

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Trustees approve new parking rule

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

Don't park in backwards. The University's Traffic and Parking Regulation Amendment reviewed by the University's Board of Trustees began enforcing their new regulations as of July 1, which include fee increases and decal fraud enforcement. Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President Kenneth Jessell initiated this proposal, which seeks to take notice of new changes being implemented in the University. Highlighted, the amendment is aimed towards the following main changes: decal fee increases, the consequences regarding decal fraud and the enforcement of

Director of Parking and Transportation Lissette Hernandez, explained that regulations are reviewed regularly and revisions are made in accordance to issues faced the previous year. Another part of the amendment increases the Transportation Access Fee. Last year's fee equaled \$81 in the fall and spring semesters and \$75 in the summer semester; however, the amendment states that the current semester decal registration fee will now be \$89 in fall and spring and \$83 in the summer. Every person's decal fee is

SEE PARKING, PAGE 2

CHELSEA LATELY



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Chelsea FC hosted a soccer clinic for children on July 27 in the FIU soccer stadium.

Dean of Libraries steps down, Breslin steps in

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

After leading the University libraries through budget cuts and the rapid evolution of technology for five years, Dean of Libraries Laura Probst has decided to step down as dean, effective at the end of August. In a memorandum sent to the university community last Thursday, Douglas Wartzok, University Provost and Executive Vice President, announced Probst's decision.

"I want to thank Dean Probst for her service. These five years have ...been a time of significant change in how information is stored and accessed. We have benefited from someone who kept FIU abreast of these changes," Wartzok stated in the memo. In light of Probst's decision, Wartzok has chosen Thomas A. Breslin, chair of the Faculty Senate and member of the Board of Trustees, to serve as Interim Dean while a committee is formed to search and screen for a new dean.

"I will work with all the librarians to achieve [the University's] goals. I have worked with so many of them in the senate to build and refine the University curriculum and advise the University administration as part of the shared governance process," Breslin said. Wartzok has chosen Kenneth Furton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to chair the committee that will search for a new dean. According to Furton, the committee is still being formed and the University aims to have it in place early fall.

In regards to the search criteria, Furton said the University is looking for someone knowledgeable on the nature of the field. "We want someone who understands, appreciates and values the traditional role of libraries in universities while... attuned to the rapidly changing dynamics of the field as many resources move to digital and as student needs expand beyond quiet study spaces to collaborative learning areas and platforms."

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CAMPUS CONTROVERSY

Chick-fil-A reheats controversy

DANIEL URIA
Contributing Writer

The "creators" of the chicken sandwich created themselves quite the controversy earlier this month. Chick-fil-A CEO Don Cathy has said he and his company strongly support the "traditional family unit." "We are very much supportive of the family - the biblical definition of the family unit," Cathy said to the Baptist Press in July 2012. "We are a family-owned business, a family-led business, and we are married to our first wives. We give God thanks for that." Some hungry Golden Panthers disagree but they will go on having "a blessed day"

and eat at the fast-food company without remorse. That's not the same for members of a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transexual group at the University. The LGBT Advocacy Coalition have started a petition to have the PG5 Chick-fil-A location removed from campus. "Though I should say that these aren't feelings that are new and the Advocacy Coalition would like to see the organization peacefully removed," said Geoffrey Vancol, president of the Advocacy Coalition said in an interview with Student Media. The very sight of Chik-fil-A on campus angers Vancol. "It's frustrating knowing what Chick-fil-A has done and said," Vancol said.

"It irritates me to see it on my college campus. Vancol also went on to express that while these comments may have put this behavior in a more public light, this kind of attitude from the chicken sandwich franchise is nothing new. "When hearing about the news regarding Chick-fil-A, I was a little taken back, but it wasn't something that surprised me," said Vancol. "The Advocacy Coalition has always made a note of Chick-fil-A's ongoing opposition to the LGBT community and the movement. To be clear, Chick-fil-A has had confrontation with the community in prior years."

SEE CHICK-FIL-A, PAGE 4

Florida's blind spot? Cuba

NATALIE BAEZ
Contributing Writer

Scholars may have to pursue interests in other countries that are not defined as "state sponsors of terrorism." The Florida "Travel to Terrorist States Act" of 2006 warrants a ban on the use of state appropriations to underwrite research work and student travel to "state sponsors of terrorism," definition which includes Iran, North Korea, Sudan,

Syria and Cuba. Last month, the Supreme Court denied a certiorari, a writ seeking judicial review, requested by the University's Faculty Senate in opposition to the law. What the court would have heard was an appeal to the ban that had gone unopposed in its initial passing in Tallahassee in 2006. The law prohibits public schools and universities

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COMING UP | The Beacon

And we're done for summer!
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Legislation 'embarrassment to Cuban studies'

CUBA, PAGE 1

to travel to a "terrorist" country using state funding.

"It's ironic and unfortunate because, at a time when schools are struggling for resources and struggling to be competitive, we would have one of the major advantages in Cuban studies in the nation," said José M. Gabilondo, professor of the College of Law.

Gabilondo explains the impact that the ban has within the University.

"FIU is the most directly harmed because it has a large amount of students and faculty interested in

teach."

According to Thomas Breslin, professor of the Department of Politics and International Relations, there are currently no long-term prospects of professional advancement for individuals who would like to stay in Florida as a specialist in Cuba with this law in place.

"We had a number of experts in Cuba [who left], including the head of our Cuban Research Institute," Breslin said.

One of the factors contributing to his departure was the fact that he could not work on his research topics.

"This has been an embarrassment to Cuban studies throughout the state university system," Breslin stated.

Professors and educational researchers of Florida universities, specifically the University's Faculty Senate, fought the state on this law and lost.

"The burden of the law now lies on representatives of the Miami and Tampa area to take up this legislation," Breslin explained. "It blinds Floridians to a detached academic perspective on what is happening in Cuba. There are people looking for opportunities and looking toward the future, and others who are just stuck looking backwards."

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It binds Floridians to a detached academic perspective on what is happening in Cuba.

Thomas Breslin,
Chair
Faculty Senate

Cuban studies."

Sebastian Arcos, director of the University's Cuban Research Institute, said he believes this is "a misguided policy."

"I think it's a misguided policy and we, as representatives of a democracy and an open government, ought to show the Cuban regime that we are free to study and

DEAD-END DUMMY



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Don't Be A Dummy, a non-profit organization for student innovations and start-ups, campaigns outside of the Graham Center "to help students get serious about getting a more meaningful work experience."

