | West Port          |
| Willie Smith, DB      | Manatee            |
| Silas Spearman, RB    | Seminole Ridge     |
| Vontarius West, DB    | Bartow             |
| Treyvon Williams, LB  | Norland            |

## PANTHER OF THE WEEK



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

Even in the midst of two thrilling games against Middle Tennessee and Louisiana Monroe, forward Tymell Murphy remained consistent. The junior had a 19-point, 10-rebound performance against MT and his superb 60.3 shooting percentage as of Feb. 6 ranks seventh in the country.

# Coley, injured Panthers fall into losing streak

**RUBEN PALACIOS**  
*Staff Writer*

The women's basketball team is in a bit of a funk.

They are currently on their first two-game losing streak since November, where they fell to Louisiana State University and then followed that up with a loss to Arkansas State University.

The Panthers, 13-9 (7-6 SBC), are in fourth place in the East division of the Sun Belt Conference after consecutive losses to Middle Tennessee State University and University of Louisiana at Monroe.

"We still need to find ways to win these games," Russo said despite her team missing some key players the last two games. "We are getting out hustled in every area from end line to end line we were out hustled."

### INJURY TIMEOUT

The squad has been dismantled with injuries late into this season. They had to deal with sophomore Kamika Idom going down with a torn meniscus, an injury that will undoubtedly keep her off the court for the rest of the season.

Idom recently joined the starting unit and became one of the better shooters on a team that lacks outside threats. She was averaging five points per game while shooting a team high 49 percent from the field.

Also out from the starting unit is senior Finda Mansare who suffered a concussion and is still experiencing concussion like symptoms. Mansare, a preseason second team All-Sun Belt selection, is averaging 8.7 points per game and is pulling down six rebounds per contest, both good for third on the team.

The front line only got thinner when senior Diamond Ashmore went down with a potentially serious knee injury. Ashmore was one of the few post players Russo could bring off the bench in order to rest Mansare or starting center Marita Davydova. Ashmore was second on the team in field goal percentage at 45 percent.

"We are undermanned when it comes to our big girls," Russo said. "We have three quality defensive players sitting on the bench due to injury."

Russo said that it's not that easy to play without three impact players.

"We miss them big time," Russo added.

### HOLY COLEY.COM

Junior Jerica Coley has accomplished many things and has an abundance of attributes to go along with her name, but she can add one more thing to her list: a website.

The FIU Athletic Media Relations Department designed a website to promote FIU Coley as an All-American.

The website is a Coley utopia celebrating the greatness she has shown on the basketball court this season and during her entire tenure at FIU.

Coley's modest demeanor and passive personality might not feed into the hype of a website dedicated to her basketball glory. A different Coley, however, loves the website. Cathy Coley, Jerica's mother, enjoys the site.

"She loves it," said Jerica Coley "I think she goes on it every day."

Coley still remains the leading scorer in the nation as of Feb. 6 at an astounding 25.1 points per game. No one else in the country is scoring at even 23 points per game; Coley's closest competitor in the scoring race is Sugar Rodgers, a senior from Georgetown University. Coley is coming off a career-high tying performance against ULM where she netted 39 points in 40 minutes of play. Coley started the contest on fire; she scored 20 of the team's first 22 points.

"I noticed we needed to make more shots as a team," Coley said. "And no one else was making shots so that's when I called for the ball more."

The women's basketball team heads to Denton, Texas to face University of North Texas at 6 p.m.

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# Sigma Chi prevents comeback, seals win

## INTRAMURAL, PAGE 6

as Romero and Laachrate dropped some of their own.

"We just played team basketball and stayed together," Romero said. "We came off a really bad loss, defensively we gave up a lot of open shots so we really wanted to come out and send a message."

Pi Kappa Phi's dominance cut the game short when it was clear that Theta Chi wasn't going to comeback.

### SIGMA CHI STICKS IT OUT AGAINST LAMBDA CHI ALPHA

Sigma Chi staved off a couple of close comebacks by Lambda Chi Alpha to take a 54-44 victory on Feb. 5.

Lambda Chi got off to a slow start as an early turnover led to a three-point shot from Ricky Mercado to got things going for Sigma Chi. A travel called on Kaleb Gomez from Lambda Chi turned into another three-point shot for Sigma Chi from Tony Molina. After a nice fade away jumper, Sigma Chi took an early 6-2 lead.

Molina showed off some of his defense with two straight steals both leading to layups in transition.

Gomez answered back for Lambda Chi with a couple of jump shots of his

own, changing the score to 19-6. Things got dizzy as both teams went back and forth, showing good offense and transitioning well on defense.

Lambda Chi kept the ball rolling towards the end of the first half as Tyler Sanchez and Kevin Maestre made the final four shots, bringing them less than five points down at the half.

Things were looking good for Lambda Chi, within two minutes of play in the second half. Maestre and Gomez kept the momentum going by making some jump shots. Lambda Chi cut the deficit all the way to four points with 12 minutes left in the game.

Sigma Chi's Jarrel Arias answered back with a jump shot of his own, followed by another steal in transition for Molina and a three-point shot from Jose Garcia.

Throughout the rest of the second half Sigma Chi took the game back as Molina, Mercado and Garcia all moved the ball well and kept the offense going. Team chemistry proved to be an advantage for Sigma Chi.

"I definitely feel like we had more team chemistry but there is still a lot to work on," Garcia said. "We hold practice twice a week and go through a lot of running and basic drills, but there is still room for improvement."

Sigma Chi will go on to face FIJI next week on Feb. 12.

