

Professor breaks down statistics of suicide attempts

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

Over 38,000 people in the United States die by suicide each year, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. This figure does not compare to the overwhelming estimation of 1 million annual attempts of suicide.

These statistics drove Jeremy Pettit, an FIU psychology professor, to conduct research that was recognized by the American Association of Suicidology, which has awarded him the Edwin Shneidman Award for 2013.

Americans between 15 and 24 years old prove to be more likely to attempt suicide, compared to other demographics, which is the “third leading cause of death among” this age group, according to the AFSP.

Pettit said his work mostly focuses on suicide-related disorders, such as depression and anxiety.

“These are often still precursors to thinking about suicide and acting on suicide,” Pettit said.

Such suicide-related behaviors can be attributed to this age group for its alarming prevalence during what can be described as a developmental period.

Concentrating on this devel-

opmental period could be advantageous to research in this field.

Pettit said that because of the dramatic increases of suicidal rates during this time period, it is important to find out what is leading to the “development of these thoughts, behaviors, actions, and tragically, in some instances, the actual death by suicide,” as well as the possible intervention and prevention of such behaviors.

Pettit’s research is directed towards influence in the environmental context in terms of stressful life events and chronically stressful situations.

“The research found that ...both major negative events that happen and kind of the chronically stressful environments lead to higher rates of thinking about suicide and attempting suicide,” Pettit said.

There is also a focus on one’s interpersonal environment in terms of how social relationships can either increase or decrease the risk for suicide-related behaviors.

“[The research is finding] the belief or the perception that one poses a burden on others, like [thinking] ‘I drain others’ or ‘Others would be better off if I were not here,’ is a strong predictor of suicidal-related

ALMOST HOME



ANDRES DAVID BEDOYA/THE BEACON

The new residential hall, Parkview, is taking shape and expected to be available starting Fall 2013. When the project is finished, the university will have added more than 600 new beds to its residence halls and created a new gathering area for students near FIU Stadium. University Way road will reopen once construction is finished in August 2013.



behaviors in adolescents and emerging adults,” said Pettit.

A sense of detachment or the lack of a network of social support also play parts as interpersonal factors.

“[They are not] as strong of a predictor as the feeling of being a burden or draining one’s family,” said Pettit.

Pettit’s interest in psychology first sparked while working on depression, which he said is the “common cold” of mental illness.

The striking numbers of attempted suicides, deaths by suicide and the tragic circumstances that involved adolescents as well as the pain the families go through, further drew

his attention to the matter with the hopes of eventually figuring out successful approaches of prevention.

Pettit said the importance of the issue transcends the degree of its advancement in research.

Much knowledge has been

SEE SUICIDE, PAGE 2

INTERNATIONAL

China lessens censorship restrictions on community

ALEXANDER SUAREZ
Staff Writer

Recent events in China surrounding government censorship and a weekly newspaper have sparked much attention.

International Relations Professor Thomas A. Breslin, referred to the events as a “...testimony to the intention of the Communist Party of China to maintain its control over the media,” Breslin said via email.

The Chinese newspaper, Southern Weekly, had scheduled to release their annual special edition on Jan. 1, 2013.

According to a press release from Chinese Media Project, former writer for the Southern Weekly, Qian Gang, stated “the issue is highly anticipated by readers, and the process of getting the issue out is painstaking. This is especially true when everything you do is so carefully scrutinized.”

As the Southern Weekly sought to complete their New Year edition in December 2012, for the first time editors were required to get prior approval from the propaganda department of the communist party of China. The review from the

“ This is a really positive development overall. The fact that it’s becoming public, not only public that censorship happens, but also being publicly discussed.

Raul Reis
Dean

School of Journalism and Mass Communication

propaganda office led to further prior-authorization, which led to censoring the paper and editing the New Years editorial that envisioned a future constitutional China.

New York Times writer, Didi Tang, stated that 60 journalists from the Southern Weekly submitted a complaint after the unexpected edits were discovered. Tang noted that 35 former reporters requested that Provincial Party Propaganda Chief Tuo Zhen should step down from his position.

As the news spread, a peaceful demon-

stration formed outside the gates of the Southern Weekly for several days to protest peacefully against government censorship.

Amidst all this, the Southern Weekly went ahead and published corrections to the censored New Year’s edition, receiving no heavy corrections from the propaganda office.

Raul Reis, dean for the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, celebrated these events as hopeful.

“This is a really positive development overall” said Reis. “I am taking an opti-

mistic look at that and seeing it as the first cracks in the media censorship in China. The fact that it’s becoming public, not only public that censorship happens, but also being publicly discussed.”

According to a press release from the South China Morning Post, writer Li Jing states that an agreement was formulated to keep the propaganda office from requiring prior approval for story ideas and rough drafts.

“I think this incident is important but not game-changing,” said Bin Xu, professor of Sociology and Asian Studies.

Xu explained that although central and local governments conceded in this case, their actions might be a strategic move rather than a long-term, institutional change.

“Nevertheless, those incidents could have a cumulative effect on reforms of the system: gradually they might force the system to make small concessions and changes until a point, as everyone sees that institutional reforms instead of small changes is what China needs. This might take quite a long time,” said Xu via email.

