

## FAR FROM DOLDRUM



OSCAR LIN/THE BEACON

Alexandra Vonelli (center), a freshman studying international relations, impresses the crowd with her belly dancing skills during a spontaneous drum circle on the GC lawns.

## MBA program grows despite national findings

MADY NODA  
*Staff Writer*

Applications for part-time and flexible programs, such as executive M.B.A programs, are down, according to the annual survey by the Graduate Management Admission Council; the Council oversees the Graduate Management Admission Test standardized entrance exam for many business schools.

The global recession of 2007 took a toll on the global economy, including MBA programs, said the National Bureau of Economic Research.

But since 2009, programs worldwide have reported stable or increasing applications for the first time. The University's Chapman Graduate School of Business has seen stability in both applications and enrollment. During the recession, the school has offered more

MBA programs with much more flexibility so students can pursue their education at their own pace.

"Almost always when there is some kind of downturn in the economy, schools see an uprise in applications. People may not have the ideal job scenario and turn to school as an option to get back on their career trajectory," said Erin Dowd, associate director of Recruitment and Marketing and MBA programs.

"Many of the MBA programs implemented since the recession are more flexible and geared towards students who want to go to school in conjunction with earning a paycheck," Dowd said.

The school of business currently offers eight MBA programs and 11 specialized masters programs. There are three professional MBA programs, which are offered to those with a couple years of work experi-

ence and two Healthcare M.B.A programs which are offered, both in-class and online.

"The healthcare industry is one of the registries that really resonated within the market. So our healthcare program has grown really strong since its beginning in 2010," said Dowd.

The corporate MBA program is one of the new programs that was added to the school in 2010 and it is offered fully online.

"It was designed for folks who are balancing personal commitment via family or work commitment. So we have seen steady enrollment beginning 2011 with 600 plus student year in just the corporate MBA program alone," said Dowd.

The professional MBA Flex program is another successful program that was implemented

**SEE EDUCATION, PAGE 2**

## Letters from an exiled brother, sister pays homage

CAROLINA GONZALEZ  
*Contributing Writer*

The Cuban Research Institute is hosting an event featuring the sister of a man who spent most of his life in exile from his own country to pay homage to her brother.

According to Jorge Duany, the director

of the Cuban Research Institute, Severo Sarduy, a Cuban writer, was an important figure in late 20th century Cuban literature. Born in Cuba, S. Sarduy experienced many challenges in his lifetime.

The University invited Mercedes Sarduy, his sister, to speak after she gifted her brother's never before published book titled "Cartas a mi Hermana en La

Habana" this past summer. M. Sarduy will speak about the collection of letters she received from her brother during his years abroad and exiled.

Originally wanting to study medicine, S. Sarduy traveled overseas to Paris, France on a scholarship from his home country of Cuba to pursue his new found dreams of becoming a writer. Since then,

he has had several books published; many of which are stories about, or based on, what he experienced as a traveler.

Duany said although a native, many Cubans felt like they could not fully accept S. Sarduy as an esteemed representation of the community because he never

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## Mars One applicant talks space exploration in astrophysics

MADISON FANTOZZI  
*News Director*

Patrick Ford, a junior physics major and astronomy minor – who has not only gained campus-wide popularity in his NASA-embossed astronaut costume, but also recognition in the community as a Mars One program applicant – will speak about the Red Planet at the University in two different events next month.

FIU's Society of Physics Students will host its second Phys Talks, a forum for undergraduate students to discuss research, science and technology where Ford – a member of SPS and public relations officer of the Astronomy Club – will speak about space exploration and Mars One.

Ford said although he will speak about the program that plans to establish a human settlement of 24 astronauts on the planet in 2023, he said he won't talk exclusively about

the project.

"I hope to give people a vision of what humanity can do in the next century in space exploration and how we can begin taking the first steps now," Ford said.

The event on Nov. 1 will be held in the Chemistry and Physics building room 145 at 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

Ford is also scheduled to talk space exploration at the same location on Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Stocker AstroScience Center's grand opening.

"I want to keep this as expansive and informative as I can," Ford said. "I want to convey my passion for space exploration and a chronology of human interaction with Mars."

Ford said he will address problems associated with trying to send humans into the solar system: Mercury's too unstable and close to the Sun,

Venus has an atmosphere 90 times thicker than Earth and the moons of Jupiter experience tremendous tidal forces and get blasted with radiation.

"Anywhere further than that is just too far for current technology," Ford said. "It makes sense that we would pick somewhere close with conditions that are somewhat reasonable. Mars has Earth-like days and seasons and a gravity that can be adjusted."

Ford will also discuss the history of the space programs on Mars – from the Mariners to the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and Viking Landers.

"I want to talk about what [these programs] did to improve our understanding of the Red Planet," Ford said.

Naturally, Ford said he will discuss different manned missions that are being planned including Mars One. "I'll explain what I think space exploration means to all of us and why I am so passionate



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Patrick Ford (above), astrophysics student and Mars One Project applicant, walks through the Graham Center in his signature astronaut costume.

about it."

Ford applied to Mars One in April and is awaiting decision. At one point, his public application and profile on the program's website reached 22nd in popularity out of 78,000 at the time. Over

200,000 people applied for the one-way trip by the end of August.

If he is not chosen, Ford said he plans to pursue his astrophysics degree, and public speaking – visiting high schools and other universities.

"I hope to give anyone who loves space and the idea of being a part of space exploration to go out and do it," Ford said.

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## WORLD NEWS

### Suicide bomber strikes Russian bus, killing 6

A female suicide bomber blew herself up on a city bus in southern Russia on Monday, killing six people and injuring about 30, officials said. The attack in Volgograd added to security fears ahead of the Winter Olympics in Sochi. The suspected bomber was from the North Caucasus, a region in southern Russia where an Islamic insurgency has been simmering for more than a decade following two separatist wars in Chechnya.

