

ENROLLMENT

Plan for additional students suspended

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Editor-In-Chief

The University's 2010-2015 strategic plan is two years away from what can only be described as its completion, but a component of the plan is already ahead of schedule.

Enrollment at the University has increased by 2,000 students per-year since the plan went into effect in 2010, climaxing with 50,400 students in fall 2012.

Preliminary enrollment numbers showed 43,608 students were enrolled as of Jan. 7, 2013 – 6,792 fewer students than fall 2012. The final day of the add/drop period was Jan. 14, but the University's Media Relations said final enrollment numbers are not available and would not be for some time.

"Prior to the add-drop and all the final numbers coming in, the numbers did look pretty bleak and then they picked back up," said Diann Newman, assistant dean for student services in the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

"I don't think it's as bad as it was. I think it looked really bad for a while; we couldn't figure it out and then I think a lot of people must have just registered last minute," Newman said to Student Media.

Valerie J. Johnsen, director of Enrollment, Assessment and Retention Management in the College of Arts and Sciences, compared student credit hours that were taken in spring 2012 and spring 2013 to show a slightly fewer number being taken: 232,902 credit hours were taken in spring 2013 compared to 233,857 credit hours in spring 2012.

"As you can see, we are currently down from this point last year by 0.4 percent. While it is a small dip, it is not unusual to see some fluctuation in the enrollment."

Johnsen also did a point-in-time comparison between January 26, 2012 and January 24, 2013 and showed the University's enrollment was down by only 426 students.

"It doesn't seem like there's a drastic drop in the spring numbers" said Johnsen. "If you are looking at spring to spring numbers, I don't see anything I would call drastic; 0.4 percent is not much of a drop and ..., enrollment is still taking place."

While the 2,000 more students per-year were part of the University's plan, the various budget cuts throughout the last three years were

not. The combination of the more than 50,000 students in fall 2012 and a \$24.3 million budget cut in summer 2012 meant the University had to temporarily adjust its plan for the 2013-2014 academic year.

The specific adjustments were decreasing student enrollment and hiring less faculty advisers, according to University President Mark Rosenberg in an interview with Student Media in fall 2012.

"We did expect to grow by about 10,000 students during that five-year strategic plan but because of the budget uncertainty, we have agreed that there will be very limited, only very limited student growth... for the 2013-2014 academic year," Rosenberg said.

Rosenberg was not available as of press time to comment on if there would be changes to the strategic plan as a whole, however interviews with Johnsen and Valines revealed enrollment for the next academic year would be flat, or would be level.

"There was [a message] from the President this past year not a complete suspension of that plan, ..., but its suspension for one year, specifically the academic year 2013," Johnsen said.

Johnsen said she wasn't sure how the long term goal of the strategic plan has changed but is sure the plan was suspended. She added the additional students were not added this year.

"This year they didn't bring in the additional students. If they had planned on bringing in the additional students, and we saw that drop, then that would be a real reason for concern. This was back in May when they made the decision for this coming year not to bring in that many additional students. Basically, we're going to be flat for this year."

According to Johnsen, there was also a hiring plan a part of the strategic plan.

"You need to have the additional faculty, advisors, all of the infrastructure that goes into supporting and instructing those students," Johnsen said.

In 2009, the student-to-adviser ratio was 850-1 and is currently under 450-1, and the goal is to have the ratio at 300-1 or lower.

In the last three years, the University has hired 460 new faculty, 220 replacements, 50 advisers and created nearly 1,000 additional classes in order to meet the demand of an increasing student population.

SEE PLAN, PAGE 2

QUIDDITCH AT FIU



ANDRES DAVID BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Junior Casey Lamrouex, architecture major and senior Kiara Nydam, biology major, are playing a quick of quidditch sponsored by the FIU Quidditch club. Tryouts will be open from 3-6 p.m. in the recreational field this Friday and Sunday.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Students find new ways to get around the city

JONATHAN JACOBSKIND
Staff Writer

As gas prices remain high and Miami drivers continue to pack the roads causing bumper to bumper traffic, University students are in the midst of a noticeable transportation trend. In a university tabbed as a commuter school, bicycles, skateboards, metro buses and comfy pairs of sneakers are replacing vehicles as students are increasing their use of alternative modes of transportation.

Mike Custodio, senior sports and fitness major, pointed out bicycling as his primary choice for his daily commute to campus and work.

"Riding [a] bike is a very economical way of getting to school. It beats parking, once you get on campus with your bike you don't have to worry about waiting for a spot since you can just lock your bike up anywhere," Custodio said. "You save a lot of money on gas, car insurance and car payments. It definitely frees up some of your financial means."

The Department of Parking and Transportation has begun to reward those who leave their car keys at home. Parking and Transportation promotes alternative modes as they sponsored a Week for Alternative Modes at the beginning of the spring semester to promote carpooling and

public transportation as well as more active ways of commuting to campus such as biking, skateboarding and walking. A top prize of a \$100 Visa card was given to the student who used alternative modes the most in that week's span. Due to the event's success, FIU expects to have a Week of Alternative Modes for transportation every semester.

As FIU nears the possibility of breaking ground on yet another parking garage, formally known as PG6, discussions have surfaced that PG6 will serve as a bus stop for an added bus route.

According to Lissette Hernandez, the director of

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INTERNATIONAL

Palestine allowed by U.N. to join meetings and debates

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Last November, the United Nations upgraded Palestine's "permanent observer" status to "non-member observer state", allowing Palestine to take part in U.N. meetings and debates, and more importantly, indirectly suggesting that the world body now recognizes Palestine's statehood.

"It's not the first time the U.N. has done this," said Murat Altuglu, professor of politics and international relations. "The Israelis are just going to be more angry and it won't change anything. It's a show."

Palestine is now also eligible to join the International Criminal Court, an option the Palestinian Authority is not hesitating to use given Foreign Minister Riad Malki's threat last week to sue Israel over its recent plan to construct settler homes in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

"The claims made are that settlements are obstacles to peace, but I don't see that as a reality," said Rebecca Sterling, a senior in political science, member of Chabad at FIU and former president of Shalom FIU. "I have seen Israel give land time and time again to make peace with its neighbors."

Sterling referred to Israel's long-lasting

peace agreement with Egypt and Jordan, an agreement that has proven elusive in the context of negotiations with Palestinian representatives.

"It's hard to negotiate with someone who doesn't acknowledge your right to exist," Sterling said. "There has been no show of goodwill."

