

## New faculty to teach at recently acquired museum

**MARIA BRITOS**  
*Contributing Writer*

Joining the University's staff this upcoming spring semester is Professor Tudor Parfitt, a writer, historian and self-proclaimed adventurer.

Parfitt, a Welsh professor of Modern Jewish Studies formerly teaching at the University of London, focuses on Jewish studies, which he will be teaching this upcoming spring semester.

However, his classes will not be taught at any of the University's campuses, but rather at the Jewish Museum of Florida in Miami Beach, which was recently acquired by the University.

"It's a tremendous place," Parfitt said about the museum where he will teach the course "Jews of Asia" within the Department of Religious Studies.

"It's the first time the course has been offered in America and certainly we've got all strengths in this area," Parfitt said.

Parfitt has made global news with one of his discoveries. During a research adventure in Southern Africa in the late 1980s, Parfitt met an African tribe called the Lemba, who claim they are ancestors of a lost tribe of Israel and are a direct link to the lost Ark of the Covenant.

Parfitt was led to find an artifact he believed to be the Ark of the Covenant in a storeroom of the Harare Museum of Human Science in Zimbabwe.

"It's the oldest wooden object ever found in Africa [and] built right about the time of the Crusades in the 1300s," Parfitt said. "That's one of the most important of my discoveries."

**SEE PARFITT, PAGE 2**

## PUSHING IT



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Joshua Brisk, senior business management, competes in a push-up contest against the FIU ROTC. The events, sponsored by Phi Sigma Sigma, collect funds to support our troops. Participants paid a \$2 fee for push-ups or \$5 per five person team for the tug-o-war.

## Program serves to explore "a deeper connection"

**MADISON FANTOZZI**  
*Contributing Writer*

Students do not need to practice Jainism, Judaism, Buddhism or any other religion to benefit from the teachings of each.

"Spirituality is a complex phenomenon," said Nathan Katz, professor of religious studies. "It involves self-transcendence, transpersonal identification and mysticism."

These terms are the defining characteristics of spirituality. It involves detaching oneself from worldly things, going to a place within the mind and feeling a part of a larger whole, whether with a holy entity or with the planet.

Speaking to students in 1999, the Dalai Lama said, "In the modern

“No program in the world does what we do. Students cannot [learn about spirituality] anywhere else. They won't find it in their classes or in their church.”

Nathan Katz  
Professor  
Religious Studies

education system, you pay attention to the proper development of the brain, but you do not pay attention to the development of the warm heart...

these must go together.”

The program in the study of spirituality encourages the sharing of ideas and knowledge about spiri-

tual practices in relation to individual well-being.

"No program in the world does what we do," Katz said. "Students cannot [learn about spirituality] anywhere else. They won't find it in their classes or in their church."

Spirituality is not to be confused with traditional religion.

"Religion describes a particular worldview and defines a particular set of rules in a specific cultural context," said Daniella Vaclavik, a graduate student of religious studies. "However, I would define spirituality as a personal yearning for a deeper connection with a reality that transcends worldly experience."

Students can participate in spiritual learning by enrolling in any one of the courses ranging from medita-

tion, philosophy and peace studies.

Students can also learn and participate by attending events at Modesto Maidique Campus.

On Wednesday Nov. 14, Dipak Jain, current dean of INSEAD, a graduate business school, and the former dean of the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, will speak in "First Annual Mahavir Nirvan Lecture: Spiritual Entrepreneurship" at the School of International and Public Affairs room 125 from 6 to 8 p.m.

On Nov. 27, Vaclavik will speak with Rabbi Levi Friedman and Reverend Mary Tumpkin in "The Spiritual Meaning of the Season's Lights: Hanukkah, Christmas and

**SEE MEDITATION, PAGE 2**

## Disability Center serving visible and invisible disabilities

**RACHEL CUCCURULLO**  
*Staff Writer*

Disability Resource Center Director Amanda Niguidula said her daily mission is to "put the DRC out of business."

Behind the Graham Center Art Gallery is the University's Disability Resource Center, where DRC staff members work to provide support and engage students of all backgrounds and experiences.

"Ultimately, if we do our job and give everyone in the University community either the insight, permission, tools or support they need, then we have done a great job," Niguidula said.

In an interview with Student Media, Niguidula explained the history of discrimination and the misunderstanding of the experiences of those who are disabled. This persistent, discriminatory atmosphere has resulted in students with a disability

needing a place where "they can identify and say what's working for them and what's not." The DRC was created to meet this need.

Stephen Loynaz, associate director of the DRC, oversees the direct service component and said that there is an abundance of options and resources available to students, assuming they don't have a disability.

"We follow University procedures, but would like to see them changed or updated

as we see fit [for students with a disability]," Loynaz said.

Loynaz said there are two broad categories he uses to talk about disabilities: visible disabilities, such as blindness, deafness or someone who is wheelchair-bound, and the invisible disabilities, which include psychiatric or learning disabilities.

A number of services are offered at the

**SEE DISABILITY, PAGE 2**



## Gathering Opinions, Generating Discussion

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Limits on class-action lawsuits at Supreme Court

MARK SHERMAN  
AP Staff

The Supreme Court appeared divided Monday in two cases in which businesses are trying to make it harder for customers or investors to band together to sue them.

The justices heard arguments in appeals from biotech company Amgen Inc. and cable provider Comcast Corp. that seek to shut down class-action lawsuits against the businesses.

Amgen is fighting securities fraud claims that misstatements about two of its drugs used to treat anemia artificially inflated its stock price. Comcast is facing a lawsuit from customers who say the company's monopoly in parts of the Philadelphia area allowed it to raise prices unfairly.

Last year, the Supreme Court raised the bar for some class-action suits when it sided with Wal-Mart against up to 1.6 million of its female employees who complained

of sex discrimination. In the Wal-Mart case, the court said there were too many women in too many jobs at the nation's largest private employer to wrap into one lawsuit.