-news@fiusm.com

A new home for Veteran's Affairs

MARIA BRITOS
Contributing Writer

FIU has been constantly evolving throughout the years, however, there is one building that has prevailed all these changes due to its historical value.

When the University was built in 1969, the only building that was left untouched was the air traffic tower of control. Belonging to the former Tamiami Airport, the Ivory Tower is now a monument of history at the University.

After the University Police Department transferred to the Market Station building, there were speculations about whether or not the Tower should be removed from campus.

As a result, the University began plans to restore the Tower to house the the Veterans Affairs office.

"I had some input in it," said Michael Pischner, director of the Veteran Affairs office, explaining how the plans to renovate the building started.

The main renovators included the University's project managers and at times, Pischner. He said that the initial plans were

made about two years ago, but only recently has the University taken action and began remodeling.

The new office is said to be a getaway place for the veteran students. There will be a kitchen, a day room, a computer lab along with two conference rooms and other commodities to make the veteran students feel more comfortable.

"The real emphasis is getting the building going so when the veterans come in, they'll have a real nice place to go," Pischner said.

The office is also expecting more veteran students to enroll as the program grows and moves to its new location.

By the end of March, the construction will be done, however, there is no set date to move in.

"We still have no idea when we're moving in, but we're getting closer," Pischner said. "We plan on having a real nice grand opening."

The Tower, on the other hand, will have complete restricted entrance, but will be used primarily for storage.

-news@fiusm.com

Mastery Math Lab shows increase to 52 percent for College Algebra

AARON PABON
Staff Writer

With the help of the University's Mastery Math Lab; the pass rate for 2012 College Algebra has increased to 52 percent.

"I'm so proud," said Suzanna Rose, director of the School of Integrated Science and Humanity. "The math department has been instrumental in helping this move forward."

According to Rose, the

increase has been based on numerous of factors.

Students are required to spend a predetermined set of hours a week in the Mastery Math Lab, depending on the algebra course they are enrolled in. The lab is stocked with 200 computers, each with programs related to math to help students.

"Last semester, students were going to the lab, but the the lectures," said Rose. "We want them to go to both."

The lab has started

using iClickers to help students during lectures so professors and learning assistants to see what answers students are giving.

"The clickers have helped students a lot," said Rose.

Rose credited the assistance of the Lab's Learning Assistants, in being instrumental in the increase. Up to 30 learning assistants are employed to help students with their studies.

The learning assistants

take teaching courses in order to effectively help students.

"We have a full staff every hour. We have maximum assistance, and every time a person has a question, we help them out," said Steven Samper, IT sophomore and learning assistant at the lab. "Even if they don't raise their hand, and we see that they are struggling, we help them out."

-aaron.pabon@fiusm.com

AMA workshop allows students to meet with future employers

NYESHIA C. GARLAND
Contributing Writer

Marketing professor and trained AMA Marketing Instructor, Tim Birrittella, knows how to sell an application amongst the millions of them in the job market.

The Marketing Yourself Workshop, held by the American Marketing Association, will be based on Birrittella's course, "Marketing Yourself in Today's Competitive Job Market," which is required for marketing majors.

"However, the skills taught in this workshop can be applied to any major – business or non-business because it's about teaching students to think of themselves as a product and how they can become more marketable in their career search," Birrittella said.

The four hour workshop will consist of resume and cover letter

building, with a formula by Birrittella, aimed for success. Topics will also include dress code, interviewing skills, and salary negotiation. Learning how to successfully negotiate a salary is just as important as landing the job.

The workshop stands out, amongst others, because information and tips are taught by a marketing professional, rather than a Human Resources person.

"It's a good idea for anyone to go, because workshops like these are rare and only here to benefit you," said Daniella Smith, sophomore advertising major.

It will be held on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Ryder Building 120 at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Students can register, with a \$20 fee at amafu.com, or on site. Proceeds will help the American Marketing Association students compete in the

“It's a good idea for anyone to go, because workshops like these are rare and only here to benefit you.”

Daniella Smith
Sophomore Advertising

35th Annual AMA International Collegiate Conference in March 2013. It is suggested that students arrive by 9:30 a.m. in order to register and secure a seat.

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CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 57, in the standalone on page 4 titled "Nailin' It" we credited the photo to Alfonso Yec. This is incorrect. The correct photographer's name is Andres Bedoya.

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

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Students have lower suicide rates of people of same age

SUICIDE, PAGE 1

gained through research, however, a decrease in the number of suicides in the country has yet to be seen.

This also applies to awareness of the seriousness of this situation, which has yet to be fully optimized. Pettit said the acknowledgment of suicidal issues has improved over the past few years but that open discussions should be a first step to complete awareness.

He said college students on average have lower rates of suicide than to people who are the same age, but do not attend college.

However, this does not mean that college students are immune to this issue or to difficulties in life, especially because they can find themselves to be within that developmental age group.

In the situation that one suspects someone of being suicidal, he suggested to not only recognize the issue in terms of signs of withdrawal or hopelessness, but to be open to offer support, recommending professional help or contacting a suicide

hotline, like 1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433).

Pettit said students who lack a sense of familiarity, such as out-of-state students, should attempt to establish connections away from home and become involved in activities.