### UK commit to nuclear power despite Fukushima

Britain has struck an agreement to build a new nuclear power plant - the first such deal in the European Union since the disaster at Fukushima prompted a major rethink of the energy source's merits. The 16-billion pound (\$25.9 billion) project, which was agreed on Monday with France's EDF energy and a group of Chinese investors, aims to keep the lights on in Britain amid declining supplies of North Sea gas and rapidly escalating fuel costs.

### Israel awards Bloomberg \$1 million "Jewish Nobel"

Israel on Monday recognized New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg as the first ever recipient of the \$1 million Genesis Prize, an award popularly dubbed the "Jewish Nobel Prize." The Genesis Prize Foundation said Bloomberg was honored as the first winner for his long record of public service and philanthropy. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will present the prize to Bloomberg early next year in Israel. Bloomberg will then announce to which philanthropic cause he will donate the money.

For more world news, check out [FIUSM.com](http://FIUSM.com).

## CORRECTIONS

In Volume 25, Issue 28, the picture accompanying "Panthers start swimming season off strong," was incorrectly stated as a photo credit, when it was a Beacon file photo.

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

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# Rastafari brings departments together

CAMILA FERNANDEZ  
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 15 students will be able to immerse themselves into Rastafarian culture as the African and African Diaspora Studies Program hosts its fourth annual Humanities Afternoon.

The event, Rastafari Then and Now: Caribbeanist Anthropology, Gender Relations and Global Dimensions, will be starting at 1 p.m. in the MARC Pavilion.

According to Jean Rahier, director of AADS, the program will introduce Rastafari as a theme that will

Africa. This year, AADS's theme will address how Jamaica's religion Rastafari and its followers have been treated over time.

According to Rahier, AADS decided to organize this event to attract students from other areas in the humanities. He hopes that students will identify with the theme of the event and how it relates to African Diaspora in the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa.

"There are people in a whole bunch of locations whom might not be Jamaican and are followers of the religion," says Rahier.

Students from other departments in the School of International and Public Affairs, such as Global and Sociocultural Studies, History, Politics and International Relations and Religious Studies departments can participate.

To carry out the theme, the program will organize the event around two particular lectures that follow up with sessions of questions and answers.

Lectures will cover the Rastafari tradition, how Rastafarians were treated in the 1960s and how this compares to the way they are treated today. Michael Barnett, a sociology lecturer from the University of the West Indies, will also lecture about the religion in today's society on a global scale.

After introductions, the first speaker will be Bob Hill, a history professor from the University of California that specializes on Jamaica. According to Rahier, he will

talk about how the religion has been treated since the 1960s when large numbers of Jamaicans arrived to the United States.

"The second lecture is about how Rastafari came as a religion, what it has become and where and how it has spread on the global stage across the Caribbean, Latin America, but other places of the world as well," said Rahier.

Besides hearing about what the lecturers have to say about the religion and its global impacts, the students will get an insight as to what the AADS program has to offer.

Rahier said the program offers courses on topics such as global dimensions, African history, cultures of the Caribbean and African literature.

"One can make sense of the solidarity that might exist between a Jamaican and a Haitian right here in Miami," said Rahier.

According to Rahier, since the program is based on the studies of the spread of people from their original homeland, it is considered to be an area of social sciences, giving it a special connection with the humanities.

"You have to know that this is part of the history of AADS," says Rahier.

This event gives the opportunity for students and professors who are involved with literature, history and humanities in general an opportunity to identify with the themes of Africa or African diaspora.

-news@fiusm.com

“One can make sense of the solidarity that might exist between a Jamaican and a Haitian right here in Miami

Jean Rahier  
Director  
African and African  
Diaspora Studies

make the event "provocative" and "informative."

Last year's theme was based on the irrational hatred of homosexuality that one finds at the level of many governments in Sub-Saharan

# Recession makes students return for more schooling

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in 2011. It allows students to alternate from a classroom setting to the online component. The enrollment and applications number have increased significantly during the recession with this new and flexible program.

Also, there is the international MBA program, which is the full-time program that has been around for quite a while

“Even through the economic depression, M.B.A. programs are still flourishing here at FIU. In fact we are enrolling more MBA students than any other program in South Florida.

Erin Dowd  
Associate director  
Recruitment and Marketing

and along with the Executive M.B.A program that's

been running for more than 15 years.

"We have had a steady enrollment of around 3000 students for a couple years now. Even through the economic depression, MBA programs are still flourishing here at FIU. In fact we are enrolling more MBA students than any other program in South Florida," Dowd said.

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# Homosexual writer's family speaks

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returned.

Further hindering his image, S. Sarduy was homosexual, which was frowned upon during the time of the country's period of revolution.

Duany said this is why S. Sarduy did not always receive the credibility he worked to achieve.

"Because of the close relationship Mercedes had with her brother, she is able to paint a more complex picture of his life by incorporating personal family photos and stories," Duany said. "This is an important event that gives the Sarduy family a chance to recover his biography and written works from the time they spent

apart" as well as attempt to change the perception many had of Severo.

Students, who may or may not share similar difficulties, are given the chance to learn more about the life of S. Sarduy on a highly personal level and get a taste of the challenges he had to face.

"The event is important to the Hispanic community because it is a firsthand look at the experience of involuntary family separation, an event that many go through in their lifetimes and that some never overcome," said Anigladys Mesa, president of the Cuban Research Institute.

