

Vending machines causing headaches throughout campus

NATASHA ROQUE
Contributing Writer

Numerous complaints have been filed from students to FIU's Business Services recently regarding several issues and instances of malfunction in regards to vending machines on both the Modesto Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses.

"The vending machines are completely unreliable," said Sergio Rubio, sophomore advertising major. "Sometimes the vending machine simply doesn't dispense what I'm trying to buy, but also in the past when I've swiped my credit card I have later found incorrect charges from the machines when reviewing my bank statements."

FIU currently houses a wide host of vending machines throughout MMC, BBC and the Engineering Campus. These machines are located throughout all campus recreational facilities, student housing areas, academic and administrative buildings.

"Periodically, customers have issues with the vending machines failing to vend products. Most

complaints stem from connectivity issues with the credit card readers, which connect via cellular networks," said Jeff Krablin, assistant vice president of FIU Business Services.

While most machines operate on cash basis, several of the machines also accept credit cards. According to Krablin, Business Services is actively working with its business partners to install new readers on vending machines that will take the FIU One Card as well.

The University obtains certain income from its in-house vending machines, known as "concession funds."

Concession funds offer financial support to on-campus programs and facilities set forth by the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors. According to the official University policy, this includes academic programs, Student Life programs, and faculty, staff, fellows, students, and support activities pertaining to the university and several of its organizations.

However, reports of frequent issues with the vending machines



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Kevin Palmer, sophomore engineering major, expressed frustration with the vending machines at the Modesto Maidique Campus. He said that the machine would not take his card when he swiped it.

pose a serious deterrent for the continuation of this scholarly advancement.

"Until the problems are somehow fixed, I will be staying away from the vending machines and buying my food somewhere else," said Yohn Diaz, sophomore biology major. "I have had way too many problems with the machines in the past, and having to go out of my way to get a refund every time is a real hassle. I would rather buy my food elsewhere and save myself the time, money, and frustration."

Those in need of a refund after enduring a vending machine transaction malfunction can visit one of the several refund bank locations on both campuses. MMC houses its refund banks at Parking Garage 1 100, University Park Towers (housing), and the Office of Business Services at Duplicating Center 115. At BBC, refund banks are located at Wolfe University Center 143, Bay Vista Residence Hall (housing), and the Kovens Conference Center front desk. FIU's Engineering Campus

keeps its one refund bank at Engineering Center 2425.

"Business Services is continuously working to improve the quality of service to the community," said Krablin. "To improve the connectivity of the credit card readers, we are working with our business partners to upgrade the software and hardware to better capture the already limited cell reception across campus."

-news@fiusm.com

Match Day brings agony and ecstasy to students

ALYSSA ELSO
Contributing Writer

Sitting patiently, waiting to hear your name be called can be one of the most difficult things to do. The seconds become minutes, the minutes become hours, time seems to slow down to a screeching halt.

"I was so nervous sitting in my seat waiting. I was sweating; I was the last person called," said medical student Daniel Castellanos.

But once your name is called, it can be the most exhilarating feeling in the world.

"Now I am going to Children's Hospital of Los Angeles to study pediatrics, I can hardly wait. I am beyond excited,"

FIU's first-ever graduating class of medical school students celebrated their first "Match Day" on Friday, March 15.

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine's inaugural class of 33 medical students anxiously waited for their names to be called at Friday's

ceremony, waiting to walk on stage and open up envelopes that would tell them where the next few years of their lives would be spent.

"I barely slept this week waiting for this moment," said Castellanos.

Match Day, the day medical students around the nation find out where they will be going for the next phase of their training: the specialized program known as residency.

Leading up to Match Day, each student lists, in order of preference, the residency program

that he or she would like to attend and each residency program then ranks its applicants in order of its own preferences.

The National Resident Matching Program then uses a computer algorithm to place students in the program that is right for them.

"Match day is an important day for the College of Medicine and for students alike, it is the first match day for FIU, and will determine

SEE MATCH DAY, PAGE 2

Elections code changes brings booths and parties

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Editor-in-Chief

With campaigning underway and voting five weeks away, there are new rules regulating both old and new aspects of student government elections: political parties and voting.

A new aspect of elections is the ability of a group of students to form political parties, and for those parties to support one or multiple candidates.

While political parties were technically already accounted for in SGA's statutes since April 2011 because of an amendment, there weren't regulations on forming parties,

membership of parties, their campaigning for and money spent on candidates.

"I see nothing wrong with it, so there's nothing I would particularly change," said William-Jose Velez, president of Coalition of Students for Reform in an interview with Student Media in fall 2012 about the reform to the elections code. "That said, the issue at hand with political parties is not whether there should be, but how they will be registered."

Velez's issue is no longer at hand as reforms to the elections code specify how students can form and register political parties.

Students can freely form

political parties, but they must follow the registration processes for all student organizations to form one. Parties must register with the Elections Commission and the Council for Student Organizations at the Modesto Maidique campus.

There is no membership requirements for political parties such as a minimum number of chairpersons or candidates. Political parties are bound by the same campaign limitations and periods established for candidates; no new or special rules need to be made.

In terms of financing campaigns, political parties can only donate up to \$5,000.

After candidates spend their campaign money, it will be time for students to vote.

Unlike in previous years, voting will take place at designated voting booths placed at various locations around MMC.

The Elections Commission Reform Act of 2012, SB 1210, designated seven polling locations with two to five volunteers to oversee the voting process.

The elections does not explicitly outlaw students voting online, while at home or in class, but it does say to vote students must present valid student identification to the poll worker.

A few students thought the

addition of voting booths is more responsible and would make elections more fair, others feel it takes away from the convenience of voting online and wouldn't change anything.

"It gets rid of the convenience but it ensures a more honest process," said Dryss Abraham, freshman and business administration major.

"As long as people know, I think the change overall would be good," said Gabriel Rubio, freshman and computer science major.

Anthony Francisco, senior and international relations major, believes voting booths is a good addition because of who would vote.

"The people who vote are more informed and they are the people who follow government," Francisco said.

Joshua Mullenite, senior and geography major, "conscientiously abstained" from the 2012 elections, only voting for the green energy fund. He doesn't believe the addition of voting booths will have any changes on student government.