Class actions increase pressure on businesses to settle suits because of the cost of defending them and the potential for very large judgments.

Connecticut pension funds that sued Amgen said lower courts correctly ruled that the case could move forward as a class action. The issue at the Supreme Court is whether the pension funds have to show at an early stage of the lawsuit that Amgen's claims about the safety and effectiveness of the drugs Aranesp and Epogen affected the stock price.

Several justices indicated they had no problem with the idea that, unlike in the Wal-Mart case, all the Amgen investors were in the same boat and could clear an early hurdle that tripped up the Wal-Mart employees.

## PUMP IT



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Residence Hall Association Executive Board Member, Kristy Shore, donates blood not only to give back to the community, but also on behalf of Everglades Residence Hall during an ongoing competition to win a hockey table for their housing squad.

# Course titled "Jews of Asia" to be offered in the spring

PARFITT, PAGE 1

Parfitt also said he has an international family. He met his partner, a Cuban native, while in Italy.

"For her, coming to Miami is like coming back home and [she is] absolutely delighted to be here," Parfitt said. They have seven children, born in Italy and the U.S. One

of their children resides in London.

"FIU is much bigger and it's a very exciting place to be," Parfitt said, comparing it to the University of London. "Coming from England, it does look like a Garden of Eden... It's much more luxurious in a way."

-news@fiusm.com

## CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 38, the pull out quote in the story titled, "University ranks 54th offering safe sex education programs," states that Vincent Vecicilla is a Doctor. He is not a Doctor yet. He doesn't yet have his doctorate. He is in the process of getting it.

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

# Events scheduled on spirituality

MEDITATION, PAGE 1

Diwali" at GC 140 from 4 to 6 p.m.

"Students who attend will have the special opportunity to understand the deeper meaning of these festivals in their own traditions, going beyond the mechanics of celebration and into the

underlying essence of what they represent," Vaclavik said.

The lecture will address the universal symbol of light in the three different festivals. This interfaith discussion will go into the ways these three traditions relate to each other.

"Our coming discussion should

help participants identify and express this light in their lives," Tumpkin said. "Regardless of religious affiliation, the light is recognizable in everyone as they move from a selfish to a selfless interchange."

-news@fiusm.com

# Disability Resource center working with faculty on courses

DISABILITY, PAGE 1

DRC, including extended testing time, minimal-distraction testing rooms, technological equipment and software, four computer labs in the library and special access to tutors.

Scholarships designed for students with disabilities are also available. The Johnson Scholarship, the Dr. Fareed Haj Scholarship Endowment for blind or visually impaired students and the Ignite fundraising campaign are open to students at the DRC.

Gabriela Alvarez, assistant director of DRC, said that a part of DRC's job involves serving as access consultants, especially to faculty members.

"A crucial role of the DRC is

our interaction and consultation with faculty members because at the end of the day, the ones who are providing the learning and academic environment are the faculty members," Alvarez said.

Their work involves dialoguing, discussing and mapping out plans with faculty to create accessible courses.

Faculty members are encouraged to go to the DRC to receive more information on creating courses that are more disability-friendly. Students are also trained on how to speak to professors or convey needs to fellow students to feel more comfortable.

University students can volunteer with the DRC as note-takers for students with a disability.

"This is a philanthropic engage-

"We follow University procedures, but would like to see them changed or updated as we see fit [for students with a disability]."

Stephen Loynaz, Associate Director Disability Resource Center

ment and a great way for students to help out," Niguidula said.

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# THE BEACON

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## When beliefs or non-beliefs get in the way of coexistence

**MADARI PENDAS**  
*Contributing Writer*

Recently, the Vatican was wrapped in a scandal over stolen personal documents of Pope Benedict XVI.

The leaked documents suggest that the Vatican has mafia connections, engages in money laundering and suppresses sexual abuse allegations.

The trial against the insurgents is currently in progress; however, no one outside the Holy See is allowed to enter the courtroom.

But the Catholic Church is not the only religious organization under scrutiny.

In July, “Innocence of Muslims”, an anti-Islamic film made in the United States, led to worldwide riots and attacks on United States embassies.

A few months ago in Topeka, Kansas, church groups were holding protest at soldiers’ funerals, claiming “military deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan are God’s punishment for U.S. tolerance of homosexuality.”

From its early beginnings religion has been

the catalyst of some of the most heinous acts of violence in history, such as the Spanish Inquisition, Aztec human sacrifices, Salem Witch Trials, Thuggee murders, and Jihads.

Many citizens have become disillusioned with religion and no longer view it as an institution that promotes love, kindness and acceptance, but instead as a discriminatory, violent, zealous agent. This change in attitude has led to the rise of atheism.

A Gallup Poll conducted in 2012 stated that 32 percent of Americans are ‘nonreligious’.

Atheists represent one of the large groups in America and according to a 2012 Gallup Poll, over 50 percent of Americans would vote for an atheist presidential candidate.

However, America is not the only country with a growing atheist population: 29 percent of people in France, and 15 percent of people in Germany identify as well.

Despite the staggering number of atheists that exist, most do not openly discuss their beliefs out

of fear of persecution or ostracism from friends and family.

A study conducted by the University of British Columbia found that most theists distrust atheists as much as they distrust rapists, and, in a separate study, that “Atheists are also the minority group most Americans are least willing to allow their children to marry.”

Many claim atheism because of an acceptance of science over religious doctrines.

Bill Maher, television host of “Real Time with Bill Maher” and outspoken atheist, defends his beliefs by stating, “If you belonged to a political party or a social club that was tied to as much bigotry, misogyny, homophobia, violence, and sheer ignorance as religion is, you’d resign in protest.”

The rise in atheism cannot be fully attributed, however, to the indiscretions and violence exhibited by certain religious organization.

Advancements in science and technology have created more skepticism about religious theo-

ries. Where once things could only be explained by supernatural means, scientific investigation has provided natural explanations.

For instance, the Greeks believed a god held the world on his shoulders, science explains this as gravity.