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## Media coverage of HIV/AIDS on steady decline

KATHERINE LEPRI  
Staff Writer

Five years ago, Allan Richards assigned his undergraduate students to monitor media coverage of HIV/AIDS.

He was subsequently shocked by, what he considered, the lack of local reporting of the issue in south Florida, even though the region had seen a troubling uptick in new cases.

"There are multiple reasons why the media has dropped the ball," said Richards, associate dean in School of Journalism and Mass Communication. "The struggle for media was trying to find a new angle and a new way to cover it."

Press coverage of HIV/AIDS has been on a steady decline since the 1990s, even as the rates of HIV infected individuals continue to increase in Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Broward counties between Latino and African-Americans, according to Richards.

"It was not something that people wanted to hear about or talk about because it does not help a high tourist area to know that AIDS is rampant," said Richards, who has studied the HIV epidemic for the last 20 years. "It was hitting the minorities,

African-Americans and Hispanic communities that were not well represented [in the media]."

Nearly 40,000 articles had been written nationally about the HIV/AIDS during the first two decades after the discovery of the disease, according to data provided by Princeton Survey Report Associates.

The abundance of media attention was reflected in the prolific amount of news stories on key events that captured the country's attention during that time.

This included the initial reports by the Center for Disease Control on the "Gay Pneumonia" to basketball superstar Irving "Magic" Johnson announcing that he was HIV positive--a news conference that was seen by tens of millions of television viewers.

"When the anti-retroviral medicines came in the '96 and the disease became managed if not cured, it was no longer a death sentence for people," Richards said.

As the nature of the HIV/AIDS epidemic changed into a chronic disease that more people live with, and manage day to day, the percentage of stories in national coverage declined, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation National Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS.

## FROM CLASSES TO WORKPLACES



PHOTOS BY SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

On Wednesday Feb. 6, Career Services hosted its Career Fair inside of the Wolfe University Center ballrooms. Students wore business attire and carried resumes with them in hopes of finding a job opening or an internship with one of the several companies. Some of the companies that were present were Target, Old Navy, Progressive and WSVN. The next Career Fair is on Feb. 14 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Modesto Maidique Campus from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m.

The medical advances in combating the diseases set a pattern of new media stories that stressed the overall developments but decreased the attention to those still suffering from the illness especially.

"There has been a major transformation in HIV/AIDS and HIV infected individuals and what we can do for them," said Anthony Fauci, an immunologist who has made substantial contributions to research to HIV/AIDS. "We still have an unacceptably high rate of infection throughout the world and the United States with

2.7 million new infections worldwide."

Experts, like those at the International Conference on AIDS, have labeled this drop of press coverage the "AIDS fatigue"--the phenomenon where individuals previously concerned about the impact of HIV/AIDS have become seemingly desensitized because of the overload of information on the topic.

Statistics released last year by the CDC show that Miami has the highest incidences of AIDS in the country and yet within the last few years, news outlets have remained relatively

silent about the widespread issue, according to statistics provided by the Kaiser Family Foundation National Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS.

Ultimately, coverage of the HIV/AIDS issue by mainstream media serves as an important gauge of how prominent the issue is on the national agenda.

"I see improvements on the way public health is trying to publicize it, but there can be a stronger campaign," Richards said. "Considering the high rate of disease here, it's terrible."

Semester after semester,

he continues to find that media coverage has steadily remained quiet and most of his students are still not aware of how significant the epidemic remains in the region.

"It is the same response that I got in 2008," he said, "only five years later."

The Wellness Center under University Health Services provides free HIV testing. It is anonymous and available on both Biscayne Bay Campus and Modesto Maidique Campus for students.

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## Time is money: students differ on 15-minute myth

VINSON PRESSLEY  
Contributing Writer

The countdown begins as soon as the five-minute mark. In 10 more minutes, class is over unless the professor makes an appearance.

Some students agree that if a professor is late 15 minutes or more, they can leave class without penalty.

One problem, though: this rule does not exist.

This rule or any variation of it cannot be found in the Student Code of Conduct, Policies and Regulations or FIU's catalog.

Although some universities like Clemson University have policies that require professors to designate how long students should wait before leaving class in their syllabus, FIU

does not.

But confusion exists anyway.

Because some of her professors suggested if they are tardy more than 15 minutes, students may leave, Luiza Georgescu, a freshman and biology major, thought it was a fact.

In this situation, since the professor explicitly endorsed this unofficial rule, students in that particular course can obey the rule without considering other options.

Although it is convenient to accept this rule as fact and walk out, some students, like Georgescu, will give the professor a few more minutes before deciding to leave.

Some students, like Helena Saravia, a sophomore nursing major, will check their email before making an executive

"We've heard it from other students, no one has denied it, it's like a rumor that's been spreading."

Phalancia Louisy  
Sophomore  
English

decision to leave.

Phalancia Louisy, a sophomore English major, believes the rule is fiction because most professors will most likely send an email to the class warning

them that the professor will be a few minutes late.

The origin of this 15-minute rule is a mystery but Louisy believes it originated from the self-interest of the students.

"We've heard it from other students. No one has denied it," Louisy said. "It's like a rumor that's been spreading."

Jayne Klein, program director for Honors College at the Biscayne Bay Campus and a 19-year FIU veteran, has never seen the 15-minute rule on paper nor has no clue about its origin.

Klein, who has never been more than 15 minutes late to her courses, believes that if professors are consistently showing up late for their classes, it is rude on their part since "students pay a lot of money for their class."

Although the 15-minute rule does not exist on paper, some students will still be courteous.

"I [will] wait 16 minutes just to be fair," Georgescu said.

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