The event is Saturday, Oct. 26 at 4 p.m. at the Coral Gables Books and Books. It is free, open to the public

## LETTERS TO MY SISTER IN HAVANA

Date: Saturday, Oct. 26

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Place: 265 Aragon Ave,  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

and will be held in Spanish.

-news@fiusm.com

## Vaginas weird Panthers out

**LAUREN BANA**  
*Staff Writer*

When people say, hear or read the word “vagina” it commonly makes them feel uncomfortable, but when people say, hear or read the word “penis” the reactions are not accompanied by discomfort.

People tend to think the word “vagina” is gross and should only be spoken aloud when describing anatomy in a classroom or a medical setting.

It’s almost the same when seeing the image. Everyone has seen that familiar penis drawing that has been scattered across high school campuses on the walls, desks and even students’ class binders.

The strange thing is that no one ever sees vagina drawings dispersed across campuses.

I remember drawing a picture of a vagina as a response joke towards my guy friend, who recently drew tiny penises all over my algebra II binder, but he didn’t laugh. He thought it was gross and ridiculed me for having drawn such a gross thing on his binder. I was so confused about that. It didn’t seem right.

I recently discovered an article on vice.com that interviewed 20-year-old Petra Collins for designing a shirt for American Apparel that displayed a line drawing of an unshaved, menstruating vagina being masturbated.

According to the article, the image on the Internet alone disturbed both the men and women who were commenting on the shirt.

It is shocking to see that sort of thing in the first place, but it seems to me that we are all so conditioned to feel that these images of female genitalia are disgusting when we should remember that they are natural bodily functions.

“We are all so conditioned to feel that these images of female genitalia are disgusting when we should remember that they are natural bodily functions.”

When shown to University students, they were shocked at the idea of spotting another student walking around campus wearing that shirt.

Ana Zambrano, junior biology major, said, “It’s going to shock people, like it shocked me, for sure. Now, I wouldn’t personally buy the shirt and wear it, but if people feel comfortable advertising that, it’s their right to express.”

This is not a typical reaction, but I felt it was the most logical. Women especially

should not feel so offended by a drawing of their own natural bodily functions, but it’s understandable to feel that it’s a bit much for someone to walk around and publicize it in such a way.

Senior anthropology major, Seth Sirgany, said, “I don’t think anyone would want to see a shirt advertising human genitalia anywhere – on- or off-campus. It has nothing really to do with a discomfort with our anatomy, there are just limits to public display of certain bodily functions.”

In my opinion, this is a more typical reaction that he has wholeheartedly decided that the shirt should not be seen in public.

I feel that these sorts of things are always going to be slightly overwhelming in a society that downgrades the female sex, but this shocking act might be a necessary push in the direction for society to view women as more resilient than people think.

Nowadays, our society has been trained to see these things as disturbing.

Women have been indirectly, or even directly, taught to shave leg, underarm and pubic hair simply because it has been deemed “unladylike.”

It is a common stipulation that is strictly enforced on women and never applied to men.

I personally feel that if someone wanted to wear this shirt in public, they have every right. Especially if it’s someone who is going to use the attention to express the need for people to embrace the body’s natural states.

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## Cultural diversity and ignorance

**JODI-ANN RICHARDS**  
*Contributing Writer*

Recently, a 24-year-old from New York, Nina Davuluri, secured her place in American history by becoming the first woman of Indian heritage to win the Miss America pageant. Many Americans including Tyra Banks were happy for Davuluri and had no problem with her ethnicity. However, there were some Americans who responded differently.

Some people might say they don’t think beauty pageants are relevant, but the negative response from members of the country revealed racism and stereotyping still present in America.

One person tweeted, “Miss America? You mean Miss 7-11.” After Davuluri’s win another person tweeted, “And the Arab wins Miss America. Classic.”

Nina Davuluri was not the first Miss America winner to get a backlash of hate.

In 1984, Vanessa Williams became the first African-American woman to win, after which she received death threats and angry racist hate mail. In 2010, Rima Fakih also made history by becoming the first Arab-American to be crowned Miss America. Some Americans were not happy because of the tendency to relate Arabs to the 9/11 attacks.

As I read the disrespectful tweets about Davuluri, I thought to myself that this racism and hate stems from a lack of understanding about other cultures and a misunderstanding of what it means to be an American.

One tweet that caught my attention read, “Man our president nor our new Miss America isn’t even American; I’m sorry, but Miss Kansas, I salute you, you’re the real American.”

So, what is it that defines us as Americans? What does an American look like or what is an American supposed to like?

The United States was established by immigrants with no special attention for a particular race or religion. That has always been one of the strengths of this country: to be a land of opportunity for people no matter what their ethnicity is or where they come from. So persons who think that this country is only for a particular group of people don’t understand what it means to be a true American.

The United States is the largest melting pot in the world and as such I think it would be good to have more campaigns and discussions in this country about cultural diversity and tolerance. I am glad that our University has an Office of Global Learning Initiative. This initiative includes curricular and co-curricular elements, which give you the opportunity to learn about and actively

engage with the rest of the world. You

“That has always been one of the strengths of this country: to be a land of opportunity for people no matter what their ethnicity is or where they come from.”

have options that range from taking global learning courses to studying abroad.

We all share this planet, and it’s time for us to explore and learn about the rest of the world. We might just see less of the hate and stereotyping that Davuluri, Fakih and Williams experienced. More people might realize that one person cannot be defined by the actions of others.

I am my own person. I choose to rise above stereotype labels and live by what it truly means to be an American.

-opinion@fiusm.com

**THE BEACON** | Editorial

## Traditions should come naturally

More often than not we will see our peers sporting jerseys from other school teams or making the trek north to be a Seminole or Gator for the weekend. Where is this pride and commitment in our own University and tradition?