"Regardless of changes to voting rules it will still be a popularity contest," Mullenite said. "They will still have their friends voting for them and they will push people to vote."

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WORLD NEWS

Pakistani Taliban withdraw peace talk offer

The Pakistani Taliban on Monday withdrew their offer of holding peace talks with the government, saying that the authorities were not serious about following through with negotiations.

The Taliban statement came as a pair of suicide bombers attacked a court complex in the north-western city of Peshawar. One of the attackers was shot to death, but the other detonated his explosives in a packed courtroom, killing four people and wounding over 40 in the attack.

Central African Republic rebels threaten new fight

A coalition of rebel groups that signed a peace accord with the Central African Republic government two months ago is now threatening to take up arms again if a list of demands is not met by Wednesday, a move that threatens to derail efforts to stabilize the country.

The ultimatum came as the rebels also decided to hold back their five government ministers from returning to the capital following weekend talks about the peace process in the town of Sibut.

Delicate diplomacy: Pope meets Argentine president

Pope Francis' diplomatic skills were put to the test Monday as his political nemesis, Argentine President Cristina Fernandez, asked him to intervene in the dispute with Britain over the Falkland Islands. There was no immediate comment from the Vatican as to whether the Argentine-born Francis would accept her request, which was made during his inaugural audience with a visiting head of state on the eve of his installation as pope.

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.

Medical students discover new homes

MATCH DAY, PAGE 1

if the College of Medicine is well received by the community, for students it is an exciting day to find out where they will be spending their next years," said John Rock, dean and senior vice president for Medical Affairs.

All 33 medical students were matched to residencies across the nation in specialties like pediatrics, orthopedic surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, internal medicine, and general surgery.

The ceremony, which took place at noon on Friday, March 15, started when two baskets were placed on stage.

One with 33 envelopes, each bearing a student's name: inside, the name of the residency program they were assigned.

The other basket, containing money from students and administrators that was awarded to the last "match" envelope to be called: Daniel Castellanos.

While most students found out their matches on Friday, one student Michael Hann, already knew his.

A member of the Navy, Hann was matched on Dec. 12, the Military Match Day, to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, his hometown. Among the 33 graduating medical students was Trine Engebretsen, who made national headlines after being Florida's first liver-transplant recipient.

Studying general surgery, Engebretsen is off to the Medical Center of Central Georgia to become the first liver-transplant patient to perform liver-transplant surgery.

With its first successful Match Day concluded, FIU's HWCOC is closer to joining the ranks alongside other medical schools across the nation, with many more Match Days to come in the following years.

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UCF suicide raises concerns

DIEGO SALDANA
Staff Writer

University of Central Florida police were called to the Tower I building around 12:20 a.m. after a fire alarm went off, said UCF Spokesman George Heston. While they were on their way, a 911 call came in about a man with a gun.

Officers arrived to find a student dead, from what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, inside the dorm where he lived with three roommates.

Investigators said they discovered an assault weapon, a handgun and makeshift explosive devices in the room where the student died. Florida law prohibits guns on state university campuses.

About 500 students were evacuated from the building and morning classes were canceled.

In the event that a situation like this happened at FIU, Police Chief Alexander Casas explained to Student Media how the University would respond.

"We would handle any immediate threat and contact Miami-Dade County Police Bomb Squad and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for assistance with any devices," Casas said.

Casas explained that there is no real way to prevent such an event from happening, but there are preventive measures that the University takes.

"It's difficult to have a full proof blanket but it absolutely begins with awareness," Casas said. "If you see something that is out of the ordinary, it is important that you say something. The most minute bit of information could lead to our preventing a major incident from occurring."

Veronica Nieves, a sophomore biology major, first heard of the incident via Facebook.

"I didn't know anything else other than that there was a mysterious death," Nieves said.

Heston said that materials found in the dorm room made

it appear that a wider attack was planned.

Police say he pulled a gun on another student, who then called police.

Nieves expressed concern after learning that there were explosives and firearms present at the UCF dormitory. She thinks such an incident is possible at the University.

"I think it is a little bit scary with everyone having an assault rifle," Nieves said. "FIU is supposed to be a safe campus. People don't need to bring a gun on campus, we're safe. We're guaranteed that."

Vanessa Fernandez, a junior UCF finance and

accounting major, received warnings from UCF telling her to stay away from the main campus.

"I woke up at 6:30 a.m. for class and saw UCF alert texts saying all classes were cancelled till noon and that the main campus was closed," Fernandez said. "UCF alert sent out about 5 texts warning us to stay away from the main campus due to a suspicious death."

Casas mentioned that the majority of firearms confiscated on campus are from motor vehicles. He explained that it is usually individuals who thought they were

legally carrying firearms but are unaware of the University policy that prohibits firearm possession on campus even with a concealed carry permit.

"It is the individual's responsibility to be aware of and comply with policies and statutes," Casas said. "Claiming to not know that an action was illegal is not a valid defense."

Additional reporting by Kyle Hightower and Freida Frisaro of the Associated Press.

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FIU

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Capital Improvement Trust Fund Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on

Monday, March 25, 2013 MMC
GC 140 at 10:30am
Monday, March 25, 2013 BBC
WUC 155 at 2:00pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the CITF fee, used to fund student buildings.

The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

THE BEACON

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Spending time wisely on spring break

JENNA KEFAUVER
Staff Writer

I've never been into the crazy spring break thing. I lived in Miami for three years and lived near Daytona Beach for a year. Pretty much the spring break capitals. I didn't (and still don't) understand drinking so much that you end up on Girls Gone Wild or YouTube or in jail or what have you.

I thought maybe that was because I wasn't 21. But here I am, 21 years and five months old, and I still don't get it.

I went to the Keys, sat by the pool, tanned and enjoyed myself and "did my beach bum thing." It was amazing. I never have time to do that. Ever.

Spring break has changed for me in the past few years, which I attribute to the fact that I am now both an adult and over 21, but I still never felt the need to go all out and be all kinds of crazy.

I used my remaining spring break as a time to calm down,

unwind and get loads of sleep. I slept in every day, which I'm never able to do.

I went to the gym because I finally had time, but then of course, I totally ruined the time I

done.

