



RUSSIA

Rally demands freedom of assembly

Nearly 2,000 people gathered in central Moscow on Sunday demanding freedom of assembly in a rally that was approved, in a rare instance, by Moscow City Hall.



SOUTH AFRICA

President names new ministers

President Jacob Zuma announced that a third of the Cabinet was being changed in areas including police ministry and labor in an effort to change the lives of poor South Africans.



INDIA

Police bust elephant smuggling ring

Indian police busted an elephant smuggling ring in the northeastern state of Assam, arresting five people and seizing three wild elephants, two of them calves, authorities said Monday.

Organization provides support for Iraqi children

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

People magazine featured FIU junior Sky Choi in its Oct. 4 issue for his efforts in creating a non-profit organization called The List Kids, which provides toys, supplies and support for the children of Iraqi immigrants who have recently been brought to the United States.

The "Heroes Among Us" feature recognized the Honors College student's work in sending over 1,000 care packages to the young newcomers to help aid their transition to America from war-torn Iraq.

"It's hard to go from one culture and then randomly go into another and expect to make friends," said Choi. "It happens step by step, so we help them ease through that process and let them know that someone out there is caring for them."

Choi, who is a physics major and third degree black belt in Taekwondo, gained national recognition two years ago when he enrolled at the University as

a freshman at the age of 12. Now at age 14, his service project has also developed a nation-wide standing as it expands in the number of children involved as well as community support.

"I just want them to feel welcome in the U.S. and get them on their feet," stated Choi.

Founded in April 2008, The List Kids is part of the international organization called The List Project.

It helps bring Iraqis who have helped the U.S. military during the Iraq war over to American soil, in order to escape the danger they face in their home country from having assisted the U.S. soldiers.

Choi, whose mother is an attorney with The List Project and represents the Iraqi refugees, eventually found out from her that refugee families, including their children, are at risk as well.

"She told me a story about how there was a 12 year old who was kidnapped and beaten for a week until his father had to pay ransom [using] pretty much every-

thing that they owned," said Choi, who began to wonder what happened to these children and their families once they reached the United States.

"They usually end up in really small apartments in bad neighborhoods and end up moving because it is nowhere near many job choices. It's really a tragedy."

In order to reach out to these kids, the Honors student provides them with monthly packages that are mailed to each child, containing books, toys, school supplies, sports equipment and homemade cards welcoming them to America.

In the beginning, only 14 children were on the "list" but the number began to grow over time until Choi and his cousins were mailing up to 130 care packages a month.

Publishing companies have also contributed to the effort, with Penguin Books donating 1,005 pounds of books and Teshkeel Media

LIST KIDS page 2

BEAUTIFUL ERA



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

As a part of the French Music Festival, the FIU School of Music presented "From the Belle Epoque to the Crazy Years", scenes from French Operetta on Oct 25. In the operetta Belle Lurette, Lurette is played by Marian Lobaina (pictured here).

Law School faculty ranked 'most diverse' in the nation

NICOLAS SARAVIA
Staff Writer

The Princeton Review ranked the University's College of Law as having the most diverse faculty in the nation through a selection process based on the percentage of minority faculty and on student assessments.

The College of Law was also selected second in the list of best environment for minority students, after the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson

School of Law.

This news follows a series of recognitions and acknowledgements the College of Law has received recently, such as "tenth best value" by *The National Jurist*.

This edition of *The Princeton Review's* study is based on a survey conducted since 2007 by 18,000 students regarding academics, student body, campus life and their career plans. The selection features the 172 Best Law schools of the country for its 2011 edition.

"It is worth noting that our student body is

also diverse, graduating more Hispanics than any other law school in the country and that is something we should be proud of," said College of Law Dean R. Alexander Acosta.

College of Law professors received the recognition with gratitude.

"The Princeton Review's ranking of FIU as the most diverse faculty is a recognition of the number of wonderful law professors who teach at the College of Law and who represent diversity along multiple axes," said Cyra Choudhury, professor of comparative law and international human rights. "The

College of Law's faculty is not only diverse in terms of race and gender but also sexual orientation, national origin, and religion"

According to *The Princeton Review*, 53 percent of the University's Law School faculty are considered minorities and 44 percent are women.

"The most important fact that often is left out of discussions of diversity is the rich intellectual contributions that are made by those who have had exposure to differing

LAW SCHOOL, page 2

Committee finds plan lacking in academic preparation

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

Members of the University's Faculty Senate had much to say during their Oct. 26 meeting about the draft of the Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan for 2010-2015, which will lay out the future goals and initiatives for the University.

The five year plan was found by the

steering committee to be lacking emphasis in certain areas, such as improving the poor academic preparation of incoming local students, expanding the University's educational infrastructure as enrollment increases and further recognition of the Biscayne Bay, Downtown Miami, and Pines locations.

"The draft plan has been a living document as the administration has changed it

in response to suggestions from the University community," wrote Faculty Chair Thomas Breslin in his senate report.

Within it, the draft explains that the planned 25 percent increase in students "will require FIU to rethink every aspect of its academic enterprise: its approaches to teaching, learning, and research; its student support services; and the size and configuration of its physical and technological

infrastructure."

As one of the main agenda items, the senate expressed concern over how the growth would come to affect the environment in which all members of the faculty will be working during the next years.

"The Steering Committee is deeply concerned about the poor preparation of so

SENATE, page 2

WEIRD NEWS

Man swallows 2,060 diamonds packed in condoms

A Sri Lankan man swallowed more than 2,000 diamonds packed in several condoms but was arrested while attempting to smuggle them through an Indian airport. Mohammed Shakif, 43, of Galle, Sri Lanka, is accused of attempting to smuggle 2,060 diamonds worth up to about \$670,000 through Chennai airport.

Shakif was taken to the police station and later to a hospital where an X-ray of his stomach was taken. Shakif then confessed that he had been hired to smuggle the stones. Shakif was given bananas to eat. The diamonds were then collected.