In Roman mythology, death was believed to be controlled by Parcae, who ended an individual’s life by cutting a thread; science explains death as the end of all biological process. Society no longer needs religion to explain the natural world.

Despite the rise in Atheism, many people feel comforted by religion and receive peace of mind through religious expression (several scientific studies have shown prayer to have a healing effect).

The issue at hand is not trying to force anyone to believe or disbelieve in something, but rather to find a solution where one group isn’t persecuting or harming the other; to be able to coexist peacefully.

-*opinion@fiusm.com*

THE BEACON | Editorial

### Mr. President, some points to consider

Congratulations Mr. President,

America’s students – whether from left, right, or middle – ask that for the duration of your term you keep us in mind, not in the back of it but at the front.

While your most fervent dissenters will no doubt spend the next four years scrutinizing your every shortcoming and lamenting the loss of an America that could have been, it’s our hope and contention that most of us, opponents included, will succumb to the way things are, and that, whatever our differences of approach, we’ll work together toward the same ends of betterment.

One of those ends of betterment is a higher-education system that benefits everyone involved: students, parents, faculty, the universities themselves, and the job market of which we are eager to be a part.

We ask that education be lauded, examined, and supported regardless of its location or concentration; that it be assessed as not only a right, but a necessity, and not just a potentially lucrative aspiration for those who can afford it. And few of us can afford it, certainly not alone.

A large number of us take loans, need Pell grants, and other forms of financial aid to help us attain our degrees. It may take us some time, but we will repay our loans. We know we don’t have to repay our grants, but we will “repay” them in our future contribution to the economy.

Both us and our institutions want tuition to remain low, if that isn’t possible we at least want to feel a return on our investment either during our academic careers or when we start our professional careers.

While it may appear to be in the country’s best interest to “align” educational funding with the work-force’s needs, the endorsement of science, technology, engineering and math programs should not come at the crucifying expense of the humanities. Students should retain the right to study those subjects for which they feel an honest passion, whether or not they’re guaranteed financial prosperity in the workforce, and should receive, in their pursuit, as much governmental backing as anyone else who needs and receives it.

As more jobs are requiring post-secondary education, the need for higher education is more pressing than ever, and as it soon becomes not just a perk but an expectation within the workforce we’ll have to assess, with unbending resolve, the issue of affordability and federal support.

Mr. President, it’s up to you to gives us that support.

## Classrooms should be venues for free expression

**JONATHAN SZYDLO**  
*Opinion Editor*

As students, we are given and encouraged to take advantage of our freedom of expression, whether it be in the classroom or amongst our peers throughout the University.

However, an idea that isn’t brought into the limelight as much isn’t a student’s freedom of expression, but that of a University faculty or staff member.

On Oct. 30, the Christian News Network published a story criticizing the University’s Honors College Dean Lesley Northup for comments she made during a class lecture stating that the Bible is a book of myth and that in her opinion those who believe in creationism should not be allowed to leave the University.

The Christian News Network’s article goes on to interview Jason Lisle, director of research at the

Institute for Creation Research in Dallas, Texas, to counter any comments which Northup could possibly raise to further explain what was said during her lecture.

The only thing that Lisle does effectively is to preach a message of intolerance towards anyone who dares question the good book, regardless of what walks of life an individual may be from, or what denomination of Christianity someone may observe. In the case of Northup, she is a priest of the Episcopal Church.

The purpose of Northup’s lecture, according to comments she made to the Christian News Network, was to encourage her students to keep an open mind, especially when it comes to religion.

Lisle’s is the complete opposite, in that Christians are supposed to be narrow minded.

“If we’re going to take God at His Word, we have to believe that

“Whether I agree or disagree with what Northup said is irrelevant.”

Jesus is the only way,” said Lisle to the Christian News Network. “When people say there are many different truths, it really isn’t truths — it’s beliefs. And there are many different beliefs to be sure, but most of them are wrong.”

Everyone is entitled to express their thoughts and beliefs, regardless of what they may be. I understand that not everyone would take kindly to a professor lecturing that the scriptures upon which their religion is based on is a series of metaphors, but that doesn’t take

away from the fact that Northup is entitled to the same freedom of expression as the raving evangelists at the fountain between the Graham Center and Charles Perry Building who yell that everyone and their mothers are going to burn in hell as sinners.

Granted, the topic for which Northup was lecturing on was not one that would not generate a degree of controversy or at the very least scorn some religious zealots, but to attempt to discredit a University administrator for

preaching tolerance, there is no excuse for that - especially not with a message of intolerance.

Northup was well within her rights to lecture on the topic of her choosing to her students. The Christian News Network needs to take a step back and realize that just because they see the world one way doesn’t mean that all nearly 7 billion people on earth need to view it the same way as well.

Whether I agree or disagree with what Northup said is irrelevant.

What is relevant is that if you’re a student in a course in which a professor is addressing controversial issue, raise your hand and debate the matter, don’t cower behind a smart phone to video tape a lecture and subjectively edit the video before sending it to religious groups who will go out of their way to shame not only your professor, but the University as well.

-*jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com*

### 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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## THEATER

# Beauty Project shines light on obsession with appearances

**ALFREDO APARICIO**  
*Staff Writer*

The obsession with beauty, its ever-changing ideals and their consequences, will be at the heart of theater student Tatiana Pandiani's devised piece for her Directing II Thesis, *The Beauty Project*.

It will combine the talents of singers, dancers, actors and musicians to create a completely original piece chronicling the everyday struggle with beauty through vignettes featuring monologues, stream of consciousness writing samples, dance routines and musical pieces.

Pandiani, senior performance major, researched for the project, which will be presented at the Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors Conference next spring and stems from her work with the ARCH program in the Honors College at the University.

"I chose beauty because it affects me, a lot of people in my life and people I don't know," Pandiani said. "In the university setting, you have people still becoming adults, finding ourselves and I think that we are all concerned with beauty, but the question is; when is too much, too much and when is too big, too big? We are exploring



JEFFREY BUSTOS/THE BEACON

Performers for *The Beauty Project* rehearse in the theater during a workshop.

those limits."