While I think that spring break is about relaxing, some people relax by getting wasted, and that's cool too. And even though I didn't go crazy, I saw

spring break is about. It's public indecency. But that's what it seems like people think spring break is for now.

I do, however, understand that the meaning of spring break for many is "Drink as much as possible in the time span of a week" and as long as you're over 21 and safe, then who am I to tell you what to do? Just because it's not mine doesn't mean it can't be yours.

So use your next spring break and the spring breaks after that as a time to calm down, or, well, rage, before you have to go back to real life and school.

Especially because after college, there's a 95 percent chance you won't have a spring break. Relish the free time you have now. Make the most of your time to relax.

And if your way of relaxing is getting drunk on the beach, that's great. Do your thing. Have fun. Just be safe, guys.

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“Spring break has changed for me in the past few years, which I attribute to the fact that I am now both an adult and over 21.”

spent at the gym by going home and eating cake and pie and everything else, but I don't care because it was great.

And then I did homework.

Yes, the horror of homework on spring break. But it has to be

enough pictures of people doing just that. So I guess I just lived vicariously through my Facebook friends who went a little harder than I would.

I don't think that getting naked on the beach is what

Women's History Month – it's a necessity

ADRIANNE RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Whether you who know that March is Women's History Month, or if you just don't care to reverence it, it is important to recognize the importance of a month established only 26 years ago.

Most importantly, if it weren't for a woman you wouldn't be here, which is a good enough reason to respect Women's History Month in my opinion.

Women have also suffered tremendously in the late 1800s and early to mid 1900s. The term "all men are created equal" may include women today, but at one point it didn't.

Throughout history women were seen as inferior to men and evil temptresses, most popularly in the biblical story of Adam and Eve.

A piece of Greek mythology described a woman named Pandora, who opened the forbidden box and forever plagued mankind with unhappiness.

Early Romans viewed women as children – forever inferior to men.

In 1866, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton created the American Equal Rights Association in efforts to gain attention to their cause which was women gaining the right to vote. Anthony was arrested in 1872 because she casted a vote which was then deemed "illegal." Stanton was known for her gift as a writer and using it to gain support for women's rights.

Anthony and Stanton also worked together on a newspaper called Revolution which was solely based on the unfairness women experienced because they were

seen as the weaker sex. Stanton's life influenced her daughter to continue within her mother's struggles because women still weren't seen as equal in the 1900s.

In 1915 Carrie Chapman Catt was the director of National American Woman Suffrage Association and she fought for women's suffrage on state and federal levels. Her efforts and those before her finally brought about the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

In May 1919 Congress received a vote of two-thirds and thus women had the right to vote.

Women's History Month is just as important as Black History Month because it is important to never forget what women in the past went through so that we as mothers, sisters, daughters and grandmothers don't have to suffer today.

Education was also another issue because at one time women weren't allowed to go to universities.

The first college in the United States to admit women was Franklin College in Lancaster, Pa. which was established in 1787. The first enrollment class consisted of 78 male and 36 female students.

At this point, women could finally receive an education, but the stereotype that they were inferior was still heavily recognized and difficult for them to escape from.

I could only imagine how some women must have felt during those difficult times. If they weren't respected in society, they probably weren't respected at home by their husbands either.

Today the law has helped women to receive equal education, the right to vote and the right to work, but society is still

trying to find the balance of gender equality.

According to Women's History Month's website, in 1987 Women's History Week was turned into Women's History Month and since 1995 presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have a series of proclamations designating March as the celebration of women's history.

Women's History Month should be respected by everyone with common sense. You don't have to agree with it but you must respect it.

You must.

The University has taken a few steps of its own to recognize the contributions of women and to also bring awareness to the gender divides we still see today.

FIU's Global Water for Sustainability Program (GLOWS) and the Women's Studies Center will host "Women and Water: The Role of Gender Equality in Defining Sustainability of Water Resources Management" at 3 p.m. Thursday March 21 in the Rafael Diaz-Balart Hall in the College of Law at Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

This event will celebrate women as well as World Water Day.

I highly recommend anyone with doubts towards Women's History Month and its importance, and those who support it, to come out and be a part of this event. It is open to all FIU students.

Women are important to society. They always have been and always will be.

Maya Angelou said it best, "How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!"

-opinion@fiusm.com

THE BEACON | Editorial

The University's lack of team spirit

During the much needed spring break, one of FIU's athletic programs did something that no team in school history has ever done: advance to a conference championship.

However, the amount that people care is still laughable.

Of course there were the scattered few that loved following the team throughout the regular season and into the playoffs, but the apathy with which the student body at the University follows the different sports is only comparable to how the general public views the presidential election.

With a team that competed well, all season long, finishing 18-14, the total reported attendance over 13 home games was 13,723. That is an average of just 1,056 per game good enough for last in the Conference behind a team that won four games this year.

Then, once the team becomes successful, students on Twitter blow up with excitement and support for the University.

So, The Beacon recommends that students don't just become the flaky fans the rest of South Florida is. Stand up and represent something that is not the stereotypical South Floridian.

The sports teams at FIU are doing well enough that their should be fan representation throughout all sporting events. The women's soccer team has been to the past two Sun Belt Championships and won one of them.

In 2009, the women's volleyball team won the Sun Belt Conference tournament and consistently won 20 games each year, excluding the 2012 season.

In 2010, the football team won the Sun Belt Conference championship and the baseball team won the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

For all of this success, there is very little fandom to show for it. Especially when the swipe of a Panther card makes the games free.

There is no excuse for the porous attendance by the students on campus. If you do attend one of these games during the semester, the bulk of attendees from the student section is student athletes.

For example, at the men's basketball games this year, it would be the football team or women's soccer team in attendance more than just the average student.

That might be because they care more about that specific sport, but it is a bit embarrassing to see miniscule amounts of people at a game on national television. It reflects poorly not only on the sports team, but on the University as a whole.

So, as the student voice, we urge you to support these teams. Many of the student-athletes do similar work loads to the average student, they just also have a full-time job practicing and preparing for a sport that, in most cases, won't find them a job once their playing days are done.

They do it for the love of the game. Now, you should reciprocate by supporting them and cheering them on at every game, not only when it's convenient.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@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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Video game violence is debated among students

AARON PABON
Staff Writer

"Absolutely not!" Eric Hernandez, art major, retorted when asked if video games cause violence.

