

## Low-key graduation ceremony for 'invisible' students

**SIMONE GARVEY-EWAN**  
*Contributing Writer*

FIU's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Allies Organization is going further than just changing their profile pictures.

They're hosting a Lavender Graduation for students of the LGBTQA recognized for their academic achievements, leadership and volunteer work to the general and FIU community.

"LGBTQA students are invisible here on campus," said Gisela Vega, associate director of LGBTQA and organizer of the Lavender Graduation. "We want them to know that we care."

Vega said that it is important to have a celebration that will recognize individuals outside of the regular graduating class for their achievements.

Charkivia Lovett, a graduate student and assistant for LGBTQA, said that students need a support system and the Lavender Graduation ceremony provides students with the perfect one.

"I recommend every LGBTQA student to participate in this ceremony," said Lovett.

The ceremony is sponsored by organizations including the Stonewall Pride Alliance, Advocacy Coalition and Delta Lambda Phi -- a predominantly gay, bisexual and progressive male fratern-

ity. The Medical Student Gay Straight Alliance is an organization who is in the process of becoming more involved with the ceremony, according to Vega.

"LGBTQA students face a lot of discrimination and bullying. At times they are disowned by their family and alienated by colleagues. Living with such a burden is a huge weight on an individual's shoulders and graduating from college is very admirable," said Stonewall Pride Alliance's President Andrew Becerra-Mendheim, a junior political science and international relations major.

Becerra-Mendheim said LGBTQA students deserve recognition for their accomplishments since general student activities do not usually acknowledge them.

"This way, they know that they are special and that they are accepted," said Becerra-Mendheim.

June is typically the nationwide Gay Pride Month but since school is not in session at this time, FIU has decided to denote April as being the month where LGBTQA events will take place in honor of gay pride.

The ceremony will take place Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 4 p.m. in Graham Center Room 243.

-news@fiusm.com



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Freshman Justin Santoli, a GLBT advocate, recruits Denielle Alto as a supporter on 'National Coming Out Day.'

## University provost welcomes fourth faculty fellow

**JOSEFINE GYLLENSPORRE**  
*Contributing Writer*

On Aug. 12, 2013, the Provost's Office will welcome Kathleen Wilson as its new Faculty Fellow. According to Provost Douglas Wartzok, Wilson's professional background makes her an excellent candidate for the position.

Wilson is a senator at the United Faculty of Florida and associate director of the FIU's School of Music. She has bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees in music related fields.

"She brings a lot of experience to the table already because she has served administrative roles.

She came here as director of the School of Music. She has also served as president of UFF," said Wartzok.

Wartzok sees the transition in a positive light, where a new professor will get the opportunity to understand the inner workings of the administration on campus and cascade down this information to faculty colleagues.

Wartzok said Wilson's new position will ease communication between the administration and faculty.

"The other side of it is for the faculty fellow to understand more of the operations of the Provost's office so that they can

help explain it to the faculty and obviously within that they do a lot of projects. The biggest thing is to make sure that on both sides we recognize what the other group is doing," said Wartzok.

The University has seen three previous fellows. The Faculty Fellow program accepts only one professor per three-year term.

"I think it's been very successful. It's helped me immensely but I also think that it's helped relationships with the faculty," said Wartzok.

Wartzok said that although the fellowship is an administrative role, it will be beneficial when the candidate returns as faculty.

"This would give her the University-wide experience in academic administration, which I think will be beneficial for her personally and for when she goes back to the faculty and takes that perspective with her," said Wartzok.

University administration -- in particular the Office of the Provost -- is engaged in efforts to improve the rate and speed of college graduates.

"Everyone in this office has that as a very important focus. We also have goals for improving our research profile and she will help us out as we think of other ways of supporting faculty," said

Wartzok.

Wartzok said that although Wilson will serve an essential role as a linking device between University administration and faculty, he will also look to her for advice.

"There are always several tradeoffs and decisions one has to make between what we would like to do and what we can actually do with the money that's available and so I will look to her for advice," said Wartzok.

Wilson was unavailable for comment as of press time for this story.

-news@fiusm.com

## Health fee to increase by 2.84 percent next year

**ALYSSA ELSO**  
*Staff Writer*

The health fee committee passed an 2.84 percent health fee increase on March 28 to assist Student Health Services in providing better healthcare to students. The new services will be offered in the summer semester with another \$10.50 tacked on to the health fee students already pay.

"University Health

Services asked for a 2.84 percent increase, as opposed to the 5 percent increase they could have asked for," said Andrew Black, assistant director of student affairs for Recreational Services and member of the committee. "The 2.84 percent increase will approximately amount to \$10.50 per student, per semester."

The Committee passed the increase in a 6-0 unanimous vote. Students

present at the meeting provided positive feedback prompting the committee to approve the increase.

"Ten dollars isn't much of an increase for all of the new services that they are going to provide," said Ashley Aguiar, sophomore architecture major. "I'm usually on campus until really late, and having the option to get 24/7 care would be extremely beneficial."

According to Black, new

services will include a rise in nurses' salaries, around-the-clock clinical service, increased physician hours at the Biscayne Bay Campus, funding to provide Health Campus 20/20 Suicide Prevention along with threat assessment planning, piloting an emergency fund for students with psychotropic medication needs and an additional wellness coordinator position that will focus on strategic program planning.

"In order to meet the accreditation compliance, we will contract out an after hours service that will provide students with 24/7 health service," said Oscar Loynaz, director of University Health Services.

Students with disabilities will benefit from the increase because the Disability Resource Center will be hiring an additional disability consultant to help track student academic process and improve grad-

uation time.

"They will be adhering to the national best practices standard of 300 students to each disability consultant ratio as opposed to the current 400 to 1," Black said.

This is the first time in three years that the health fee is being increased, helping to fund many new services to further benefit student health care.

-news@fiusm.com

# 2012-2013 SGC-MMC SENATOR CANDIDATE PLATFORMS

## College of Arts & Sciences

### ----Desmond Gustavo Petit

I want to attract more students to other majors within the college, bring more internships/career fairs for Arts and Science majors, bring more advisers to over selected majors, and to promote more student involvement with different organizations on campus.

### ----Orlando Crespo

I would also produce policies that would help students with printing and other costs as well as extracurricular programs particularly appealing to the students of the College of Arts & Sciences. I believe an important issue facing students of the College of Arts & Sciences is developing what is necessary to find a secure job in the workforce.

### ----James A D'Cruz

SGA's lack of transparency as perceived by the whole student body has discouraged a healthy relationship between itself and the student body as a whole. As a senator, I will work with other senators within SGA to implement a forum through which students may voice their concerns directly to their representatives.

### ----Nicole Buchely

I would like to offer more test preparation for graduate entry exams such as the LSAT and MCAT. I would also like to have interview workshops for those students who apply to graduate institutions.

## College of Business

### ----James Harden

One of the biggest issues continues to be a voice for those with online classes; I created a committee in my first year in SGA and would like to see it function in helping student resolve online class issues. Also, meeting with local business leaders to have opinions on how the real world works is something that students look for.

### ----Nick Aquart

If elected I would organize events that would expose all business students to the variety of business organization on campus. Moreover, the one tool that nearly each and every business uses is Microsoft Excel and I strongly believe that students, myself included, would benefit from having a week of free Excel workshops each semester.

## Lower-division

### ----Mary Corbin

The most important issue facing lower-division students is lack of knowledge and involvement. I think it is very important for students to know what is happening with their school and student government. I want the lower-division students to feel comfortable with talking to me about issues they may have or just with asking me simple questions.

## Honors College

### ----Raul Alvarez

The most pressing issue in the Honors College is the lack of funding from the activity and service fee. In 2012, the Honors College received only \$8,000 out of its requested \$20,650. I, as the Honors senator, made a full plea and presentation during the budget hearings on why the Honors College is such a valuable asset to the university and why it deserves more funding.

## At-Large

### ----Javier Navas

I want to implement a new shuttle system to compliment the CATS shuttle system in order to provide students more access to the surrounding community. Additionally, as more classes are added to accommodate the increase in student population, it would benefit students to have more access to the faculty evaluations taken at the end of the semester and placing them on the FIU SGA website in order to assist students in deciding which class to choose.