The underlying importance is to be willing to seek help when needed and to not to be afraid to approach establishments whose purpose is to help students in moments of crisis, such as the University's Health Services and the Counseling and Psychological Services.

CAPS offers both individual counseling sessions and group counseling sessions, which can help establish a support network.

Services from the UHS Wellness Center are also offered to help students cope with stress, such as stress management/reduction consultations, acupuncture sessions, massages, meditations, and an assortment of free tea.

The services funded by the student health fee are available at each campus and, for the most part, accept walk-ins.

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The Walking Dead: An infectious experience

ASHLEY OROZCO
Contributing Writer

The day was Sept. 25, 2011. I was sitting idly at the check-in desk for my high school's bi-monthly blood drive while two of my friends, who were supposed to be helping me, chattered on about some TV show. My curiosity piqued and I asked what show they were talking about. "The Walking Dead," they said. Being the pop-culture junkie I am, I decided to see what all of the hubbub was about the second I got home.

By the time I went to bed that night, I had gone through all of the first season.

At that time, people were just starting to go crazy over the whole "zombie apocalypse" thing.

A plethora of video games depicting zombie invasions had been released; "World War Z," the post-apocalyptic horror novel (whose movie is set to be released later this year) was released in 2006; "Zombieland," one of the greatest movies of all time, came out in 2009, and the last to join the party was AMC's "The Walking Dead." Normally, a show like this would only take off with a

certain type of demographic--the type that attend comic book conventions.

What I still can't wrap my head around is what makes it so popular? Why is everyone so obsessed?

"The aspects of the show that keep me wanting more are the suspense, action and characters," said senior Julissa Albuquerque.

At first glance, an outsider might attribute the show's success to the extreme amounts of violence. Though it is always a treat to see Daryl, one of the main characters, shoot his crossbow through a "walker's" head, watch five minutes of any episode and you'll see just why everyone, regardless of gender, age or clique, tunes in every Sunday night.

The very basis of the show, the struggle for survival, is something everyone can relate to. The characters on the show have seen their family and friends taken by the disease in the same way one might watch an ill family member pass away.

It's a hard thing to get through, but they must because it would not do well to dwell on the past when they are

fighting for their lives.

The show is genuine to how we as human beings would react and adapt in such a fantasy world. We would try to make a new family, because humans innately long for companionship.

The characters also each possess traits that we could easily attribute to someone we might have met.

In high school, my friends and I started classifying our friends as Glenns, Herschels and Loris. We even made a list of who wouldn't last and decided that if the zombies took over, our school would be the safest place to make base.

The violence is, I must admit, one of my favorite things about the show. The fact that it's set in a post-apocalyptic world gives the show so much freedom!

The creators of the show can get away with nearly anything and have no mercy, as seen in the opening scenes of the pilot episode when Rick shoots a walker that resembles a young girl no older than 8. Some might argue that the amount of bloodshed is unnecessary but, Hello! They're fighting for their lives. Zombies are flesh-eating monsters! They're bound to be everywhere and the group needs to protect themselves and each other.

Each and every one of the characters can be a representation of the common man. They're all fighting their own battles, trying to find hope in what seems like a hopeless world, fighting for their lives and trying to keep a semblance of normalcy to carry them through the next day and set of "walkers."

"I absolutely love Glenn because he is an underdog. He can be reliable and never thinks twice before protecting his group," said Albuquerque.

Yet another relatable quality in the characters: sticking together, building a new family and protecting that family. The actors and writers portray the characters so well that you can't help but love or hate them.

The popularity has spread almost as quickly as the disease on the TV series. Its pilot episode premiered with 3.6 million viewers. The season 3 mid-season finale ended with 10.5 million viewers.

Since the show began, zombies have popped up everywhere; The Zombie 5K run, the "Zombies, Run!" application for android and iPhone, the new film "Warm Bodies" and much more.

Personally, it makes me happy to share something in common with so many people. In all of my classes last semester, Monday would roll around and there would always be at least two people talking about the shocking episode that had aired the night before.

Just like the group on the show, the zombie infestation has brought unlikely people together all wanting answers. How did the world change so much in only a month and what is in store for the survivors?

One thing is certain: whatever is in store, it's going to be fun to watch.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Working yourself to death?

MIGUEL MARTINEZ-VIERA
Contributing Writer

At this point in all of our lives, we've all felt our fair share of stress. Whether it's worry about an upcoming exam, an assignment with a deadline that feels too close, relationships which require too much of ourselves, or the most unfortunate source, a job that seems to literally suck the life out of you.

Most of us have held at least one job, and, I bravely dare to generalize, most of us have hated our job.

It seems like an unspoken accord has been reached among most people in our culture that you have to tolerate intolerable jobs. That's just life. Well, screw that.

Why should we as, supposedly, rational human beings accept such an irrational concept?

Money makes the world go round, or so it's been said so many times. And we all need money, because without money we are nothing.

But why do we accept such a bleak status quo?

It's literally killing us.

Mika Kivimaki, a professor at the University College of London, conducted a study with his colleagues on about 200,000 people who had no history of heart problems. Participants' health and job stress was tracked for an average of seven and a half years. Researchers found a 23 percent increased risk of heart attacks and deaths among participants. (New York Daily News).

Stressful jobs lead to a steady increase in coronary disease, and can very easily lead to our early demise.