"I've been playing games forever, and the most violent I get is when I drive in Miami," said Raymond Broder, an English major, after being asked the same question.

"Video games cause violence among youth" is a common phrase heard from the public during the aftermath of many tragic shootings. The same goes for the question of whether video games cause violence.

The debate is as old as the video games themselves -- their rise beginning since the late 70s.

In the aftermath of the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. the question has risen again and again, leading to a debate and an impasse.

"The only way it could be harmful is unless the environment surrounding the player is equally as harmful," said Rebecca Scott, a psychology major. "If the player has grown up in an environment of abuse or neglect and uses [video games] as an escape outlet, they might assimilate themselves into the game and have a tough time understanding the real world."

Adam Sessler, editor-in-chief and executive producer of Revision3 Games, appeared on Fox News to discuss whether violent video games played a role in the thoughts and actions of children becoming violent.

When asked if the video game industry holds any responsibility in children becoming violent, Sessler said not every game is made for children, and that there has been no official proof that the games desensitize violence.

On the web show, "The Jimquisition," host Jim Sterling showed a video of the graphic 1987 suicide of former treasurer of Pennsylvania, R. Budd Dwyer, as an example on how people are not desensitized to violence. Several viewers complained about the graphic nature of the video and Sterling responded saying that "this proves that video games don't desensitize players to violence because they have an understanding of reality, versus a fictional world."

David Wong, an undeclared freshman, recently visited the on-campus Gamestop to pick up copies of "Dead Space 3" and "Metal Gear Rising: Revengeance." "I have been playing video games since my parents got me a Playstation 1, and I have played all kinds of video games since then. I will admit that many games in my collection are violent, and I even played them as a kid, but I have never been in a fight, and have never thought about harming another person." When asked how come he has never been violent, he responded that his parents taught him "right from wrong."

Sessler cited moments in history that the argument and blame on a select media was considered

dangerous.

In 1954, German-American psychiatrist Fredric Wertham published a series of articles and a book called "Seduction of the Innocent." The author wrote in the book that comic books were harming 93 percent of youth with images of horror, crime stories of all types, and even attacked notable figures in the

subtext of bondage.

In response to Wertham's works, Marvel Comics wrote an editorial arguing the statistics stating that "93 percent of all young people read comics. Naturally a few young people get into some kind of trouble... so do a lot of older ones... and of course many of the kids who get into trouble do read comics. But

to make sure that the material was safe for children. However, in the late 70s and early 80s, many comic companies abandoned the CCA in favor of an in-house rating system.

The video game industry has undergone a similar situation with the founding of the Entertainment Software Rating Board. The ESRB is a self-regulatory organization that assigns a rating to a video game based on content in the U.S. and Canada, and enforces advertising guidelines for a game as well.

Many large retail stores like Walmart, Best Buy and GameStop prohibit the sale of unrated video games. Core system owners like Microsoft, Sony and Nintendo will not license games for their consoles unless they carry an ESRB rating.

"One of the biggest misconceptions with video games is that they are made for kids, which, they are not," said Robert Padres, a history major. "The ESRB rating tells you who the game is for and isn't for, and it's not kids buying these games, their parents are. A kid can't walk into a Gamestop and buy "Dead Space 3" because you need an ID and you must be over the age of 18, but their parents can get it for them."

"One of the most popular games out there is called "Grand theft Auto." Sessler said. "I think for a lot of parents, if the game has the name of a felony in it, it's probably unwise for your children."

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"If the player has grown up in an environment of abuse or neglect and uses [video games] as an escape outlet, they might assimilate themselves into the game and have a tough time understanding the real world."

Rebecca Scott
Junior
Psychology major

industry.

According to Wertham, Superman was considered a communist and a fascist hero because he was above mortal beings and was unstoppable; Batman and Robin were possibly homosexual and Wonder Woman was considered a lesbian for only fighting males, coming from an island of only females, and a possible underlying

what the article does not state is the fact that 93 percent of the boys and girls who get into no trouble at all also read comics."

In a short time, however, the Comics Magazine Association of America was founded to start the Comics Code Authority. The CCA's job was to edit and censor any and all comic books published in the US

University to celebrate women and water relationship

JESSICA VALERIE RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

The relationship between women and the most abundant element, water, is almost always overlooked.

This is what inspired the FIU's Global Water for Sustainability Program and the Women's Studies Center to join forces and present the "Women and Water: The Role of Gender Equality in Defining Sustainability of Water Resources Management" discussion.

March is women's history month; this month celebrates the contributions of women

to events in history and contemporary society.

It also happens to be World Water Day on March 22, where attention is called on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

An international day to commemorate fresh water was recommended at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and so the official date became established in 1993.

Since, each year has had a different focus. The 2013 World Water Day is also dedicated to the theme of "teamwork around water."

Hence the idea evolved to hold an event that would inform the community about both. The event will demonstrate the central role women play in the establishment, management, and safeguarding of water and will be exhibited by none other than FIU experts and members of the community like Suzanna Rose, executive director of the School of Integrated Science and Humanity, Maria Donoso, director of the Global Water for Sustainability Program, Purnima Madhivanan, associate professor, and many more.

-life@fiusm.com

"WOMEN AND WATER: THE ROLE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

When: march 21 at 3 pm

Where: Rafael Diaz-Balart Hall, RDB-1000, in the College of Law

BSU's annual fashion show presents diverse fashion

DUFFY DUFRESNE
Contributing Writer

The University's Black Student Union recently hosted its second annual BSU Fashion Show, named "I am Black Fashion."

Continuing off of the theme of BSU's Black History Month theme "I am Black History," the event featured 10 fashion lines that ranged from casual everyday wear to runway styles to Caribbean and African influ-

enced clothing. The night also included music, dance and even some comedy from hosts Sherrika Mitchell and Darrell Fletcher.

Ivlore Desorme, who played a major role in putting the night together, was initially worried about doing the show annually, but was pleased at the turnout.

"With it being at Biscayne Bay, my biggest fear was not having people in the seats. But honestly, it blossomed on its own. Even though we

didn't pass out flyers until a couple of days before the show, word of mouth was already out," said Desorme.