## Graduate Senators

### ----Janiel Francisco Vargas

As their advocate for SGA, I will work side-by-side with the University Graduate School in order to make sure that all of their needs are addressed, and that all of their inquiries are answered as well. The most important issue for my constituents is funding, funding, and even more

funding; graduate funding is paramount for most students at this level.

### ----Saman Sargolzaei

One of the most important issue facing graduate students is to find an ideal job to follow with their interests and skills. We aim to facilitate the tools and skills required for graduate students to better fulfill their future career requirements.

### ----Svetlana V. Tyutina

I will promote academic excellence and leadership among graduate students by helping graduate students to get more external and internal funding, as well as to find external scholarships and fellowships. I will enhance the non-academic life of graduate students, including family-oriented events. I will carry out both academic and non-academic projects in collaboration with other, especially Miami-based universities. I will increase the participation of Graduate Students in FIU events.

## College of Education

### ----Chanel Simmons

The most important issue facing the College of Education students would be the establishment of field hours between Miami-Dade and Broward County. Having faculty, staff, and administration see the accomplishments we achieve in spite of the challenges we may face, would bring awareness to the overload of field placement hours at FIU.

### ----Javier Morales

One of the most important issues facing students is graduating on time. I feel the Graduate Success Initiative, and its tools, should be marketed better to the entire student body.

**These platforms are based on a questionnaire sent to senatorial candidates. Candidates who are not included did not respond to the questionnaire.**

The Beacon reserves the right to edit for style, clarity, and content.

# THE BEACON

## EDITORIAL BOARD

### EDITOR IN CHIEF

**PHILIPPE BUTEAU**

### BBC MANAGING EDITOR

**NADRA MABROUK**

### PRODUCTION MANAGER/

#### COPY CHIEF

**LAURA ALONSO**

### NEWS DIRECTOR

**BRANDON WISE**

### LIFE! EDITOR

**EISSY DE LA MONEDA**

### SPORTS DIRECTOR

**EDUARDO ALMAGUER**

### OPINION EDITOR

**MICHAEL BAISDEN**

### PHOTO EDITOR

**ALFONSO YEC**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:  
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
(305) 348-2709  
news@fiusm.com

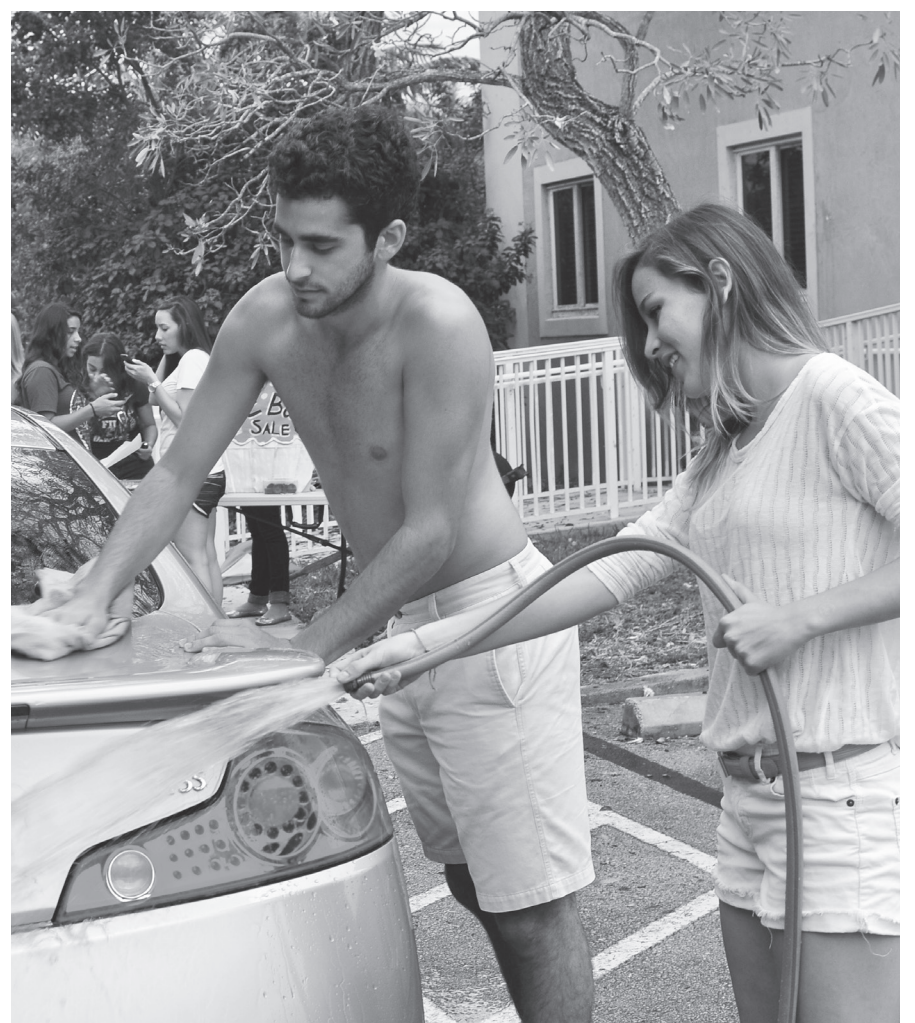
Biscayne Bay Campus  
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
(305) 919-4722  
bbc@fiusm.com

Editor-in-Chief:  
(305) 348-1580  
philippe.buteau@fiusm.com

Advertising:  
(305) 348-6993  
advertising@fiusm.com

*The Beacon* is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. *The Beacon* is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. *The Beacon* is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.

## Squeaky Clean



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Freshman Manny Careaga and sophomore Lili Garcia participate in a Pi Kappa Alpha carwash fundraiser while Delta Phi Epsilon holds a collaborative bake sale (behind).

## A little too trusting with our valuables

**JUNETTE REYES**  
*Staff Writer*

Within any given week, I am asked to watch someone's belongings while they go to the bathroom. Mind you, we both are usually complete strangers to each other and are simply sharing a bench or table.

I honestly do not mind watching over their belongings but the fact that some

perhaps, as a student body, some of us are probably too trustful of others, despite not knowing them at all.

I do not know if it is a sense of camaraderie since we are all students of FIU, or the simple fact that some of us just look trustworthy, such as myself.

Though the idea is a little troublesome to me, especially since most of the time it is some expensive type

are some areas on campus, such as the Green Library that have posters on the wall clearly directing us to be more cautious with our belongings due to a prominent streak of laptop theft.

In my case, I rarely ever ask someone to watch my stuff. Even if it means losing a great spot, such as the coveted tables on the first floor of GL, I will always take my bag with me. Call me paranoid, but that is just the way I work.

Senior psychology major Barbarita Guevara says she typically looks at the vibe of the person before determining that they are trustworthy to watch her belongings.

"If they're friendly and engaging in conversation, I would feel that I can leave my stuff with them, especially if they asked me to do the same for them beforehand," said Guevara.

Guevara indicates that if they come off as someone randomly sitting by, then

she would not feel comfortable leaving her belongings with that person.

Junior English major Selena Peraza, on the other hand, is a little bit more trusting of others and says she always asks people to watch her stuff, even if she does not know them.

"It is usually when I go to the bathroom or do something very quickly, not for an hour," said Peraza.

Peraza indicates that she never feels as though she is in an environment of untrustworthy people.

The matter obviously varies from student to student, but I do not think it would hurt to be just the slightest cautious from now on.

This is an era and generation of technology, which makes us all very likely to possess something that is very much desirable and thus more likely to be stolen.

-junette.reyes@fiusm.com

**THE BEACON** | Editorial

## A financial burden for students

Snoop Dogg said it best back in '92, "everybody got their cups but they ain't chipped in."

The people with their cups not chipping in are dual enrollment students, students in high school that are taking college level courses at a university or college. They are exempted from paying tuition or any associated fee, and those fees are then waived at the university or college they attend.

The waiver was implemented by the Board of Governors regulation and Florida statutes, both make the cost of taking college courses free for high school students who take dual enrollment courses in any higher education institution in Florida Colleges or State University system. This is nothing new.