At a school where more students attend intramural games than homecoming, the Panther Growl has yet to catch on like the Gator Chomp and Tomahawk Chop. But at the very least, could students swap out their green and orange for some blue and gold?

The University’s “traditions” are scary in the least: step on the seal at the entrance of the Graham Center and risk graduation, or even worse, share a moment with your significant other on the kissing bridge and be bound together for life.

And then there’s spinning that giant cube at Deuxieme Maison to pass your exams—but let’s face it, that myth is shortly extinguished after freshman orientation.

Perhaps it’s because these “traditions” are created at a table of University administrators rather than from the spontaneity of students and the community.

At what point does the University accept students’ resistance to its self-imposed pride and tradition and let history run its course?

Pride is not brainwashed. Tradition should not be forced.

While FIU falls a hundred years behind schools like the University of Florida and Florida State University, it tries to keep up by creating these unnatural traditions that are slow to catch on.

But it has an adverse affect on the University community.

Let’s face it—these traditions feel as unnatural as they truly are.

Students feel silly throwing up their Panther paws.

And with less than 50 years under our belt, the University needs to realize it’s okay not to have that UF- or FSU-feel just yet. Instead of acting like something we’re not, we should enjoy the path that we are on now.

Why must the University be so quick to label tradition?

This defeats the idea of tradition altogether.

Like the Trail of Torch and Freshman Luau traditions—events labeled traditions after a mere 10 years.

And labeled by who?

The University. Not even students.

The University should relinquish its tight grip of control and allow history to take its course.

Allow students and the community to find and create its own traditions.

Let the students find their own roar.

### SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

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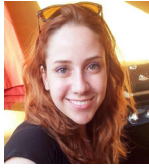
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## Where to wine in Miami

**COLUMNIST**



**DANIELA WALTER**

Wine has become more than an enjoyable trend in recent decades. Lately, this unique beverage has turned into a commodity and a powerful indicator of social status.

The Chinese this past decade have shifted the French wine consumer market away from United States—an effect that has made the Chateaus in France mark their prices higher than the majority of the population can afford. Due to centuries of trade, demographic expansion and cultural exchange, we are able to find unique wineries from all around the world producing outstanding quality wines—some even dare say better than the French.

Florida is the third biggest consumer of wine in the United States and Miami is definitely the place to be when trying to find that bargain shop that will not only impress your palate, but especially your friends.

Here are a few suggestions for the Miami area if you are looking for that unique shopping and dining experience:

**1) Wine Depot & Bistro 555:**

This wine store, bar and bistro in one is located in Miami Beach. This is a unique place where you will find the perfect wine to pair with the perfect meal from their outstanding menu. While there, make sure to check their vintage room which showcases the best producers and vintages you can find in the world. It is definitely worth taking a look. The wine store is open Monday through Saturday from 11:00 am until 11:00 pm. Their website is wd555usa.com.

**2) El Carajo International Tapas and Wine:**

Located in the convenience store of a gas station, this unique place will make you fall in love as soon as you see the variety of wine selection they carry—more than two thousand bottles. The wines in my opinion carry the best value in town, since they only markup their wine 3 percent. Not convinced yet? They are open 24 hours a day. During restaurant hours, you can pick your wine from the shelves and pair it with whatever your food selection. The menu is authentic Spanish cuisine and their tapas

## DONATE TO DUNK



OSCAR LIN/THE BEACON

Hannah Leyton (left), a junior psychology major, and Kathryn Pena (right), junior business finance major, prepare to dunk a member of AXA (Alpha Chi Alpha) after donating money for their cause Feeding America. This organization is intended to feed the homeless. The fraternity also accepts canned goods in exchange for dunking.

are delicious. It's a small hidden treasure and if you want to maximize your experience, make sure to call in advance to reserve a spot at (305) 856-2424.

**3) Happy Wine Miami:**

Much like El Carajo, it is also a unique Spanish eatery. The difference being it has two different locations. The first location, on 8th Street, is open fewer

hours than the second, but it is still great for a quick wine pick or a happy hour. The second location is in Coconut Grove. A unique feature of this location is the wine and food pairings that they conduct with famous wineries. The same service is also available by request. Their menu consists of amazing cheese and meat appetizers and elaborate Spanish dishes. They have a limited sitting

space so you can call in advance and reserve a spot if your party is four or more at (305) 460-9939. More information on the 8th street location is available via telephone through (305) 262-2465.

**4) Portofino Wine Bank:**

Is a wine shop that offers free delivery in addition to offering service in Portu-

guese and Spanish. You can order wine based on geographic location from places like Australia, California, Chile, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Japan and many other global locations. To supplement their store, they also sell liquor and beer. More information is available at portofinowinebank.com and via phone through (305) 532-1988.

-life@fiusm.com

# University aims high with STARS alliance

**HOLLY MCCOACH**  
*Staff Writer*

The University seems to be climbing the ladder of achievements thanks to many determined Panthers.

One group of Panthers is clawing its way to the top in achievements and learning opportunities.

The STARS Alliance (Students in Technology, Academia, Research and Service) opened up a chapter at the University approximately two years ago.

The organization is within a computer based field in which members provide personalized tutoring to those in need. These courses include Computer Science, Information Technology and Electrical and Computer Engineering.

However, STARS is not solely based on tutoring University students. This group focuses

on outreaching to public schools and aims to assist in developing essential skills in life and the workplace, such as giving presentations, rather than any given assignment.

"We help them develop as individuals," said Gio Peralto-Pritchard, a junior Information Technology major, the Council of Student Organizations representative who doubles as the webmaster.

STARS reached out to Wesley Matthews Elementary School, where the students were taught how to build and program robots. Exposing these younger students to new and upcoming technologies right now helps them to determine whether or not they enjoy it and would consider pursuing the field.