4-Year-Old Can Be Sued, Judge Rules in Bike Case

A judge has ruled that a girl accused of running down an elderly woman while racing a bicycle with training wheels on a Manhattan sidewalk can be sued for negligence. The suit claims that in April 2009, in a bicycle race between Juliet Breitman and Jacob Kohn, who were both 4, an 87-year-old woman named Claire Menagh walking along the sidewalk was struck and “severely injured.”

Requiring surgery from the incident’s hip fracture, Menagh died three weeks later. Justice Wooten rejected a motion to dismiss the case because Juliet was so close to turning five, thus old enough to be sued.

Man likely shot himself while sleepwalking

Police said a Boulder man who told police he woke up to a “bang” and realized he suffered a gunshot wound to his knee likely shot himself while sleepwalking. The Daily Camera reported that 63-year-old Sanford Rothman told investigators he had no recollection of the incident. No one else was in Rothman’s home at the time.

Police said that Rothman keeps a 9 mm handgun near his bed and takes prescription medication for pain. Police said no alcohol or illegal drugs played a role in the incident. Rothman was treated at a hospital and released.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

Choi seeking support for project

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providing 250 subscriptions of their Arabic-English comic book “The 99”.

“One of the most impressive things about his idea is that he’s actually making a success of it. We very often have students with great ideas and sometimes they don’t pan out,” said Lesley Northup, dean of the Honors College. “It takes more than a great idea. It takes management ability, the ability to see the big picture and a lot of hard work. And in the midst of all that hard work, he’s still got top grades and

now going to the China study abroad program next summer.”

Since its inception, The List Kids has received responses from the parents stating how grateful they are “to see that there are people that are remembering [the kids] and want to make them happy from time to time” and saying “thank you to Sky and all those who worked in this tremendous effort to help newcomers.”

“Personally for me, any student who decides to adopt a cause and feels so passionate about something that they decide to

create, whether a small group, non-profit or student organization and do something to change a problem or contribute to somebody’s wellbeing, I respect that a lot,” said Cecile Houry, director of student programs for the Honors College, who is helping Choi involve Honors students in The List Kids.

Hoping to eventually spread the word throughout the University, Choi plans on seeking further support through methods like organizing campus fundraising events, inviting guest speakers like The

List Project Founder, Kirk Johnson, and showing a film documentary based on the project.

“It’s tiring but fulfilling because there were these twin girls who used to put their cards on the wall and their father told me that every night they would look at the them again and again,” said Choi. “It was really touching to me and that is why I do this.”

For more information on The List Kids visit www.thelistkids.org or e-mail Sky Choi at sky@thelistproject.org

Minority organizations part of school

LAW SCHOOL, page 1

legal traditions such as those in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and Europe,” said Choudhury. “And in that regard, the College of Law’s faculty is worlds ahead.”

The University’s Law School also has numerous chapters of minority organizations, such as the Black Law Student Association, the Hispanic Law Student Association, the South American Law Society and the Caribbean Student Bar Association. There are

also organizations for law students of Catholic, Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths.

Besides diversity, the selection also ranked Yale University as the toughest Law School to get into and Boston University with the best professors of the field. Other categories included: “Best Classroom Experience,” “Best Quality of Life,” and “Most Competitive Students.”

Also in the study, George Mason University was selected as the most conservative students and American

University as the most liberal.

The University of Pennsylvania was at the top for the “Best Career Prospects” category, followed by Northwestern University and New York University.

The Review made some changes from the last edition, leaving out the University of La Verne Law School and Washington and Lee University.

The University of California Hastings School of Law and University of Minnesota are among the new institutions added to this edition’s study.

Competency levels ‘vital’ for plan

SENATE, page 1

many students coming from the local schools,” Breslin wrote. “When our students graduate, they should have a demonstrated competency in both math and writing skills as well as in their major discipline. Sadly, that is too often not the

case.”

According to Breslin, the College of Arts & Sciences has piloted a new approach to math instruction that is “very promising,” with writing being the next challenge as Gordon Rule requirements have failed to produce the desired levels of competency. Though, the issue remains a vital component that the senators felt should be more pronounced within the Strategic Plan.

Arts & Sciences Senator Alan Gummerson, also a professor of Economics, claimed that while there was a line within the draft that could possibly serve to recognize the need to help these students, it needs to be better specified if the University plans to continue with its desired enrollment growth.

“Those of us who teach introductory courses have found that many of our students are not well-prepared at all with respect to writing skills, even reading skills, and certainly math skills,” said Gummerson. “And now we’re proposing to admit an additional 2,000 new students each year. The strategic plan has to address how we are going to deal with that question.”

“If we don’t address this, the quality of our programs will deteriorate,” said Arts & Sciences Senator Joan Baker, who teaches English

“When our students graduate, they should have a demonstrated competency in both math and writing skills as well as in their major discipline. Sadly, that is too often not the case.”

Thomas Breslin
Faculty Chair

literature. “It seems to me that the overall goal that we’re trying to achieve of excellence, or any kind of slogan we want to put, are not going to work if we do not stress this issue.”

Senator Leonard Bliss, from the College of Education, saw the enrollment growth through a different light, regarding how much more “tuition dollars will be coming to the University.”

He also mentioned that the plan should recognize that the University needs to bring in out-of-state students who will be initially paying more to attend FIU.

There was further discussion about how FIU students seem to be primarily coming from the western part of

Miami-Dade County and that the University must make it a priority to reach out to those across the state as well; using University of Central Florida as an example of a growing institution that, over the years, has been recruiting more students.

“With more students come more costs since we would have to bring in more faculty,” said Ken Jessell, chief finance officer for the University to the senate. “[But] we are looking very seriously into bringing in more out-of-state students.”

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Nov. 16 at the Wertheim Conservatory.

THE BEACON

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FOOTBALL: WESLEY CARROLL

Team will need more from Carroll to win SBC

The fourth quarter of Saturday's loss to Florida Atlantic was not only one to forget for Wesley Carroll, it was one to disregard for the rest of his career.

COMMENTARY



JONATHAN RAMOS

The junior signal caller had the ball taken out of his hands as the team ran the ball four times before being stopped at the goal line in the team's first drive of the final period. On the next possession, Carroll completed a few short passes before tossing an interception on fourth down.