Before this is misconstrued, dual enrollment students are charged tuition and fees, but the waiver needs to be applied so the students are not held financially responsible – a technicality. And to clarify, non-dual enrollment students are allowed to register for courses first, before dual enrollment students. However, allowing dual enrollment students to take free college courses at a university, as a result of their "exempt" status, is a disservice to the full-time students.

In the past the amount of money waived from dual enrollment students' fees was taken from the education and general trust fund, money generated through tuition and state funds. Now the plan is to take the waiver amount, or the total of what would have come from dual enrollment students, from the student fees – activity and service, health, and athletics.

Just to put it into perspective, imagine someone going to a party where everyone is required to chip in for food, beverages and snacks. Now, for some reason, a kid is allowed to go to the party, without chipping in for anything, gets to benefit from the festivities and it is totally fine with the host. This is an issue.

It is already a burden for students to pay tuition – not to mention that the state is currently looking at a 6 percent increase – but now the full responsibility falls on University students to pay for high schoolers to take the same classes and attend the same student-fee supported events. Not only are students paying for it, it is coming out of a fee that may or may not benefit dual enrollment students.

We're told separate pieces of information: these students do and do not attend the University's events or participate in on-campus clubs or organizations, from a University administrator and student government president, respectively. Unfortunately, this does not change the fact that there is 7 percent less activity and service money to go around to the University's student organizations because the dual enrollment waiver is being applied differently.

And why exactly is the University applying the waiver differently? As of press time, Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell still has not answered that question. If dual enrollment students are to attend the University, they should be charged student fees like every other Panther. If not that, then someone – either from the legislature or the University – needs to make sure only non-dual enrollment students take advantage of what the student fees provide. Just because these high school students are not paying for tuition doesn't mean that the problem goes away.

At the end of the day, the question is whether or not these students are bringing anything to FIU. They could possibly be future students. They could recommend the University to their friends. They could be in the mindset of being "Worlds Ahead" for all we know – but we don't. It's a maybe game. It's a gamble. A gamble that current students should not have to pay for.

“ I do not know if it is a sense of camaraderie or the simple fact that some of us just look trustworthy. ”

students ask complete strangers to do so baffles me.

This makes me think that

of technology that students ask a stranger to watch over.

It does not seem to faze students, even when there

like being in a desert on a horse with no name-empty.

What does this mean? No demand!

If more restaurants are added to BBC, even though only a handful of students will visit the cafeteria for half the week, it would not be profitable and viable to survive.

According to Lorvin Ramirez, assistant food service director, Grille Works used to stay open until 8 p.m. but during the last two hours of the shift, he said only three to five customers would eat there.

Ramirez pointed out that currently, they wouldn't have the volume of students necessary to open and sustain a new restaurant at BBC.

But the situation isn't hopeless.

Ramirez encouraged that students can come to dining services or directly to him and make suggestions on what they want to see on the menu and if possible, they will make it happen.

Ramirez said that recently a student suggested quinoa and it made it to the menu. So although we may not have more restaurants, at least I can pitch some ideas and maybe even get it on the menu, create a demand and things will start happening.

Another common complaint is that BBC does not have enough food options or variety but there's a reason for this and ironically, in a way it's our fault.

Come to BBC during the evening hours or on a Thursday or Friday and it is a ghost town; I hate to say it but it is

## Misplaced blame: tuition hikes and lack of food options

**VINSON PRESSLEY**  
*Staff Writer*

FIU is my home. I love everything about it: the people, the diversity, and the opportunities. But it isn't perfect. I know my tuition keeps getting higher and my financial aid keeps getting lower: I haven't been able to be the "big balla" and "shot caller" I used to be.

I know that the Biscayne Bay Campus, the campus I have a profound connection with, could use a couple more restaurants.

Although these complaints are sometimes perceived as the plight of being an FIU student, blaming the wrong people will not get issues resolved, something I was once guilty of.

I would get my financial aid report and realize I was going to get back less money and would fight back the urge to kick down the door of the financial aid office and demand what happened? But then I'd be thankful for the blessing to even attend college.

However, I did blame financial aid for the increase and that's not accurate: it's not FIU's financial aid office, SGA or even Mark B. Rosenberg who ultimately decides to increase our tuition, it is the Florida Board of Governors.

According to miami.cbslocal.

com, they're the ones who decided to increase FIU's annual tuition by 15 percent in 2012.

I know if I want my voice heard about tuition hikes, it's probably best to address the people who make the final decisions and write letters and emails to the good folks in Tallahassee and express my

sentiment.

Another common complaint is that BBC does not have enough food options or variety but there's a reason for this and ironically, in a way it's our fault.

Come to BBC during the evening hours or on a Thursday or Friday and it is a ghost town; I hate to say it but it is

like being in a desert on a horse with no name-empty.

What does this mean? No demand!

If more restaurants are added to BBC, even though only a handful of students will visit the cafeteria for half the week, it would not be profitable and viable to survive.

According to Lorvin Ramirez, assistant food service director, Grille Works used to stay open until 8 p.m. but during the last two hours of the shift, he said only three to five customers would eat there.

Ramirez pointed out that currently, they wouldn't have the volume of students necessary to open and sustain a new restaurant at BBC.

But the situation isn't hopeless.

Ramirez encouraged that students can come to dining services or directly to him and make suggestions on what they want to see on the menu and if possible, they will make it happen.

Ramirez said that recently a student suggested quinoa and it made it to the menu. So although we may not have more restaurants, at least I can pitch some ideas and maybe even get it on the menu, create a demand and things will start happening.

Another common complaint is that BBC does not have enough food options or variety but there's a reason for this and ironically, in a way it's our fault.

Come to BBC during the evening hours or on a Thursday or Friday and it is a ghost town; I hate to say it but it is

### 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.

### DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.

## Fulbrighters represented FIU at St. Augustine

CONSUELO NARANJO  
*Staff Writer*

Some of the most brilliant FIU Fulbright students and alumnae participated on a three day meeting, from April 5 to April 7, in St. Augustine, Fla. for the commemoration of Juan Ponce de Leon – a Spanish explorer who arrived to one of the oldest cities in the United States 500 years ago.

The Fulbright Scholar Program, established in 1946 by Senator J. William Fulbright from Arkansas, is one of the most prestigious academic grants which provides funding for vivid minds from all around the world in the science, education and arts fields.

The following five FIU Fulbright graduate representatives attended to St. Augustine events: Ziyad Ben Taleb, public health major (Libya); Nicolás Terradas, international relations major (Argentina); Juan Sebastián Betancourt, business major (Colombia); Anas Salah Eddin, electrical engineering major (Syria); and Valerie Pelletier, public health major (Haiti).

They were invited by the Fulbright Association, a private nonprofit organization with chapters in North, Central and South Florida. This society was established by Fulbright Scholars Program alumni, enabling supporters of international education to learn more about St. Augustine's history by attending conferences, touring the city and interacting with other Fulbrighters from Florida universities.

Jesus Mendez, vice president of the South Florida Chapter of the Fulbright Association, describes

Fulbright not just an academic program where students can acquire knowledge, but also as a program that promotes mutual understanding between cultures through education and communication – the main objective of Fulbright.

“Knowledge without understanding creates tragedies. Fulbright reunions are amazing and necessary opportunities where students can appreciate and share new cultures, languages and different points of views,” Mendez said.

Flagler College in St. Augustine was a Florida co-sponsor of the weekend's events.

William T. Abare, Jr., president of Flagler College, Thomas Graham, professor of history at Flagler College and Jesus Mendez addressed the 500th anniversary of St. Augustine history. Betty Castor, member of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and former Florida commissioner of education, and Shaz Akram, director of chapter relations of the Fulbright Association in Washington, D.C, welcomed Fulbrighters by presenting the organization's goals, recognitions and personal experiences.

Nicolás Terradas, FIU Fulbright international relations graduate, shared the importance of the Fulbright program and how this opportunity has impacted his personal life and professional career.