Supporters of the Palestinian cause consider the Israeli position unacceptable as long as Israel maintains the limitations imposed on the Palestinian population that inhibit their ability to travel outside the territory under the control of the Palestinian Authority.

"Our goal as an organization is to make

people aware that the Palestinians are deprived of all major human rights and that goal is not affected by this U.N. recognition," said Rayid Sakib, a member of Students for Justice in Palestine. "This recognition is just another step toward our goal."

The human rights violations alleged by the Palestinian side tend to happen within the context of an irregular situation of military incursions, and also include the building of walls of separation that have been building since 2003 in the West Bank to segregate Arab towns from Israeli settlements.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

US stocks close mixed on uneven economic signals

DANIEL WAGNER
AP Writer

U.S. stocks meandered between small gains and losses Monday, cooling off after a rally that had pushed the Standard & Poor's 500 index above 1,500 for the first time since December 2007. Encouraging news about manufacturing provided an early boost, but stocks fell later after a report on the pace of home sales fell short of expectations.

The government said before trading began that orders for long-lasting goods rose in December by 4.6 percent, helped

by a 10 percent gain in orders for new aircraft. The report was a sign of strength for the manufacturing sector, a crucial driver of economic growth.

Heavy equipment maker Caterpillar said separately that its fourth-quarter net income exceeded analysts' expectations, after adjusting for the cost of a soured deal to buy a Chinese maker of roofing supports for mines. Caterpillar said it took a big charge in the quarter because the Chinese company had misrepresented its finances.

Caterpillar Inc. said it expects growth in China to improve

without regaining the levels seen in 2010 or 2011. The stock was the biggest gainer in the Dow Jones industrial average, closing up \$1.87, or 2 percent, at \$97.45.

The Dow Jones transportation index, a proxy for future economic activity, edged higher, notching its tenth straight increase and its twelfth gain in the past 13 trading days.

A half-hour after trading began, the National Association of Realtors said that its index of pending home sales fell in December, suggesting that sales of previously occupied homes

may slow in the coming months. The report, which was weaker than many economists had expected, helped push stocks lower for much of the morning. They were roughly flat by midday, and spent the afternoon swapping small bumps and dips.

The Dow closed down 14.05 points, or 0.1 percent, at 13,881.93. The S&P 500 fell 2.78, or 0.2 percent, to 1,500.18. The Nasdaq composite index added 4.59, or 0.2 percent, to 3,154.

The Dow and the S&P 500 are rapidly approaching their all-time closing highs, reached

on Oct. 9, 2007. The Dow is about 282 points below its high of 14,164.53; the S&P 500 is 65 points shy of its record of 1,565.

Economic data may be less likely to boost the indexes because traders have become harder to impress as the data have strengthened in recent weeks, said Bill Stone, chief investment strategist with PNC Asset Management Group.

"Before, even if you came in just at expectations, that was like a victory," he said. Because of the market's recent upturn, he said, "you get less of a pop for just making the numbers."

Stay in shape by walking

TRANSPORT, PAGE 1

the Department of Parking and Transportation, there are talks with Miami-Dade Transit authorities and Miami Federal Department of Transportation to integrate a new bus route in conjunction with PG6.

"They are trying to have an express bus that goes from 147th Avenue through the Miami Intermodal Center," Hernandez said. "The bus will go to down Eighth Street and 107th Street and to the expressway. It is supposed to be a fast route that will come by every 15 minutes. There will be a stop on Eighth Street, 107th Street, 147th Avenue and one at PG6."

Hernandez also laid out how FIU plans on constructing PG6 based on PG5's design, which features a lower level built

with a higher ceiling to accommodate metro buses. That being said, PG6 will abide by those exact blueprints which will allow the supplementary bus stop.

Some students prefer walking over driving, riding the bus or biking.

"Being that I am a professional ballerina, it is always my top priority to stay in tip-top shape. So, for me there no better or healthier way to get to class than using my own two feet," said Angelica Lopez, senior and foreign language major.

Lopez lives just blocks from campus and considers that despite it being just a simple 10 minute walk to campus, those 10 minutes of walking are vital to keeping off those few extra pounds of unwanted weight. Walking in the morning also allows her to wake up a bit more before she begins her day of

training and classes, which vividly increases her focus level throughout the day.

Despite the alternative modes for transportation, students like Custodio found the downside of not driving to campus.

"When it comes to biking or walking to school there are some cons; for example, there is the possibility of getting caught in bad weather or showing up sweaty to some place may be a problem," Custodio said. "It also depends on your schedule and lifestyle. For me, I work at a gym and I am a sports and fitness major so showing up to school or work a little sweaty is not a problem for me, but if you are a law student it may not work since you usually have to be suited up."

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Increase in enrollment brings extra tuition

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The same reasoning which led to the suspension of the plan was also behind the initial plan for increasing student enrollment.

Since the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the University has experienced a total of \$68.9 million in budget cuts. And with no indication from the State Legislature that cuts would be fewer in terms of dollar amount, or not on an annual basis the University had to seek alternative revenue sources.

Johnsen acknowledge the additional students would bring in more tuition revenue.

"The state support for public universities has been pulled back. As these subsidies are being pulled back, universities are thinking about other ways to bring in the funds we need in order to support the students we have.

One way is to have a larger group of students because then there are more tuition funds. If you pair that with things like larger sections, different models for teaching like online, hybrid, or inverted classrooms where students are learning some of the stuff online but working in the classroom with a faculty member...then you can keep up the quality of instruction while increasing the number of students that come in."

During the course of the strategic plan, students have surpassed the State Legislature in money contributed to the University.

In the 2010 fiscal year, students paid a total of \$129 million in tuition compared to \$179 million in state money, according to a budget presentation made in May 2012. In 2011, the student amount rose to \$174 million compared to \$166 from the state. In 2013, students paid \$192 million compared to \$140.

"That tuition base then helps to support the University," Johnsen said. "That's one of the reasons that the goal is to bring in more students in the long run. I know the President also has larger goals involving access and allowing more students to come in and get the education they need to do well. I'm just looking at it from my small enrollment standpoint."

During the growth over the last three years the University's departments have had to adjust for the influx of students in various ways.

Financial Aid, one of the most used departments, adjusted technologically and how it assigned tasks to its employees.

Financial Aid "used resources in its technical area" by working with University Technological Services, according to Francisco Valines, director of Financial Aid.

In 2010 the department started using Panthersoft to process the aid awarded to students.