The first workshop, which served as an informal audition, was open to everyone and cast nine performers of various talents and experiences to devise and write a script through of various workshops during the semester, drawing on their own lives for inspiration.

"It's not a conventional theater piece. Devised theater has forced us to go step-by-step and listen to each other and realize that the performers are not interchangeable, they're specific people," Pandiani said.

"The performers don't have any roles. They create the role

they play and write for themselves, as well as others."

For Pandiani, creating the script has been a very intimate process because of the lack of previously established ideas and definitions.

She allowed each performer to individually share who they are, how beauty has affected or is part of them and given them the opportunity to embrace themselves.

"It's about trying to make it appealing and accessible to audiences and finding the universal aspect to it that will speak to the community," Pandiani said.

One of the most recent work-

shops focused on hair and the socially constructed ideals behind it.

"Some people have intense, frizzy hair, but the ideal is always straight and flowy," Pandiani said. "We explored how much we, as a group, take care of our hair and how much people read into hair styles and judge someone by it."

Some of the more surprising findings of Pandiani's research has been analyzing how far some people will go for beauty.

One book, "The Beauty Myth" explained that the South Beach Diet provides dieters with half the calories the Nazis fed prisoners in concentration camps, which amounts to around 700 calories daily.

"It's scary to read about how these fashions and trends transcend age and ethnic groups, especially since most ideals are constructed, in my opinion," Pandiani said.

Pandiani also researched psychology, women's studies and visual arts, such as advertising and photography of the 20th century, as well as how male and female ideals are portrayed.

"Photographs have helped me more because we are a visual culture, mostly," Pandiani said.

In creating this piece, Pandiani hopes audiences will ponder their own personal relationship

with beauty and aesthetics. She hopes viewers discover many questions and don't fear the lack of answers.

"A lot of the stuff we are asking we find that we don't have the answer to. Instead of finding the answer to 'what is beauty?' I want the audience to engage fully with the piece and create awareness by bringing an open mind," Pandiani said.

"We're trying to be artists that are involved with the community, creating something fresh and original."

-alfredo.aparicio@fiusm.com

**SATURDAY, NOV. 10**

**THE BEAUTY PROJECT-TEASER**

**WHEN: During Art Walk in Wynwood**

**HOW MUCH: FREE**

**WHERE: Hangar Gallery**

**FRIDAY, NOV. 16**

**&**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 17**

**THE BEAUTY PROJECT**

**WHEN: 8 p.m.**

**HOW MUCH: FREE**

**WHERE: MMC DM 150**

## VETERAN & MILITARY AFFAIRS OFFICE

# FIU runs a Toys for Tots drive for underprivileged

**SKYLAR SIEGEL**  
*Contributing Writer*

With the economy still recovering and the uncertain job market, the holiday season is a rough time for many parents trying to make ends meet. For those families that cannot afford to put gifts under the Christmas tree for their children this year, the Toys for Tots foundation is ready to step in.

The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less privileged children, usually between the ages of 0-14 in deprived communities nationwide, experience the joy of Christmas, to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign, and to contribute to better communities in the future.

The University's Veteran and Military Affairs Office is partnering with the veterans FIU alumni association to run a Toys for Tots drive in Modesto A. Maidique and Biscayne Bay Campus.

"It is a marine corps based drive, but all of military affairs are working together," said Mario Larin, Marine and senior international business major.

This year will be the first year that the veterans' affairs office at the University is helping with Toys for Tots.

"I always wanted to help with the drive. Many different organizations have been getting involved, and we are looking to get a large university involvement," said Mike Pischner, director of veteran and military affairs.

The Toys for Tots drive collections began Oct. 15 and will run until Dec. 18. The Marines will

deliver gifts to the children 20 to 30 days prior to Christmas.

"The best part of helping Toys for Tots is to see how many kids we can help," said Pischner.

The types of toys children receive from the drive will vary.

"I've seen children on TV receive everything from bicycles to Barbie dolls from a Toys for Tots drive, so different organizations are able to give different things," said Pischner. "We are just asking for students and faculty to bring whatever they can, any unwrapped toy is welcomed."

The veterans' affairs office, along with FIU's veteran alumni association, will continue to promote the drive until Dec. 18. Tuesday, Nov. 5 and Wednesday, Nov. 6, marines in uniform, such as Mario Larin, will be encouraging students in MMC to become involved with the drive. "The more gifts the merrier," said Larin.

"We here in the veterans' affairs office want to let admin know we are happy for their support with the drive and we are also grateful to MMC's engineering society, who has already promised to donate 20-30 toys.

We are happy that FIU is involved with the marines, although it is more a community effort than an FIU effort," said Pischner.

While Toys for Tots coordinators like Pischner organize, coordinate and manage the drive, the ultimate success depends on the support of the local community. To become involved with the drive, contact Mike Pischner at (305) 348-7662.

-life@fiusm.com



PHOTO FROM STOCK.XCHING

Toys for Tots aims at giving less privileged families toys for their children.

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

# Swing with the University's Studio Jazz Big Band

IVAN ARDILA

Contributing Writer

For all of those jazz aficionados out there, it must be exciting to know that after performing in the Miami Nice Jazz Festival this past month, the FIU School of Music Studio Jazz Big Band will be having an evening entirely to themselves.

"Swinging with the Big Jazz Bands" is a retrospective look at the music of the big band era during the '30s and '40s when swing was at its most popular. The group will recreate music mainly from legends like Buddy Rich, Glenn Miller and Benny Goodman, but also newer compositions by Les Hooper.

"Jazz is a style of music that is cross-generation," said Jim Hacker, faculty member and director of the band.

He says that although it's not so mainstream now, this style of jazz allows for group interpretation, as well as some individuality from the musicians. The band consists of about 20 skilled musicians under the arrangement and direction of Hacker.