The fashion show began with music by Cameron Clausen, also known as DJ Cam, and "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was sung by Brianna Woods. There were also dance performances by Stevens Claude and Kim Avendano. The first line presented, named "Walk Fierce," was created by shoe designer Alejandra Smith.

The line featured bright colored women's high heels that contained bold designs and patterns. Smith was also a model in the first BSU fashion show, and a good friend of Desorme.

The second line of the night was "Black Cotton Apparel" created by Jude Case. Mainly containing graphic tees and sweaters, the line contained Caribbean and African influences. Black Cotton Apparel was followed by Xandri & Co.,

a line created by designers Alexandria Saunders, Cassidy M, and Tiffany P. Xandri & Co. was a bold line that contained bright colors and patterns for women's high-waist shorts and tees for men.

The fourth line, 2Fresh-Krew, created by Earnest Anderson and Darrell Ragin, was also featured in BSU's first fashion show and returned for a second time. Mostly tees for all ages, the line had an athletic feel

to it and featured the word "SWANK" across many of the tops. Dreams by Me, the fifth line of the show, featured dressy women's clothing, ranging from casual everyday looks to nightclub and evening wear.

Joel Franklin, the sixth line of the night, featured a classy mix of designer bow ties, jackets, and blazers for men. Eteeks Sivad, the following line, took an edgier

SEE FASHION, PAGE 5

Kiarostami's film is an intimate glimpse into the idea of romance

Taking his time to set up his film as per usual, Abbas Kiarostami spends the first portion of "Like Someone in Love" introducing Akiko, played by Rin Takanashi, a young woman in Japan who works as a call girl.

The same limited camera techniques for back and forth conversations that once bothered me in "Taste of Cherry" are brought back here, and yet they're endlessly more engaging this time around. In the opening scene alone, the atmosphere of the club from one angle is nicely contrasted against Akiko entirely on her own in the

other. The bright backdrop of Japan shows nicely in long takes within cars focused mainly on Rin Takanashi's face.

Glimpses of Akiko's life are revealed through the simplest things: stories she tells, voicemails she listens to, and even the way her expression and mood change in the presence of different people. It's a role that gives Takanashi a wide range of emotions to explore. Her first encounter with her client alone shows her at ease in a new place. It's a big difference to the guilt ridden woman she was mere hours before while driving past her grandmother, who has become only a frustrating memory of the life she once knew.

"Like Someone in Love" begins to unfold nicely after Akiko arrives

at her esteemed client's apartment. When she tries to coax her client, Watanabe Takashi, played by Tadashi Okuno, into bed, the immediate lack of comfort is clear in his expression and body language. The way Kiarostami shoots the long take in his bedroom in particular is amazing, only focusing on his disinterest in anything sexual with Akiko, while she remains shrouded in the reflection of a television screen.

This is followed immediately by Takashi moving around his apartment, reflecting on his feelings for the woman in his bedroom, who looks so familiar to other women he once knew, as Ella Fitzgerald's "Like Someone in Love" plays. From this point on, character focus changes from Akiko to Takashi, and what was

once assumed as a sexual relationship between the two turns into something entirely different.

Takashi respects her and Akiko respects him, and he finds himself caring for her as a member of his own family. The emphasis of this relationship comes when confronted by her overbearing and abusive fiancé, as he even takes on the false role of her grandfather.

The ambiguity of a relationship is something that Kiarostami explored in "Certified Copy," but the lines of this one in particular are far less blurred. Regardless, it's fascinating to watch the view the two interact and have an effect on each other's lives.

Kiarostami takes a slow and steady approach to everything within his film, closing things out with an

abrupt and impressive final act. It's not a directorial style that everyone is fond of, as I haven't been a fan of some of his former works, and interest in "Like Someone in Love" is ultimately reliant on the story and characters presented. This study of relationships and romance is an appealing one, especially as it deals with ideas and feelings rather than concrete facts.

Everyone in this little story that Kiarostami presents is under the idea that they are in love. This illusion of romance drives the characters and their interactions, no matter how crazy they are, placing them all in the compromising but fascinating position of someone in love.

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Black Student Union has successful fashion show



PHOTO COURTESY OF REGINALD JOSEPH

FASHION, PAGE 2

angle. The line contained many custom pieces from designer Geoffery Skeete, such as funky blazers and jackets for both men and women.

The last three lines of the night were Fly Affair Fashion, John 3:16, and Her Name Is, which were created by designers Jabian Sutherland and Jeanette Hollis, Rose Fils-Aime and Muriel Similien, and Ivlore Desorme, Nyobee McCall, the Special Events Co-Chair for BSU, and Christini Jenkins respectively. Fly Affair Fashion featured primarily women's clothing, with

the occasional graphic tee containing a play on the word 'fan', an acronym for Fly Affair Nation, which the line also goes by. John 3:16 featured high end fashion for both men and women. Lastly, Her Name Is mixed thrifted clothing with department store pieces to create a very trendy look.

The fashion show received a lot of positive feedback from audience members.

"The clothing that I observed at the fashion show is definitely stuff I could see myself wearing, there was a nice blend of different styles," said Reginald Joseph.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2013

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20

HOUSING GENERAL ROOM SELECTION
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: Housing Online

INTERVIEWING SKILLS WORKSHOP
WHEN: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
WHERE: MMC Graham Center (GC) 230

STUDY ABROAD GENERAL SESSION
WHEN: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE PC 113
WHERE: MMC PC 113

RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP
WHEN: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: BBC Wolfe University Center 255,

TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WORKSHOP
WHEN: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
WHERE: BBC WUC 1553

THURSDAY, MAR. 21

"THE BEST OF PRO-MAXBDA" SCREENING AND LECTURE
WHEN: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
WHERE: BBC WUC 157

H-1B IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY SESSION
WHEN: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: BBC WUC 255

WOMEN AND WATER: THE ROLE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
WHEN: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: MMC RDB-1000

NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM: COPING WITH THE COST OF HEALTHCARE
WHEN: 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: AHC3 101

FIU'S ENSEMBLE-IN-RESIDENCE
WHEN: 3 p.m.
WHERE: Concert Hall - Wertheim Performing Arts Center
10910 SW 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

To have your event featured, email us at
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Health Fee Committee
will be holding public hearings on

Thursday, March 28, 2013 MMC
GC 150 at 10:00am
Thursday, March 28, 2013 BBC
WUC 155 at 2:00pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Health Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

Panther making case for rookie of the year

BRYAN PALACIO
Contributing Writer

Softball freshman Corinne Jenkins has gone from first-year pitcher to one of the best pitchers in a Sun Belt Conference that includes two of the best teams in the nation.