Amendment increases decal fee

PARKING, PAGE 1

added into their total tuition amount and every student, faculty and staff member is required to purchase an access fee. According to Hernandez, all students registered in the university, even those who live in the university dorms, must pay an access fee.

"This access fee helps pay for the construction of sidewalks, lighting on parking lots and the bond payments for the garages," Hernandez said.

All students, even those who do not own a car, must still pay the same access fee.

"I understand the reason behind the [increase] in access fee for student decals, however all other prices seem to rise as well and it is difficult for

us students to keep up," junior and public relations major Maureen Gonzalez said.

Hernandez offered explanation on the matter by briefly stating, "Decal increase was approved by the BOT last year in expectation of the construction of the next parking garage. Once a site is determined, planning will immediately follow."

"I don't think many students want to see an increase in the amount they pay for school, but with a rise in student enrollment and the addition of a new parking garage, it is understandable that the parking department needs to increase its revenue stream," said junior and journalism major Diego Saldana.

Another key point in the amendment prohibits parking in backwards.

Any faculty, staff or student that does not park correctly will first be issued a warning, and citations will be given every time after that. According to Hernandez, enforcement will begin in August as the fall semester begins.

Another notable change in the regulation was the garage speed limit. The University Traffic and Parking Regulation previously stated, "Garage speed is radar enforced." This statement has now been scratched out.

Hernandez explained that this was taken out due to limited radar devices and the short distances traveled in the garages. "Our office, in conjunction with University Police, will enforce the speed by other means to ensure the safety of our community."

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PROFILE

Former county manager brings 'practical knowledge'

ANDRE'ANNA STONOM
Contributing Writer

George Burgess, former Miami-Dade County Manager is now part of the University as professor in the Department of Public Administration.

Burgess holds 28 years of public service experience across various levels of government. In Miami-Dade, he served for eight years as Assistant County Manager, County Manager and County Budget Director.

Currently, Burgess also doubles as Chief Operating Officer for Becker & Poliakoff, a local law firm.

"Every issue imaginable can and will come up," Burgess said. "Hurricanes, elections, zoos, airport renovation projects.... It is different than the leadership role I now have in the private sector."

During the current summer semester and in the fall, Burgess will teach PAD 6227 Public Finance & Budgeting to

roughly 20 graduate students.

"I feel the experiences I've had are going to be really interesting to the students," Burgess said. "I look forward to showing the students how to perform in the working world [with] knowledge that will be useful to them in their careers."

As County Manager, he managed over 27,000 employees and a multi-million dollar budget.

"The course provides a kind of practical knowledge of experience that you just can't get out of a book," Burgess said. "It really compliments the academics and the theory to be able to share the reality of things. This is how it happens in real life."

Currently, Burgess's course is taught at the graduate level only, yet he is hopeful that if the need arises, the course will be opened to undergraduates as well.

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THE BEACON | Editorial

RECENT COMMENTS MADE BY DAN CATHY, COO OF CHICK-FIL-A, REGARDING SAME SEX MARRIAGE HAVE DIVIDED THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE BEACON. THIS WEEK'S EDITORIAL REFLECTS THE TWO OPPOSING VIEWS ON THE MATTER.

Where's the beef?

Who knew that a sandwich could turn us into chickens?

Dan Cathy, chief operating officer of Chick-fil-A, started quite the fire when he confirmed the company's stand on same-sex marriage by stating that "we are very much supportive of the family -- the biblical definition of the family unit," which is, by definition, heterosexual.

With public opinion shifting in favor of gay marriage, the public outcry against the chain now stretches from Chicago to our own PG5 Chick-fil-A.

Unsurprisingly, one response to his statement calls for the removal of the University's franchise while surprisingly arguing for tolerance.

First and foremost, Chick-fil-A's Christian leanings are no secret. Its restaurants are closed on Sundays and their toys sometimes include child-friendly Bible storybooks. Chick-fil-A has publicly supported organizations such as Focus On

the Family, the Winshape Foundation and Eagle Forum for many years -- all Christian-based organizations that oppose same-sex marriage.

Let's assume that Cathy's opinions on gay marriage reflects the belief of his organization. No one, however, has come out to say that Chick-fil-A will neither serve nor hire members of the LGBT community. This, we agree, would be discrimination.

All we know now is that the head of an organization has used his First Amendment right to express what he believes. He never said he hated gays; he simply stated that due to his religious convictions as a Christian, he doesn't support gay marriage, a stance many Christians take on the topic.

The LGBT community and its supporters should be admired for their continuous efforts in defending their civil liberties. However, it's counterproductive to let intolerance to dissenting opin-

ions turn them into the aggressors of everyone else's freedom.

If the University decides to close down Chick-fil-A due to the company's views on morality, the University would mirror the same intolerance.

It's a violation of the First Amendment for a state entity to keep a business out for its political and/or moral views. It would also put forth the view that students themselves are unable to form their own opinions. If the University pushes out a company for its religious beliefs, what message will that send to its religious students? Hardly "Worlds Ahead."

If a majority of students decides that they do not want to continue as Chick-fil-A customers, then it is their right to simply not buy their product. The converse is also true: it would be ridiculous to assume an individual's political and moral character based on whether or not they eat a chicken sandwich.

Give them the boot

At a University which takes pride in the diversity of its student population, proclaiming that it is "Worlds Ahead," the perfect opportunity to bring justification to its beloved catchphrase has finally presented itself.

On July 16, Dan Cathy, the COO of Chick-fil-A made remarks as a representative of Chick-fil-A denouncing same sex marriages - comments that have created quite a commotion throughout the country.

However, this hasn't been the first instance that Chick-fil-A has taken a stance against same sex marriage.

It is also notorious for making contributions to anti-LGBT organizations, such as Focus on the Family whose mission statement reads, "We believe sex is given by God as an expression of love to be shared and enjoyed exclusively between a husband and wife."

For years the University has opened its doors

to students and faculty from the LGBT community, allowing for on-campus organizations and events being funded with University dollars.

However, in a 2011 LGBT Campus Climate Index survey, the University ranked especially low compared to other state public institutions, with a rating of 2.5 out of 5.

The purpose of the survey is to showcase how welcoming of an environment the University is to a much-discriminated group.