Another adjustment was a reorganization within the Financial Aid office. The reorganization involved making two teams: a customer service team and a processing team.

"During the beginning of each semester everyone's customer service," Valines said.

Financial Aid has added new positions and made one permanent. The default prevention coordinator was paid using department funds, but has now been made permanent to help students – both current and alumni – in dealing with student loans.

Additional reporting by Junette Reyes and Stephanie Mason.

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Palestine joins U.N.

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"The people of Palestine are deprived of their rights and we will not stop creating awareness unless the Palestinians get the same freedom as Israelis," Rayid said. "As an organization, [SPJ] takes this recognition as one of the countless steps toward equal rights to the Palestinians."

The situation stems from the fact that both Israel and Palestine remain caught in an unresolved, violent conflict going as far back as 1948.

"It's very complicated, [Israelis] are for a two-state solution," Sterling said. "We want Israel to have secure borders, but unfortunately we haven't seen efforts when Abbas walked away from negotiations two years ago with no counter offer."

The most recent peace negotiations between the Palestinian Authority's President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took place in 2010, but ended when Netanyahu refused to

extend a freeze on settlement construction in the West Bank until Abbas recognized Israel as a Jewish State. The Palestinian Authority rejected the Israeli proposal and thus negotiations broke off.

"[The Israeli-Palestinian conflict] is a very unique condition," Altuglu said. "I don't see any [resolution] happening in the next 10 years."

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Assault weapons: what are the qualifications?

AARON PABON
Contributing Writer

President Obama made a push to reduce gun violence this past week spurred on by the recent shootings that continue to occur across the country, such as the shooting on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at a university in Houston.

Many of his proposed congressional actions have prompted me to ask questions about his initiatives, but my main issue is the idea to reinstate and strengthen the ban on assault weapons that was in place from 1994 to 2004.

I will state that I have never looked at a gun as a weapon. To me, a gun is a tool that has the capability to be used as a weapon. The same can be said for a crowbar, hammer and a chef's knife.

On that note, the term "assault weapon" really needs to be re-defined, as the definition and qualifications have become vague.

Technically speaking, aren't all weapons "assault weapons?"

This also goes along with the redundancy "assault and battery with a deadly weapon," when all weapons are deadly. While the term is supposed to describe any weapon that is "military grade" or has the ability to fire automatically, the definition has often been tossed around loosely.

It is because of this that many people who are familiar with firearms, or these so called "assault weapons," prefer the term "assault rifle."

While many of the weapons that have been used in these past massacres were mock-ups or civilian models of infamous assault rifles (AR-15's), they would hardly fall under the term of "assault rifle."

The original Federal Assault Weapons Ban from 1994 stated a list of limitations that a weapon could have (i.e. pistol grips, limited range of telescopic sights, semi-automatic fire) but some weapons were still available depending on state laws.

The 1994 ban was also an offshoot of the original National Firearms Act of 1934. The act was made in response to,

and to regulate, the firearms that gangs and crime factions were using at the time (i.e. The Chicago Mafia's use of the Tommy Gun).

The response, however, was similar to what it is now - civilians and pro-gun lobbyists arguing what is constitutional and what's not.

Do these assault weapon bans really decrease the amount of gun violence?

I suppose it depends on the person at the end of the day. The President's proposal won't make getting a gun impossible, it will however, put more emphasis on banning these assault weapons.

But I believe that there also needs to be a stronger emphasis on the qualifications and clarification of what is and isn't an "assault weapon."

I understand that most of the weapons used in these mass murders are civilian model assault-rifles, but banning a set of tools is not the answer.

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THE BEACON | Editorial

The roads still untraveled

After graduation there's no more assignments, no more syllabi, and no more emails informing you about enrollment dates.

A huge sigh of relief.

But on the other hand, the structure we've all grown accustomed to for our whole lives, will be retracted slowly as we approach graduation.

Each year we pass, we leave the last semester behind us, and simply move on to the next one; showing our parents and teachers we can handle this system. And each year expectations increase - with a steady increase in anxiety accompanying it.

Are you moving back home? Have you applied to grad school? Are you staying here? What about your boyfriend (or girlfriend)? Did you hear about the job at...?

What's next?

When you reach senior year, you realize that the culmination of your collegiate experience is now, and from now on, your whole life.

And in your life now, the structure that was once your safety net, in high school and university, must be put in place by you.

Without a given assignment, you are all forced to construct your own blueprint as to what's next.

It's a scary thought if you think about it.

That structure that has been given to you first by your parents, then teachers, will soon be all on you.

Perhaps it's not a concept you've fully grasped yet. Because you're worrying about deadlines for next week's assignment, the test in three weeks on five chapters of a book you've hardly read, a job, and other things and people you're committed to.

How can anyone possibly expect students to look even 5 months into the future when they have a pile of responsibilities right now on their already very crowded desks?

But you have to. You have to focus on the future while also trying to establish the foundation of your present.

And once you've gotten past years of deadlines, exams, reports, essays and exhausting hours at work, you are relieved.

There will be no need to stomp to the advising office in March because you'll be too busy applying to grad school. No worrying about rent next month because you'll be in a new state with your new job.

Or perhaps you are like some of us who have no idea where to go next.

Perhaps there's an overwhelming amount of choices to choose from: fellowship programs, jobs, internships, going back home to live with your parent(s) or moving to a new city.

Or hell, maybe you realized in the last two semesters of your undergraduate career, that the major you majored in - isn't for you.

Whatever the case may be, after that diploma is in your hand, your choices have just expanded even greater than you can imagine. Now, you have got to look around and decide which road is best for you.