"We're not only reading and performing the music, but also creating," said Hacker.

I see jazz as one of the biggest and most different approaches in music. It's interesting to look at what the school jazz band can do with it and also support the musicians of tomorrow.

Alexander Coombs  
Music Major  
School of Music

"The best part about playing this style of jazz music is that it takes you back in time. Most jazz groups these days are made of four or five people," said Seth Merlin, a trumpeter on the band, after he and his peers were done rehearsing the classic "In the Mood" by the late Benny Goodman.

Professor Hacker also emphasized the importance of this coming event as the first time being presented by the Gold Coast Jazz Society, a Florida non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation and advancement of jazz music as an art form.

The director and the band are excited

and eager to perform in this and other similar events; however, their expectation regarding the support of FIU students in general isn't very high. Many members of the band say that most University students don't even know these concerts exist.

"With so many other events going on all the time at school, I don't think many people know about these concerts," said Merlin, a sentiment shared by another trumpeter, Kelley Gonzales.

"Not many people in FIU are aware of these events," said Gonzales. "Probably because we don't advertise enough outside of the School of Music."

"I see jazz as one of the biggest and

most different approaches in music," said Alexander Coombs, music major. "It's interesting to look at what the school jazz band can do with it and also support the musicians of tomorrow."

What is undeniable is that attending the swinging with the Big Jazz Band's concert should prove a great way to demonstrate school spirit and a chance to learn about legends from the past, interpreted by future ones.

-life@fiusm.com

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

SWINGING WITH  
THE BIG JAZZ BANDS

WHEN:

7:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH:

FREE

WHERE:

Amaturo theater at the  
Broward Center

## CAMPUS LIFE!

## FIU offers new course on Jews in Africa and Asia

KATHERINE LEPRI  
Staff Writer

According to the 2010 census, there are approximately 5.3 million Jewish Americans. While most students are familiar with some of the aspects about Judaism in the United States, many may not be aware that there are 80,000 Jewish people living in Africa and over 50,000 Jews in Asia.

Jewish culture has a rich history that goes back thousands of years. According to professors at FIU, some of the most unique and interesting stories are from Jewish emigrants in Asia and Africa.

"[Students] are all used to learning about Jews in Poland, Ukraine, or maybe Morocco," said Nathan Katz, research professor in the department of Religious Studies. "[Students] are going to be learning about Jewish communities from Zimbabwe, China, India, Papua New Guinea, Nigeria. It's just a totally different perspective on Judaism and the Jewish people."

Co-teaching the class called Jews in Africa and Asia will be Research Professor Tudor Parfitt, a world-renowned expert on Jewish communities in Africa.

He is known as a

pioneer in an emerging discipline that combines DNA and physical evidence to reveal the history of ancient human migration called genetic anthropology.

The newest addition in the Religious Studies program will be taught at the Jewish Museum of Florida in Miami Beach, which originally began as a traveling exhibit about Jewish life in Florida. The museum includes two adjacent Art Deco synagogues from the 1920s, one of which formerly hosted the first Jewish congregation of Miami Beach.

"FIU strategically is making its footprint in Miami Beach. We're part of that process," said Katz. "The museum is really beautiful and it has wonderful archives inside library and so forth for students to conduct research."

The class will explore populations such as the Lemba of Zimbabwe, the Beta Israel of Ethiopia, and the Ibo of Nigeria and Asian communities such as the Jews of Kochi, Mumbai, and Shanghai.

Parfitt, who is internationally recognized as "Britain's Indiana Jones" for his intensive research of Jews in Africa, will be leading the portion of the class about the communities of sub-Saharan

communities that he has studied in depth over the last 20 years.

Fred Ezekiel, one of the featured guest lecturers, will be speaking about his experience as a Jew in Shanghai in the period before and after 1933 when Jewish refugees of Eastern Europe escaped to Asia.

"Shanghai attracted people from all over the world," said Ezekiel. "The story of the Jewish people from Shanghai is a very interesting story."

According to Katz, the class will explore the process of how identities get created and how a group that identifies a certain way relates to other groups who identify themselves similarly using examples from the Jewish communities.

"We want to study that process [of] how one comes to this [Jewish] identity," said Katz. "[And also] the development and progress of the community and why it progressed."

"I have taught here at FIU with the Jews of Asia," Katz said. "Now with Professor Parfitt joining us, we can expand it to talk about Asia and Africa and look for differences and commonalities."

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## CALENDAR

## FALL 2012 EVENTS

## WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

JLSA - LUNCH AND LEARN  
WITH RABBI FRIEDMAN  
WHEN: 12-1 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC RDB 1004

R U LGBTQ @ FIU?  
WHEN: 12-1:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: RSVP to Dr.  
Tyler Wasson: tywasson@  
fiu.edu  
WHERE: MMC GC 305

TALK WITH THE TIMES:  
SAM SIFTON  
WHEN: 1-2 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Event is free  
and no RSVP is needed.  
WHERE: BBC WUC 223

FIU ORGANIC FARMERS  
MARKET  
WHEN: 12-3 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC Green Library  
Breezeway

SHERRILL MILNES & THE  
AMERNET STRING QUAR-  
TET IN CONCERT FEATUR-  
ING WORKS BY DVORAK  
AND SCHOENBERG  
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Wertheim Per-  
forming Arts Center

NOW I KNOW MY GAY  
B-C'S  
WHEN: 2-3 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC GC 314

AFRICANOS Y AFRODE-  
SCENDIENTES EN LA  
ARGENTIA ACTUAL  
WHEN: 1-3 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC GC 314

NATURE PRESERVE  
VOLUNTEER DAY  
WHEN: 1-4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: No pre-reg-  
istration is required,  
simply show up on time  
and ready to work.  
WHERE: MMC Nature  
Preserve

## THURSDAY, NOV. 8

SMALL BUSINESS TECH-  
NOLOGY TOUR MIAMI  
WHEN: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC College of  
Business Complex  
Square

GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE-  
OUT TABLING EVENT  
WHEN: 10-2 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC Graham  
Center

FEDERALIST SOCIETY  
EVENT - GLOBAL WAMING  
DEBATE  
WHEN: 12-2 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC RDB 2005

THEATRE: MEDEA  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Ticket prices:  
\$10-\$15, Musical ticket  
prices: \$15-\$20  
WHERE: Wertheim Per-  
forming Arts Center

PHOTOSHOP: SELECTIONS  
& LAYERS  
WHEN: 3-4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: All registered  
FIU students can attend  
this FREE software work-  
shop. No prior registration  
is required.  
WHERE: MMC PC-414

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

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Panthers fall to North Texas in Sun Belt Championship

**MICHAEL ORTEGA**  
*Contributing Writer*

The Panthers entered the Sun Belt Conference Tournament as the hottest team in the Sun Belt, winning five straight games before the tournament.

The journey through the tournament was not an easy one; FIU played some opponents that gave them some trouble during the regular season.

First up was Troy, which had a close game in the middle of the season for the Panthers which ended in a 2-1 win for FIU. This time, FIU was ready for them, showing a strong defensive game plan and using that momentum on defense and turning it into offense.

FIU out shot Troy 19 to nine and goalie Kaitlyn Savage notched another six saves to add another shutout to her career total of 20. That mark broke the previous FIU career record of 20 shutouts.

"It was a well played game. The team really played well and

executed the game plan. They played together and continued what they had going during the end season," said Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt. "Troy is a good team they are well coached and have a strong offense, so we needed to shut them out to get our momentum going into the next games."

Next up was the only team that beat FIU at home this season: Middle Tennessee. This game was as much a semi-finals game as a retribution game.

This was a tough game for both teams with FIU coming out on top 2-1 in overtime. FIU's defense was stout in the second half, cutting the amount of shots MT took and making them get out of rhythm for over time. This is when FIU took advantage and midfielder Kim Lopez made the game-winning goal, her second goal of the game.

"This was a must-win game. We did not want to lose to them again. We needed to pull this one off not only to make it to the finals but for the one lost at

home we faced against them," Forward Chelsea Leiva said.

It was then on to the finals for FIU, where they met North Texas; the teams tied during

the second half but the defense didn't, allowing the Mean Green to take 14 shots with one hitting the net and taking the game from FIU.

“

"We couldn't connect on some passes and our offense couldn't produce when the opportunities showed. This threw us off and we couldn't play our game."

Thomas Chestnutt  
Head Coach  
Women's Soccer

”

their first meeting in the season.

The game was not an easy one for the Panthers, taking their offense a half to show some life. In the first half, NT held FIU to one shot and forced FIU to play on their heels.

The offense showed up in

"We had the good effort in the game but some of it was lost in the second half," Chestnutt said. "We couldn't connect on some passes and our offense couldn't produce when the opportunities showed. This threw us off and we couldn't play our game."

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This was not the end the Panthers had in mind at the beginning of the season but not all bad came from this end.

Before the tournament, five players were honored by the Sun Belt conferences with all-conference honors for the 2012 season. Leiva and Savage were selected first team, all conference and midfielder Johanna Volz and defenders Marie Egan and Nikki Rios were appointed to the second team.

FIU ended with a record of 13-6-2, which makes it another consecutive season of double digit wins and returning to the finals for the second time in a row.

"We played great this season. We had some rough patches in the beginning but we all came together as a team to pull off another great season for FIU and ourselves," said Leiva. "This season, we learned a lot and we hope to carry this into next season."

## VOLLEYBALL

# FIU sweeps Owls, prepares for final match

**JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND**  
*Staff Writer*

On a team where hitting efficiency is at an extreme low, FIU 8-17 (5-8 SBC) nearly doubled their overall hitting percentage with a .296 average last Friday in a 3-0 sweep against Sun Belt rival FAU.

The Owls were better off staying in the locker room for the first set as they notched a giant goose egg, astonishingly getting shut out 25-0 in the first set.

It was the first time all season FIU

did not surrender at least a point in one whole set. The Panthers came out with high intensity against their Sun Belt foe from Boca Raton.

Despite dismantling the Owls in the first set, the team's inconsistency crept up again to haunt them as The Panthers coughed up 22 points in favor of the Owls in the next set, only winning by three points.

"I definitely see some improvements from the team. We were playing a cross-town rival so the girls were more amped up to play," Head Coach Trevor Ther-

oulde said. "Although I think we are getting much better as a team, I still think there is a great deal of inconsistency, as you saw from the first set to the second set, where we completely dominated in the first set but almost dropped the second set."

FIU does not have the luxury of celebrating for too long, as they are facing two must win scenarios on their hands in this weekend matches against South Alabama and Troy.

Even though the Panthers have a sub par conference record, wins versus the

Jaguars and Trojans would catapult them into a conference tournament berth as the seventh or eighth seed. The top eight teams in the Sun Belt qualify for the tournament.

"We have been having a rough season with all the injuries, but we're fighting, keeping our heads up, working hard and now we are presented with an opportunity where we can be as high as the seventh seed in the tournament if we win both games this season," Theroulde said.

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 7

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Dream start turns into nightmarish ending for FIU

**FRANCISCO RIVERO**  
*Staff Writer*

Coming into this season the FIU men's soccer team was picked to finish last in Conference USA. However, all that changed when the Panthers got off to their best start in 25 years.

After collecting five straight wins, the mindset of this team started to change from laughing stock to contender. Leading the charge were the two German natives, goalkeeper Robin Spiegel and forward Quentin Albrecht.

Spiegel ended this season with three shutouts while gathering 55 saves; however, the young goalie also gave up 26 goals this season, 14 of which came in the final six games.

As for Albrecht, the sophomore forward ended the year with 10 goals

scored, a team high. Most of his goals, however, were scored early on this season. Six of his 10 goals came in the first six games of the season.