The rating the University got in itself is nothing to be proud of, especially given that South Florida has one of the largest LGBT populations in the country.

However, the University can now come out and stand with the LGBT community and say "no" to organizations that promote ideals that could be considered hateful.

We recommend that the University seek out an alternative food vendor to replace the Chick-fil-

A that is located in PG5 as a means of standing in solidarity with University members of the LGBT community and to send the message to the community that the University will not be associated with any organization that promotes or supports any form of discrimination or hatred.

By allowing Chick-fil-A to keep conducting business on campus the University is sending the wrong message that regardless of what your views may be, and whom you might be alienating, you are more than welcome to conduct business at the University as long as it generates a sizable profit.

Is that really the message a "Worlds Ahead" university is trying to portray?

The Beacon hopes it isn't. And if it is what the University is trying to say, then we're sorry but we're ashamed of the direction the Administration is attempting to maintain.

STUDENT LIFE

Commencement, is the cost actually worth it?

LIZSANDRA TRASTOY
ALEX SORONDO
FIUSM Staff

As the semester comes to an end, students everywhere are scrambling and cramming for finals. Some students, however, have concerns that go beyond tests and essays: the worries and woes of graduation.

For these students, the months of March and April mean more than just stressing, planning, and cramming. It's a time for paying up.

And for some University seniors, attending the commencement ceremony means emptying their bank account, and possibly thinking twice about walking, with fees that strive to take the clothes off your back and maybe your bottom too.

"I was originally not going to walk for the ceremony because it was too expensive," said Amber Byrne, a psychology major graduating spring 2012.

Byrne, who is graduating Summa Cum Laude, or top ten

percent of her class, expressed her opinion on the matter of being charged money for something she feels she earned because of her hard work. "I was surprised by this. I honestly thought it was free, as it should be," said Byrne, dismayed to find that she was being charged for a top ten percent tassel. "When you add it all up, the student ends up having to pay hundreds of dollars just for the ceremony. I'm sure this has deterred a lot of students that weren't able to get the funding."

At FIU, the prices for commencement wear, such as tassel, cap, and gown range from \$59.99 to \$259.99 for the ultimate package of all three, along with bonus items such as an FIU degree frame, diploma cover, and more.

Another concern appears when honors, awards, and tickets are added to the tab.

Such is the case of academic honor societies charging student fees ranging from \$65 and up to join as members right before

graduation.

It stands as a blemish on the University's integrity that students have to pay for the recognition and accolades they've earned.

Like Byrne, other students pose concerns when it comes to paying for commencement as a whole. Alumnae Heidys Hernandez, when asked if she ever thought twice about "walking" in the ceremony, said, "Yes, there were times when I actually did...not want to walk because I was worried about how much it would cost me."

Hernandez further expressed her concerns by stating, "There are students who have to pay for their own classes and other expenses. Therefore, they might not have enough money to afford these graduation items."

Daniel Pita, an information technology major who graduated last year, believes the contrary. "It meant a lot to my parents, and so cost was not a factor. I understand there is a cost for tassel material

“

...there were times when I actually did...not want to walk because I was worried about how much it would cost me.

Heidys Hernandez,
Alumnae

”

and labor, regardless of [a student's] hard work. It is a choice to walk at graduation."

As for other universities' prices for graduation, Miami-Dade College does not charge students for commencement.

Evidently, some students at FIU feel that graduating requires spending a surplus amount of money.

It seems as though students may agree that it would be nice if FIU provided at least the basics for graduation, such as the tassel, cap,

and gown.

The question worth asking in this case may be, "Is it all worth it?"

For some, it is. The ceremonial commencement seems a fitting send-off: traditional, ennobling, fraught with personal and historic significance.

For the average student, however, the pragmatism outweighs the principle, and more students are coming to realize that, if there's one thing they learned in college, it's how to spot a scam.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

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STUDENT GROUPS

Students meet and greet “one blindfold at a time”

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

Meeting new people has never been such a blinding experience.

In a school of thousands, rushing daily to get to classes, with extra-curricular activities or work after-school, meeting new people can be a hassle. Pick Your New Opportunities is making the experience of meeting others easier, but there's a catch. You have to be blindfolded when doing so.

Founded by Michael Diaz at the University of Central Florida on February 2011, Pick Your New Opportunities is taking strides to perfect their craft, which includes blindfolding whole classrooms on the first day of class, as well as one-on-one conversations between strangers.

Joshua Moussa, a senior psychology major at UCF and Director of Research and Development at Pick Your New Opportunities, found out about the organization when he met Diaz at a get together among friends.

“Everyone has a fear. We are so into our phones or on the computer and we have Facebook, but it's not the real way to meet someone. This encourages people to take the mask off and express themselves more fully,” Moussa said. “It's about meeting new people and creating new opportunities to meet others that can go on to be a friend, co-worker or even date. I'm just the facilitator.”

On campus, Carlos Gonzalez, a junior communication arts major, is helping spread Pick Your New Opportunities' motto: “Introducing the world one blindfold at a time.” He began his mission three weeks ago during Summer B, after Moussa introduced him to Diaz.



VANESSA PAREDES/THE BEACON

Joshua Moussa [left] brings a new organization to FIU, where students blindly get to know each other.

“I liked what he [Diaz] proposed,” explained Gonzalez. “At school we always meet new people under some condition, whether it be class or sororities and fraternities; This service creates the opportunity to meet others in a different setting.”

For Gonzalez, there are three “gates” he needs to get through when choosing a person. First, the person needs to be open to meeting new people. The second “gate” is whether the person is willing to be blindfolded during the meeting, and the third is time constraints. “That was a new one I discovered, so I usually try to get people during their free time when they're just unoccupied with homework or getting to class,” said Gonzalez.

Freshman Yulinda Zeledon, a

psychology major, and senior Camila Davis, a religion and African studies major, both found their participation in the activity to be “fun.”

“I'm still processing what happened. It's surprising how you have a mental image of someone, but it's never exact,” said Zeledon, after taking off her blindfold and seeing Davis for the first time.

“It was not what I expected. I think it'd be good for a class project,” Davis said. The topics between them ranged from a simple, “how was your day,” to heavier topics, such as their stance on gay rights and politics.

“We never ask heavy questions; we begin with more general topics and people share what they want to share. However, I don't stop conversations; I encourage them,” said Gonzalez.