"I don't let the fact that I'm a freshman keep me from believing that I can still dominate and win games," Jenkins said. "It motivates me more, because you come in here and nobody expects anything and you have to prove yourself."

Dominating and winning games has become part of her repertoire as the rookie pitcher leads the team with an 11-2 record. Her 11 wins are one more than the rest of the pitching staff combined. She makes up more than half of the wins the team has achieved.

Despite her recent success, Jenkins' season didn't get off to a smooth start.

After winning her first game on opening night versus Georgetown, Jenkins was clobbered in her next game by a North Carolina State team that won the season opening tournament. FIU lost the game

11-3 in just five innings after the mercy rule was applied. She gave up six runs in just the first inning of the game.

"Not good," Jenkins said. "It definitely helped me, as soon as that game was over I was like, 'Alright, I'm going to sit here and figure it out before the next game. This is not happening to me again.' Ever since then I've been reading this book. It's called 'Ten Minute Toughness', it's all about the mental part of the game and I just really feel like it's helped me a lot."

Jenkins can also count on great support from her father, Mack Jenkins, who is the Assistant Pitching Coach for the Cincinnati Reds. Mack was a pitcher in the Reds' Double AA team in the 1980s.

"It's awesome and honestly he's been such a good influence on me because he's hard on me, but at the same time he's helped me so much with the mental aspect of it," Jenkins said. "I know I can always talk to him, good or bad, he has something good to say that helps me. When I first started actually, he read some books on softball pitching and first helped me get started with it. He's got a really good eye for mechanics and pitching, so he can

always help me with that."

Jenkins is first on the team with an ERA of 2.42. She's also pitched 29 more innings than the next closest pitcher and more than twice as many as the other two pitchers on the team.

In fact, Jenkins is third in the SBC having pitched a total of 92.2 innings, only eight fewer than the pitcher in first place. She's tied for first in the SBC in wins and third in strikeouts.

Jenkins' ERA is also good for seventh best in the conference. But of those pitchers who are ahead of her, only one has pitched more innings than her. She leads the team in winning percentage, wins, innings pitched, strikeouts, appearances, games started and batters struck out while looking.

But her recent rise to success is only a beginning step to what she wants to accomplish. Her main goal is still to win the conference and play for a championship.

"I'd like to win all the conference games that I pitch this year," Jenkins said. "That's a big goal of mine."

Jenkins attributes much of her success to the diligence paid to her by her coaching

MORE THAN BEGINNER'S LUCK

Corinne Jenkins in the Sun Belt Conference

CATEGORY	Jenkins	Rank
Wins	11	1st
Innings pitched	92.2	3rd
Games started	16	3rd
Strikeouts	85	3rd
ERA	2.42	7th
Opposing BA	.228	10th

Courtesy of sunbeltsports.org

staff. Head Coach Jake Schumann has done nothing but praise the young pitcher since even before the season started.

With 19 games left in the season, Jenkins will look to continue her stellar play and help lead the Panthers to a conference title and a chance at an NCAA championship.

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Tennis still mired in slump, drop fifth straight game

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

Throughout the season, one of the constant messages tennis Head Coach Katarina Petrovic drills into her team is that every player needs to give 100 percent effort out on the court.

On Sunday, March 17 that wasn't the case against Winthrop as the Panthers fell 5-2 and to 2-11 on the season. They're now in the midst of a five-game losing streak, one less than this year's earlier streak of six straight losses.

"I completely agree that the energy wasn't there," Petrovic said on Sunday. "It's tough for players to try to play their best when they see their teammates not trying their hardest. I'm still happy for the way we played, but it's still not fair that we try in doubles and not in singles. I want to congratulate Winthrop, they were the better team today."

With inconsistency hurting FIU, junior Giulietta Boha and freshman Carlotta Orlando have been an exception as they have been the two players providing any punch for the Panthers lately.

Against Winthrop, Orlando lost in her doubles match being paired with freshman Aleksandra Trifunovic 8-4.

"I don't think they played well in doubles," Petrovic said. "Even the girls agree that they tried too much instead of playing it simple, but they are freshmen and are going to improve."

Orlando bounced back and won her singles match 6-4, 3-6 and won the tiebreaker 10-0.

"In doubles, I was more nervous and the other girl played better than me, but it made me more focused for my singles match," Orlando said. "I think the doubles match helped me have more energy on the court for singles."

Despite losing the doubles point, one doubles match did go the Panthers' way. The duo of Boha and senior Rita Maisak won their match 8-4.

Boha also took care of business in her singles match once again bouncing back after losing the first set to win the second set and win 10-5 in the tiebreaker.

"I used to play with her [Maisak] in the fall and in my freshman year, and we used to

always play well together and today we played well too," Boha said. "The first set I did not play well at all, I was not happy

anything from their five and six positions in singles as senior Magali Holt and freshman Michelle Sabado both lost in

endure.

Maisak has been in a slump lately and Petrovic placed her at the number three position. Still, the senior once again found herself on the wrong end of her singles match. Maisak now has three straight singles losses.

"Rita is a senior so I'm pretty sure she doesn't want end her career losing, so I'm sure she will get better," Boha said.

Aside from not getting enough production from every player on the court in a given match on a consistent basis, the Panthers have also been struggling to get doubles points.

The Panthers have failed to win the doubles point in their past five matches. For the whole season, they have won the doubles point in only three matches.

There have been three matches this season that FIU lost 4-3 and failed to win the doubles point.

The Panthers will now have to wait until March 26 to attempt to end their doubles drought and their five game losing streak when FIU hosts Tulane.

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“It's tough for players to try to play their best when they see their teammates not trying their hardest. I'm still happy for the way we played, but it's still not fair that we try in doubles and not in singles.”