The STARS members peak the interests of the youngsters in every way possible save for teaching them how to decipher

codes.

Gaining students' attention by discovering what captivates them when learning is one of the

**"We help them develop as individuals."**

*Gio Peralto-Pritchard*  
Junior  
Information Technology major

many goals of the organization's members.

The organization works to have a sense of direction and balance along with their computer tutoring programs.

"It is truly an entire foreign

language. You have to start thinking not just on terms of English verbs and nouns, but you have to start thinking [of it] as a whole other language. These are kids that barely scratch into Algebra, so they know the basic arithmetic. You can't overwhelm them," said Terry Letterman, an Information Technology graduate student and the president of the STARS chapter at the University, "That's what STARS is all about. It's outreaching."

STARS' idea is to give students multiple approaches to understanding the same topic and to give them the tools to learn—not to give them the answers. As a result, STARS has a humane side to its program.

"It's not just about knowing the material, it's being able to convey that material," said Anthony Forns, senior Information Technology major.

Professional and technical

development, rather than an overload of knowledge on computers, is another important aspect of the program.

STARS implements the social skills necessary because it applies to the workforce, making them well-rounded.

"The reason why I joined STARS [is because when] the person you're tutoring gets an 'A-ha!' moment, it's the best feeling in the world," said Forns.

Peralto-Pritchard and Forns attended the STARS Celebration in Atlanta, where schools nationwide attended and presented different ideas to each other. The conference held a series of speakers and ideas such as improvement of voting and an absentee ballot system for soldiers overseas were discussed.

"We want to develop [outreach]. Coming out of

**SEE STARS, PAGE 5**



## WEEK OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23

### ORGANIC FARMERS MARKET

WHEN: 9 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free admission, prices vary  
WHERE: MMC Behind GL on the red wall

### PICASSO'S GUERNICA THROUGH SIGHT AND SOUND

WHEN: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE  
WHERE: MMC Frost Art Museum

THURSDAY, OCT. 24

### EXCEL ESSENTIALS

WHEN: 2 p.m.-3 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE  
WHERE: MMC Primera Casa 411

### SPANISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

WHEN: 3 p.m.-4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE  
WHERE: MMC Green Library 125

### HAVANA NIGHTS

WHEN: 8 p.m.-12 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE  
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

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

## STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN



PATRICIA SEGOVIA/THE BEACON

Francisco Salas, freshman majoring in physics, strummed his guitar on the steps by the Green Library.

# University's STARS alliance tutors technology

## STARS, PAGE 4

Atlanta, I learned how we can better improve [that]," said Peralto-Pritchard.

FIU's STARS Alliance chapter was ranked as a high performing

organization out of all the alliances and is in the top 10.

"We developed a website that is now being implemented in other schools," said Peralto-Pritchard.

With this chapter only being

around two years old, it can be safe to say that they are making their way to the top and representing FIU proudly.

Any University student with any major is also free to join.

The STARS Alliance chapter

at the University encourages anyone that is even slightly interested in computers to check out the chapter.

To join the STARS Alliance at FIU, students can check it out at stars.cs.fiu.edu.

The organization also meets together in the Engineering & Computer Science building every other Thursday of the month.

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# This charming man? Morrissey book climbs charts

JILL LAWLESS  
*AP Writer*

The new book by British singer Morrissey is a classic.

It says so right on the cover.

The memoir from the former frontman of The Smiths — titled simply "Autobiography" — is the first rock bio published under the venerable Penguin Classics imprint, home to Aeschylus, Jane Austen and Oscar Wilde. Morrissey has said he insisted on the "classic" label as a condition of signing with Penguin.

That has horrified some people in the publishing industry, but not the singer's

many fans, who drove the book to the top of Amazon's U.K. chart the day after it was published Thursday.

Jon Howells, spokesman for the Waterstones book store chain, said Friday that the book is destined to be a Christmas-season best-seller.

"In Britain, he is one of our icons," Howells said. "His is the great untold story from the '80s generation of music heroes."

The Smiths and their enigmatic, gladioli-waving singer had a huge impact in 1980s Britain with alternately giddy and melancholy songs such as "How Soon Is Now?" and "This Charming Man."

They weren't quite

so popular in the United States, where "Autobiography" does not yet have a publisher.

The quartet broke up in 1987, and Morrissey has used up some of his fans' goodwill with increasingly curmudgeonly pronouncements during his solo career.

"Autobiography" opens with a vivid, verbose evocation of Steven Patrick Morrissey's childhood as part of a sprawling Irish family in the damp, industrial northern English city of Manchester, and his awakening to the bright joys of pop music.

Fans will find mordant wit and evocative turns of phrase, while critics will see boundless self-indul-

gence and the absence of an editor's trimming hand in the 457-page, single-chapter volume.

Reviewers have been sharply divided. Rock critic Neil McCormack gave the book a five-star review in the Daily Telegraph, calling it "the best-written musical autobiography since Bob Dylan's 'Chronicles.'" But the Independent's literary editor, Boyd Tonkin, tired of Morrissey's "droning narcissism" and "puerile litany of grievances."

Fans though, will likely lap up the personal insights from a musician, now 54, who has long avoided talking about his private life.

Morrissey has had

periods of depression; he had his first serious relationship in his 30s, with a man he memorably describes as "an ex-schoolboy sadist with a flair for complicity"; he later discussed becoming a parent with a close female friend.

"Tina and I discuss the unthinkable act of producing a mewling miniature monster," writes Morrissey, ever the romantic.

There are encounters — often awkward — with other famous people, moments of drama, including a 2007 kidnapping attempt in Mexico, and episodes of the absurd. Morrissey says he was once invited to appear on the sitcom "Friends," where "I am requested to

sing 'in a really depressing voice.'"