The best part is, the most stressful jobs are the ones with the heaviest and most uncontrollable workloads, basically, the most common jobs; the kind of job that you will most likely hold.

"Stress is more common in lower positions than among those who are on the top, who have more authority and control," said Kivimaki.

But I'll be realistic and concede that as individual persons we must each find our calling, or if that's not possible, at least support ourselves financially. But why is it that we sacrifice so much of ourselves to a system that seems to not respect us and in the end just kills us earlier?

I believe our solution could be found in peace. Our bliss, our joy, or whatever you want to call it, we all must find the one thing that gives us a sense of accomplishment. If not, we're just killing ourselves.

Until then though, quit your job, say, "screw you status quo," struggle a little, and find yourself. Maybe through a new kind of struggle you'll find what you were meant to do.

-opinion@fiusm.com

A POP IN PRICES



ILLUSTRATION BY GIOVANNI GARCIA/THE BEACON

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND ARTS AND SOCIETY

University to conduct research underwater

VICTORIA RIVERA
Staff Writer

This month, the University will be diving into research at the Aquarius Reef Base.

The University was awarded a grant to continue the management of Aquarius, the world's only operational underwater research station.

Since 1992, Aquarius was located 60 feet underwater in the Florida National Marine Life Sanctuary about four miles from Key Largo in the Florida Keys.

Jim Fourqurean, a biology professor and director of the Marine Education and Research Initiative of the School of Environment and Arts and Society (SEAS), proposed the University's stewardship of the Aquarius Reef Base.

His lab group researches the ecology of coastal environments, including controls on water quality, the relationships between marine ecosystems and climate change, what determines the health of

marine ecosystems and the role that large animals play in structuring marine plant communities.

This year, Fourqurean hopes to make the lab available to undergraduate and graduate students who are avid about the marine life surrounding the Aquarius.

"We want to keep Aquarius Reef Base available for research scientists, engineers and educators into the future. To do this, we have to attract funding and users from a broad range of governmental agencies, private companies and philanthropists," said Fourqurean.

Mike Heithaus, the executive director of the School of Environment, Arts and Society, said, "[The Aquarius] has served as a platform for incredible work on oceans, coral reefs and the myriad species that live there. It is also a great asset for space programs."

The Aquarius also has partnerships with organizations, such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),

the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the U.S. Navy's Medical and Diving programs.

As part of the Ocean and Exploration and Research (OER) program, the NOAA is the owner of the Aquarius Reef Base. The Aquarius also has a partnership with NASA through the NASA Extreme Environment Mission Objective (NEEMO).

Before exploring Earth asteroids, planets or moons, NEEMO crew members, called "aquanauts," must prepare for their missions in an Earth-based environment, according to NASA.

The U.S. Navy has sent some of its best medical officers and divers to the Aquarius, and it has used the research station as a training facility for its saturation divers.

While diving, Roger Garcia, the operations director and the diving safety officer of the Aquarius, said he always stops and marvels at his surroundings, which include soft coral species,



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Florida International University received a grant to continue maintaining Aquarius Reef Base, an underwater laboratory, for NOAA in 2013.

hydroids, sea fans, cup corals, fish, shark and rays.

"One day during a routine maintenance dive, I looked up, and swimming above me and my dive buddy was a huge manta ray. I was amazed by its size. The experience lasted 30 seconds at best,

but the memory will last a lifetime," said Garcia.

Being a part of the Aquarius Reef Base has been a challenging but rewarding experience for those who are part of it.

"[At the end of the day], the Aquarius staff, scientists and NASA and Navy personnel, sit around and

say, 'Wow, can you believe what we've just accomplished?'" said Garcia.

For more information, visit the Aquarius Reef Base website or stop by Fourqurean's office located in the Biscayne Bay Campus at MSB 360.

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THE CHAPLIN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT

Hospitality Department to offer event planning major

KEILA DIAZ
Contributing Writer

The Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will be introducing a new major to students during fall 2013: event planning.

The new program is part of six new majors the school is planning to roll out starting the fall semester of 2013. New majors will include beverage, hotel, restaurant, tourism, culinary management and event planning.

"As of fall, [students] can start on a specific major within the bachelors of science in the hospitality degree program," said Randall Upchurch, associate dean of academics.

Right now, the School of Hospitality offers a certificate in event planning, but according to Upchurch, the new major in event planning is meant to surpass the certificate. Students majoring in event planning will not have to meet the certificate requirement.

However, the certificate program will remain available for students in other courses of study that have some interest in the subject.

"Let's say that there was a student that said, 'I'm not a hospitality major but I still want to dabble in some of these courses,' we could keep the event certificate for those individuals," said Upchurch.

Even though the new major has been

mainly pushed out to the freshmen and sophomores, juniors and seniors in the School of Hospitality can choose one of the new majors and not fall significantly behind.

senior Daniela Walters, hospitality major. "The event planning certificate is more than enough."

Other feel a bachelor in event planning would be more beneficial.

"I announced it to the meetings community through a listserv which serves about six thousand event planners, and the enthusiasm back from them was overwhelming because they are so pleased to see that the meetings industry is being recognized as an industry."

Daniel Cormany
Professor in event planning
The Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

"The majority of the courses in the common core are the same. Where the difference came was to shrink the common core by about two courses and blossom out the majors," said Upchurch.