“Fulbright has changed my life completely. This program just not gave me the opportunity to study in a country where the highest academic standards resided, but also allowed me to obtain cultural

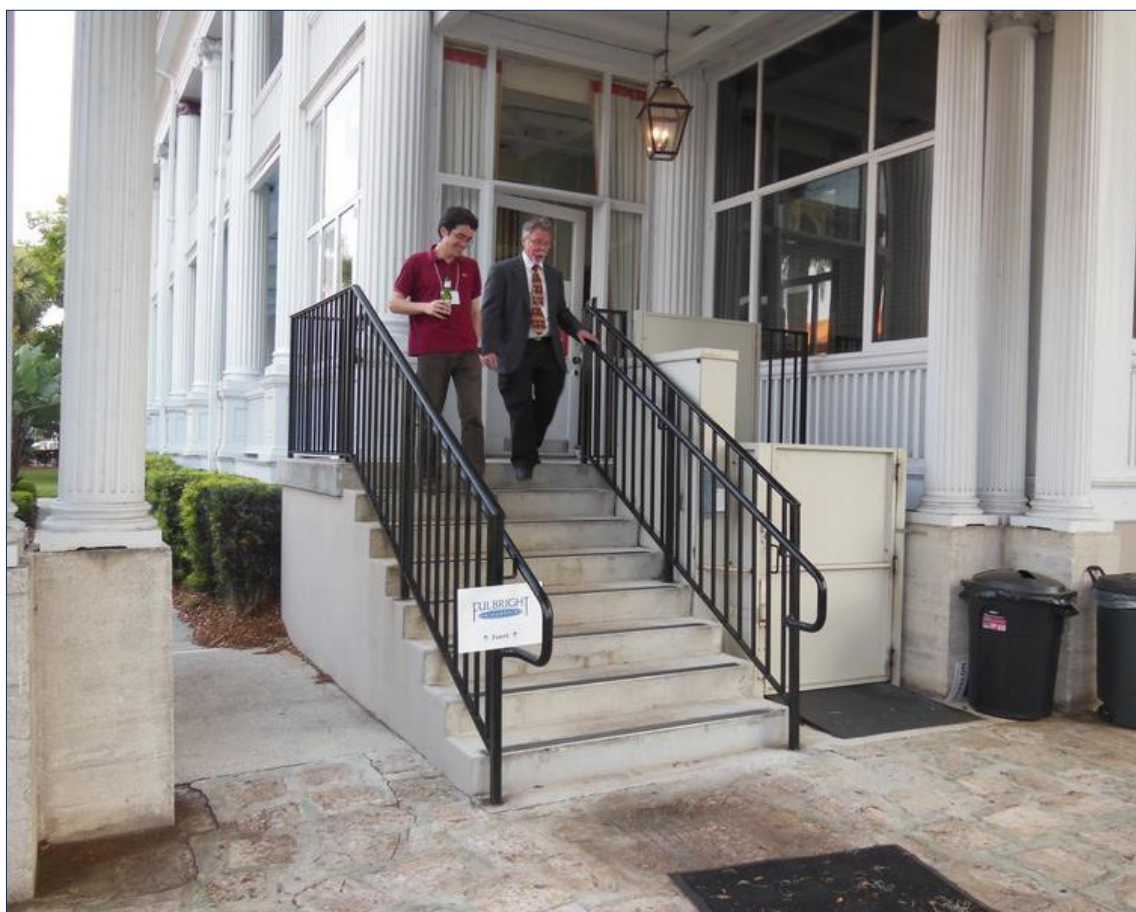


PHOTO COURTESY OF JUAN SEBASTIÁN BETANCOURT/THE BEACON

Nicolás Terradas, FIU- Fulbright International Relations graduate and Jesus Mendez, Vice President of the South Florida Chapter, met at the Markland House, a historic mansion in St. Augustine.

understanding. I have meet people from all around the world; without this study abroad grant, I won't ever will able to.”

The students, alumni and participants visited historical venues such as the Hotel Ponce de Leon building of Flagler College, the Castillo de San Marcos, St. George Street, Markland House and the Colonial Quarter while enjoying the town's cuisine and receptions.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards over one thou-

sand grants every year, available in over 155 countries all over the world. FIU students have been the proud recipients of these prestigious awards.

According to the Fulbright association in 2012-2013, Florida welcomed 60 foreign Fulbright students from 25 different countries. Also, during 2012-2013, a total of 61 students attending Florida universities received Fulbright Scholarship grants to study and organize academic

research abroad.

Florida International University has approximately 50,000 students, most with an international background, and has been a successful academic entity for the Fulbright Scholarship Program.

“FIU is growing extremely fast. It has well-known and globally recognized academic programs that attract students from the five continents,” Mendez said.

-consuelo.naranjo@fiusm.com

## 80's flashback with The Mary Onettes

HECTOR MOJENA  
*Columnist*

Over the course of three albums and a handful of EP's, The Mary Onettes have maintained a steady and often satisfying output indebted to the somnambulant tones and heavily affected jangle of priors like The Smiths, Felt, insert-any-C86-band here.

From their self-titled effort through “Islands,” the band's anglophilia has gradually tempered, and their latest, “Hit the Waves,” perhaps best represents this, showcasing a collection of songs that hearken back to a different era of 80's pop music, embodying the sing-along harmonies and reverb-rich production flourishes of 80's FM pop standbys.

First single “Hit the Waves” acts as a fitting summation of the band's

newfound aesthetic grounding, showing their own affection for the chintzy marimba rhythms and chorus effected guitar leads that represent 80's pop music cliches (think “Africa” by Toto) better

Waves” similarly mines decades-old pop music trends without the ironic showboating that currently marks much of the independent music landscape.

Their refreshingly sincere (and somewhat

“Tears” a sense of wistfulness that would normally be lost in today's meta-pop landscape.

“Black Sunset” meanwhile borrows from the skittering poly-rhythms of Michael Jackson's “Wanna Be Starting Somethin'” for an elastic piece of piano-led pop bolstered by one of the most uncharacteristically bouncy bass riffs heard yet on a Mary Onettes record.

The stylistic reinvention on display here is not totally unexpected: some of the most intriguing tracks on their last album “Islands” similarly staggered expectation by employing stylistic cues derived from artists as varied as Tim Buckley and Duran Duran.

The major difference resides in how confident and assured “Hit the Waves” sounds in comparison, effortlessly mixing

reference points across an album of often atmospheric and exuberant pop.

The welcome levity in the band's music alas does not extend throughout the album's less accomplished second half.

Ballad “Don't Forget (to Forget about Me)” fulfills all the over-cooked solemnity that its title conveys, trading in upbeat pop maneuvers for a tiring retreat of the overcast, C86 pop that typified much of “Islands.”

“Unblessed” meanwhile fares better, with the repeated refrain of “more than just a bad dream” lending a hook to an otherwise restrained, mid-tempo piece of atmospheric guitar arpeggios and echoing vocals.

It's tracks like these that hearken back to The Mary Onettes' first two records and, incidentally, it's these

tracks that slow the album's momentum.

Though certainly not without their charms, these songs seem to indicate a reluctance on the band's part to fully embrace the stylistic shifts found in standouts like “Black Sunset.”

The fact that that the record does not fall flat despite this is a testament to how enjoyable the skilled pop craft of “Hit the Waves” can be.

An uneven second-half notwithstanding, the band has turned out one of the contenders for album of the year.

With their latest record, The Mary Onettes have skillfully condensed the disparate sounds of 80's post-punk and mainstream synth pop into an album's worth of rich melancholia.

-life@fiusm.com

“With their latest record, The Mary Onettes have skillfully condensed the disparate sounds of 80's post-punk and mainstream synth pop into an album's worth of rich melancholia.”

than most bands claiming to emulate them.

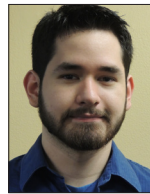
The rest of “Hit the

bizarre) lyrical approach allows unabashed Hall and Oates-level pop gems like

# Robotics and hardware at The LAB Miami

Once a month, a group of technology professionals, entrepreneurs and students meet to discuss different topics related to technology or entrepreneurship. This group is called RefreshMiami, a not for profit group dedicated to providing “educational content focused on the technological and entrepreneurial communities.”