Katarina Petrovic
Head Coach
FIU Tennis

with it. I told myself, 'Whatever, forget the first set and now focus on the second set'. Then I started playing really well and in the match tie-breaker I was really focused."

That would be all that went the Panthers' way against Winthrop. Once again, FIU couldn't get

straight sets.

Trifunovic, a freshman, lost in straight sets and now has lost three of her last four singles matches. Petrovic, however, isn't too worried.

The head coach said she is going through the typical growing pains that freshmen

No.8 sand volleyball is off to a solid start

DANIEL BREY
Contributing Writer

Win first game in FIU sand volleyball history: Check.

Rank top ten in the nation: Check.

After serving up a 5-0 season-opening sweep

against Grand Canyon University, FIU sand volleyball has shown signs of promise after finishing off a grueling west coast road trip despite a 2-3 record.

The Panthers' sub-.500 record does not accurately reflect their level of play,

with two of their three losses separated by just one point.

In addition, the Panthers faced three top-5 ranked teams over spring break including No. 1 ranked Pepperdine, No. 2 Long Beach State, and No. 5 Hawaii.

STEP-AN-OVA THE COMPETITION

Much of the Panthers' early season success can be attributed to the exceptional play of Kate Stepanova and her duals partner Maryna Samoday who

have won three of their last four matches in duals competition.

Stepanova, a former FSU sand volleyball standout, is no stranger to success on the sand courts.

During the first American Volleyball Coaches Association Collegiate

Sand Volleyball Championships in 2012, Stepanova led a first year Seminoles team to a third-place finish in both overall team and duals categories.

Her transfer to FIU brought much needed expe-

SEE SAND, PAGE 7



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

After a 2-3 start to the season, the FIU volleyball season heads home to face Tulane on March 23 for the home opener.

Panthers eye home opener against Tulane

SAND, PAGE 6

rience to a first-year Panther squad, which, accompanied by her unique leadership ability, has proven beneficial to a roster of consisting of mostly freshmen and sophomores.

"Stepanova is our team leader," Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett said. "She's been there, and understands what to expect during a season... Her experience is priceless."

AN ALL-FIU FINAL IN HAWAII

FIU ended their five-game road trip dominating the Hawaii tournament on March 16, which resulted in a thrilling three-set finals matchup between Stepanova/Ksenia Sukhareva, and Jess Mendoza/Samoday, both FIU teams.

Out of a pool of sixteen duals teams hailing from four different schools, both

FIU squads dismantled the opposing competition on route to an impressive finals performance.

Stepanova and Sukhareva, the winners of the Hawaii tournament, easily handled their first matchup against Chaminade University's Brenda Walker and Regina Johnson defeating the duo 21-7, and 21-5.

The quarterfinals match was no walk in the park for the duo, as University of Hawaii's Ali Longo and Karlee Riggs took the match to three sets.

In the semifinals, Stepanova and Sukhareva defeated yet another UH team to reach the finals where they eventually beat Mendoza and Samoday 21-13, 19-21 and 15-7.

BUCK-CROCKETT MIXING AND MATCHING

In hopes of establishing a consistent top-5 duals team, Buck-Crockett has been

extremely active in re-arranging players in duals team competition.

Buck-Crockett is so active in her role that in every match played this season, not one duals team has stayed intact.

Buck-Crockett has even separated her most effective duals team in Stepanova and Samoday, which evidently, proved successful during last weekend's Hawaii tournament.

As the season prolongs, it will be interesting to see what players Buck-Crockett will pair with freshman standout Emily Podschweit, as the Panthers travel back to Miami to face Webber International University on March 23.

Podschweit, the first recruit out of Colorado in sand volleyball history, has been matched with four different players throughout the season.

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Schmidt: Team USA needs to go 'all in' to win WBC

MIKE SCHMIDT AP Staff

Captain America used to be Derek Jeter. Now it's David Wright, and he had been the star for Team USA until a rib strain ended his stay in the World Baseball Classic.

Wright said he could have played, but the New York Mets said no and demanded he go for tests. That is normal procedure, as Team USA is forced to honor all wishes of a player's parent club.

Minus Wright, his teammates lost twice and went home. With the U.S. elimination went TV ratings in this country. It also opened a door to study the relevance of the WBC, at least in its current form.

Relevance, maybe. Or need — that may be a better question.

The WBC tournament, as we are led to believe, is designed to promote baseball throughout the world. Asian teams, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands get national TV coverage.

What the world needs from Major League Baseball is not more high-profile competition — rather, its help at the grass-roots level, help forming youth leagues and getting kids interested through proper instruction.

Now, the big question: Why can't the USA Dream Team walk through this tournament with ease?

Answer one, it's not a Dream Team. And two, there are three Latino countries — the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela — with talent just as rich. But even they haven't won it.

That honor went to Japan in both previous tournaments. Why? Japan goes "all in" for the WBC, it's out to prove something. The best they have play, even though this time it lost in the semifinals. It's the Japanese mindset of anything worth doing is worth doing right, being invested totally.

The U.S. doesn't take the same approach for this competition. It has higher priorities, players on mega-contracts to protect and personal issues. Many players have legitimate needs to stay with their clubs during spring training.

Josh Hamilton can't leave Angels' camp, Ryan Howard is coming off an injury and Stephen Strasburg has well-documented arm issues. There are legit reasons why the U.S. players are not "all in," nor do I feel they ever will be.

With other countries, the stars who are physically OK do play. For some reason they are committed to country, not parent team. Look at Jose Reyes, who has good reason to turn down the Dominican invitation. He was a new player in camp with the Toronto Blue Jays, good reason to stay home. But no.

With so many Dominican big names playing, he felt obligated.

Team USA was definitely formidable, with high-caliber players at all positions, but not an All-Star roster by any means. The catcher, third baseman, shortstop, right and left fielders would be on

an All-Star roster, as would the 1-2 starters and a reliever or two, but that's about it.

It was basically the same for other competing teams. The Dominican and Puerto Rico had top players, but not MLB All-Stars at all positions. The talent level was very similar, that's why Team

USA loses.

After 2006, the U.S. was to pull out all stops to win in 2009. After a loss in the semifinals to Japan, same thing. So the U.S. brought in the heavy artillery this time with Joe Torre & Co.