Some students feel the major is unnecessary since there's already a certificate available.

"There is not enough student interest to have event planning as a major," said

"A major in event planning would be more useful than just a certificate," said freshman Joshua Rosenfeld, hospitality major.

For some, the major in event planning will arrive a bit late. Anju Nath, a junior hospitality major, will have to complete the event planning certificate as part of her program requirements.

"I wish I had known about that," said

Nath, reflecting on how the new major in event planning could have replaced her need for a certificate. "Event planning is really popular."

The decision to introduce the new majors came after tracking student career paths after graduation. The School of Hospitality at the University, along with other universities in Florida, saw the popularity and success of alumni in the fields of event planning.

"I announced it to the meetings community through a listserv which serves about six thousand event planners, and the enthusiasm back from them was overwhelming because they are so pleased to see that the meetings industry is being recognized as an industry," said Daniel Cormany, professor of event planning.

As far as what the new event planning major will do for the School of Hospitality, professor Cormany believes it will only enhance it. "I've been averaging 75 to 100 in class each semester so there is quite a bit of interest in it," said Cormany.

So far, the plan is to go forward with the faculty the School of Hospitality has now. Enrollment in the new majors during fall 2013 will determine whether or not more faculty members will be needed, and that will ultimately depend on funding.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2013

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

PHOTOSHOP ESSENTIALS

WHEN: 10-11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC PC 414

PHOTOSHOP: SELECTIONS & LAYERS

WHEN: 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC PC 414

SPC MOVIES PRESENTS: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

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

ILSA: FIRST GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC RDB 2005

HEALTHCARE RISK MANAGEMENT

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

SATURDAY, FEB. 2

FIU THEATRE PRESENTS: THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: 10910 SW 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

FIU LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

WHEN: 3:30-4:45 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: BBC

FIU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS ULM

WHEN: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: U.S Century Bank Arena in Miami, Fla.

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

HEALTHCARE RISK MANAGEMENT

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

PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

WHEN: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
WHERE: MMC CBC

COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT MANAGEMENT (PMP®)

WHEN: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC CBC

To have your event featured, email us at
calendar@fiusm.com

PHI BETA DELTA

International Education Honor Society inducts 12 new members

DANIEL URIA
Staff Writer

On Feb. 1, Phi Beta Delta, an international honor society with 192 chapters in various universities and over 14,000 members, will induct 12 new members into their International Education Honor Society as part of a yearly ceremony.

Inductees include international students who have exhibited outstanding scholastic achievement, domestic upper division students who have excelled in study abroad and exchange programs, and distinguished faculty and staff who have been involved in recognized international endeavors. GPA requirements for undergraduate and upper division or graduate level students are at least 3.2 and 3.5, respectively. The ceremony is open to the FIU community and free of charge. "[Attendees] can expect to meet students with diverse backgrounds revolving around international education who are passionate and seek higher education," said Vice President Belkys Yzquierdo.

She also states that guests can expect an informative speech from the night's keynote speaker. "FIU is working on offering students opportunities to expand their hori-

zons and to participate in international education through several fellowships and scholarships," said Yzquierdo, regarding the topic of the speech.

Yzquierdo has served as the International Education Honor Society's vice president since 2012 and describes it as a beneficial experience.

"It's important to engage the FIU community in international education related activities, such as the Study Abroad Fair, networking opportunities and seminars to encompass the benefits of international education," said Yzquierdo.

As a member of the FIU community, Yzquierdo explained the importance of international education in her life.

"I am passionate about international education because of the career opportunities that flourish from studying abroad and its networking opportunities. Several of the members being inducted are involved in the Study Abroad Club and we've met because our goals and passions revolve around cultural diversity, higher education and our study abroad experiences," said Yzquierdo.

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INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

Savage goes down under to reach the top



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Kaitlyn Savage finished the 2012 season in the top three of the Sun Belt Conference in shutouts, saves and save percentage.

MICHAEL ORTEGA
Staff Writer

Kaitlyn Savage, arguably the best goalkeeper in FIU women's history, is now heading to the land down under to try to make a name for herself.

The Perth Glory of Australia Westfield from the W-Soccer league signed Savage to the team a day after Christmas.

Savage began playing with the Perth in January and looks to continue her strong play overseas.

"I am honored to get this opportunity to play professional ball after college, it was what I always wanted to do," Savage said. "I have to thank the coaching staff and all my teammates to push me to where I am now."

Savage's career at FIU was outstanding in all categories; with a career record of 35-18-8 and an superb home record of 23-5-2, she stands model to upcoming goalkeepers for the Panthers.

The Sun Belt Conference awarded her with three All-SBC honorees. Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt was not at all surprised by the signing.

"Having Kaitlyn play for us was great. she was very skilled and a great motivator for everyone. She was a great person on the field and off the field she always helped her teammates with whatever they needed," Chestnutt said. "It was no surprise that she's playing professionally. She is a great player and teammate and any team is lucky to have her."

Savage was always a leader on the field helping with setting up that stout Panther defense known by all their opponents or keeping moral up during the tough games.