After an FAU fumble, Carroll was intercepted again. On the team's last possession, looking to force a play, Carroll was picked off again, making it three for the game, all coming in the fourth period.

As much as Carroll would like to forget about it, onlookers might be unable to do just that if the team misses out on a bowl eligible season once again.

With the stakes high and the team riding the momentum of an easy early conference schedule, the team couldn't generate enough offense against an FAU team that had lost five consecutive games coming in.

It hasn't been the first time the team has come up short in the clutch, led by Carroll. There was also the time Carroll tossed a three yard pass to T.Y Hilton four yards away from pay dirt on the team's last possession as time expired on fourth down with Texas A&M up a touchdown in the second game of the year.

Carroll has also shown some promise, mainly in big games at North Texas and Maryland, but seven games into his FIU career, Carroll has left some to be desired.

MISSING MCCALL?

Carroll came to FIU with a hype surrounding him, with credentials such as Southeastern Conference experience he got at Mississippi State, where he won the Autozone Liberty Bowl in 2007.



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Wesley Carroll has the Golden Panthers fifth in the SBC in average passing yardage.

Paul McCall, the team's starter over the last two seasons prior to 2010, was an afterthought as a recruit out of Hollywood Hills High. With no pass protection and no run blocking up front, however, McCall was very formidable for the Golden Panthers.

He was sacked over 50 times in his two years as a starter from 2008-09, but managed to keep his interception total in single digits both times and average over 2,000 yards a season, his senior year one in which he was banged up for the majority of.

Carroll has been fortunate to enjoy the benefits of an offensive line that has made strides in 2010. FIU has allowed the least amount of sacks in the Sun Belt Conference this year, and for the first time in

Mario Cristobal's tenure, have managed to sustain a decent running game.

Those are a couple of luxuries McCall didn't have. Taking into account the first three games of McCall's first season as a starter, the team was 2-1, just like this season, but McCall had to face conference powers in Middle Tennessee and Troy during that stretch. McCall threw seven touchdowns and two interceptions in those games, and averaged nearly 250 yards a game at a serviceable completion rate.

Carroll's numbers through that span: two touchdowns and four interceptions, as well as less yards in a similar amount of attempts against arguably the SBC's three worst teams.

Despite improvement's around the board for the Golden Panthers, they

haven't gotten better quarterback play, and probably have regressed thus far.

MAKING A PUSH

Carroll may not be a prototypical quarterback in the sense of physical tools and admirable size, but it's not as if he isn't capable of playing better.

Even if Carroll is not better than McCall, there should be better play at the position if not for the fact that pass protection has improved and he has a running game to back him, in addition to the best group of wide receivers in the SBC.

And it's not that Carroll has been bad either. He just hasn't been as good as his talent or weaponry would indicate.

The offense hasn't been very explosive through the air, with the team tied for last in the SBC in yards per completion. A lot of that goes into the play calling of offensive coordinator Scott Satterfield.

The defense is very good, but not enough to single handedly win games.

If the team is going to win four of its next five games and to be eligible for the first bowl appearance in team history and compete for the conference crown, Carroll will need to do more.

The man behind the mask with burly locks of blond hair coming out of his helmet, whom the team rarely allows to talk in public, will need to do some talking on the field for the team to reach their season goal.

STAT BREAK

Wesley Carroll by the numbers

- Carroll has thrown six touchdowns and nine interceptions.
- Carroll is eighth in the SBC in passing efficiency out of 10 players.

WOMEN'S SOCCER: FIU VS. TROY

Leiva leads team into tournament vs. upstart Troy

JACKSON WOLEK Staff Writer

FIU (10-8-1, 7-4 Sun Belt Conference) will start conference play today at 2 p.m. against Troy (11-7-1, 6-5 SBC), a team they beat earlier in the year 2-0, as the number four seed in the tournament.

Though they did not need a last-second game winning goal in that game, Chelsea Leiva would be the person to count on if they did, as she has five game winning goals this year.

Her contribution to the team this year has made a big impact overall, as she is tied in the SBC for game winning goals and third in goals overall, only as a freshman. They have been put into close tight games many of times this season, some

resulting in losses, but most of them ending up in wins.

"I know that [Chelsea] will tell you that it doesn't come without hard work, and it doesn't come without a team. We have plenty of players that are capable of scoring. Our backs can score goals, our midfielders can score goals, and certainly our forwards can score goal," said Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt. "I don't know if there's any pressure to get the ball to Chelsea at the end of the game. It's more like let's keep our composure and we will find a way."

After starting the conference season off on a five game winning streak, it looked as the team had was a contender for winning the regular season again like last year.

They then proceeded to go on a

slide, and ended up finishing with the number four seed in the tournament. By not having the number one seed, and instead getting the fourth, it does not put any more or less pressure on the team according to Chestnutt, who has brought them to the tournament now three years in a row.

"The familiarity of us being in the tournament from years past will maybe make things easier for those that tend to put pressure on themselves. But I don't think that in terms of being number one or number four really matters to us."

On Oct. 1, they were able to jump out to an early lead on Troy just 15 minutes into the match, on an unassisted goal by Leiva. The game remained without a goal for the rest of the way until finally in the 72nd

minute, Kassandra Sorzano put in the game winner off a corner kick from Kim Lopez. It was a defensive type of game, as they outshot Troy 8-2. Troy has the lowest amount of shots in the conference, which should work out for FIU, as they've sustained a sturdy defense, not allowing much shots at their goal.

The shots at goal have much to do with time of possession, as they have done a great job all year on keeping the ball on their side of the pitch. Although they do have the lowest amount of shots, they rank fourth in goals, showing they make use of the shots that they do take. FIU must also try to keep their composure and control their offside, as they are second in the SBC in that department.

Ruth Sutcliffe is a player they

must look out for as she is the main source of the Trojans offense, taking 52 shots on the year with nine goals along with fellow teammate Mary Morris who put in the same amount.