THE FORK IN THE ROAD: LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

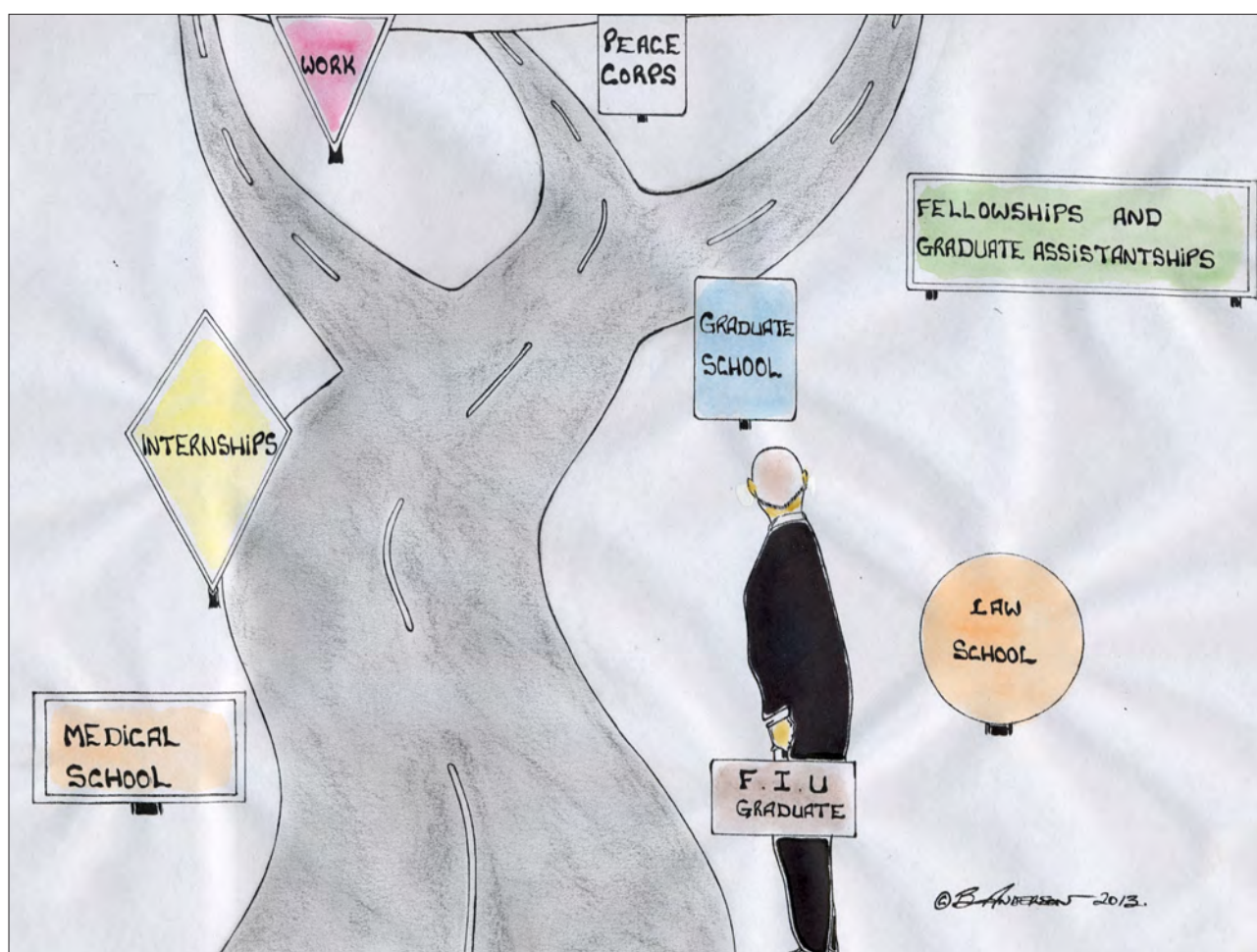


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DANCE MARATHON

Students dance their way into raising money

JESSICA VALERIE RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

Bringing dance and charity together, the FIU Dance Marathon is a non-profit organization that strives to help the lives of thousands of children at Miami Children's Hospital.

The event consists of a 25-hour, non-stop dance marathon where the dancers cannot take breaks without earning or paying for them. The money raised during the event from bathroom, rest and food breaks all goes towards charity, along with the \$150 each dancer collects through fundraising prior to participating.

The marathon idea started in the late 1920s and is used today nationwide by college and high school students in more than 150 schools across the country.

Dance Marathon collects money for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, which is a non-profit organization that raises funds for more than 170 children's hospitals and treats 17 million patients a year. They promise to be "the only national children's charity committed to having 100% of the funds raised stay local to support local kids."

The University is doing their part to help these children by forming teams and encouraging the rest of the community to participate or show some support.

Senior public administration major Vania Pedraja encourages her Phi Sigma Sigma sisters to join every opportunity she gets.

"The greatest gift to receive is that of giving," said Pedraja.

In years before, the fear

"I feel an affinity not only to the program but to the generosity and pure kindness of the people in the team. It's truly heartwarming to see so many people come together for such a great cause."

Julie Vanegas
Senior
Majoring in Biology

of not completing the 25 hours kept her away, but this year she is determined that with the support from her sisters, she will get to finish and accomplish the task she feels will complete her college career.

Junior hospitality and management major Claudia Muller shares in her determination and

admits her mindset going into the marathon will be for the kids. She realized that a weekend of being tired and sleep deprived does not compare to the struggles some of those children go through.

"When I get tired, I will think of them, and I won't give up, just how they don't give up battling their sickness," said Muller.

There are over 300 University students participating, and there's still a couple of days left to join. After this experience, the dancers always come back.

Julie Vanegas, senior biology major, has been involved with this organization for three years and continues to return.

"I feel an affinity not

only to the program but to the generosity and pure kindness of the people in the team," said Vanegas. "It's truly heartwarming to see so many people come together for such a great cause."

Junior Laura Pacchioni, double majoring in English and pre-law, is part of the Dance Marathon committee and explains that while it's not easy, it is possible to raise a substantial amount of money at this event.

"It's really challenging to raise money because we are asking peers who are on a college budget. It's not impossible, but it does require creativity and innovation."

Pacchioni is looking forward to the opening ceremony on Feb. 9. The event will take place until Feb. 10 at the FIU Recreation Center.

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NAILIN' IT



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

The Santi Beauty salon located in GC is a popular location on campus for students and staff. Offering nail care, hair cuts and hair removal/waxing Monday thru Saturday. The salon has been running since 2002 and even if it was an unusual concept, business keeps coming strong every year since.



ANDRES BEDOYA/ BEACON FILE PHOTO

The Food Network South Beach Wine & Food Festival presented by Food & Wine will be held in Miami Beach, Coral Gables and Aventura from Feb. 21-24.

SOBEWFF returns for 12th annual food and wine event

SOBEWFF, PAGE 8

This year at the festival, there is a \$10,000 Red Robin Savory Scholar Contest, a scholarship available through new festival sponsor Red Robin. Students compete to create the best burger, and the winner competes at the Amstel Light Burger Bash presented by Pat LaFrieda Meats hosted by Rachael Ray at SOBEWFF. The winning burger will be served at Red Robin and placed on their menu as part of the student's award.