"It was always great having Kaitlyn yelling at us whereto be because she would be able to see things we couldn't, and it always great to know that you had someone so great in the net

having your back," said forward Chelsea Leiva. "I am so happy for Kaitlyn and I know she will be great wherever she plays."

Perth Glory is ranked as second in their division and played in the semifinals last season where they lost in overtime.

The Perth Glory is first in offense scoring a whopping 2.1 goals per game, but their defense still allows the fourth most goals among the division. Knowing this, Savage should fit right in because knowing how to win and how to play defense is nothing new to her.

They will also benefit from

very laid back and easy going, which really reminded me of home," Savage said.

Savage now joins the handful of FIU's star athletes to join the pro athlete circuit.

She is now the fourth player to come out of the FIU women's soccer team to join a professional team; she joins ranks with Linn Thune, Mayara Bordin and Thaisa Moreno.

Next season, sophomore Kelley Struyf will have big shoes to fill as she returns to the field as the starting goalkeeper for FIU and will look to keep the teams strong defense just as

“It was no surprise that she’s playing professionally. She is a great player and teammate and any team is lucky to have her.”

Thomas Chestnutt
Head Coach
FIU Women's Soccer

her goals saved per game average which was second highest in the Sun Belt Conference at 0.89.

Savage had offers from Russia, Norway, Germany, and the Netherlands, but she felt at home in Australia.

"I've been here before, it was my second time coming, and I loved it first time I came. It feels

Savage left it.

The Perth Glory finished a tournament in the last week of January, finishing in the semifinals losing to the FC Sydney who won the total tournament. The new season starts at the end of the summer.

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CLUB FEATURE

Boxing club aiming to rise from amateur beginnings

JUAN GUTIERREZ
Contributing Writer

The University of Miami isn't exactly popular in FIU, but boxing fans who wear the blue and gold can't help but thank the green and orange.

The FIU boxing club got its start last semester after the UM boxing club approached the Panthers to create their own club so they could all compete against each other in amateur fights. Once it started, students from all backgrounds flocked to the club.

"Most of the kids you see here are primary FIU students or cadets of ROTC, but we have a lot of guys who come out just for the conditioning, some who are beginners in boxing, and then the actual boxers training to compete in amateur fights," said Son

Vo, head coach and sponsor of the club.

There is usually one prominent event that is organized per semester in Miami by UM, but the co-ed club is looking to do something more interesting by trying get to get their boxers more than one fight and more propaganda.

The amateur fights which the FIU boxing club participates in are held in Florida State University or at the Biscayne boxing gym in northwest Miami.

So far, only two members from the club have participated in an amateur boxing match.

"The fight was a good first experience for me, it was my first amateur fight," said FIU student Kareim Scott. "I didn't come out with the 'W', but I feel like I got some valuable experience from the fight. I learned a lot of

things about myself.

Scott said he learned what he needed to do to get better as a fighter.

"This semester, I'm looking forward to improving on the fundamentals and just gaining new experience that I can use in the ring," Scott said.

The club, however, isn't just for the people who want to fight or like getting hit; it's also a club for people who just want to work out.

The training is focused beyond just a cardio or a kickboxing class that they might offer at the Rec Center.

The workouts start light and gradually increase in difficulty and reps as they continue.

Some of the training includes running up and down stairs, military style

SEE BOXING, PAGE 7



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

The FIU boxing club, only a few months, trains in tropical park on Jan.30. The members also spar in preparation for their fights.

TENNIS

Petrovic's spring debut spoiled by comeback

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

Katarina Petrovic's first match as head coach for FIU tennis left her with a bitter taste after the Panthers lost to Florida Gulf Coast University 4-3 on Jan. 26 in FIU's first spring match.

"It was tough positions I put the freshmen in today for them to step up," Petrovic said. "I think it was a good first match, but we have to get better, and practice more, and be ready for two tough matches coming up."

FIU claimed the doubles point, winning two of the three doubles matches. Out of the six singles matches, FIU only picked up two points. The Panthers raced to a 3-0 lead, but couldn't prevent the Eagles from coming back strong and getting four points in a row. While Petrovic made her head coaching debut on Saturday, three freshmen also made their collegiate debuts as well. Those freshmen were Lotte Gras, Carlotta Orlando, and Aleksandra Trifunovic.

Trifunovic, along with Rita Maisak, were dominant in their doubles match, sweeping it by a score of 8-0. Trifunovic fell in her singles match in three sets. The lone singles match to go the full three sets. After a competitive first set which saw Trifunovic win 7-5, Florida Gulf Coast's Sarah Means went on a tear. Means



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

Head Coach Katarina Petrovic made her spring debut on Jan. 26 against FGCU. Her team fell 4-3 despite have a 3-0 lead. Petrovic took over the tennis program in September.

swept the second set 6-0 and won the first five games of the third set before clinching the set and the match 6-2.

"I felt [Means] played a bit faster and I gave her more opportunities to play the kind of game she wanted," Trifunovic said.

"It's really tough on a freshman when your

first match is the one that is for the whole match since as a team the score was 3-3 when [Trifunovic and Means] were matched up," Petrovic said.

Carlotta Orlando arrived to FIU last week and had little time to get settled in at the University. Despite this, Orlando shined in her debut.

"I thought I would be more nervous, but the cheering of my teammates made me less stressed," Orlando said.