"They're going to be a well-organized team," said Chestnutt about Troy. "Our composure, aggressiveness, and team defense are going to be the biggest things for us. I think everything else will take care of itself, but if those things are in place I think we will do fine."

If the Golden Panthers win, they will then take on the winner of the No.1 seed Denver versus No. 8 seeded University of Louisiana-Lafayette match up on Nov. 4, at 4 p.m.

All games will be played in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

TAMED PANTHERS



KARINA TELLEZ/THE BEACON

The men's soccer team will not qualify for the C-USA tournament.

MEN'S SOCCER: TULSA 3, FIU 0

Tulsa humbles Panthers

ANDRES LEON
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team lost another key conference match on Oct. 30. It was notably the worst loss of their season.

The Tulsa Hurricanes (9-5-1, C-USA 3-3-1) put up five goals that night in front of the season high crowd of 419 Golden Panther fans. Panther fans weren't only there to support their team but to honor the men's soccer team alumni at halftime.

As half time came around the fans had

little to cheer for as FIU (7-9-0, 1-6-0 C-USA) was down 3-0 to the Hurricane.

FIU was already out shot 12-3 in first half and had frustration issues as they recorded seven fouls in the first half alone.

With little hope Eketebi looked towards his injured and fatigued bench, substituting injured freshman star Nicolas Rodriguez and after resting Lucas Di Croce, he returned for the second half with poise to score.

Read the full story at fiusm.com

VOLLEYBALL

Team sweeps two on road

RICO ALBARRACIN
Staff Writer

Coach Danijela Tomic has had a big problem with this year's volleyball team: consistency; not being able to put streaks together, almost resembling Jekyll and Hyde in their approach.

All Tomic wants is consistency. The past weekend could be a sign of good things to come.

The Panthers (12-10, Sun Belt Conference 6-4) went on the road and took out South Alabama (10-17, SBC 2-8) on Oct. 29 in straight sets 3-0, winning 25-22, 25-21, 25-17. The win came after much needed rest for the Panthers, who have been dealing with injuries. The rest seemed to help, as the Panthers came out fresh and ready to play.

The first set saw the Golden Panthers jump out to a 22-18 lead over the Jaguars, before South Alabama went on a 4-1 run to close the gap 23-22. That would be the last point the Jaguars would score, as kills by junior Andrea Lakovic and redshirt freshman Marija Prsa put the set away for the Panthers.

Both teams fought hard in the second set, as the score was tied at 21. Errors proved costly for the Jaguars, as they committed two errors

and FIU pounced with two kills to finish the set 25-21.

Once up 2-0, the Panthers never looked back, as they blasted past the Jaguars in the third set, 25-17. Lakovic led the Panthers with nine kills while Una Trkulja added eight kills. Junior Sabrina Gonzalez, who had missed the two prior games with an abdominal strain, came back and had seven kills. Senior Natalia Valentin led the team with 33 assists while adding 14 digs. Defensively, sophomore Chanel Araujo had a team-best 18 digs while junior Andrea Lakovic led the Panthers with six blocks.

FIU 3, TROY 0; BJELICA BACK

In her first game of the season, sophomore Jovana Bjelica picked up where she left off last season with a career high 20 kills, as the Panthers cruised past the Troy Trojans in straight sets, 25-19, 25-23, 25-22 on Oct. 30, a day after dropping Troy.

FIU (13-10, SBC 7-4) has now won three of their last four matches, while Troy (10-18, SBC 2-9) has lost seven straight matches in a row. Bjelica had not played all season, which Tomic said was not related to conduct.

The first set was not much of a struggle for the Panthers,

as they jumped out to a 22-18 lead. A kill by Bjelica and a service ace by senior Natalia Valentin pushed the score to 24-18. After a Trojans score, freshman Brianna Spruill put the finishing touches on the set with a kill, making it 25-19.

FIU came out in the second set again to a 22-18 advantage, before committing 2 errors to allow the Trojans to creep closer 22-20. Bjelica and freshman Una Trkulja game their team a four point cushion, before the Trojans rallied with three kills of their own. Bjelica killed any hope of a comeback for Troy, giving FIU the second set 25-23.

As in the first two sets, FIU would have a 22-18 lead as the Trojans would try to fight back. With the score 24-20, Troy scored two more points before junior Andrea Lakovic finished the set with a kill, to give the FIU the third set 25-22 and give them the 3-0 win.

Along with Bjelica's career-high 20 kills, Lakovic added 14 kills. Valentin put up a team-high 48 assists and added a squad-best two service aces along with Bjelica.

On Defense, Lakovic recorded a team-best five blocks and sophomore Chanel Araujo tallied a season-high 19 digs.

Florida International University students, plan on making new friends this year? Get their digits

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SEASONS OF LOVE



The cast of *Rent* during Crew View rehearsals on Oct. 28.



PHOTOS BY ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON



Musical kicks off theatre season

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Life! Editor

Love, heroine addiction and a couple of lesbians: that's what audiences will experience at the School of Theatre's production of *Rent*.

The rock opera, opening Nov. 4, is based on Giacomo Puccini's opera *La Bohème* and tells the story of 20-something year-olds struggling to survive and persevere in New York's Lower East Side in the thriving days of Bohemian Alphabet City.

With famous songs like "Seasons of Love" and "La Vie Bohème," the Broadway hit ran for 12 years, the eighth longest running show of all time, and garnered a major cult following.

"There are universal themes in *Rent* that speak

to any time, so the fact that the show is over fifteen years old doesn't really matter," said Marilyn Skow, chairperson of the School of Theater. "Ultimately it is about learning to rely on oneself while at the same time finding a sense of family, regardless of what form that family structure takes. And, of course, it is about our need to love and be loved, a theme that is as old as time itself."

FIU Theater alum Andy Señor, Jr. is directing the show and he said he doesn't see the piece as dated.

The story delves into the lives of people living in the time of the HIV/AIDS epidemic that hit in the 1990s. Nowadays, the disease isn't seen as much of a death sentence.