Dud again, 0 for 3 in three WBC opportunities. And

maybe it's time to face the music.

Until Team USA and the MLB clubs vested in winning the WBC by motivating — in some way — the best American players to compete, Team USA will be no different than its competition.



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BBC is home to Motorboat Operator Certification Course

MADISON FANTOZZI AND
STEPHAN USECHE
FIUSM Staff

Biscayne Bay Campus serves as the prime location for the Motorboat Operator Certification Course that is offered to both novice and amateur boaters.

The course has been offered for 12 years and is necessary for researchers to drive and assist in operations on a boat. Becoming MOCC qualified allows students to drive motor boat vessels for state and federal programs and agencies, schools and universities.

MOCC is a two-week course, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. divided into theory and practice.

With an average of six students per class, the course offers plenty of one-on-one time and hands-on experience. On-water exercises are performed with three students per instructor.

“When students get through with this course, they will have the confidence to take command,” said Captain Robert Weisman, FIU boating safety officer and instructor of the MOCC course.

Weisman teaches the course alongside BBC Marine Operations Manager Captain Bill Chamberlain.

According to Weisman, 78 percent of students pass the course.

The students’ final examination consists of three components: a trailer exercise, a boating exercise and a written test.

Before the students can get out on the water, they must undergo a checklist of preparation and procedures.

“There have been cases where students forgot to put in the boat



PHOTO BY STEPHAN USECHE/THE BEACON

Captain Robert Weisman, left, evaluates students Daniel Vega, center, and Kelscy Chamber, right, on their boating skills for the final exam.

plug and the boat sank at the dock,” Weisman said.

Weisman said patience and decision-making skills are important to be a good crew chief.

“If the weather changes quickly, you have to be able to make that decision to come in and wait for another day,” Weisman said.

The second part of the exam is an on-the-water practical.

“We used to drive to U.S. 1 and 163rd Avenue and have to navigate through all the traffic,” said Weisman. “We would go to the public boat ramp that is very popular.”

BBC is now the home of MOCC’s

boat yard and a boat ramp that it shares with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Once on the water, the students undergo simulated scenarios to test their boating and safety skills. These include maneuvering through five buoys in a star-shaped formation, rescuing a dummy and performing CPR and successfully avoiding unexpected obstacles in the boat’s path.

The course appropriately named the dummy Wilson, after the volleyball that becomes Tom Hanks’ beloved companion in “Cast Away”.

“We have to pretend that this is a person who fell overboard,” said

Sara Jarossy, a student at Nova Southeastern University who works with the U.S. Geological Survey. “As we are driving, Bob will throw the dummy over the boat and we have to notice.”

The students have to retrieve the dummy from the water and perform CPR while the driver of the boat calls for help and drives to the dock.

Another component of the exam tests the student’s driving and team-working skills. One student maneuvers a truck, trailer and boat through a “cones course” and another student “spots” the driver.

“If someone is used to driving a VW Bug, putting them behind

the wheel of a truck, a trailer and a boat can be quite intimidating,” said Weisman.

Alex Carreno, MOCC instructor trainer said he explains what he expects and wants students to recognize and fix problems themselves.

“If he hits a cone, that’s where I’ll step in and say ‘Hey, you hit the cone. Stop and do it over again,’” said Carreno. “But other than that, I can’t tell him how to do it because he should know at this point.”

The students need motorboat operator certification in their current jobs and for future careers.

MOCC student Kelscy Chambers works with USGS and the University of Florida.

“Right now we rely on other people [to drive the boats], but we want to become self-reliant,” Chambers said. “I am taking this course because I am going to be driving airboats and conducting bird surveys in the Everglades.”

MOCC student Daniel Vega is an FIU sophomore and served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard.

“I am taking this course so I can be able to take scientific researchers out on boats and take them diving to do their research,” Vega said.

The course is currently offered free-of-charge, but does not offer a commercial license or college credit.

In order for MOCC to be a three-credit course, it would have to be proposed to The Office of Academic Affairs and reviewed and approved by academic boards. Weisman said this would take about a year.

“The course is for people to do their jobs and to do it safely,” said Weisman.

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SPC’s “Do you think you can dance?”

VINSON PRESSLEY
Staff Writer

So you think you can dance?

The Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus is having its first dance competition called Do You Think You Can Dance? The deadline to sign up is Friday, March 22.

The competition is open for student solo and group acts and will take place on April 9 at 6 p.m. in the Wolfe Theater at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The event is open to all students and members of the community.

Students who participate in the competition will have the option of working with choreographers for preparation of the show.

According to Judisha Chetty, graduate assistant for Campus Life-BBC, students will have the option of working with choreographers from the Dancing with the Wolfe series but it isn’t mandatory for preparation for the show.

However, students must have their choreography ready and attend the orientation on Friday, March 29 in ballrooms 221-223 in the Wolfe University Center.

There are clear parallels between SPC’s dance competition and the talent shows viewers tune into every week.

According to Chetty, this event was born out of “pop culture” and talent shows such as “So You Think You Can Dance?” SPC’s event will be similar

to the popular TV show: there will be judges and prizes given to the winning contestants. SPC plans to have a host and DJ but it has not been determined who will fulfill those duties yet according to Chetty.

Nonetheless, Chetty believes that students will have a chance to showcase their talents and express themselves through dancing while also having the chance to receive recognition.

Jade Martincak, freshman business major who also danced with Hip Hop Kids for six years, likes the idea of FIU having its first dance competition. It will give everyone a chance to “work and play together,” said Martincak. “I dance to let loose and enjoy myself.”

Niloufar Firoozi-Badorally, a sophomore biology major who also knows how to belly dance, thinks SPC’s dancing competition will be interesting and cool.

It is the people one least expects, Firoozi-Badorally said, who will compete. Given that FIU is international, the competition will probably have very diverse acts and performances.

SPC is aware of how popular these shows are and encourages students to express their ideas for shows and events.

Chetty recommended that students voice their opinions about what they want to see and that SPC is open to all suggestions.

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Apple at Bay



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

In the Kovens Conference Center at 10 a.m. on March 18, Co-founder of Apple, Steve Wozniak, spoke to students as part of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications Week. The lecture was introduced by SJMC Dean Raul Reis and President Mark Rosenberg.