COLUMNIST



LUIS BOLANOS

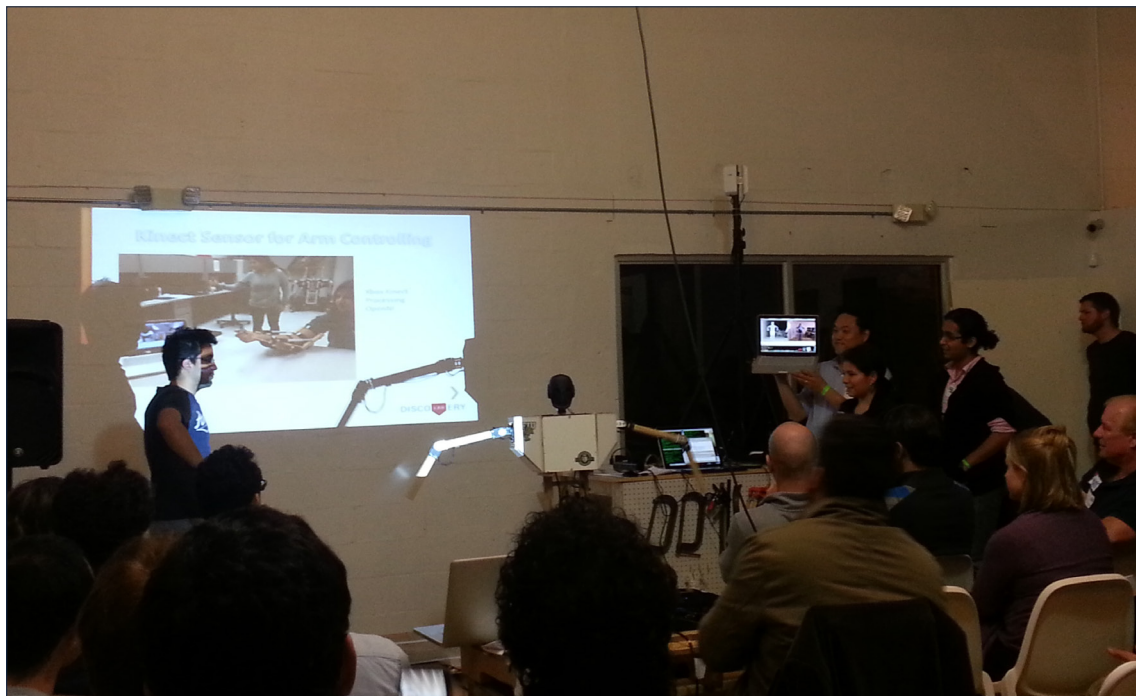
A RefreshMiami event recently passed, focusing on “Hardware Hacking and Robotics.”

Despite not having any experience with such technology, it was a safe bet to go to the event, since the presentations would be geared towards those who’ve never dealt in that field before.

The event was held at The LAB Miami in Wynwood, a coworking space geared to those in the entrepreneurial and tech community.

At the event I saw many familiar faces from previous tech scene outings, such as Super-Conf and UHack. I caught up with those who I had met before, and met some new people at the event.

After everyone enjoyed some



LUIS BOLANOS/THE BEACON

The FIU Discovery Lab team demonstrates the use of the Kinect sensor to control the prototype’s arms.

free food and drinks, the presentations finally began.

Since the presentations were geared towards working with hardware and robotics, all the presentations had something physical to show the audience, whether it was LED lights hooked up to a device, a Raspberry Pi (a “credit card sized computer”) or a robot prototype.

To introduce the idea of “hard-

ware hacking,” two members from MakeSpace-Miami demonstrated examples how hardware hacking works. They introduced to the audience a device with LED lights that changed colors based on music, which only required a few lines of code to implement.

Following the introductory presentation from MakeSpace, Willie Avendeno went further

into using hardware, with his work combining hardware, art and music.

Using a Raspberry Pi, Willie was able to create a full album of music as well as create art using the small device.

Students and faculty from the FIU Discovery Lab finished off the hardware presentations as they discussed the work being done at the Discovery Lab, along

with demonstrating one of their prototypes. The prototype shown at the event was a robot that was controlled using the users movements and vision. The future of that project is to create a mobile robotic unit controlled remotely via motion capture and VR.

The Discovery Lab team demonstrated how the robot can currently move its arms using input from Microsoft’s Kinect sensor, as well as moving its head using a VR headset.

At the end of the presentations, Peter Martinez, a co-director of RefreshMiami, added to the presentations by demonstrating the ease of operating a device such as a Raspberry Pi, even for those with little to no programming experience.

The presentations then came to a close, opening up a networking opportunity for those at the event.

The next RefreshMiami event will be held on April 25 at the Miami Science Museum, focusing on Lean Startups.

Those interested in future RefreshMiami events, as well as getting involved with the local tech and entrepreneurial scene, are urged to check out refreshmiami.com or request to join the RefreshMiami Facebook page.

-luis.bolanos@fiusm.com

# University focusing in on Cuban migration

IVAN ARDILA  
*Contributing Writer*

Miami is quite a diverse city, and although people have migrated from a lot of different countries, there is no denying that a majority is of Cuban origin.

It’s no wonder then that at the University we have a Cuban Research Institute, a department dedicated to advancing Cuban and Cuban-American studies. Presently the CRI is heavily immersed in the exploration of the Cuban migration.

The University recently participated in a symposium dedicated to the discussion of how the Cuban communities in different countries compare to each other.

“I think it was the first of its kind because most of the research and teaching has focused on Cubans in the United States. We wanted to broaden the scope of the discussion to include other destinations for contemporary Cuban migrants,” said Jorge Duany, director of the CRI.

He explained that it’s estimated that at least 300,000 Cubans live

outside of Cuba and the United States. Places in Latin America, the Caribbean and Western Europe are some of the new destinations where the migration is happening now.

The CRI, however, isn’t nearly done arranging events of this nature for the remaining of the semester. From May 23 to 25, the CRI will be holding their ninth conference on Cuban and Cuban-American studies.

The largest in the Institute’s history, the conference will take place in the Graham Center Ballroom and will consist of 45 panels and over 250 experts from United States and other countries.

In this event, which will span from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., a broad array of socio-cultural, political and economic topics of the Cuban diaspora will be explored.

Duany considers these events as a tradition that he has been part of even before joining the FIU family where he has met scholars of different backgrounds and different ages that share the same interest on Cuba and the diaspora.

“This time around we’ll continue with that tradition because we have people who are very well established figure in the field as well as people finishing their graduate students and even undergraduate students presenting in the conference, so at least three generations of scholars will be part of this,” explained Duany.

“The migration is something that’s still going on, people are still migrating from Cuba, and so people should attend these kinds of event,” said Rubi Bravo, sophomore business major, who considers herself Cuban-American. “I’m a little bit of both... My rhythm is Cuban, but my habits are American,” said Bravo. “I don’t go out to Cuban club for example, but I act very much like a Cuban.”

Even though the conference has a focus in the Cuban diaspora, many of the panels and experts are going to be showcasing different aspects of the characteristics of the island. Duany also pointed out that literature, art and economy are only a few

of the more varied studies to be presented through the event, making it also appealing to more casual attendees and people of no Cuban descent.

“I think it’s important to acknowledge the obviously large presence of the Cuban community and know more about them. Even if you’re not a part of it,” said Steiner Lukose, a sophomore accounting major of Indian background.

In conjunction to the three day conference is a film screening at 7:30 p.m. on May 24. After a second day of discussion, the attendees will be treated to *El Super* (1979), a humorous look at the life of a Cuban family living and striving to succeed in the United States.

“It is a classic film about Cubans in the United States,” said the director of the CRI, “I remember seeing it long long time ago, is a very funny, very moving film.” The screening will provide a nice a nice break from the discussion, but will also add a more clear perspective of what life in exile from Cuba is like and

how it develops over time through generations.

A panel to discuss the film will be held after the credits roll down where the CRI expects to have the presence of some of the cast, the director and the writer whose play the movie is based on.

Both of these events are co-sponsored with the

The United States, and the World.

For Cuban and Cuban-American people, This is a chance to learn more about their history and their current situation.

Attending the conference is free of charge for FIU students and faculty, for the general public a fee of \$125 will be charged

“I think it’s important to acknowledge the obviously large presence of the Cuban community and know more about them. Even if you’re not a part of it.”