"Well, *Beauty and the Beast* isn't relevant, so

there's one. There are more people affected with HIV/AIDS than ever. Those that are saying that it isn't relevant should be educated on the AIDS crisis. Whatever is happening in the show—issues of community and love and struggle and artist—all of it is relevant more so today than ever," said Señor.

Señor has been commuting to and from New York City to direct the show in order to work with the theater students. He said he's excited for audiences to see what the students have done with the production and how the students have helped him see the show in a different way.

"It's amazing because they're kind of telling me who these characters are. So, rather than me coming in and this is the way they

are. That's what *Rent* is. You basically mold the show around the people that are in it," said Señor. "The students here are so unique. I've never directed before, so I'm learning as they are....They're willing and they're very fearful with all the college fear. But once they let that go, they just burst."

Working with Señor has proved to be a valuable experience for the students, as well.

"It was a great experience working with Andy, working with someone who is in the professional world. Being able to feel comfortable being just an actor who is learning and growing with people who haven't been on stage before and it's wonderful. I've loved every minute of it," said Jennifer Jean-Louis who plays Joanne in the show.

PANEL PANEL

Zombies not as scary as humans in graphic novel

Zombies pervade our culture as a staple of the horror genre just as easily as they pervade the cities and homes of the people in movies, TV and video games.

Despite being handled by comic books before, never had zombies been dealt with in such a serious and thoughtful way as in Robert Kirkman and Tony Moore's *The Walking Dead*.

It may seem ridiculous to say that throughout decades of being staples of

horror comic books, zombies never became a real threat. Include movies where the average zombie is a shambling corpse with no sense of direction or motive aside from biting the nearby human, fans of the genre have become accustomed to laughing during the newest zombie movie more often than actually being scared of it.

Even though the "corpses" in *The Walking Dead* are the same classic type of zombie, it's how the living cast deals with them that really makes this book stand out. The first person you meet in the book, and one of the lead characters throughout it, is

Rick Grimes, a police officer from a small town in Kentucky.

After waking up from a gunshot induced coma, he finds that the hospital is empty except for a passing zombie or two. Running home, he tries to find his wife and child, but instead finds an empty house and a shovel to the face.

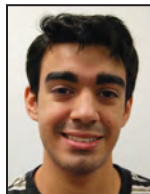
He was attacked by his new neighbors, a father and son who had been hiding out in Grimes' neighbor's house.

From them, he discerns that the whole city, state and probably nation is overrun by reanimated bodies and that Atlanta is the best

place for those in search of shelter to go.

During his travels, Grimes meets all sorts of people trying to survive in the zombie apocalypse and, unlike what many fans of the genre would assume, finds that the average person was far from equipped to deal with death at every corner. This is where the series' strongest trait shines.

The real horror isn't from the zombies because, for all their groaning and killing, they don't offer much more than a threat to the slow. It's the other people that Grimes



SEAN GONZALEZ

POP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

Live concerts not worth time, money or effort

There was a time when there was just about nothing I enjoyed more than going to a concert.

COLUMNIST



CHRIS TOWERS

Back when I was in high school, I would probably go to 2-3 shows every month, bumming a ride from someone or getting dropped off and picked up at the venue. Usually I went on my parent's dime.

Going out to see live music was just about the best way I could think to spend a night, so I did it as often as I possibly could.

More and more now, though, I find myself shying away from the live experience. Save for my one yearly excursion out to Bonnaroo for 4 days in the summer, every year I go to fewer and fewer

concerts, generally reserving it for the big hitters in my pantheon of bands.

This year that list includes Wilco, Paul McCartney, Vampire Weekend, the Flaming Lips and... that's it.

That's it?

I'm not sure how I've gotten to this point, but we are 2 months from the end of the year and there's nothing else on the horizon that I'm even all that interested in seeing.

Is it that I'm less interested in music these days?

That's probably part of the problem. I find it harder and harder to stay up with new music lately, especially because what used to be a 45-minute commute (the perfect album length, by the way) has become a five-minute one. The highway commute in a car is probably the best possible way to absorb a new album, and

I've lost that.

But that doesn't explain it all, as I used to just go to shows to check out new acts, even if I'd never listened to a second of their music.

I think I'm just reaching a point where the convergence of high ticket prices, poor venues and my own curmudgeonly ways have combined to create an experience that is no longer enjoyable to me.

I'm not going to absolve myself from this. I'm 22 years old, but there are times when I can border on Andy Rooney-levels of grumpiness, and very few things in recent memory have brought this out more than the hour and a half traffic jam that met me as I tried to leave the parking garage for the recent Vampire Weekend show at the Fillmore.

Back in April and May, there was some talk that the expansion

of the Miami Convention Center might lead to the demolition of the Fillmore, which is probably better known as the historic Jackie Gleason Theater.

It would be a sad day for the arts in Miami if this were to come to pass, but as the 14th car cut me off in the parking garage with its driver ignoring my desperate pleas for charity and reason, I was willing and ready to push the plunger to blow the whole place up.

I'm not sure I'll ever be able to give up on the live experience altogether, but I find it harder and harder to justify it between the hassle and the prices. It's starting to make more and more sense to just pack a year's worth of concerts into that one festival in the summer.

ONE ALBUM

(Every time this column runs, I'll

offer brief thoughts on a recently released album)

Ever since I first came under her spell thanks to "You Belong To Me", I've been telling everyone who will listen that Taylor Swift has a great album in her somewhere. I'm not sure if it's in the tales of teenage life she's currently spinning or if it will require another subject matter, but it's there.

Speak Now, released on Oct. 25 by Big Machine Records, might not be that album (it's a bit too long), but it is a collection of 14 potential hit singles written almost entirely by a 20 year old.

She's on the verge of greatness, and even her falling short is pretty damned good, all things considered.

Pop & Circumstance is a bi-weekly column related to all things musical.

Dead comic on TV

DEAD, page 5

comes in contact with that truly scare the reader.

From farmers who are stockpiling zombies in their barn holding on to the hope that their family will be cured, to highly fortified prisons that protect against zombies but lock Grimes inside with the surviving inmates.