“Sometimes people just want to vent or hear others' opinions.”

For Gonzalez, his job as a facilitator's most important aspect is the safety of the volunteers. “I always say, ‘your safety is my reputation,’ because the volunteers put their trust in me; In a sense, they're flexible and open to trying out this new thing. I always thank the volunteers because they put their belief in this weird idea, and it really shows a lot about them,” said Gonzalez.

Two other volunteers, freshmen Laura Corchete, English major, and Alexandra Saunders, art major, were able to keep their conversation going before Gonzalez even asked the first question, eventually finding out that they had education in common, as Corchete wants to become a teacher

and Saunders has three teachers in her family.

“I always talk to people,” said Corchete. “Even when I was small my mom used to get mad because I would talk to strangers.”

“Being a transfer student, meeting new people is always good,” said Saunders. “It was a good activity, cool and interesting.”

During the time he's been doing this, Gonzalez has witnessed a variety of conversations among the volunteers, from short clipped answers to long, engaging discussions about things they have in common. “I once had a conversation go on for 30 minutes; I love those because it's the kinds of people I'm looking for. Michael [Diaz] showed me the ropes, and it's basically about getting people's vibe when you approach them, gauging their body language and making eye contact.”

In the future, Gonzalez wants to make a club and hopes to have events, such as tabling on campus, as well as recruit new people and perfect the craft of introducing people to one another with a blindfold.

“I want to have a ‘friendship hour,’ ‘relationship hour’ and ‘business hour,’ especially business because sometimes you get to a meeting, say your idea, and the reactions around you might discourage you from expressing yourself. I want to make meeting people a possibility all the time,” said Gonzalez.

For more information on Pick Your New Opportunities, visit www.pickyournos.com or to get involved on campus email Carlos Gonzalez at carlosgonz12@aol.com or cgonz145@fiu.edu.

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Chicken sandwich may now suggest stance on marriage



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Personal views aside, some students would not like to see Chick-fil-A removed and replaced.

CHICK-FIL-A, PAGE 1

Along with the efforts of the LGBT Advocacy Coalition, members of Stonewall, the University's LGBT pride alliance,

have chosen to dine elsewhere on campus.

Giovanni Correale, Stonewall student advisor and former president of Stonewall, also expressed his desire for the University to have the on-campus Chick-

fil-A removed, but claimed he did not seek for the company to back down from their stance.

“Personally, I feel that if we pressure Chick-fil-A into coming out in support of marriage equality, then we are no better than they are by having an opinion other than that of those of us who do support marriage equality,” said Correale.

Student Media requested a response from the University on whether it would reexamine its contract with Aramark in light of Cathy's comments but one was not sent as of press time.

Other opinions around campus on the CEO's comments are as waffley as his company's fries. “I don't, myself, agree with it, but [Chick-fil-A] can do what they want,” said freshman Jennifer Harrigan, a history major.

But Harrigan and Giovanni Ross' stomachs are what are on their minds when they eat. “I'm not thinking about gay rights or Christian rights when I think about Chick-fil-A,” Harrigan said. “People are entitled to their own happiness, and right now my happiness is Chick-fil-A,” said Ross, junior and pre-med student.

Freshman Chris Dirube said while the CEO is entitled to his opinion, it may have

an effect on his business. “There are consequences to every action,” said Dirube as he expressed his skepticism about Cathy publicizing his values. “If Chick-fil-A wants to put that out there, that's their choice. But it actually can affect their business.”

Ifeyani Meniru, a sophomore and international business major who works for Chick-fil-A on campus, identified himself as a Christian and supports his CEO's statements, up to a point. “I believe in traditional marriage – that a man, and a woman should be together,” Meniru said. “However, I don't ridicule it. I don't criticize it. They're human beings just like us.”

Despite their personal views on the issue and their thoughts on the effect of Cathy's comments on business, the group of students interviewed said they welcomed the presence of Chick-fil-A on campus and would not like to see it replaced.

Although Correale felt that this incident represents “a big step back,” he did express some optimism.

“All in all, many other food chains have come out in support of LGBT rights or at least against the views of Chick-fil-A, and that is progress.”

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THE FROST

“Target Wednesday” brings innovation to The Frost

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

This past Wednesday, July 18, the Frost Art Museum presented two new exhibitions as part of their first “Target Wednesday After Hours” for the new academic year of 2012-2013. These two exhibits, “This and That” and “Shared Thread,” came from artists of different cultural backgrounds who used different art styles to convey different messages.

“Target Wednesday” is sponsored by Target, and after visiting the museum, Target representatives fell in love with the Frost and saw a perfect opportunity to reach out to students and advertise what they have to offer while promoting the values of art and culture, so they decided to support the museum, as they do for multiple other cultural institutions, creating “Target Wednesday After

Hours.”

According to Carol Damian, Director and Chief Curator of the museum, these exhibits allowed them to use works from their permanent collection and provide a platform for museum staff to curate.

Klaudio Rodriguez, who set up “This and That,” and Ana Estrada, who displayed “Shared Thread,” are both staff members who creatively put this exhibit together. “Klaudio Rodriguez... was given the freedom to choose these very non-traditional objects and organize an intriguing exhibit. Ana Estrada, also on our staff, has been working in the Amazon for her graduate work and presented this proposal to me last year, and when the space became available, she was happy to create the exhibit,” said Damian.

“This and That” was selected from the museum’s permanent collection.

It featured works from artists such as Guerra de la Paz, Pepe Mar, Jillian Mayer, Bert Rodriguez and Graham

“

Klaudio Rodriguez... was given the freedom to choose these very non-traditional objects and organize an intriguing exhibit.

Carol Damian,
Director and Chief Curator
The Frost Art Museum

”

Hudson.

The works of this exhibit presented a wide range of mediums and might seem to look out of the

ordinary at first glance, either by the subject’s matter or the artist’s use of materials or art principles.

Be it either fun or mysterious, it can definitely change people’s expectations when it comes to art, stimulating their reactions and causing them to pay more attention to the hidden meanings behind the artworks. It introduces visitors to a new way of viewing art. This exhibit is scheduled to run until Oct. 21.

“Shared Thread” is the result of two artist’s collaboration in the Amazon region of Pucallpa, Peru. These two artists, Maria Lino being the key artist, merged their different cultures, artistic traditions, design and technique to create this exhibit, most of which was done over a period of 10 days spent collecting video footage in Pucallpa to depict the portrait of a Shipibo Healer.