On Nov. 3, FIU suffered its final conference defeat against Tulsa by a score of 1-2. This marks the end of not only the Panthers season but also the end of senior defender Joseph Dawkins' career at FIU.

"It was absolutely emotional for me," Dawkins said. "I played four years here and put in a lot of hard work and it all came down to one last game."

The Panthers will now look to rebuild their defender position with both Dawkins and fellow defender Anthony Hobbs leaving the program.

As for conference play, the Panthers posted an abysmal 0-7-1 record, a stark contrast to their 8-1-1

non-conference record. FIU is the only team that will be excluded from the Conference USA Tournament.

For Head Coach Kenny Arena, the lack of conference wins in a season, where the mindset of men's soccer was changed, is apparent.

"I think in the conference games a lot of unfortunate decisions were made against us. We have probably had four plenty kicks called against us in the second half of conference games this season," Arena said. "There have been three winning goals against us from three plenty kicks this season."

Arena wasn't the only one thrown off by the conference-game troubles.

"We had a really good start and I think that even when the conference started we still played good," Albrecht said. "We were controlling almost

every game but we have to work on our ability to win the game."

Even though the Panthers did not make the tournament and the sense of disappointment was lingering in the air, Dawkins still believes in the future of this program.

"It's very disappointing. It was our goal from the start of the season to play in the tournament," Dawkins said. "However, every game is a learning curve and this team has a bright future ahead of itself."

The Panthers now look to improve on their 2012 record by enlisting a new recruiting class and focusing more on a movement Arena and his team have tried to build this year.

"We graduated five seniors and we have seven commitments already for next year," Arena said. "The idea is to take the foundation and the idea

we established now and add on some very important pieces. We think [they] are going to come in and make our team deeper, and elevate the quality we have on the field."

FIU moves into the off-season with an 8-8-2 record, three more wins than last year and the most since 2005. The Panthers will look to improve on their conference performance and look to enter the tournament under the tutelage of Arena.

Albrecht is excited about the future and direction of this young Panther team.

"It's just my second year and I can already feel the change," Albrecht said. "It's getting much better every year and I feel that next year it's going to be even better."

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## TAE KWON DO

# Club takes home 13 medals in first ever competition

**BRYAN PALACIO**  
*Contributing Writer*

In martial arts, training your mind is just as important as training your body. FIU's Tae Kwon Do coaches Lino Cappelli as well as brothers Ray and Chris Alvarez made sure their club was mentally prepared for their competition in Sarasota, Florida on October 20th. Their preparation showed as the team won a total of 13 medals: eight gold, four silver, and one bronze.

The club has 15 members and this was the first competition for the school. Only six members of the team competed, making the amount of medals won impressive. The team is still in its infancy though, this being only their second semester as an FIU club.

It was also the first time competing in general for many of the members. Coach Chris Alvarez was competing for the first time since tearing his meniscus in March. Overall, it was not just a win, but a monumental success for the club as a whole.

But success isn't new to the Alvarez brothers; both Chris and Ray are national champions. Hard work is nothing new to them and they have made it a priority to pass that on to their students.

"Aside from the final outcome, I'm just proud of the team and how hard they have worked together," said Coach Ray Alvarez. "From the beginning they have sacrificed their time and effort to become as successful as possible."

He is also very proud of his brother, as everyone probably should be.

Before Chris' injury, he had just been accepted into one of the top Taekwondo training centers led by the Olympic Taekwondo Team Coach and two-time Olympic Silver Medalist, Juan Moreno. Chris was just in his second practice when his injury occurred.

"I was very excited about the opportunity and was devastated when I injured my knee," said Chris. "My motivation was basically to return back to training there as soon as possible so that I may continue working towards achieving my goals in the sport."

He had a complete tear of the medial meniscus on his left knee, this caused the meniscus to flip over and wedge itself under the knee cap, locking his knee into place. The immediate surgery took six hours but was completely successful with the doctor reattaching the meniscus without having to remove any of it. The next day he was already rehabbing using

a machine that worked his range of motion six hours a day. His recovery time to be able to do Taekwondo again was seven months. He was already back to training after just five.

All his effort and work paid off as he was able to score a gold medal in the Men's Black Belt Division, besting his final opponent 10-4.

With Ray earning silver and Chris gold, the coaches' inspirational performance resonated with the team. Fabian Feierabend, Alfonso Meneses, and Daniel Cuyen all excelled in their divisions and won 1st place in their sparring events.

"The competition was amazing, for beginners and advanced belts," said Fabian Feierabend. "The tournament was very competitive and I'm excited for how we finished."

The coaches couldn't have been more proud of them and look forward to them having much more success.

"Not only did they train hard but they applied everything they've been learning over the last few months in the ring," said Ray. "They are definitely going to represent FIU well for the rest of the tournament season."

The team will be competing next year in April's US National Collegiate Taekwondo Championships.

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# Final home match for three star seniors in career

## VOLLEYBALL , PAGE 6

"You never know how a team can play when it is put in a position to have to survive, so we just need to make sure we play at a high level in order to survive and move on."

This weekend may be not be the end of the 2012 campaign for the Panthers, but one thing is for certain, and that is it will be the final home match for four seniors on the squad.

The match against Troy in Sunday will mark the final time FIU fans will catch a glimpse of Renele Forde, Marjia Prsa, Ryanna Milligan and former All Sun Belt and FIU legend, Jovana Bjelica, play here in the friendly confines of US Century Bank Arena.

Bjelica has yet to step foot in a match in her final year of collegiate volleyball career as she suffered a fluke injury in the first

game of the season that resulted in her breaking her right hand.

The 4-6 week timetable for her return has been severely prolonged, as she still has not made an appearance.

As for Bjelica and the rest of the seniors class, Theroulde believes the best is yet to come for these talented athletes.