And there is the inevitable score-settling.

The Smiths' former record label, Rough Trade, comes in for vitriol.

So do the band's bassist and drummer, with whom Morrissey and guitarist Johnny Marr fought a bitter royalties battle, recounted at length.

A Smiths reunion seems unlikely.

Morrissey reveals that Marr once suggested reforming the band. But the singer said no.

"Surviving The Smiths is not something that should be attempted twice," he writes.

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## From the stands: The team that won't stay away

### COLUMNIST



GIANCARLO NAVAS

In a season full of ups and downs, this Panther team has the potential to make a run deep in the Conference USA tournament.

I can't put my finger on it, but there is something odd about this FIU women's soccer team.

It's strange really. There are days that you want to pull your hair out watching them. And then there are other days that you don't understand why this team isn't 9-6-0 rather than 6-9-0.

Coming off a fabulous 5-2 bounce back win against Rice University (5-7-2), the Panthers have clawed back into the number one spot for the eastern division of C-USA. They sit tied with the University of Charlotte at the top of the division.

Despite having a losing record, the Panthers have been playing some of the best soccer in the conference as of late. They have their shot attempts and scoring up from a month ago and are finding an identity on the field.

A scrappy and tough soccer team that is improving. It seems like so many of the 50/50 balls are won by FIU, the girls are fighting for position and making correct reads to put themselves



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

After getting off to a slow start, the FIU women's soccer team has turned it around by posting a (6-9) record but going (4-3) in conference play.

in great spots.

It sometimes looks like how basketball players fight for post or rebound position. They are that physical and are working that hard.

The wins are piling up and so are the statistics. Scoring is up to 1.60 goals per game and FIU has moved into the middle of the pack in C-USA in that category, as opposed to earlier in the

month when they were second to last.

And FIU has boosted its shots per game to 12.33, which comes of the aid of the recent offensive explosions over the weekend. 20 shots a piece against Rice and East Carolina University.

This team has depth and in soccer that goes a long way. Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt has many options on his bench to

change the pace of the game and many girls who can do different things.

Every game a different player for FIU steps up and provides a great performance, even in losses. One day its senior midfielder/forward Nicole DiPerna with a six shot game, or its freshman midfielder Alyssa Robinson with two assists, or even junior forward Ashleigh Shim with her

team leading eight goals.

The goalkeeping for FIU has been as solid as they come in C-USA. Redshirt junior defender/goalkeeper Paula Zuluaga ranks second in saves per game and her backup just recently had a five save game in a half against Rice.

A team that was once 2-7-0 has saved their season quite dramatically. Now at 6-9-0 they do not look like the same group of girls that has two straight 4-0 matches in September against the University of Dayton and Illinois University.

No, there is something different. Something that this team lacked before, it's difficult to say but perhaps it's the offensive renaissance that this team has seen. Perhaps it's been the easy schedule as of late. Or perhaps its just these girls are taking advantage of all of the above.

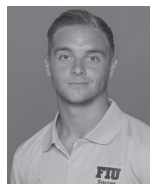
They are improving no doubt. They are scratching their way all the way to the top of C-USA. That 2-7-0 start seems like an eternity ago. The Panthers are coming, the Panthers are coming. And unlike the British, they might not lose.

*The FIU women's soccer team declined interviews request with Student Media for this story.*

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## Quentin Albrecht embracing leadership role

YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ  
Staff Writer



QUENTIN ALBRECHT

The FIU men's soccer team (5-8-0) (1-4-0) is led by their captain, junior forward Quentin Albrecht. Through 13

games Albrecht has five goals, four assists, and 14 total points, all of which are team highs.

Albrecht is definitely a stat sheet stuffer. Before coming to FIU, Albrecht played for the Wiesbaden U19 in Germany and was the top scorer with 25 goals. His exceptional play has followed him to the states.

During his tenure FIU Albrecht has earned third-team Confer-

ence-USA honors his freshman year and second-team Conference-USA honors his sophomore year. This year he is the number 12 ranked player in the C-USA according to 'TopDrawerSoccer.' If Albrecht continues his great play he will definitely warrant strong consideration for C-USA first team honors.

Before the start of the season, when Albrecht spoke on what he believed he needed to do to make the C-USA first-team he went into detail.

"I hope to finally get to the conference tournament," Albrecht said. "I think that was the major issue last year. I have to score more goals. Last year I was third in the scoring rankings, this year I want to be first place. But most important you have to get to the tournament to achieve it."

Last year Albrecht scored a team high 10 goals. However, FIU was unable to collect a conference win, going (0-7-1) in conference play. This year FIU is (1-4-0) as of Oct. 21 in C-USA and Albrecht has scored two of his five goals in conference play.

Albrecht was a one man scoring machine last season, scoring 10 out of 28 total goals for the Panthers. The 10 goals were the most for any FIU player

since the 2002 season when Matias Asorey netted 13 goals.

The Panthers have just four more games remaining, all of which are conference games. Albrecht will look to prove why he is worthy of first-team C-USA consideration, but will need to play some of the best soccer of his career against FIU's remaining tough opponents in order to do so.

This year the Panthers added some firepower on offense when they were able to get junior midfielder Roberto Alterio, who is a transfer from the University of South Florida. Alterio and Albrecht have been FIU's one-two punch on offense. They both are currently tied for the team-lead in goals, at five.

"We need competition on the team, especially myself," Albrecht said. "We need to score and he's a guy who can score."

While Albrecht's scoring is what draws the most immediate attention, he is a very unselfish and willing passer. Albrecht currently is tied for the team-lead in assists at four with co-captain senior midfielder Gonzalo Frechilla. Albrecht had 5 career assists coming into this season.