Along with junior Giulietta Boha, Orlando helped propel FIU to the doubles point. They rallied from 5-3 to win the match 9-8. Orlando also won her singles match, joining Maisak as the only other player for FIU to win in both singles and doubles.

"This was my first time playing outdoors in a while and it was not my typical surface, but I did my best," Orlando said. "I hope to repeat it next match."

Gras, however, didn't enjoy the success the other freshmen did. She lost in her singles match 6-2, 6-0. She put up a better fight in her doubles match with senior Magali Holt, but ultimately fell in defeat 8-3.

"I felt I had a little too much stress and I didn't hit the ball very well," Gras said. "I think as a team, we did a good job, especially cheering our teammates on to get the best out of them."

FIU won't see their home court again until Feb. 22 when they host Florida State University. The Panthers will hit the road for the next five matches, starting with a trip to New Haven, Conn. to take on Yale University on Feb. 1.

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Club goes beyond boxing, provides workout regimes

BOXING, PAGE 6

push-ups, and several repetitions with the punching bag.

"The workouts just get tougher and tougher as the semester goes on," said club president Jecabseel Nunez. "What happens for a lot of people is they show up at the beginning and they're consistently here and they'll either realize that they don't want to do it or that it's a pretty tough work out and that its going to be a little difficult to maintain."

The club is looking to eventually expand and be able to provide more for

both the students who want to fight and the students who just want to work out.

"Right now it's not that we are trying to take away attention or purely make this a fight club but more importantly we want to make sure we cater for every single student," said Nunez. "The only issue right now is having the amount of coaches and personnel that could pay attention to both."

If you're interested in joining the boxing club, contact Jecabseel Nuñez at jnune094@fiu.edu.

-sports@fiusm.com

Player exposed after taking football recruit to strip club

PATRICK CHALVIRE
Contributing Writer

Along with implementing his own system on a college football team, FIU football Head Coach Ron Turner will have to make some new social media rules as well.

The Miami Herald reported that defensive back Demarkus Perkins and defensive back Isame Faciane exchanged tweets about taking a football recruit to the strip club last weekend.

Though the section on official visits in the NCAA Manual does not explicitly prohibit visits to adult-related clubs, FIU's official visits packet does. According to the Herald, which references the FIU packet, "You may not entertain the prospective student-athlete by attending a gentleman's club or providing an opportunity for a sexual encounter [e.g., strip club, escort service, etc.]."

Both Twitter accounts were deleted Monday morning.

Both players are still on the team. Per his policy, Turner does not comment on matters of disciplinary action. According to a player who spoke on the condition of anonymity, the foot-

ball team had a team meeting and players have been instructed to not tweet anything related to FIU football anymore. They also can't comment on the incident.

While the incident will not immediately require the NCAA's attention, it's certainly an unwanted stain on Turner's reputation for control of his team. FIU hired Turner less than a month ago to a five-year deal.

This is not the first time FIU has been in the news for some sort of infraction. In 2008, FIU was placed on probation for four years by the NCAA and lost 11 sports scholarships because the university failed to properly enroll student-athletes after moving from Division I-AA to Division I between the 2002-03 and 2006-07 academic years. The probation was lifted on May 19, 2012.

Faciane was the more productive of the two players in 2012, playing in all games last season recording 17 solo tackles, but still below expectations. He was a preseason All-Sun Belt selection last season. Perkins recorded nine solo tackles in 10 games in 2012.

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DOUBLE WHAMMY



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

Helped by victories against FAU and Indian River College on Jan. 26, FIU reaped both the Sun Belt Conference Swimmer of the Week (Danielle Albright) and the Diver of the Week (Sabrina Beaupre) awards.

No students turned down from Bay Runners club

RUNNERS, PAGE 8

David Ricketts, hospitality and nutrition major, is also new to the club. His sister is a runner and he did it as a wrestler for training.

"Anyone can do it. Running is the simplest form of staying in shape. When you start to be in a slump, you walk. Every step gets you farther and you can catch your breath," Ricketts said.

What Ricketts love about the Bay Runners that it is a great and non-judg-

mental community.

Sofia Galiano, journalism major, was also a new member who was looking for a runners club. For Galiano, it started before high school. She loved to run on weekends. Then she ran track when she was in high school.

"Running is to get fit and have a workout. If students have time to it, they should. It's the cheapest and easiest way to lose weight. There's no equipment needed and you're not competing against anyone," said

Galiano.

The Bay Runners are preparing for upcoming races, the closest of which is the FIU Color Run.

The 5K run will be on Sunday, Feb. 3 at 9 a.m. It is free to FIU students but you must have a FIU ID to check-in at the Aquatic center at 8 a.m.

For more information about the FIU Bay runners and the 5K run, visit www.facebook.com/fiubayrunners and on Twitter @FIUbayrunners.

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WOLFE UNIVERSITY CENTER

WUC administration responds to game room abuse

GENE YLLANES
Contributing Writer

Prompted by rising concerns, the Wolfe University Center administration had to pull in the reins on what was slowly becoming the 'free-for-all' room.

The changes that took effect at the end of fall semester limited the game room's open hours from all day to 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and added full-time staff inside the room at all times.

But the nature of the room remains the same.