For students weary of their lack of culinary skills, it is still encouraged to participate.

"We have over 45 unique positions from Ambassador to Logistics and Operations," said Lopez. "I think personally, it does not matter what major you are. I have a lot of students that have done the festival and they change majors and make career moves after being exposed to

hospitality management and the events industry. I have had students that are food bloggers, food photographers and beer and wine enthusiasts that have found their new home."

As for the money that is raised at the festival, all proceeds go to the University and its students.

"FIU has been a strong foundation for SOBEWFF. Without FIU, this event simply would not happen," said Lopez.

Alumnus Eddie Selgas, with a master's in management information, sheds light on his experience at the festival.

"It gave me the chance to go out and try food that I've never tried before," said Selgas. "I think it is fun for students. I think students in international relations, [the culinary arts] and hospitality management would benefit from it."

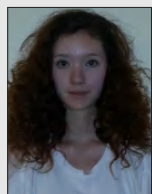
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STYLE SIGHTINGS

Taking your outfit from day to date night

You may have noticed recently when you walked into your local Publix or Walgreens that from the floor to the ceiling everything is already decked out in red hearts for Valentine's Day.

COLUMNIST



ASHLEY GARNER

Whether your feelings for this holiday are positive because you have a girlfriend, boyfriend or friends to spend it with or negative and you foresee your night being spent gorging on a tub of Ben & Jerry's ice cream, you simply can't ignore this one day of the year that is dedicated to love and expensive chocolates.

This year, the special day falls on a Thursday which can be very annoying for full time students that have classes running late into the day, leaving little time to run home, or sit in traffic for four hours, change into a date night outfit and then head to their romantic rendezvous.

That's why this week I'm going to make your Feb. 14 a little easier with a few tips to make your day outfit an easily transitional date night outfit.

Senior art history major Jena Saul was

spotted going to class in a beautiful yellow cotton dress with a blue and white polka dot scarf wrapped around her neck, a black cardigan and simple black flats.

Although her outfit was perfect for class, she could easily lose the cardigan, switch out the flats for some classic black pumps and trade in her large tote bag for an elegant clutch to have a gorgeous and classic outfit for a dinner date.

Senior Nataly Cajamarca, Spanish major, may not have been wearing a feminine silhouette such as a flowing dress, but her floral printed pants still make for a great basis of a day to date night outfit. For school, she paired a maroon bowler hat, an embellished denim jacket, a simple black shirt and matching flats with her busy pants.

To make this outfit perfect for any sort of date you have planned, switch the denim jacket with a more tailored solid colored blazer and the ballet flats for a heeled black ankle boot. Your outfit will be funky, strong, and it will show your date that you know exactly how to show off your style.

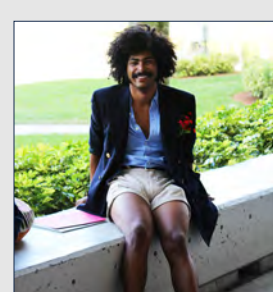
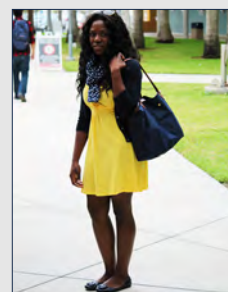
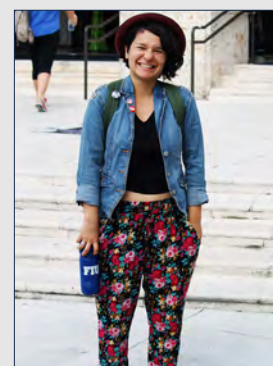
Some may think that only girls have it easy with the plethora of options the stores give us, but guys can make their outfits

easily transition from day to date night too. Senior Keyshel Pelaez, biology and environmental science major, was seen wearing a simple blue button down, khaki shorts, a navy vintage blazer and men's loafers outside of the Green Library. If he just switched the shorts to pants, he'd be ready to go out and look debonair while doing it.

Same goes for fine arts major Anthony Patrick, who was spotted wearing a well fitted shirt and pants in shades of blue with tennis shoes. If he switched his shoes for loafers or chukka boots, he'd be ready to take out any lady.

It's all about choosing pieces that can easily go from daywear to date night. It's as simple as switching your shoes.

Ashley Garner is a junior editor and fashion merchandiser for *Fashify.com* and currently has an internship with *College Fashionista*. She was a fashion based writer for *Wasabi Fashion Kult*, the fashion editor for *RAUKUS Magazine* and has worked for *Miami Swim Fashion Week*, *Art Basel*, *Project Runway Latin America* and has been published in several magazines. She also runs a personal art/fashion blog called *Elegant Idiosyncrasy*.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY GARNER/THE BEACON

SPOTLIGHT ON

Student reaches 11 countries with makeup blog

DUFFY DUFRESNE
Contributing Writer

Sahily Anais is not your average college student.

In addition to her studies in public relations and art, she works as a freelance makeup artist, periodically teaches makeup classes in her community and has a blog that averages at about 10,000 views and reaches 11 different countries.

Senior Anais was always interested in makeup and began experimenting with it when she was young and continued learning and practicing on her own into adulthood.

"I've always liked [it]," said Anais. "I used to put makeup on my grandma when I was little, and when I got into highschool, I was one of the first of my friends to wear makeup."

However, she didn't discover her love for fashion and makeup until she moved to New York.

"New York is a very inspiring city and everybody is very free and creative," Anais said. "It's all about trends and fashion; it's a whole experience."

New York is where she realized her interest in makeup and fashion and that it's okay to dress differently and wear makeup differently; she didn't have to look like everyone else.

"It's a city where you can be who you'd like to be and experiment with whatever you'd like to experiment with so that's where I started to pursue [makeup and fashion] more," said Anais.

As the years progressed, Anais began doing makeup for her peers and eventually charged

them for her services. This led to her becoming a freelance makeup artist. "I started by doing makeup just for fun on my friends and then I started charging people to do their makeup. It was nothing crazy, just easy things," she said. "Through that I built connections with photographers and [with other] contacts."

Currently, Anais does mostly bridal makeup, in addition to working as a freelance makeup artist for MAC cosmetics. Anais also does a variety of other different types of makeup, including editorial makeup, a bolder, edgier type of makeup applied for magazine spreads and runways, and special effects makeup.

In addition, Anais does periodic classes in her community teaching how to do makeup, special effects work and how to apply new trends and styles to your wardrobe.