This is part of Lino’s series of

video portraits put together over a period of eight months working in Peru. She’s an FIU graduate, a Cintas Fellow and was awarded a Fullbright Scholar Grant in 2011.

The exhibit features Shipibo textiles and is sponsored by “Latino Magazine.” This exhibit is scheduled to run until Sept. 30.

The event ran from 6-9 p.m., and being a summer event, the outcome was favorable. “We had around 200 people. The people who came were very interested, so it was a good night,” said Damian.

The next “Target Wednesday” will be on Sept. 12 from 6-9 p.m. featuring two new exhibits, “Out of the Ordinary Geometry” by Lydia Azout and “The Faculty Show,” an annual FIU exhibition of the Art & Art History Department.

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REEL TO REEL

“Beasts” is a flawed debut with some shining moments



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

Quvenzhané Wallis plays Hushpuppy in this fantasy-drama about a six year-old girl in search of her mother.

“Beasts of the Southern Wild” wastes no time in dropping audiences right into the midst of an isolated and unfamiliar world. Surrounded by nothing but water in “the Bathtub,” an extremely poor community off the coast of Louisiana, a little girl named Hushpuppy (Quvenzhané Wallis) lives with her father, Wink (Dwight Henry). As her father’s health declines due to a mysterious illness, and the world around her begins to fall apart, Hushpuppy must learn to survive through these troubled times in order to remain in her beloved home.

This loose synopsis of the film does no justice to the jumbled story that director Benh Zeitlin co-wrote with Lucy Alibar. The tale they weave does a marvelous job at capturing the culture of this tight-knit community, but its reliance on a child’s narration rather than a cohesive story disappoints.

Telling Hushpuppy’s story through her point of view was a smart decision, as the mind of a six year-old often finds ways to intertwine reality and fantasy. It is because

of this that we have some of the film’s greatest sequences, featuring prehistoric creatures called aurochs that aimlessly roam the land and interact with the citizens of “the Bathtub.”

Not only are the aurochs seemingly aimless beings, but so are practically all the aspects of the film. Amateur director Zeitlin and cinematographer Ben Richardson find themselves caught between crafting magical sequences and being overly reliant on shaky cam to further remind audiences that this is a relatively low budget film. It is hard to see what is so visually stunning about this film, as the scenes that truly impress are few and far between.

One scene in particular, in which Hushpuppy interacts with a dancer at a brothel, offers one of the most touching and expertly directed moments throughout. It’s a shame that the rest couldn’t live up to the few remarkable scenes, as not even the fireworks in the opening credits shine as brightly as those.

At times it feels like Zeitlin only cared to emulate Malick’s fluid storytelling, but found himself neck deep in a story as muddled as the waters surrounding “the Bathtub.” At the very least, he understands that music is an important factor. The

score he composed alongside Dan Romer compliments the film beautifully.

Quvenzhané Wallis, the lucky unknown talent who snagged the role of Hushpuppy, does a fine job. At six years old, it’s a wonder to see her guiding the film, even if she isn’t given much to work with. It is easy to see the limitations of her performance through the abundance of narration, but her ability to switch from a calm demeanor to a feral show of intensity is something that has started her career off with a bang.

Wink’s callous treatment of his daughter throughout his fading health is often unwarranted, so much so that she wishes for his death in a moment of rage. It is hard to sympathize with his tough love approach to raising Hushpuppy, but Dwight Henry’s performance takes the character further than its writing might have allowed for someone else.

“The whole universe depends on everything fitting together just right,” says Hushpuppy. The right fit for these characters is living freely in this chaotic world, and it is in them that we find the true “Beasts of the Southern Wild.”

-Reel to Reel is a weekly movie review column, juan.barquin@fiusm.com

CAMPUS LIFE

Students to end summer semester with a splash

EISSY DE LA MONEDA
Asst. Life! Editor

With the heat of summer events coming to an end, it was only logical to cool everyone down with a pool party.

To end the summer semester, Campus Life brings forth its final event this Thursday, Aug. 2, the “Cool Down” pool party, the finale of the SummerFest program.

“We wanted to keep the energy up from SummerFest and give the summer students one last event they can enjoy,” said John Parmenter, senior graphic and web designer for Campus Life publications.

This event will take place at the Housing Quad Pool from 3-6 p.m. and will be providing students with free give-a-ways, food and music by DJ Zog.

“It’s a continuation of our SummerFest programming. Students can expect a fun pool party with high energy music by DJ Zog, great food and our very popular SummerFest tank tops and shades,” said Parmenter.

The event is free of charge and opened to all FIU students. “I’m really excited about this pool party. It sounds like a lot of fun, and it’s great to be able to have some fun before fall starts,” said junior Nathalie Lopez, biology major.

Through this event, like SummerFest, Campus Life hopes that students will have fun and socialize while learning about how to get involved on campus.

“Campus Life is focused on continuing to bring our students Worlds Ahead programming. We heard from students they wanted more summer programming and we worked hard to deliver. We sincerely hope our students keep living the life with us,” said Parmenter.

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TRACK AND FIELD

NOWHERE TO RUN

Track and field to host Sun Belt Championship in May

BRANDON WISE
Sports Director

As part of its final year in the Sun Belt Conference, FIU is set to host the 2013 Men's and Women's Track and Field Championships - without a track on campus.

The tournament will actually be held 22 miles up the turnpike at the Ansin Sports Complex in Miramar.

"We don't have a track at this time," said Head Coach Eric Campbell in an interview with Student Media. "Our athletic department is working on building us a track, but until we actually get a home facility, we will be using the Ansin Sports Complex."

Last season, the track and field team did their training at Tropical Park, located five miles off campus on Bird Road.

Campbell said the Ansin Sports Complex is one of the biggest facilities in the southeast and one of three certified tracks in the International Association of Athletics Federations.

In the Sun Belt Conference, only FIU and University of Arkansas at Little Rock do not have an on-campus facility for the school's



BEACON FILE PHOTO

The FIU track and field team spent last year training at Tropical Park off of Bird Road, five miles away from MMC.

track and field programs. According to UALR Student Media, the school's soccer-track and field complex is scheduled for completion in September 2012.