The very talented Albrecht definitely has a very bright future ahead. But, for now he has his

eyes strictly set on helping FIU win games.

"I still have one more year," Albrecht said. "I'm a junior right now and I really don't think about it right now. I want to give it all I have for FIU right now and then hopefully go professional after that."

It is great to see that FIU's star player is focused on the present rather than looking towards the future as many college athletes often do. Albrecht has started all but one game for FIU this season and is third in the team in minutes played with 1009. However, Albrecht believes that he is more than capable of withstanding the hefty workload.

"I think the coach has prepared us very well," Albrecht said. "We are fit and can run for 90 minutes."

Albrecht and the Panthers will look to finish the season strong and improve on their (1-4-0) C-USA record, when they take on the University of Kentucky Wildcats at Lexington, Ky. on Oct. 26 at 7 p.m.

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BEACON FILE PHOTO

Junior forward Quentin Albrecht (left) is helping lead the Panthers to a tournament berth by posting five goals on the season.



# Vann rocks the field in his fifth season for the Panthers

**RHYS WILLIAMS**  
Staff Writer



ROCKEY VANN

Wide receiver Rocky Vann had only two catches in the homecoming game against the Blazers of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Those two catches helped him rack up 88 yards for the day.

Vann has a total of three receptions for 112 yards, which is an average of just over 37 yards a play.

After not being extremely active on the roster since the 2009 season, Vann has definitely dusted off his old play style. The receiver played in seven games and made three starts for the Panthers in 2009 before redshirting in 2010 after an off-season injury.

Between 2010 and the start of this current 2013 season, Vann played in only four games. He suited up against the University of North Texas in the 2011 season opener before missing the rest of the season with injury and in 2012 he made appearances on special teams against the University of Louisville, Arkansas State University and Troy University.

Vann also missed the end of spring practice and the first few games of the 2013 season with injury.

"It's good and I am just trying to contribute to the team," Vann said. "Whatever I can do to help the team is fine with me and that is all that really matters."

There are two things that Vann believes are contributing to his successes in the past few weeks.

"I think it might be both of the facts that teams are working off of very little film on my play from this season in this offense and the fact that I can blow by people with my speed," Vann said. "With the coaches putting me in the position to make plays, I am able to make as many plays for the team as I can."

Vann went on to discuss some of the things that kept him going through his injuries throughout his tenure at the University and how the transition has been from former Head Coach Mario Cristobal – who is now

with the University of Alabama Crimson Tide – to current Head Coach Ron Turner.

"Keeping my faith in the Lord and my family telling me to persevere through everything and just myself, my determination and will to get through was a big factor," Vann said. "It was tough at first. I had some rough years with coach Cristobal but I made it through. Then coach Turner came in with a new vibe and I bought into his system and I was just trying to make plays and help the team."

His quarterback, Jake Medlock, added on about the emergence of the wide receiver.

"Rockey and I go way back. I mean we were roommates when we first got here," Medlock said. "We know each other really well. As you can see he has had some bad luck, but now his luck has changed. With anyone, if you keep working and fighting back from adversity, it will show and he is doing a great job of it. He has kinda helped us realize that we have had that 'it' factor all along. Before [the win], we were stressing, worried about everything and making mistakes. Now we are going out there and having fun and Rocky is doing a great job to help keep it that way."

Medlock also went on to speak on how his receiving core has advanced in the last few weeks.

"[Vann], along with some of the other guys like receiver T.J. Lowder and tight end Ya'Keem Griner – who went off in this last game against the Blazers for Homecoming – have been improving throughout this season and along with my improvements it is starting to look better," Medlock said.

Coming off of the team's second and final bye week of the season, the Panthers will begin a two game home slate as they welcome in the Bulldogs of Louisiana Tech University, Oct. 2 and East Carolina University Pirates, Nov. 2.

Following those games the Panthers will travel Nov. 9 to go against former Sun Belt Conference foe Middle Tennessee State University.

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# Tackle McKinnie acquired by Dolphins from Ravens

**STEVEN WINE**  
AP Writer

Tackle Bryant McKinnie was traded Monday by the Baltimore Ravens to the Miami Dolphins, who needed to shore up a leaky offensive line.

The Ravens will receive a conditional late-round draft pick, Baltimore coach John Harbaugh said.

The 34-year-old McKinnie will likely compete for playing time with right tackle Tyson Clabo, who allowed two fourth-quarter sacks in Miami's loss Sunday to Buffalo and has given up seven sacks this season.

"It's a good move for us, good move for Bryant," Harbaugh said.

The Dolphins (3-3) haven't won in a month. In the past three games, they've allowed 12 sacks and committed seven turnovers – all by harried quarterback Ryan Tannehill. The team's downward spiral threatens to gain momentum with the next two games against division leaders New England and Cincinnati.

Tannehill leads the NFL with 26 sacks, but coach Joe Philbin resisted any temptation to shake up the offensive line when the team had a bye before the Buffalo game. Tannehill's fumble when he was sacked by Mario Williams in the closing minutes led to a Bills field goal that gave them a 23-21 victory.

Williams used a power rush on the play to beat Clabo, who took the blame.

The 6-foot-8, 352-pound McKinnie missed the first day of training camp this summer for being overweight. He started the first five games but lost his job to Eugene Monroe and was inactive for the first time in his career for the Ravens' two most recent games.

Last year McKinnie came off the bench during the regular season, then was a key figure in Baltimore's run to the Super Bowl title, starting all four playoff games.

McKinnie, who played in college for the Miami Hurricanes, has never missed a game because of injury. He played for the Vikings in 2002-10 and made the Pro Bowl in 2009.