"Around Halloween time, I do a special effects class and I teach how to do basic things like cut scars and wounds," Anais said.

Apart from her hands on makeup tutorials, Anais began a makeup blog in 2010 called, "Pretty in Pigment."

"I've always liked writing, and I wanted to have a hobby, so I thought a blog would be something for me," she said. "It's fun because it's kind of a way to document my journey as I develop as an artist and meet other people that are into makeup and art and things of that nature."

Anais also uses her blog as a way to prepare for her career in public relations. "More recently, in the last year I started to actually use my blog as a portfolio piece

for when I go to job interviews for PR," said Anais. "A lot of times they're looking for you to be able to [use] wordpress and blogger and use Photoshop, so I can actually use it as an example in the area that I'm interested in."

With over 500 followers on her blog and averaging over 10,000 viewers per video, Anais credits her success to the marketing skills she's learned at the University.

"I try to change it up and I try to find different ways to get more readers, to get more involvement by doing giveaways, by getting guest bloggers and cross-marking my blogs with theirs," said Anais.

Additionally, Anais explains how being a blogger has helped her academically.

"I'm taking an RTV class and we're learning how to use audacity, Photoshop and how to create a website with wordpress, so these are things that I use, so I actually have a little bit of an advantage," said Anais. "Even with my classes from last semester, when I took writing strategies, my teacher allowed me to use some of my writing samples from my blog and assignments, so it was actually things I was interested in writing."

Despite her success with makeup and blogging, she would like to focus more on combining her interests in public relations and art and seeking a career that involves the two.

"As an artist I don't think I'll pursue [makeup] very far," said Anais. "In the future, I would like to have my own makeup company or do PR for a makeup company."

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2013

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

STUDY ABROAD FAIR

WHEN: 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Pit

FIU THEATRE PRESENTS: THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT

WHEN: 12-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Ticket prices: \$10-\$15, Musical ticket prices: \$15-\$20
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center 10910 SW 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

MMC MINDFULNESS MEDITATION SESSION

WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Rm305

SPANISH CONVERSATION HOUR

WHEN: 2-3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GL 124G

JLSA: LUNCH & LEARN

WHEN: 12:30-1:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC RDB 1004

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION WORKSHOP FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS

WHEN: 3-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC CBC 121

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - MENTAL HEALTH & DEPRESSION/GRIEF WORKSHOP

WHEN: 8:15-11:30 a.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC GC 150

A CONVERSATION WITH FORMER GOVERNOR JEB BUSH

WHEN: 1-2:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC MARC Pavilion

FIU NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEER DAY

WHEN: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
WHERE: MMC FIU Nature Preserve

SGA BBC LECTURES SERIES PRESENTS: BRIAN STELTER

WHEN: 2:30-3:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

COFFEE BREAK MIAMI

WHEN: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC College of Business Complex' Lobby

FIU BBC'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION HOSTS LECTURE SERIES FEATURING NEW YORK TIMES MEDIA REPORTER BRIAN STELTER

WHEN: 2-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC Wolfe University Center Ballrooms

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

SOCCER

No renovations in near future for battered field

JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND
Staff Writer

Call it the black sheep, the ugly duckling or the neglected middle child. Compared to the rest of the FIU athletic facilities, the FIU soccer stadium can be as labeled any of these.

Over the last few years, the FIU athletics program has continued to spend millions of dollars in renovations for the football, basketball and baseball stadiums. All this has been done while the soccer stadium remains as just 15 rows of bleachers and two white tents for locker rooms.

During last summer, there were talks swirling that the FIU soccer stadium might finally see

and field program that currently does not have an on-campus track.

Several months later with the 2012 men's and women's soccer seasons now in the books, not much progress has been made.

According to Wes Hardin, assistant athletic director of facilities and operations, nothing is quite yet set in stone to renovate the FIU soccer stadium and Panther fans are not likely to see any changes until after the 2013 season at the earliest.

Despite premature plans for possible renovations for the soccer stadium, Hardin believes it will indeed bring positive vibes to both soccer programs as well as the fans.

"We are in elementary

programs and it would create fan awareness and be great for the people who support FIU soccer."

Pia Vicioso-Vila, a supervisor for FIU Recreation Services and an avid FIU soccer fan, believes that renovating the soccer stadium would show drastic improvements to the overall image of the program as well as the fan experience.

"I think it would be great because our soccer stadium looks kind of embarrassing and little compared to the football and basketball stadiums." Vicioso-Vila said. "For the fans and the teams, it would be way more comfortable and representable."

Head coach of the women's soccer program, Thomas Chesnutt, could not agree more about the benefit of having a modernized soccer facility. Chesnutt is certain the facilities would be a "win-win for everybody" for his team to play in a revamped facility as well as for the FIU faithful to come and support in a comfortable environment.

The women's program has enjoyed success in the past couple seasons with a Sun Belt Championship in 2011 and a Sun Belt runner up in last year's campaign.

The women's team is getting ready to make the jump to Conference USA this summer.

Chesnutt confided in the notion that having a renovated stadium would recruit better athletes and bring the program to



PHOTOS BY ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

“Renovating the stadium will elevate the level of our program. It's only going to add to the momentum our program already has.”

Thomas Chesnutt
 Head Coach
 FIU Women Soccer

some major upgrades. This transformation would include the soccer stadium being flipped from a north to south direction to an east to west bearing as well as an NCAA regulation track built around the field for the track

stages of making possible renovations to the soccer facilities; we are talking with different architects and construction companies to see what we can do," Hardin said. "Renovating the stadium would be great for the soccer

The soccer field will not be undergoing renovations until after the 2013 men's and women's soccer seasons at the earliest, both of which end in November. FIU eventually plans to rotate the field 90 degrees and construct a track around it.

new heights in order to match up with the top tier programs C-USA has to offer.

"Renovating the stadium will elevate the level of our program. It's

only going to add to the momentum our program already has," Chesnutt said. "Upgrading the facilities along with winning conference titles and beating some of the top

teams in our region would put us in front of recruits that we were not in front [of] before."