In fall 2011, Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment, Pete Garcia said to Student Media that

"The long-range plan is to spin the soccer field from where it is now, from North-South to East-West .. That's a long-range plan that's going to cost millions of dollars."

So far, no construction date is set, but according to both Garcia and Campbell, it will be combined

with the soccer stadium for the three programs to share.

Campbell believes that not having a home facility has caused some issues for the team in terms of recruiting, but for the most part, his team has not suffered without a facility.

"It's pretty difficult, but we sign some of Florida's best talent out of high school without having a [home] facility," Campbell said. "I really try to teach my staff that when we go out and talk to these young people, it's not about the facility, but about the people and the relationships. We sell ourselves, we sell our personalities, we sell FIU as an institution and we get quite a few recruits."

Without a home facility last year, the 4x100 relay team of Marissa McElveen, Lakeisha Kelley, Carla-Kay Mills and T'Keyah Dumoy qualified for the NCAA national championships in Des Moines, Iowa after posting a 45.05 at the East Regional in Jacksonville in May.

Nevertheless, Campbell is resilient. "That's something I try to preach to the kids," Campbell said. "We are proud of the fact that we don't have a facility and are able to go out and be nationally recognized. "We realize once we get a track, it'll be hell to pay for some of these other schools." "We don't lose too many recruits as it is, but once we get a facility, it'll be a wrap."

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

Goalie overcomes 'Savage' knee injury to play again



BEACON FILE PHOTO

VANESSA MARTINEZ
EDUARDO ALMAGUER
FIUSM Staff

Playing for Harbor FC, Kaitlyn Savage jumped in the air to head the ball when her opponent hit her to throw off her balance. As she landed, she immediately knew something was wrong. Then she heard the crack. Savage crippled to the floor and cried out in pain. She had blown out her knee.

The then sixteen year old was sure she had played her last soccer game. She had torn her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), lateral and medial meniscus, and had broken her femur.

"It was the worst pain in my life. The turning point in my career," Savage said.

After many surgeries and months of physical therapy, Savage finally decided to get back on the field. Not only did she return to play, but also she played even stronger and with more motivation.

"I could have just quit but during the time I couldn't play I realized how much I love the game and how much I missed it," Savage said.

At age 18, she joined the

HPFC Eagles, where many college coaches, including FIU's current head coach, Thomas Chestnutt, saw her play. After scouting her, Chestnutt was impressed with what he saw.

"In all aspects of this game, she had the raw tools already there, they just needed to be refined," Chestnutt said. "Balls stick to her hands like flypaper. We were super excited when we saw her."

It was at that time, in 2008, when Savage had decided that FIU would be her destination.

"I was given an amazing opportunity to live somewhere new, meet new people, get an education, and play soccer."

Chestnutt remembers a phone call he received from Savage the summer before her arrival in Miami. The goalkeeper, accustomed to the cool weather from Washington, asked her coach-to-be if she should instead train in sweatpants and sweaters to emulate the hot weather from Miami. Chestnutt was shocked and told her absolutely not. He still chuckles at the call.

"She wanted to make sure that she did everything in her power to be ready. You don't find that in every player. You don't see a player asking you

'can I do more?'" Chestnutt said. "Most people ask you what's the minimum I can do to be ready."

During her freshman year at FIU, Savage was able to experience winning the championship game as well as being honored as Sun Belt Conference freshman of the year.

Above all that, however, stands one memory that she still cherishes. It was on Aug. 30, 2009 when the goalkeeper got her first start against Florida Gulf Coast University in front of a crowd of more than 300 fans. The game ended in a 0-0 tie.

"I was more nervous than I had ever been about anything before," Savage recalled.

Unfortunately, Savage tore her ACL and meniscus for a second time during her spring semester of her freshman year in a spring game, and she was out until September. She was then red-shirted for the 2010 season.

"We certainly did miss her," Chestnutt said. "She proved herself to be our number one keeper and certainly could've helped us."

But once again, she did not let the injury get the best of her, and she recovered just in time to help the team power through the 2011 season.

Savage, who started 22 of the team's 23 games that year at goalkeeper, recorded 110 saves and blocked 81 percent of shots, a mark that ranked fourth in the conference. Savage also recorded eight shutouts, good for third overall.

Then came the conference championship against Western Kentucky in 2011. Savage remembers the drama surrounding that game and how it was a 0-0 tie after double overtime. FIU eventually won the penalty kicks, 4-3.

"I was so confident that we were going to win. It's something that we as a team have been talking about since my freshman year, getting a ring. Now that it's happened, it still feels surreal at times," Savage said.

Savage has one year left in an FIU uniform, and Chestnutt knows that her hard work is what has made the biggest impact.

"Her work ethic is a model for older and younger players while she's been here. Just seeing her willingness to excel and to be the best that she can be will be part of what she'll leave behind."

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Savage (above) was the Sun Belt Freshmen of the Year during the 2009 season.

TRACK AND FIELD

Ironically, Sun Belt chooses school without track

I can't tell if the Sun Belt Conference is trying to play a joke on FIU.

After announcing that FIU was going to host the 2013 Track and Field Sun Belt Tournament, I was confused. How do we intend on hosting a tournament for 10 other schools when we have no track to begin with?

COMMENTARY



EDUARDO ALMAGUER

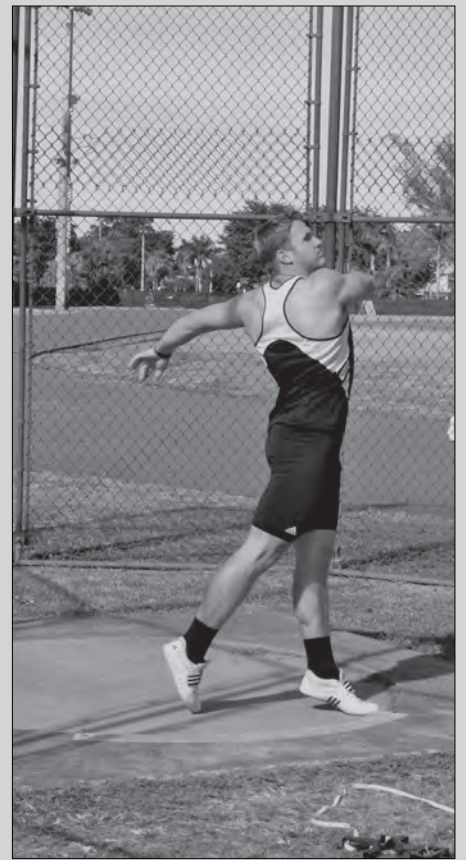
It is a tragicomedy, really, and an issue that finally brings to light what the track and field program has endured for the better part of the last decade. The Panthers have recently trained in Tropical Park and now they'll head to Miramar, Fla., specifically to the Ansin Sports Complex, to host the tournament.