While good fortune smiles on the people occasionally, something always happens to set them back, and it's these instances where the cast evolves in incredibly realistic and interesting ways.

The Walking Dead has done a lot to bring attention to its stellar writing and concept, including

providing the inspiration for a new AMC drama which premiered on Halloween. While the show begins to take the concepts and run in different directions, the core idea of having the human survivors drive the plot instead of the thoughtless monsters remains intact.

For those interested in compelling drama, believable characters and gory fight scenes, *The Walking Dead* is continuing to impress, available in several nicely printed volumes and publishing monthly from Image comics.

Panel Panel is a bi-weekly column on comics. Reviewers are not compensated for favorable reviews.

FIU alum directs fall production

RENT, page 5

Musicals are rare in the FIU Theater repertoire as they are very expensive to produce. The interest from Señor as director accelerated the decision of producing a big budget production.

"Musicals are very expensive to produce so we have to choose with care. We have been kicking around the idea of doing *Rent* for a while now. Actually it was Andy himself who expressed an interest in working on it with us.

Because that seemed like an exciting prospect we decided to proceed with checking for performing rights availability and Andy's schedule and found that we could make it work, so it went into our season," says Skow.

Señor said he is impressed with the students performance thus far and his expectations are high.

"I tell them 'Listen, for a college production, you guys are great right now.



Ashley Lewis (Maureen) and Jennifer Jean-Louis (Joanne) rehearse "Take Me or Leave Me" from *Rent*.

But that's not what I want.' I want to see the kinds of performances that I have been seeing for the past 13 years. You name the Broadway star and they're either my friends or I've worked with them, and that's what I'm used to seeing and that's what I'm demanding," said Señor.

RENT

- When: Nov. 4-21
- Where: Wertheim Performing Arts Center

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

SPC VARIETY SHOW AT THE BAY



Featuring Jonny Zavant, Mentalist; Team Rootberry, Extreme Entertainment and Ran'd Shine, the new face of magic!

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free. Tickets available at WUC.
WHERE: Mary Anne Wolfe Theater - BBC

Homecoming King and Queen Voting

For a list of candidates, check out www.fiu.edu/~hc.
WHEN: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
WHERE: GC computer labs at MMC and on my.fiu.edu

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Donations will go to Camillus House.
WHEN: All day
WHERE: DM 495-D

YOGA

Enjoy a free yoga session with the Yoga Club. Bring your own towel and if preferred, your own mat.

WHEN: 8 - 9 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305

WALK ON WATER / FARMERS MARKET



Enjoy the show as architecture students attempt to cross the lake with their hand-made floats behind the Green Library. The weekly farmer's market will relocate to the back of the library.

WHEN: 12 - 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GL - by the lake

THURSDAY, NOV. 4

DAVID GOMEZ - PIANO

Presented by FIU Music and part of Spanish Cultural Center Series.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students; \$15 faculty/staff/seniors; \$25 general admission
WHERE: WPAC Concert Hall

HOMECOMING DANCE



Attire is semi-formal. No sneakers/casual attire permitted.

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID.
WHERE: WUC Ballrooms - BBC

RENT



Opening night of FIU Theatre's production of the award-winning musical.

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15 FIU students; \$18 seniors/non-FIU students/faculty/staff; \$20 general admission
WHERE: Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

PERSEPOLIS - MOVIE

Movie night hosted by Women's Studies Student Association.

WHEN: 7 - 9:30 p.m.
WHERE: GC 305

Write to calendar@fiusm.com to have your event featured!

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College student vote still important

DONOVAN DAWSON
Contributing Writer

The midterm elections held on Nov. 2 saw millions of Americans headed to the polls to have their say in the direction of our country. I believe it is imperative for college students to make sure that they continue to go out and vote in future elections.

For many of us, midterm elections were seen as trivial when compared to presidential elections, but I would like to remind everyone that the results of this midterm election will no doubt have an effect not only on the presidential election of 2012, but on the issues that most of us care about as college students.

One issue that unites most of us regardless of political ideology is higher education funding, particularly for those students who have seen their Florida Bright Futures awards get smaller over the past year or two. Back in the 2008 presidential campaign, candidate Barack Obama promised to make funding for higher education a top priority of his administration, and so far he has kept his word.

Through the American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act of 2009, or "The Stimulus Package," \$15 billion was included to increase funding for college education by paying for an increase in Pell Grants from \$4,731 to \$5,350 annually.

Additionally, Congress has also passed the Student Loan Reform, which will make more funds available to students by ending federal government subsidies to banks, which encouraged them to loan to students while having the loans insured by the government and administering student loans through the Department of Education.

At the same time, President Obama's bipartisan deficit commission is due to give a report in December on how best to get a handle on our \$13 trillion national debt, which means that should the report be taken seriously on both sides of the aisle, spending cuts are almost certain.

As we all know, when it comes to spending cuts, entitlements like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security are seemingly off the table because of the political consequences associated with cutting them. After all, seniors are the age group that votes more than anyone else and with the baby boomers aging and approaching

retirement age, it would seem like political suicide to even utter the notion of cuts to programs that are popular to them.

Conventional wisdom might say that young people as a whole don't vote, therefore higher education is one of the most politically safe places to trim the budget. I say that if we are to prevent more cuts to our higher education system, we must rise up.

I encourage every student, whether you voted on Nov. 2 or not, to stand with future candidates, regardless of party affiliation, that will make higher education one of their signature priorities should they reach the position they are running for.

As college students we have to hold all of our elected officials' feet to the fire and remind them that cuts to higher education could come with just as much backlash as cuts to entitlements for seniors, and the only way to do that is with the power of the ballot.

Make your voice heard and show that college students will not be taken for granted.

Donovan Dawson is a College of Arts & Sciences senator in the Student Government Association.

DREAM Act still a possibility

TAYLOR PROCHNOW
Special to The Beacon

South Florida is a region rich with diversity. Individuals from all walks of life in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean bring vibrant traditions to the American culture making South Florida a true international haven. FIU, the third largest producer of minority graduates in the country, embodies this melting pot.