Some students, like Jean Noel, a freshman studying criminal justice, had no idea there was full-time staff or restricted hours at all.

Najum Shabbir, a freshman in computer science, is hardly affected by the changes too. "I don't mind the hours," he said. "And the attendant doesn't bother anybody."

One thing he does miss, though, is the ping-pong table.

"I did love the table and I have no idea where it went," Shabbir said.

Roberto Sandoval, webmaster for Campus Life at Biscayne Bay Campus and advisor to the Table Tennis Club, voices concern over the table as well.

"I hear from students everyday asking me 'what happened, when is the table going to be back, where did it go?'" Sandoval said.

The table didn't go far -- it is sitting in the back of the theater next to the recently moved piano. But according to computer lab staff, the table was broken last semester when it was brought downstairs for an event.

One thing that can be guaranteed, according to Emerald Nesbitt, a computer lab manager, "the equipment is safe."

Sterling Dhaiti, fiscal assistant in the WUC said the mistreatment of equipment caused all the changes inside the WUC Game Room; but now that the dust has settled, it will be another semester before any more significant change.

Dhaiti stressed the fact that the gameroom here is free, unlike the game room at the Modesto Maid-



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Karam Jandali, sophomore in political science, works inside of the Wolfe University Center game room as the game room attendant.

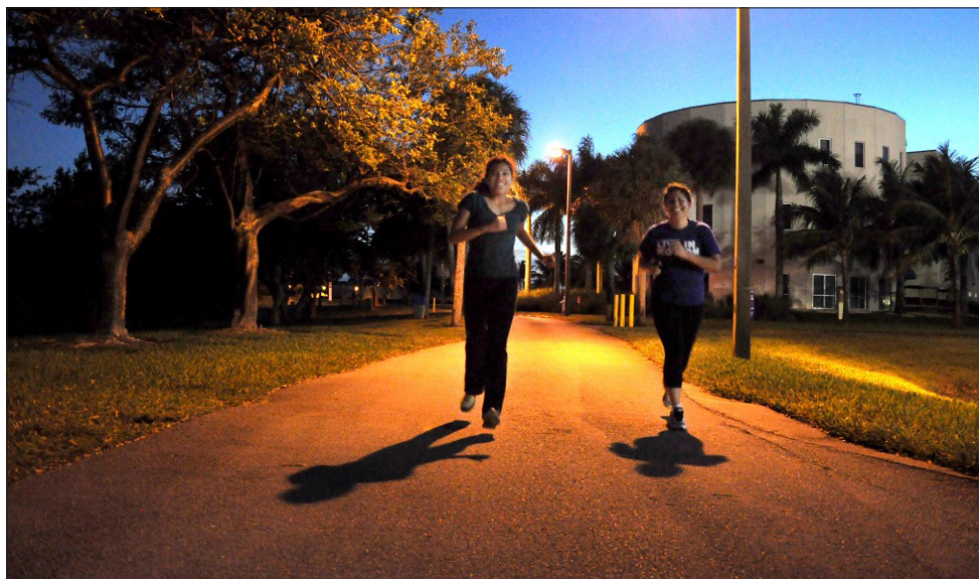
ique Campus, and it is because of that reason that the administration is taking the precautions to place a full-time staff.

According to Zach Trautenberg, IT & marketing coordinator at the WUC, there was an approval to officially buy a new ping-pong

table, which would replace the old table.

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Bay Runners getting ready to run FIU one jog at a time



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

JEFFREY SODUSTA
Contributing Writer

Don't tell the Bay Runners club that running is just a sport. To them, it's a passion.

The FIU Bay Runners is a new club in the Biscayne Bay Campus, which meets at 6 p.m., Wednesdays at the BBC Recreation Center.

Jackie Ore, the club's founder, was having an ordinary walk near the bay on campus one day. She started gathering a couple of her friends and they formed a small group that walked and ran together near the bay.

"At first, they thought it was crazy that I was running for fun," Ore said. "They joined with me and it is really fun to walk or run with other people."

Ore, who has a master's in human resources, said running started as a hobby to help her lose weight. She began running when she lived in Gainesville and started to see the results. What started as a normal routine soon became a habit.

During one of their runs, a friend came up

to Ore and jokingly said, "South campus has a running club, why don't we have one?"

Since the runners did not want to make the commute to the Modesto Maidique Campus, Ore thought it was a good idea to start the club and started advertising it.

She went to Christina Reddick, coordinator in the BBC Rec Center who would be the club's advisor.

Many of the members found the club through flyers, email and Facebook. The last two meetings drew at least 10 members.

One of the newest members is Nathan Dodge, program administrator in the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. He read about the Bay Runners club through an email and gave it a shot.

"I usually run two or three times a week before lunch," Dodge said. "It's fun to do it with someone else. Running is a way to relieve stress after class or work."

SEE RUNNERS, PAGE 7

MAGNIFIQUE!



SONG LIU/THE BEACON

Christina Ramsey, a senior in nursing, loves cooking and started at a very early age. When she was younger, she would make very small cakes and her mother would be very proud of her. Although Ramsey is a nursing major, she enrolled into the International Cuisine course provided by the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. Most of the students in this class are hospitality majors, but that doesn't stop Ramsey. Ramsey is cooking a french dessert called coeur à la crème with caramelized strawberries.