Steiner Lukose  
sophomore  
accounting major

FIU African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Center for the Humanities in an Urban environment, exile studies Program, and WPBT2.

This is an opportunity for anyone interested in understanding the impact that the Cuban exodus has had in South Florida,

if pre-registered; On site registration, however, is \$150.

Non-FIU students will only pay a \$35 fee. For further information call (305) 348-191 or visit the Cuban Research Institute’s website: <http://cri.fiu.edu>.

-life@fiusm.com

JOIN THE BEACON!

Pick up an application at  
MMC GC 210 or BBC WUC 124.

## Holy Coley and the immaculate season

RUBEN PALACIOS  
Staff Writer

It might not be a bestseller, but junior Jerica Coley's record book is definitely a lengthy read. After another season of toppling women's basketball records, it just got a little longer.

The St. Petersburg, Fla. native's ascent in basketball is well documented. A breakout in her sophomore campaign where she led her team in every statistic landed her in the national spotlight with a Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year and Associated Press All-American award to boot. After yet another stellar year, Coley repeated as the conference player of the year and again received All-America honors.

"It just means that the hard work during the summer kind of paid off a bit," Coley said. "It just keeps me focused on working hard knowing that the work actually pays off."

After the stellar sophomore season, Coley, with all the notoriety and hype, wasn't sure if she could repeat her success. She still wasn't as good as she wanted to be.

"I didn't know if I could top last year, but I was hoping to improve and have a better season," Coley said. "I needed to get more mature mentally, have a better IQ of the game and my shot selection needed to improve. I needed to be more of a leader."

In the season opener against the University of North Florida, Coley showed she could still dominate every facet of the game by coming up just a rebound and a block shy of a triple-double.

Coley finished the game with 21 points, nine rebounds and a school record nine blocks. The nine blocks become even more remarkable when Coley's stature and position come to mind; the point guard is just 5-foot-7.

"People just don't expect you to block their

shot, they get a little comfortable and that just gets me a few blocks," Coley said.

While blocking is certainly a strength, it's her scoring that's made her a household name in Division I basketball. The All-American led the nation in scoring with a school record 26.3 points per game this past season. Coley and scoring were basically synonymous this season and have been during her tenure as a Panther.

Coley broke the single-season scoring record this year, a record that stood for 31 years. With 840 points, Coley surpassed Karen Turnquest, who netted 820 points back in 1981. "It's something to think about, it makes it a little cooler," Coley said about breaking a record that stood for so long.

With 2,135 career points, Coley is in sole possession of second place all-time at FIU. She is just 380 points shy of first place and is on pace to shatter the record and claim first place on the all-time scoring list.

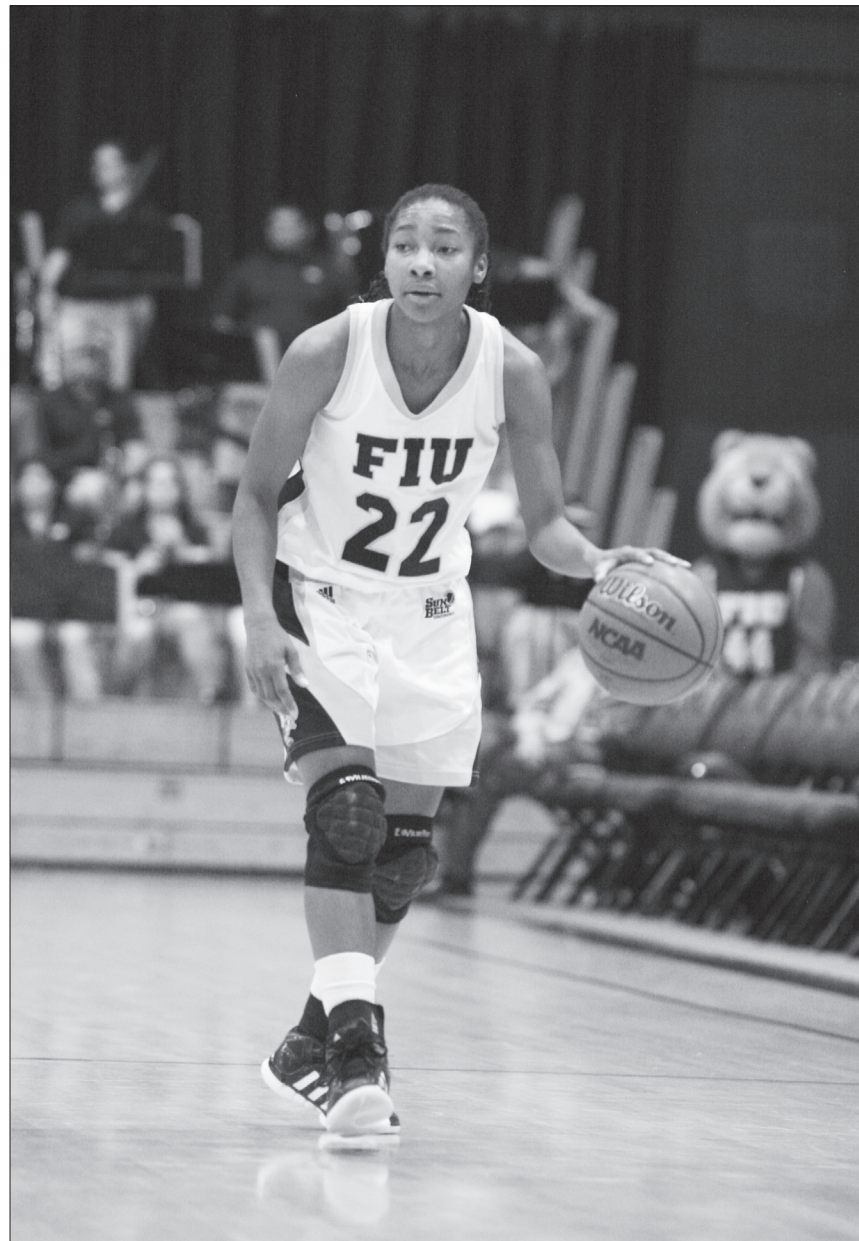
"It will be a big accomplishment and an honor," Coley said. "I'll be happy because it's a milestone to be the career leader in points at any school."

Interestingly enough, Coley would become the second Coley to lead a Florida school in career points scored. Her aunt, Tamika Coley, is the UCF women's basketball record holder for career points with 2,006.

The younger Coley, though, has a shot to join a very rare class in women's basketball: the 3,000-point club. Coley sits just 865 points shy of becoming the tenth woman to score 3,000 points in a career.

The milestone would put her name next to the likes of Brittney Griner of Baylor, Elena Delle Donne of the University of Delaware, Maya Moore of the University of Connecticut

SEE COLEY, PAGE 7



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Jerica Coley capped the 2012-13 season with her second Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year and another AP All-America selection.

## FIU prepares for Conference USA

KEVIN CASTANEDA  
Staff Writer

A season never really ends for a sport. It is simply put on hold until games resume.

However, the offseason has just as much action as the official games. These actions include the recruitment of new players, coaches filling vacancies and veteran players rehabbing. The big offseason move this year includes every sport. With the exception of men's soccer that's already there, all of the teams will be leaving the Sun Belt Conference in favor of Conference USA.

"We are excited. It is always fun to play new teams and new competition," Jessica Egan said.

Egan, a redshirt sophomore, is entering a very tough conference for volleyball. The C-USA had five teams with 18 or more wins last season. Add the fact that the team will be followed by Western Kentucky with 33 wins, and Middle Tennessee with 26, to the C-USA. Only six teams in C-USA will have had a worse overall record than the 10-20 Panthers, and one of them is Florida Atlantic who is also transferring with FIU.

Women's basketball does not have it any easier. If you include the Hilltoppers and the Blue Raiders, C-USA will have six teams next year that tallied 21 wins or more in their previous season.

"We are looking at better completion, tougher competition,

in a row, was the leading scorer in the nation with 26 points per contest. For a bit of perspective on just how good Coley is, C-USA's leading scorer was Jamierra Faulkner of the University of Southern Mississippi, who averaged only 19 points a game.