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BASEBALL

FIU baseball prepares for 'toughest schedule ever'

FIU BASEBALL HOME GAMES

Feb. 15-17	Stony Brook	March 29-31	Arkansas State
Feb. 22-24	Manhattan	April 2-3	FAMU
Feb. 25-26	Texas Tech	April 12-14	ULM
March 1-3	Ole Miss	April 16	Bethune-Cookman
March 8-10	Rice	April 26-28	ULL
March 12-13	USF	May 7-8	Jacksonville
March 22-24	WKU	May 16-18	FAU

FRANCISCO RIVERO
Staff Writer

FIU baseball Head Coach Henry Thomas has seen plenty of tough opponents in his seven years at FIU; but when the baseball schedule was released on Jan. 1, a new bar of difficulty was set.

"It's the most challenging schedule in FIU history," Thomas said. "We've got currently the best teams we have ever had on our field, like an Ole Miss has never come here, and you start to realize the value of the weather. It's

nice to be playing in 80 degree weather in February and March."

The Panthers look to improve on last year's record where they went 31-26. However, FIU will have to improve with the help of 19 new faces on this year's club. "Our guys believe in themselves and they believe in our team," Thomas said. "We just really want to get the season going and get some of these new guys used to Division I baseball."

For this young FIU team, the one blessing they have is the staggering amount of

home games they will play this year. With 37 home games, Thomas understands the importance of playing with your fans cheering you on.

"In every sport, I don't care what it is, playing at home will always give you a better chance to win," Thomas said. "You want to protect your home turf. You hit in the bottom of the ninth and it just gives you a better opportunity to win."

In 2013, the Panthers will open with a three-game home stand against

SEE SCHEDULE, PAGE 7

WOMEN'S BBALL

Panthers will try for second straight upset

RUBEN PALACIOS
Staff Writer

Conference games are hard enough, but according to women's basketball Head Coach Cindy Russo, playing a conference opponent for the second time in a season is even tougher.

The Panthers traveled to Mobile, Ala., to take on the University of South Alabama for the second matchup of the season.

"The conference schools know each other really well," Russo said. "They know all their moves so it's a little bit harder than a non-conference game."

In their first matchup in early December; the Panthers dominated the game throughout and came away with a 63-49 victory in the friendly confines of the U.S. Century Bank Arena. Junior Jerica Coley reminded everyone why she was a 2012 All-American with a 28-point performance on 13 of 21 shooting from the field.

The second time around proved to be significantly tougher on the Panthers 13-7 (7-4 SBC), especially in the second half. Early on, it looked like déjà vu for USA. The Jaguars found themselves down 28-12 at half-time, but in the second half, the Jaguars steadily chipped away at the FIU lead. With seven unanswered points in the final two minutes of the game cut the lead

to within two at 48-46 with 12 seconds remaining, Coley iced the game with a pair of clutch free throws, giving the Panthers a 50-46 victory.

"HOLEY" COLEY TOPS IN NATION IN SCORING

Through Jan. 27, Coley leads the nation in scoring at an astounding 24.7 points per game.

Coley leads FIU in seven statistical categories: field goals made (163); three-point field goals made (20); free throws made (117); assists (74, 3.9 apg); blocks (36, 1.9 bpg); steals (39, 2.1 spg); and points (463, 24.4 ppg).

The reigning Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year leads the SBC in minutes played (39.9 mpg), and ranks second in blocked shots and free throw percentage (.824); third in assists; and fourth in assist/turnover ratio (1.2).

The St. Petersburg native has been decisive this season, learning to choose between being aggressive or pass the ball off to her teammates.

"I know I have to be aggressive for me to get to the free throw line and for our offense to move a little better," Coley said. "And if I'm aggressive, it gets other people open."

AVOIDING DEATH ROWE

On Jan. 31, the Panthers will

take on conference foe Middle Tennessee for the second time this year. On the first occasion, FIU went to Murfreesboro, Tenn., and snapped a 14-game home winning streak on the Blue Raiders court with a 58-51 upset.

This matchup will have a similar winning streak on the line as the Blue Raiders come to Miami on a nine-game winning streak. Overall, Middle Tennessee is 15-5 (10-1 SBC), their lone conference loss coming at the hands of FIU.

Playing a huge role in the winning streak is junior Ebony Rowe, who, like Coley, can fill up a stat sheet. She comes into the game ninth in the nation in scoring at a rate of 21.3 points per game.

The 6-foot-1 forward is second in the Sun Belt Conference in rebounding at a pace of 11.2 rebounds per game. She is also very efficient from the floor; she ranks second in the conference in field goal percentage at 54 percent. Rowe, similar to Coley, never see's much time on the bench; she is second to Coley in minutes played in the conference at 39 minutes per game.

As the latter stages of the season begin to play out and conference foes match-up for a second go-round, all the games become vastly crucial to the seeding a team gains in the



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

The women's basketball team jumped to fourth place in the Sun Belt Conference after their 50-46 win on Jan. 27 against South Alabama.

conference tournament.

"They are all critical games right now," Russo said. "If you already beat a team once it's going to be even more difficult

to beat them again and then you get to the third time and it's even more difficult."

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HEARTBREAK COMEBACK



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

The FIU women's tennis team dropped its season opener to the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles 4-3 on Saturday afternoon. The Panthers had a 3-0 lead but failed to hold on.

Team plays almost two-thirds of games at home

SCHEDULE, PAGE 6

college World Series competitors Stony Brook University. With an overall record of 52-15 in 2012, the Seawolves were also road warriors collecting a record of 21-9. For Thomas, the chance for his club to play against such a great team is one that he is excited about.

"For them to beat Louisiana State University in Louisiana in the super-regionals is a phenomenal, and I mean phenomenal, accomplishment," Thomas said. "It's a great series to open up with; they're a quality opponent and they got great coaching."

When it came to conference play in 2012, the Panthers posted a 15-14 record. Looking to add onto their win total, Thomas understands that the past is the past and the future is now.

"There's a lot of things that happened last year where everything that could go wrong, did go wrong, but it's just one of those things that happens in sports," Thomas said. "You can practice and practice all you want, but only the season can tell you certain things about your team. Can this guy get a hit with two outs and a man on second? Can a guy get a hit to win a game in the ninth inning? Only the season can tell you certain things like that."

As for competition in the Sun Belt Conference, Thomas simply stated that each team has their own strength and unlike the other sports in the conference,

baseball is king.

"South Alabama, Florida Atlantic University, Troy, Western Kentucky, and Louisiana-Lafayette, these are all great teams and there is no easy team in our league," Thomas said. "All of them are good clubs, well coached and have good players. There's really not a weak part to our conference. Baseball in our conference is the best sport out there."

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“
In every sport, I don't care what it is, playing at home will always give you a better chance to win.