Throughout the U.S., young people who have graduated from American high schools generally derive their immigration status from their parents. If their parents are undocumented, most students have no way of obtaining legal residency even if they have lived most of their lives here.

Paths to a productive life are limited by restrictions from in-state tuition rates, state and federal grants and loans, most private scholarships, and the ability to legally work through college. The DREAM Act provides a solution for children with good grades and moral character. The Act would facilitate access to college for immigrant students by restoring states' rights to offer in-state tuition. The Act also provides a path to citizenship for hardworking youth to pursue higher education or military service.

On Sept. 21 the Senate failed to reach the 60 votes needed for the Department of Defense reauthorization bill with the DREAM Act attached as an amendment. On Sept. 22, Senator Durbin reintroduced the Act under "Rule 14" which allows the Senate majority leader to bypass committee votes and bring legislation for direct consideration on the floor.

Due to this procedural maneuver, there remains an opportunity during the lame duck session - after the elections and before the new Congress in January. An alternative option would be to include the Act in the Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation introduced recently by Cuban-American Senator Bob Menendez.

According to FIU Alumna Katherine Vargas of the National Immigration Forum, "the chances of passage for this legislation will depend greatly on the results of the midterm elections and the resulting [composition] of the Senate and the political will of Senators to work on these controversial but urgently needed legislation."

Moreover, alum Cesar Gonzalez, Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart's Chief of Staff, has a leading role in the House version. Fortunately all members of the South Florida delegation are compassionate about the concerns of the Hispanic community and have been keeping DREAM alive.

How can you make an impact? Visit the US Students Association site to view the DREAM Act Campus Organizing Kit or you can contact your member of Congress to voice your support.

Students Working for Equal Rights is a student-led grassroots movement organizing for the DREAM Act and is establishing an activist group at FIU under the direction of Rosa Mosqueira. You may contact SWER at (305) 571-7254 or at SWER@FloridaImmigrant.org.

The Office of Federal Relations continues to be engaged in this debate as the voice for all of our students. You can follow us on Twitter at FIUdc.

If you are interested in interning with FIU in DC and engaging in policy significant policy issues, please visit government.fiu.edu or contact me at dcintern@fiu.edu for information regarding the selection process.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Conference presence wrongfully opposed

LUIS VALDEZ
REBECCA STERLING
FIU Shalom

Last week Student Government Association representatives were accused of attending a conference hosted by what Students for Justice in Palestine calls a "terrorist organization". This is without a doubt, complete slander of our student leaders and demonstrates the willingness of SJP to use dirty tactics in a ploy to damage the reputations of others without any factual basis.

Firstly, I would like to point out that the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee does not encourage the murder of innocent civilians as do several Palestinian groups like Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Palestinian Liberation Organization whom the US designates as terrorist organizations with ties to Al Qaeda.

Second, we want to clarify that the AIPAC summit attended by SGA representatives is solely dedicated to strengthening of the long lasting alliance between the United States and Israel. In addition, the SGA reps went as individuals seeking to educate themselves on important foreign policy issues regarding the region. AIPAC is highly respected by our nation's leaders, with nearly every president and major political figure having attended, including President Barack Obama.

Our very own Senatorial Candidates,

Governor Charlie Christ (Independent), Congressman Kendrick Meek (Democrat) and House Speaker Marco Rubio (Republican) were all at this AIPAC summit as well. Is SJP willing to call all these American leaders supporters of terrorism for attending these conferences?

We should be proud that FIU's student leaders participated in such an important summit on American Foreign Policy and Politics! We applaud them for not caving into unreasonable criticism and baseless accusations. At the SGA press conference our SGA was treated very disrespectfully by the SJP in a completely unprofessional manner. We denounce this kind of behavior against our student leaders.

Contrary to the views of SJP, attending an AIPAC conference is a symbol of support to every individual who believes in human rights, democracy, and the anti-terror movement.

AIPAC goes hand in hand with the U.S.-Israel relationship which is, in the words of Obama "...unbreakable. It encompasses our national security interests, our strategic interests, but most importantly, the bond of two democracies who share a common set of values."

Israel is a beacon of democracy and the only country in the Middle East that gives equal fundamental human rights and protections to all of its citizens regardless of Race, Religion, Gender, or Sexual Orientation.

When SJP calls Israel an Apartheid state,

they are gravely insulting those who endured Apartheid in South Africa by projecting the memory of Black Apartheid suffering onto Israel, equating the two countries for their own propaganda uses.

Whereas women most of the middle east and even the Palestinian Territories suffer Gender Apartheid under their own laws, Israeli Muslim women can vote and have held seats in Parliament. Golda Meir, the fourth prime minister of Israel was the third woman in the world to hold such an office. Because Israel shares our democratic values, it is a natural ally to the United States.

Perhaps SJP does not understand the value of a truly democratic state that offers equal rights to its citizens. If they did understand, then they would see that justice in Palestine means that Palestinian leaders in Gaza would not openly discriminate against women and gay citizens or that they would allow freedom of religion and free speech.

Justice in Palestine would mean that Palestinian children would be taught coexistence rather than to glorify suicide bombers on kid's shows and Palestinian national television. I guarantee that none of the members of SJP would want to live under the law of Hamas.

SJP demonstrates incredible double standards in their accusations against Israel. The Anti-Defamation League has even called out SJP for their outrageous tactics.

FIU Shalom is a pro-Israel student organization.

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

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in 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 and year.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

VERBATIM

But we live now in hard times, not end times. And we can have animus and not be enemies.

Jon Stewart
Rally to Restore Sanity



BRAZIL

Ex-guerrilla to be first female president

A former Marxist guerrilla who was tortured and imprisoned during Brazil's dictatorship, Dilma Rousseff, was elected Sunday as the first woman president of Latin America's biggest nation.



CHINA

Door-to-door for world's biggest census

China kicked off a once-a-decade census, a 10-day head count that sees 6 million census takers scrutinize apartment blocks, migrant areas and rural villages to document massive demographic changes.



HONDURAS

5 men rob plane from military

Five armed men broke into a military base at La Mesa International Airport in San Pedro Sula on Monday and made off with a small airplane that authorities seized last year in an anti-drug operation.