The Panthers will need every

competition," Idom said.

Men's basketball is in a strange state of mind as they head to C-USA. The team exceeded every expectation as they made it all the way to the Sun Belt Championship, losing to WKU by only two points. They were expected to finish second to last in the SBC, but instead posted their first .500 season in the last 13 years.

However, all of these things were accomplished under first year Head Coach Richard Pitino. Pitino left the team to transfer to Minnesota. Now, the team will not only have to contend with the switch to C-USA, but learning the system of whatever new coach takes the reins. Prior to Pitino's departure, senior transfer Raymond Taylor was confident about his expectations for next season.

"My expectations are to win the Conference USA outright," Taylor said. "To be the league champions the first year in it."

Basketball isn't the only team with a new coach. After an abysmal 3-9 overall record last season, Head Coach Ron Turner was hired for football. The team will be using this season to not only turn around that terrible

record, but learn Turner's new system.

The transfer might not be beneficial to all sports. The baseball team is halfway through the season and owns an overall record of 18-14. They are behind fellow conference transfers, WKU and FAU, and would be behind three other teams in the C-USA.

David Jervis, a hard-throwing left-handed pitcher, is sidelined this season because of Tommy John surgery. He will be spending his entire offseason rehabilitating his throwing arm to come back stronger in hopes of bolstering the young rotation of FIU pitching. Jervis had a contract opportunity with the Atlanta Braves, but decided that going to FIU would be a smarter choice. The transition to C-USA means he and his fellow teammates will be on a bigger stage.

"I think next season is going to be even better for the team and individual players to get more attention," Jervis said. "Scouts go where the better teams are, so I am definitely excited about that."

"I think next season is going to be even better for the team and individual players to get more attention. Scouts go where the better teams are, so I am definitely excited about that."

David Jervis  
Pitcher  
FIU Baseball

but we are ready," said sophomore guard Kamika Idom.

Idom's confidence that the team is ready might stem from the fact that she has her cousin, Jerica Coley, coming back next season. Coley, an All-American two years

bit of Coley's talent if they plan to overthrow Middle Tennessee, who won the Sun Belt Championship this season.

"I wouldn't say we're keeping an out for them, but Middle Tennessee is always a great

# When mediocrity becomes a good thing

I can't find a real reason to be mad at Richard Pitino.

The former FIU men's basketball coach bolted out the door less than three weeks after the end of a historic season, quickly working out a six-year, \$7.2 million deal with the University of Minnesota.

## COMMENTARY



EDUARDO  
ALMAGUER

I had a thread of hope that Pitino would remain a Panther and make this program relevant, well, for the first time ever. But hey, money talks, especially when what you make in five years in FIU is worth one year's salary

in Minnesota.

I'll give Athletics Director Pete Garcia some credit. He said he offered a "modest pay raise" to Pitino at the season's conclu-

sion, but admitted there was no way he could match Minnesota's offer. We are simply not a big budget school.

Panther fans are now faced with an odd dilemma. Should they wish immediate success for new coaches and risk bigger programs with deep pockets luring them away, or cross their fingers for a mediocre beginning to their tenure and have them go under the radar?

I know, it's a ludicrous question. Of course you want immediate success. But recently there's been a trend of coaches departing after big seasons. Pitino leaves after leading the Panthers to their first Sun Belt Conference championship game in history and the first winning season in 13 years. He got snapped up.

Former football Head Coach Mario Cristobal fits this mold as well. Yes, he got the boot after a 3-9 season in 2012,

but let's not forget the rumor mill was churning violently in 2011 after an 8-4 season. Pittsburgh and Rutgers were reportedly eyeing the South Florida native and word is he actually turned down deals.

So do we want new football coach Ron Turner to turn in an 8-4 or 9-3 season? As improbable as that may be with the move to Conference USA, if it happens, kiss Turner goodbye.

We have become a step in the ladder to greater success. We sit in the lower rungs, inviting anyone to give us a chance.

The fans don't have terribly high expectations. But careful now, if a coach does too well, they'll leave us behind and continue climbing the ladder, leaving FIU to wait for the next person to take the first step.

My suggestion is stay mediocre. Let coaches get their feet wet for a couple of

seasons, maybe give glimpses of hope with a winning streak or two in their sports, and entrench themselves in Miami. By the time they really become successful, it'll be harder to uproot them.

Perhaps FIU won't ever be as lucky again to land someone like women's basketball Head Coach Cindy Russo, who's been at the helm since before Pitino was even born, but squeezing six or seven years out of a coach is all you can hope for.

The Panthers are eyeing a handful of potential replacements for Pitino at the moment of press.

Here's to you, New Coach. May your first season be an average one that doesn't get anyone's attention and will be easily forgotten.

-eduardo.almaguer@fiusm.com

# Pat Riley says Heat will be ready for playoffs

TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Staff

Pat Riley said he wakes up around 11 a.m. these days then heads into the office to chat with fellow Miami Heat executives Nick Arison and Andy Elisburg about nothing.

He's lying, of course.

There might not be anyone in the Miami organization who savors playoff time more than Riley, the Heat president with eight championship rings in his collection. And with Miami on the cusp of setting a franchise record for wins in a season — the team mark is 61, which this Heat club could match with a win against Milwaukee on Tuesday night — Riley sounds very much like he's ready for another postseason run.

"It's the ultimate dream for me," Riley said. "It really is."

Riley last coached on April 16,

2008, the end of Miami's miserable 15-win season. All that's happened since is the promotion of Erik Spoelstra to head coach, the acquisition of LeBron James, Chris Bosh,

Ray Allen, Mike Miller, Shane Battier, Mario Chalmers and others to play alongside Dwyane Wade, two trips to the NBA Finals, one championship and 288 regular-season and playoff victories — third-most in the league over that span.

And barring all-out collapse, Miami will head into the playoffs later this month as the No. 1 overall seed in the league, guaranteed home-court advantage through the NBA Finals.

"They're ready," said Riley, who sits opposite the Heat bench during home games, rarely showing any outward signs of emotion. "They know that they have something to

play for. They know they have the weapons to go out and play for it. They're so smart as a team. They're getting themselves ready on their own clock and Spo is getting them ready the same way. They'll be ready to play."

Riley rarely gives interviews about the state of the Heat anymore, preferring the overwhelming majority of the focus and spotlight remain on Spoelstra and the players. He issued a statement through a team spokesman late last month directed at Boston Celtics president of basketball operations Danny Ainge, who chided James for complaining about the way he is officiated. Riley's response was swift, direct and slightly profane, though it served as a reminder that there's plenty of fire still burning within him.

And when he met with reporters Sunday at a Heat charity event —

one that had "the future" as a theme and raised over \$503,000 for South Florida charities — Riley seemed to address his own future, indicating that his work in Miami is not over yet.

"I just want to keep helping them," Riley said. "I want keep bringing in pieces that's going to complement them and hope we can have one of those 10-year rides, you know? You think about every team, the Celtics in the '60s and the Lakers in the '80s and the Bulls and then again the Spurs, those guys have been together for eight, nine, 10 years.

And if we can keep this group together for eight, nine, 10 years, we're all going to have some fun."

What happens down the road is secondary these days to Riley and the Heat, however.

For them, the priority is right now.

Since 1970, only four franchises — the Lakers, Chicago, Detroit and Houston — have been able to successfully defend an NBA championship. Miami will enter the post-season favored to become the fifth club on that list, which was Riley's goal when putting the core of this roster together in 2010.

At that time, he used the word "dynasty" when talking to season-ticket holders. For the Heat to get there, a second straight title would seem to be an obvious prerequisite.

"I knew after 2008, that 15-win season, that that was it," Riley said. "But I never realized that I would have an opportunity to watch and thoroughly enjoy just the players on the practice court, watch them warming up, watch them playing the game, watch them celebrate, watch them have fun. It's just been an absolute Godsend for me at this stage of my career."

# Coley set for big senior season

COLEY, PAGE 6

and the all-time leader, Jackie Stiles of Southwest Missouri State.

"That's pretty elite right there. It would be another milestone and a major accomplishment," Coley said. "I saw it on TV a couple of days ago and not many people have made it there. That would be great."