Henry 'Turtle' Thomas
Head Coach
FIU Baseball

CHAPLIN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT

Students bite into scholarship burgertunity

STEPHANIE MASON
Staff Writer

An internship, a \$10,000 scholarship and the honor of cooking with top chefs: these are the opportunities offered by the Red Robin Savory Scholar Contest to students of the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

The contest began on Jan. 10 and ended on Jan. 21. This is the first year the scholarship has been offered.

Each submission had to include an original burger recipe and an essay on what the student “hopes to gain from an internship with Red Robin.” Students were also permitted to submit recipes in teams of two.

“I was just trying to do something that nobody else would think of.”

Mary Ondari
Junior
Hospitality Management

Just as the students had specific criteria to participate in the contest, so did the judges for determining the winner of the contest. The students were judged on a points system with a grand total of 190 possible points.

The points system for the burger recipe was as follows: up to 25 points for creativity of recipe, 40 for perceived taste, 25 for perceived ease of execution at Burger Bash, 10 for presentation. Points for the essay included up to 45 for expression of enthusiasm and 45 for descriptive quality of writing.

The contest had two rounds of judging. Round one was judged by faculty of CSHTM and round two was judged by Red Robin, determining the winner.

The faculty chosen to judge the students for round one consisted of Assistant Dean Mohammad Qureshi, and professors and

chefs Mark D’Alessandro, Michael Moran and Judith Williams.

“What I noticed was a lot of Asian infusion,” Qureshi said after judging the burgers. “There were at least three recipes...adding Korean or Chinese [flavors] to the burger.”

Each University judge went through 34 submissions and chose the top 25.

“I think there were a couple burger recipes that all four of us thought very highly of,” Qureshi said. “But at the end of the day, it is Red Robin who gets to decide.”

Although choosing the top 25, the University sent off all 34 submissions to Red Robin for the second and final round of judging where Red Robin determined a winner based on its own criteria.

“I went on the [Red Robin] website a couple days before and I looked at stuff that they had,” Daniel Arshadnia, senior and hospitality management major, and contest participant said. “I tried to pick something that would be trending right now and at the same time something they don’t have.”

Arshadnia competed with his roommates in the competition.

“The weekend before, I had a little tasting contest at my house,” Arshadnia said.

Another student competing in the contest, junior hospitality management major Mary Ondari, shared her strategy in the competition.

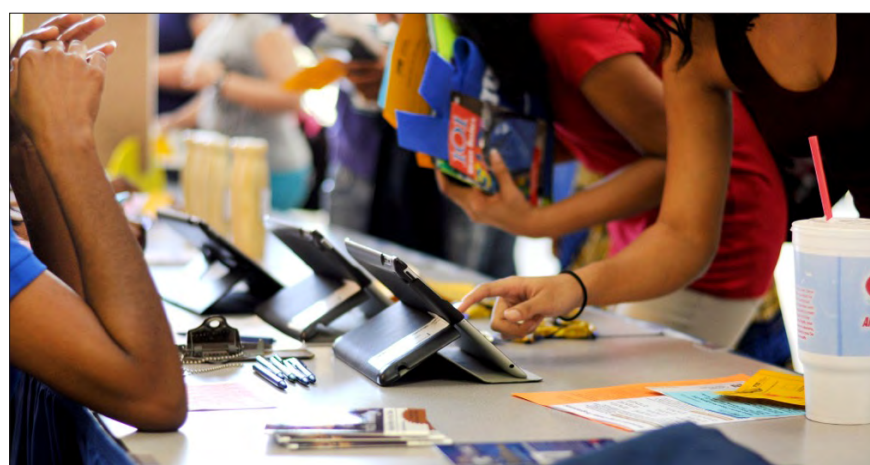
“I was just trying to do something that nobody else would think of,” Ondari said. “I focused on adding a little flavor into the beef patty itself and getting something that would accent the patty.”

The winner of the contest is to be determined and will receive a \$10,000 scholarship and internship with Red Robin’s Yummm U. The winner will also have their burger featured at the 2013 South Beach Wine and Food Festival Burger Bash on Feb. 22.

“This is one of our most iconic events at the festival, so it’s a huge deal. It’s something that the chefs get excited [about] and look forward to competing in,” Devonie Nicholas, marketing and public relations director of SOBEEFF said. “It’s a great opportunity to showcase FIU’s talents.”

Qureshi said that other contests have been offered for the CSHTM students in the past but none quite like this one.

WORK IT, PANTHERS



PHOTOS BY SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

On Jan. 28, students gathered inside the Wolfe University Center’s Panther Square for the carnival-themed Career Bash hosted by Career Services. The Career Bash was the opening event for the Mega Career Week – a week filled with workshops and events to prepare students for the career fair on Feb. 6.

“I think both parts [of the prizes] are very, very exciting. I don’t think that there has ever been such a big reward to students,” said Qureshi.

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FOOD NETWORK SOUTH BEACH WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

Wine & Food Festival: “not just kitchens, restaurants and hotels.”

HOLLY MCCOACH
Staff Writer

A celebration full of food, wine and scholarship opportunities could possibly make anyone forget their troubles.

Held in Miami Beach, Coral Gables and Aventura, the Food Network South Beach Wine & Food Festival presented by Food & Wine will take place from Feb. 21-24.

Wine and food tastings hit just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to this four-day event. Small events, dinners and parties will be thrown by celebrities and food and wine connoisseurs with the help of students, celebrity chefs, winemakers, spirits producers, partners and sponsors.

Beginning in 1999, SOBEEFF is now entering its 12th annual festival. It’s blown

into a four-day phenomenon with an average of 50 events and has helped raise approximately \$17 million for the University to date.

The University, student participation and sponsors help create the foundation for the SOBEEFF.

“There are a lot of different companies involved in the festival. It’s an amazing opportunity to network,” said Richard

Lopez, University program manager for the SOBEEFF.

As for student participation, students can participate for scholarships, as well as register and apply for paid volunteer opportunities on their website (www.sobefest.com/FIU).

“Everyone gets \$100 a day for participation,” said Lopez. In addition to that, various opportunities for scholarships are available for hard working

students.

“It’s a system of continuous improvement getting the students better informed about [SOBEEFF] every year,” said Lopez. “Students need to realize it’s not just kitchens, restaurants and hotels. It’s a huge operation that is a year-round effort to recruit and train that involves over 1,100 students each year.”

SEE SOBEEFF, PAGE 4