Don't get me wrong; the complex itself is a great spot for the tournament. The home page of the complex has a video with epic, Chariots of Fire-like music playing up the facilities and its "IAAF-certified super FTX Mondo track with an eight-lane oval and a nine-lane straight-away" also known as, well, a track.

But how does the Sun Belt expect a large turnout of FIU fans when the complex is 22 miles from the Modesto Maidique Campus?

I was in attendance for the 2011 Sun Belt Volleyball tournament in the U.S Century Bank Arena and the opposing teams' fans outnumbered FIU fans 2-to-1. And that is when the tournament was held on campus.

Who will show up for the track and field tournament? I'd say the families of the FIU athletes and maybe, just maybe, one or two die-hard track and field fans from FIU, if they exist. The Panthers can once again expect to be one of the least-cheered for teams and that's a damn



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Among other events, the Track and Field team will be throwing their discus 22 miles from home.

shame.

Head coach Eric Campbell has done a tremendous job training his squad into championship form in recent years. In June, his women's 4x100 team qualified for the national championships. Each year, his squad is predicted to finish at the top or near the top of the SBC tournaments.

I give a lot of credit to Campbell. He's taken this massive negative and turned it into a positive, saying he's proud that his team can still compete without a facility. He says it allows his school to focus on the people and relationships of

the sport.

I wonder, though, if he speculates how great it could have been to host the tournament on a track to call his own.

While the Sun Belt's decision to tab FIU to host the tournament baffles me, I'm not going to let FIU itself escape unscathed. The "long-range goal" is to create a track surrounding the soccer field on Modesto Maidique Campus, but I sincerely feel that there will be no movement on that for a few years as FIU busies itself with its money-makers like football.

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

is the only other Sun Belt school to not have a track, but there's a big asterisk on that statement because as you read this, they are building one that's to be completed in September. I can only wonder why FIU spent its entire time in the SBC without an adequate track on campus.

Next year will be FIU's last year as a member of the Sun Belt Conference before they join Conference USA and this has to be one the worst going-away presents ever.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

So far, London Olympics wins gold medal for gaffes

JILL LAWLESS
AP Writer

An appearance by the hapless comic character Mr. Bean was one of the highlights of the London Olympics opening ceremony. Yet a series of Keystone Cops moments has games organizers hoping they don't keep up this slapstick routine in real life.

London police acknowledged Monday that last week they lost a set of keys to Wembley — one of the most famous soccer stadiums in the world and an Olympic venue in London — and had been forced to hastily change the stadium locks.

It was the latest unintentionally comic moment to beset the games and has raised fears of what else may be in store.

News of the lock debacle followed a diplomatic tiff with India, triggered when a woman who was not part of the country's athletic delegation marched right beside India's flag bearer at Friday's opening ceremony.

Olympic officials insisted there was no security risk from either incident. Games chief Sebastian Coe said the Indian team's

interloper was an accredited cast member from the opening ceremony who "got slightly over-excited."

Police said the Wembley keys appeared to have been lost rather than stolen and "measures were taken immediately to secure all key areas of the venue."

Earlier Olympic glitches ranged from worrying to merely embarrassing.

Security arrangements were thrown into chaos weeks before the opening ceremony when private security contractor G4S acknowledged it would not be able to provide all the guards it had promised.

Thousands of soldiers, sailors and air force personnel — some just back from Afghanistan — had to be drafted in to plug the Olympic security gaps.

Then last week, as the Olympic soccer competition kicked off, organizers mistakenly displayed the South Korean flag on a jumbo screen while introducing the North Korean women's team. There could hardly have been a worse mix-up — the two countries are still technically at war.

Britons, at least, are quick to see

the humor. Opticians Specsavers ran a full-page ad displaying the two completely different-looking Korean flags and suggesting that anyone who can't tell the difference should stop by for a checkup.

Then Welsh footballer Joe Allen was listed as English in the British team's official program, prompting a wave of mocking commentary across Twitter.

Over the weekend, television shots of so many empty seats at Olympic venues enraged many ordinary Britons, who had struggled for months to get tickets, many unsuccessfully.

Organizers are now scrambling to fill rows of empty seats allocated but not used by members of the "Olympic family" — national federations, sponsors and the media. Among the remedies: 150 British soldiers were told to stop handling security duties for a few hours Sunday and go watch the Olympic qualifying for women's gymnastics.

"I was told to let the boys come in and enjoy the show," Staff Sgt. Marc Robson of the 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery told The Associated Press. "Look at them, they seem to be liking it just fine."

Ellis Cashmore, professor of culture, media and sport at Staffordshire University, said the sheer number of Olympic errors has had a numbing effect.

"It's almost as if we've become anesthetized to them," he said. "It's almost as if we're expecting another gaffe."

"If everything had gone smoothly up till now, (the missing keys) would be a catastrophe. Losing your keys to the stadium! If you lose your house keys, it's a major crisis."

The farcical moments started more than a year before the games, when the official Olympic countdown clock was unveiled in London's Trafalgar Square — and promptly broke down.

On Friday, during a mass celebratory bell-ringing to mark the start of the games, Olympics Secretary Jeremy Hunt's bell went flying off its handle and narrowly avoided a bystander. No one was hurt, but the incident, captured by a TV camera, drew comparisons to Mr. Bean, the accident-prone Englishman created by comedian Rowan Atkinson.

It's fortunate that the British have knack for laughing at their

mistakes. That talent for self-deprecation helps explain the popularity of London Mayor Boris Johnson — a brainy but gaffe-prone politician once forced to apologize to the entire city of Liverpool after accusing its residents of "wallowing" in victimhood.

Putting a positive spin on things, Johnson listed Hunt's bell-ringing clanger as one of the reasons to be cheerful about the Olympics.