Despite the outlandish scoring numbers, Coley remains adamant on not being tagged as just someone who can score.

"I like to play defense, I like to get in there and rebound, I like to block shots," Coley said. "I just like playing basketball and I want to be known as a complete player who can

score."

Here's a scary thought for any opponent Coley will face during her senior year: she is not satisfied with her game just yet and plans on getting better.

"I will work out to try and be more efficient," Coley said. "And become more of a student of the game so I can be smarter and be the type of player that makes people around them better. That will help us win more games."

"Win more games and win our conference, that's the main goal," Coley added. "I want to win our conference tournament and go to the NCAA Tournament."

-sports@fiusm.com



## Spring Specials!

Just take this coupon to the BURGER KING® counter in GC and make your choice!

### Your Choice Coupon

Pick one offer

- FREE** original WHOPPER JR.® sandwich with purchase of any WHOPPER® Combo Meal.
- FREE** Dessert with the purchase of a Philly Chicken Sandwich Combo Meal or an Original Chicken Sandwich Combo.
- FREE** Upgrade from small to large on any Combo meal.

Please present coupon before ordering. Limit one coupon per customer. Not to be used with any other coupons or offers. Void where prohibited by law. Cash value 1/100¢. State sales tax applicable. Good only at the BURGER KING® restaurant on FIU campus 11200 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL 33199. Expires April 26, 2013. TM & © 2013 Burger King Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Candidates see a need for more food choices on campus

VINSON PRESSLEY  
*Staff Writer*

Two candidates are running to lead Student Government Council on a mission to bring more food options to the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Fu Zhou Wu and Richard Azimov are running for president and vice president of SGC-BBC for the 2013-2014 school year and they have big plans for BBC.

“We share the same interests to benefit the student body [and have] a strong professional partnership,” said Azimov, vice president candidate on why he teamed up with Zhou Wu.

Azimov also said Zhou Wu’s goals align with his goals.

One of the reasons Azimov is running for office is that he wants students to feel like FIU is their home and to feel the passion that he has for the University.

Azimov mentioned that they will directly ask the students what food options they want by creating surveys

and working with students to resolve this issue.

Azimov recognized that “nothing is open on the weekends [at BBC]” and hopes that they will be able to bring food trucks to the campus and work with panther dining services to create more alternatives for the student body.

“We want to form a nice partnership with Panther Dining Services,” said Azimov.

Zhou Wu echoed her running mate’s sentiment. Zhou Wu pointed out that on weekends the only source of food available on campus are the vending machines, which she said really only serves candy – counterproductive for someone who works out or eats healthy.

Zhou Wu also mentioned that she wants more food available near the library.

“It’s all about communication,” said Zhou Wu.

Zhou Wu is concerned about the communication between Modesto Maidique Campus and BBC when it comes to coordinating events

and programs.

She hopes to improve communication and encourage collaboration between both campuses.

Zhou Wu also discussed the transportation between BBC and MMC and gave some suggestions on how she would improve it.

“If we cannot get more buses, [then maybe] we can have more continuous buses running during peak hours of the day,” said Zhou Wu.

She mentioned that students are concerned about trying to catch the shuttle and having to worry about seat availability; if seats are full then this may translate into students having to miss class or events since space is limited on the shuttle.

Zhou Wu and Azimov have work and responsibilities ahead of them if elected, but according to Azimov, one of the goals is to help students remember that FIU has helped them become the people they are today.

-vinson.  
pressley@fiusm.com

## Baah to the Bay



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Elizabeth Gonzales, freshman studying hospitality management, holds a baby goat by the Wolfe University Center flag pole. The Student Programming Council hosted its SPC Rockin’, Now Let’s Roll FIU LIVE kick-off event which included a petting zoo and food samples from Tijuana Flats. From April 8 to April 12, SPC will be hosting several events ending on a concert featuring Travis Porter.

## Breakthrough research method for sea turtles

AILYS TOLEDO  
*Contributing Writer*

Katherine Mansfield, a visiting research associate to the School of Environment, Arts and Society, will be discussing the life and history of the ocean’s most precious creature: the sea turtle.

SEAS will feature Mansfield as part of the Eat, Think and Be Merry Series on Tuesday, April 16 in its lecture “FOUND: The Sea Turtle’s Lost Years.”

From the time a baby sea turtle hatches until it makes its way to the sea, the migration stage of a young turtle is an extremely tumultuous period. A hatchling’s struggle to make it to the sea is a difficult and poignant journey—one filled with the constant threat of predators from every source. From fish to raccoons, to footprints and debris along the shoreline, almost anything can deter the way of the baby sea turtles. Not much is known of the whereabouts of the hatchlings once they safely reach the sea, only the diffi-

culties these animals have in getting there.

Mansfield’s lecture will highlight the current involvement and research methods being used in the study of sea turtles and their quests to make it home.

Mansfield began her work with sea turtles in 1994. Originally, Mansfield intended to work with coral reefs and seagrass beds. While participating in her first internship with the Conservancy of South Florida in Naples, the young researcher took up seasonal jobs on nesting beaches. Since then, she

has targeted her research to sea turtles, specifically creating a solar-powered satellite to help scientists track the hatchlings after reaching the sea.

“My goal in this event is to provide fun, interesting, new information on sea turtle ecology and to broaden folks’ understanding of sea turtle conservation in the Atlantic,” said Mansfield.

“What made Kate more appealing to us was all her previous work for NOAA. She’s been a visiting research associate for about two years; half of her research is run out of FIU and the

other half is run out of NOAA. The purpose of these events is really to open up a community forum, rather than preach to the choir,” said Elaine Pritzker, SEAS event coordinator.

Pritzker said South Florida locals need to get involved by getting informed.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Luna Star Café located at 775 NE 125th St. in North Miami, Florida 33161.

-bbc@fiusm.com

## “Iron Lady” Margaret Thatcher passes away

AARON PABON  
*Staff Writer*

Baroness Margaret Hilda Thatcher, the “Iron Lady” who led the United Kingdom as the first and only female prime minister, has passed away at the age of 87.

According to her spokesman, Lord Timothy Bell, Thatcher died “peacefully” on April 8, 2013, in London after suffering a stroke.

University staff have expressed sadness over Thatcher’s passing.

Christine Caly-Sanchez, the associate director of the European Union Center of Excellence, was saddened to hear about Thatcher’s passing.

“She was a very important person. Every person in Europe knew who she was” said

Caly-Sanchez. “She was a great lady.”

“She was a guiding figure for women to enter politics and her leadership lead Britain through tough times,” said College Republicans President Stephen McDuffie.

McDuffie went on to say that she was a strong supporter of “liberty and the freedoms of the British people.”

“All I can say is that we’ve had a great loss today,” wrote former president of the College Republicans Dennis Par in an email to Student Media. “Margaret Thatcher was my greatest inspiration to fight for what’s right and her loss has touched many of us and brought us to tears. Her policies and leadership compelled and inspired me and today I mourn for the loss of a great woman. The Iron Lady will always be remembered.”

Richard Beardsworth, politics and international relations professor, in an email to Student Media said, “At both national and international levels, Margaret Thatcher defended a set of pro-market economic and social policies that radically shifted political consensus towards the liberal right. She was a leading statesperson of her time since these policies both anticipated the collapse of the Soviet empire and drove through a global era of neoliberal economics.”

Beardsworth also stated that “She remains a key politician of our age.”

British Prime Minister David Cameron expressed sadness to the British Broadcasting Corporation, stating “we have lost a great leader, a great prime minister and a great Briton.”

Aside from being the United Kingdom’s first and only female prime minister, Thatcher

was the key in introducing a series of political and economic initiatives to reverse Britain’s economic issues in the ‘80s. She focused on deregulation, flexible labor markets, privatizing companies in the U.K. and reduced the influence of trade unions.

Her leadership would be tested during the Falklands War, and the Cold War would help her win a third term as Prime Minister in 1983.

Thatcher’s funeral will take place next week. At the time of printing, the exact date and time is unknown.

Thatcher will not have a state funeral but will be given military honors starting at Chapel of St. Mary Undercroft at the Palace of Westminster, and ending at St Paul’s Cathedral.

-aaron.pabon@fiusm.com