"It is almost like seeing a child grow up and leave home and go on to their next level. Yeah, you're sad that their leaving, but you're extremely proud that they have arrived at the next phase of their lives in terms of their volleyball and academic achievements. This year Marija [Prsa] wants to play professionally, so does Renele [Forde] and Jovana [Bjelica] so I am extremely delighted to see them move on with their volleyball career."

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# FIU | Graduate Open House

Saturday, November 10th, 2012 | 9am - 12pm



Secure your *future*. Earn a Graduate Degree.

Explore academic programs in 11 colleges and over 120 fields of study. Discover the many opportunities available at Florida International University. Find out what FIU has to offer you by attending the Graduate Open House on Saturday, November 10th from 9am-12pm in the Graham Center Ballrooms.

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## CHAPLIN SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT

# When beer spills over the boundaries of the norm

**BARBARA CORBELLINI DUARTE**  
*Asst. News Director*

Beer can be more than just a drink and the University's beer club is expanding those boundaries.

The Biscayne Brewers Bash, which was the first event organized by the Biscayne's Renowned Engineers of Wort, brought 16 local brewers from South Florida and featured more than 40 types of craft beer on Sunday, Nov. 4. It was sponsored by the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

"It's very personable. You get to meet the person who makes the beer," said Angelica Hernandez, who is studying nursing at Broward College.

B.R.E.W. featured seven beers, one IPA, two pale ales, one pilsner, two sweet stouts and one root beer. It also showcased two types of bread, one made with spent yeast and beer, another made with spent grain and a butter made with beer glazed onions.



PHOTOS BY BARBARA CORBELLINI DUARTE/THE BEACON

The Biscayne Brewers Bash, hosted by the University's beer club and sponsored by the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, featured more than 40 types of craft beers from 16 different local brewers. The Biscayne Renowned Engineers of Wort also brought bread and butter made with their own beer, spent grain and sent yeast.

Matthew Weintraub and Zhilong Yang, president and vice president of B.R.E.W., arrived at the Kovens Conference Center at 6:30 a.m. to set everything up.

Weintraub said they chose to feature these seven beers because they are the ones taught in the beer courses at the University. He said those are beers anybody can learn how to make.

Jamie Zunno, a beer enthusiast who has been around

the craft beer scene for years, said the event was better than OktoberFest.

"This is amazing. There's enough beer, enough people, but not too much that you cannot walk," she said. "You can try everything."

Zunno is fan of the B.R.E.W. beers and was impressed with the bread.

"It's great that the younger generation in college can learn how to make beer," Zunno said. "They are the future of

craft beer."

The 16 local brewers featured beers made with ingredients like cocoa, cucumber, coconut, coffee, blueberry, brown sugar, raisins and vanilla.

Opus Ales, a Hollywood brewer, featured two beers that owners claimed had an "in your face" flavor.

"It's a flavor that's forward," said Manny Varela, one of the owners of the brewery. "So if you say there's oak, brandy and

sweet potato, you're going to taste all of it. It's creative beer."

The Native Brewing Co., that has been brewing beer for about 12 years, brought its signature beer, The 11.

"Twelve years ago, nobody had heard of craft beer," said Jill Fine, event coordinator for the brewery. "We were doing it before it was cool."

Her husband, Adam Fine, created the recipe. They bring it to local brewers to make the beer for them, and then they

sell it.

Shu Li and Alan Kao, both graduate students of hospitality, volunteered at the event. They were excited about gaining experience and trying the beers after the event was over.

Luis Hernández, junior and education major, takes all of his classes at the Modesto Maidique Campus, but heard about the event and decided to go.

"It's like a wine tasting," Hernández said. "We are tasting and exploring new flavors."

Yang said they wanted the festival to be all about Florida brewers because there are very few festivals that do that.

"It's not just a festival to get drunk as if beer is only about alcohol," Yang said.

He used to export wine to China, but now he prefers beer.

"Beer has so much more variety than wine and so many more points of control," he said. "Wine depends on weather and soil, and beer doesn't."

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## RECREATION CENTER

# Relieving the muscle strains of student life, safely

**SHANNON COPELAND**  
*Contributing Writer*

The busy college life can make it hard for students to find time to exercise, but the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center will give them a helping hand.

Set for Nov. 8, the Recreation Center will host the Fitness Day at the Bay in the Wolfe University Center Room 223 at 2 p.m.

Karen Cruz, intern at the Rec Center, came up with the idea to host the Fitness Day after conducting a survey at the fitness center asking students about problems they experienced like muscle strains before and after exercising.

"This day is geared toward the do's and do not's of fitness and how to prevent muscle strains before and after a class. Students will also learn how to properly tie shoelaces as this can affect them during a workout," said Christina Reddick, assistant director at the BBC Rec Center.

At the event there will be fitness instructors, chiropractors and nutritionists to answer questions students may have. They will also do demonstrative exercises for students to follow.

Instructors will show how to properly do several exercises, such as

deadlifts, which can cause back pain if the person does not lift the loaded barbell correctly.

"If students develop healthy workout habits from now, it will benefit them in the long run," said Reddick.

Timothy Gladden, fitness trainer from TSJ Fitness, and Christine Tellez, a nutritionist at the University, will be at the event so students can ask questions.

Cruz, a sports fitness and physical education senior wanted to do an event that would benefit students.

"Exercise helps to keep you alert, especially for class and whenever I don't exercise I feel really tired," she said.

For those students who struggle to find time in their day to go to the gym, there will be tips for easy and fast workouts.

"Instructors will show exercises you can do as you get out of bed and even before you go to bed, and it will only take 5 minutes," Cruz said.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking will be available in front of the library.

Sponsors, such as 5-Hour Energy and Optimum Nutrition, will be at the event.

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## SOMETHING FISHY



SANA ULAH/THE BEACON

Liz Huselid, an FIU alum and technician, examines a specimen in the aquatic ecology lab inside of the Marine Science Building. This lab has a contract with the state and collects specimen from the Everglades. Each specimen is preserved in ethanol. Once each animal is weighed and identified, the data is sent to different park services in order to help monitor water levels and to keep a better environment.