"Jeremy Hunt has introduced a new sport to the games, to go with the discus, shot-put, javelin," Johnson wrote in Monday's Daily Telegraph. "It is bell-whanging. ... The rules have yet to be codified — there is still a dispute about whether you get extra points for hitting a spectator — but you can be sure they will be codified in London."

In this new age of social media — and with the eyes of the world on London — more blunders are inevitable, Cashmore said.

"I think previous Olympics have been just as marred by security lapses, but now we are so acutely aware of everything that these things are magnified," he said. "We are looking at things microscopically now."

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, ARTS AND SOCIETY

A vast ocean for young summer campers

DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS
Contributing Writer

Squid and shark dissection, observing microorganisms underneath a microscope and building a coral model.

These would sound like activities for graduate students in a science lab, yet they are being performed by children in the EcoAcademy Summer Camp organized by the School of Environment, Arts and Society.

"These kids know more than you would imagine," said Nicholas Ogle, camp counselor and University alumni.

According to Grimm, the camp is in its fourth year and caters to children ages 6 to 16 who have an interest in marine biology and the environment. Children can register by week, so the number of campers is usually around 30 or 40.

"This is a great opportunity to expose youth to our campus and programs," said Jennifer Grimm, environmental programs manager.

The counselors working in the camp are University students or graduates. Middle and high school students also have the chance to volunteer as junior counselors.

"It's interesting to take them out and show them how the ecosystem is, the animals that live there, what makes it function efficiently and what makes it healthy," said Kimberly Weisenberg, marine biology senior and counselor.

Each week has a different theme regarding what the campers learn and participate in activities related to that specific topic, such as creatures of the sea, Florida environmental, deep sea and global warming.

"The ocean is all around us, and most of the kids don't even know anything about it," said Weisenberg.

Daniela Bueso, senior environmental studies major, working as a counselor for the first time, explained that the counselors have discussions with the children about the activities they are doing so they can understand the science behind it.

Ogle, who recently graduated in environmental studies, told the story about the day that the children dissected a squid in the lab. After working on the squid, they took the campers to the teaching food lab in the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management where Chef Mark D'Alessandro cooked calamari.

"The chef asked the children what was a calamari and one of them raised the hand and said, 'It's a cephalopod!'"

Ogle, who is working as a counselor for the third time, was pleased to see the campers applying what they had learned in the classroom. His experience working at the camp has given him much insight into how to spread awareness of environmental conservation.

"This camp has been really important for me in taking that message to kids which is one of the biggest things in public outreach," said Ogle.

Bueso also shared the story about the day that they built a coral model with candy, which they ate by the end of the day.

Even though it sounds like a simple and entertaining activity, the campers studied the coral parts and built it step by step, from the skeleton to the tentacles – different types of candies built different parts of the



corals.

The children kayak and snorkel every Tuesday and Thursday. On Monday and Wednesday they go to the pool, and on Fridays they go on field trips to places like the Miami Science Museum, Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and Monkey Jungle.

Ogle acknowledges the challenges of raising awareness, not only for children but also in the community and in politics.

"A lot of people think that it's pretty easy to take that science and it really isn't," Ogle said. "This has been a great lesson for me in how you take that science and turn it into a lesson that you can actually get people excited about."

Additional reporting by Barbara Corbellini Duarte.

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PHOTOS BY SANA ULLAH / THE BEACON

Campers at EcoAcademy build a coral model out of candy, step by step, from the skeleton to the tentacles. The different candies represent different parts of the coral. Campers eat them at the end of the day.

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

A brand new pair of high heels for SJMC

STEPHAN USECHE
Staff Writer

More than 50 percent of the United States population is comprised of women, according to the 2010 census, yet less than 40 percent of women have leadership positions in newsrooms.

According to Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver, professor and dean emeritus, it is time for them to reach their dreams and accomplish what mostly men have been able to accomplish.

That's why a center dedicated to women in communications will open its doors at Biscayne Bay Campus this upcoming fall.

The Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication, which was inspired and organized by Kopenhaver, is a

center designed to help young women in the communication field to reach their professional dreams and goals.

The center is still in the planning process, but Kopenhaver plans on having a ribbon-cutting event and reception in the late fall.

The center will only run part-time as it initiates, but once it's settled, it will run full-time during the fall of 2013. Kopenhaver wants to start slow and see how the center progresses with time.

The center will be located in Academic II.

According to Kopenhaver, more women are getting involved in communications, but they're not necessarily moving up into leadership positions; that's why one of the center's goals is to "support a new generation of female

students by preparing them to become transformational leaders in the mass communication industries."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, women comprised 36.9 percent of newspaper reporters, photographers, copy/layout editors, and supervisors in 2011. According to this report, women made up 40 percent of the total television news force and 28.4 percent of television news directors, and only 29.9 percent of the total radio news workforce.

"We're going to run seminars and workshops," said Kopenhaver.

The seminars will have motivational guest speakers to share their experiences in the field to those female students.

"Hearing the stories of professional journalists and

what they have had accomplished will make me chase my goals as well and push me to succeed to the level I want to because of their inspirations," said Jackelyn Fiat, senior journalism major.

These opportunities didn't exist before.

"When I was part of the school, we didn't have a lot of opportunities," said Veronica Van Derys-Sztam, manager of graduate studies within the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

"There were a lot of women colleagues and it was really hard for us to get in the field," Derys-Sztam said.

According to Kopenhaver, more women are moving into the field, but some of them are being discouraged and going to other areas.

As a result, the center

will also perform research to examine why this happens in many cases.

"Some of them are just remaining at lower levels and not being able to make that management jump," said Kopenhaver.

Kopenhaver was inspired to create a center like this one because she experienced the hardships of working in a field where it's mostly male-oriented. Nevertheless, she has been able to be one of the first women to reach positions where only men were able to reach.

She was the first woman president of the Society of Professional Journalists in Miami, among others.

Kopenhaver witnessed this demarcation throughout her career. The New York Times had its first female execu-

tive editor this past year, Jill Abramson; also, the Miami Herald has added its second woman editor, Aminda Marquez Gonzalez.

"I think the center is a great opportunity for the school and the students," said Teresa Ponte, chair of the department of Journalism and Broadcasting. "This will better prepare our students for the media reality and the media world."

Kopenhaver will direct the center with the help of journalism professors, as well as professionals practicing journalism, advertising and public relations around the country.

"I want to give women the same chance that everybody has," said Kopenhaver. "We want to help them get ahead."

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