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## Idan Raichel shares inspiration for his new music, his approach to songwriting

LUCY BUKAI  
Contributing Writer

Israeli songwriter Idan Raichel arrived to Biscayne Bay Campus on Thursday, Oct. 17, to talk about what stands behind his creations and to perform a few of his hits.

Some students asked whether the Palestinian-Israeli conflict interfered with his success as an artist while others were more curious as to what inspired his writing and the "Idan Raichel Project."

The artist, who served in the Israeli Defense Forces army band, insisted that politics should not interfere to any artist in the process of creation and added that art was meant to provide peace to its receivers.

"We are not trying to focus on Israeli national problems, we are here for the beauty of art," he said. "In fact, there are many great Palestinian artists who should be more recognized by Israelis."

The Idan Raichel project, which released its first album in 2002

by Helicon Records, worked with singers from different cultures and backgrounds such as Ethiopian Jews, Arabs and South Africans.

The album received tremendous recognition and demand for concerts throughout Israel with hits "If You Go," "Come" and "Speaking Quietly."

Over 70 diverse musicians contributed to the album.

His second album "Mi'ma'amakim" released in 2005 contains the hit "From the Depth."

One music major student praised Idan Raichel's song "From the Depth" and asked him what inspired him when making it.

The artist explained that "Mi'ma'amakim" is a section from Psalm 130 that is being recited by Jews while praying.

Shortly after, he walked over to the piano set near him and played the song to which the crowd of University students and representatives from the Israeli consulate joined in.

"My music brings the voices of

diversity," he said. "I love working with singers of any style, not long ago I worked with the singer Alicia Keys and it was incredible. A connection between nationalities to the ability to create should be avoided. My songs talk to different people of any color, race, religion and nationality."

During his younger years, right after the military service, he worked at an immigrant boarding school in Israel and interacted with many Ethiopians kids who contributed to his inspiration.

A woman in the crowd asked Idan what was it that made him and his music so powerful and different from many Israeli writers.

"There is something very powerful when stepping into different cultures. It's like a storyteller who shares certain moments in different places—so is music. Behind any color, religion or race there is a meaningful tale and I give it life in my songs."



COURTESY OF WIKI COMMONS

Idan Raichel (above) visited Biscayne Bay Campus, where he discussed his music and politics with Panthers.

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## Environmentalists, workers seeking common ground

KEVIN BEGOS  
AP Writer

The nation's largest labor unions are ready and willing to help fight global warming, but are cautioning environmentalists that workers need new clean-energy jobs before existing industries are shut down.

The four-day Power Shift conference in Pittsburgh is training young people to stop coal mining, fracking for oil and gas, and nuclear power, but organizers also want workers to join the battle against climate change.

Union leaders say their workers want to help build a new, green economy.

"Global warming is here, and we can work and get it fixed together," United Steel Workers president Leo Gerard said in a Friday night address at Power Shift.

But other labor groups note that while they share the same long-term clean energy goals with environmentalists, there are challenges.

"It's not just as simple as 'No Fracking'" or other bans, said Tahir Duckett, an AFL/CIO representative who spoke at a Saturday Power Shift panel that sought to

promote dialogue between environmentalists and workers.

Duckett said workers need new jobs to make a transition to clean energy, noting that shutting down industries such as coal "can turn entire communities into a ghost town. We cannot bury our heads in the sand and pretend like people aren't fighting for their very survival."

Richard Fowler, a Power Shift moderator, said that instead of talking about a "ban" on a particular industry, environmentalists should talk about solutions that provide jobs.

"That's what is missing," said Fowler, a radio host and member of Generational Alliance, a Washington, D.C. based coalition of community youth groups. "It's always a ban, or a fix, or a cap, or a trade" instead of just straight-up campaigns to build cleaner energy sources like wind and solar.

The overwhelming consensus among top scientists from around the world is that they're about as certain global warming is a real, man-made threat as they are that cigarettes kill, and pollution from fossil fuels is the

biggest problem.

The organizers of Power Shift say a green economy is the only way to head off catastrophic global warming and build a healthier future for everyone, including workers and their families. Pittsburgh was chosen for the biannual conference partly because it's at the crossroads of old and new energy. The city itself has banned fracking, yet the surrounding county recently signed a huge drilling lease for land under the Pittsburgh International Airport. Western Pennsylvania is also the birthplace of the oil and steel industries, but tech firms are attracted by students from Carnegie Mellon University and other schools.

Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune said their goal is to simultaneously decrease pollution from existing fossil fuels and increase clean energy, "while taking care of workers in the process."

"We have to begin replacing old, outdated, dirty fossil fuel projects with energy efficiency and clean energy," Brune said. "We're talking about a massive transition, with millions of people who will be affected."

### OCT. 23-26 EVENTS

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23

##### PANTHER POWER PEP RALLY

WHEN: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC AC1

##### DANCING WITH THE WOLFE: BELLY DANCING

WHEN: 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m.  
WHERE: C Rec. Center

##### SPC DRIVE-IN MOVIE: THE CONJURING

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC Overflow Parking Lot

#### THURSDAY, OCT. 24

##### LATIN LATE DAY LATTE

WHEN: 4 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC AC1 Atrium

##### HAVANA NIGHTS

WHEN: 8 p.m.-12 a.m.  
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 25

##### PACHANGA BY THE BAY: DANCE WORKSHOPS

WHEN: 2 p.m.-5 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC Rec. Center

##### PACHANGA BY THE BAY CONCERT

WHEN: 6p.m.  
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 26

##### KAYAKING ON THE BAY

WHEN: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC Kayak Launch

##### FLAG FOOTBALL

WHEN: 10 a.m.  
WHERE: BBC Multipurpose Fields

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