HOMECOMING 2010

This year's dance will be a 'gala-like' affair

CAROL KAMINSKAS
Contributing Writer

Now that Homecoming Week is here it's time to see the world in blue and gold.

The Student Programming Council of Biscayne Bay Campus will be hosting the annual Homecoming Dance, the theme for which goes hand-in-hand with the overall theme of homecoming: "See the World in Blue and Gold."

The dance is free to University students, will take place on Nov. 4 in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms, and starts at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 pm.

Due to fire hazards space is limited so only the first 300 guests will be allowed in to the dance, according to Tanha Dil, president of SPC at BBC. Over 400 people attended last year's dance.

Although all are invited to attend, an FIU student with a valid student ID to enter for free must accompany non-FIU students.

SPC would also like to extend a special invite to those individuals who are running for Homecoming King and Queen at both BBC and Modesto Maidique Camus. Running for Homecoming King and Queen at BBC are Deyan Ivanov, Jamil Charles, Nardo Dorsin, Sholom Neisten, Ana Perez, Angelena Adams, Patricia Martinez, and Maria N

HOMECOMING DANCE

- Time: 08:00 p.m., Doors open at 7:30 p.m.
- When: 11/04/10
- Where: WUC Ballrooms

DODGING FOR PEP



DANTE WILLIAMS/THE BEACON

Kicking off this year's Homecoming Week, the Student Programming Council put on a pep rally in Panther Square on Nov. 1. Students at Biscayne Bay Campus played dodgeball, double-dutch and other games.

Reynaga.

Voting will be on the same day of the dance, Nov. 4.

This year's dance is being promoted to bring in alumni and encourage communication between them and the students, according to Dil.

"The purpose of Homecoming is to bring back Alumni and to get them reacquainted with the school," Dil said. "They will be able to get to know students and hopefully become their mentors for the future."

The dance this year is going to be more "gala-like" than a regular homecoming dance like it has been in prior years, according to Dil.

"The WUC ballrooms will be dolled up in blue and gold, the table settings will be immaculate, there will be blue and gold lights hanging around the ballrooms," Dil said.

Dil said the event has "never been so formal and grand" and is looking forward to seeing how it will all come together.

Formal attire is expected but semi-formal will be accepted, Dil said.

Women should wear dresses that are knee length or longer and men should wear suits. Sneakers, jeans, or provocative attire will not be permitted.

A DJ, whose name was not available as of press time, will provide the music.

For more information on the Homecoming dance, contact SPC-BBC. Their office is in WUC 141 and their phone number is (305)919-5280.

FOODGASM

Home cooking worth the effort

While going out for food is undeniably great, cooking at home can be another way to enjoy good food, especially if you have some helpful tricks and tips.

A home-cooked meal may take some time and effort, but the outcome is tremendous.

For someone who already likes to cook it can be great fun, but someone who does not enjoy it might learn to. Not only does it save money, as opposed to going out, but the at-home cook controls everything that goes into the food. This is a great benefit to those who need to watch what they eat, which should be everyone.

While we cannot all be the next Julia Child, or the rat from "Ratatouille," I believe anyone has the potential to prepare decent food.

When I first started cooking I found marinating to be a very helpful technique and still do. This easy step helps to provide flavor to your food, tenderizes and even has health benefits. It's also incredibly easy.

A marinade is a liquid that food is used to soak food. Anything can be marinated but it is mostly used for meat, fish, seafood and vegetables.

Marinades are used in many foods that are both cooked and eaten raw. Marinating your food can make a huge difference and the process is quite simple.

To make a marinade you start by making a liquid base. This commonly uses oils, vinegars and wines. Practically any liquid can be added to the base depending on what flavor you're looking for.

Next, various seasonings can be added to this base for flavor. Salt, pepper, sugar and all kinds of other spices are also good in marinades.

The last step is to pour the marinade over any food you want to marinate. Let the food marinate from an hour to overnight for the best result.

One dish that I love to make which involves a marinade is grilled shrimp skewers. The marinating process adds so much delicious flavor to the shrimp that I would never make them without it.

Visit fiusm.com for a recipe and step-by-step instructions on how to make Grilled Shrimp Skewers.

Foodgasm is a bi-weekly cooking and all-around food loving column published on Wednesdays.

COLUMNIST



GENE KRAVETS

Israeli ambassador to Haiti to recount his post-quake experience

JONATHAN SZYDLO
Contributing Writer

The University's Middle East Society will be presenting a lecture by Ambassador Danny Biran, in which he will provide a firsthand account of the sights and experiences that the Israeli delegation encountered in their mission to Haiti.

Biran, head of Israel's Advance Team to Haiti, will be presenting his lecture, titled "Mission to Haiti: Israel's Relief Efforts After the Earthquake," in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at the Biscayne Bay Campus on Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico.

"Biran's lecture further confirms the University's place at the forefront of discussions and analysis relating to the disastrous event in Haiti and subsequent relief efforts," said Shlomi Dinar, director of the Middle East Society.

University President Mark Rosenberg will deliver the opening remarks. The event is open and free to the public.

In the aftermath of Haiti's 7.0 magnitude earthquake in January the global community scrambled to assist in the relief effort. One of the first nations to be on the scene after the disaster, which affected an estimated three million people, was the nation of Israel.

Just two days after the disaster, Israel's state

run MASHAV humanitarian relief division arrived in Port-au-Prince with a 220-member delegation in two Boeing 747 jets. Aboard were the necessary equipment for a "Home Front Command field hospital and rescue unit, as well as teams from Magen David Adom (Israel's version of the Red Cross) and Israeli Police," according to a press release by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Israeli delegation was the first to set up a field hospital, which included two surgical tents, a pediatric tent, a radiology tent and a tent for new-born or premature babies, according to a report by The Allentown Examiner. Within the Israeli field hospital, over 1,100 patients received treatment and 16

babies were delivered on site in a span of 11 days.

Biran will speak on what Israel has done, is doing and will continue to do in support of relief efforts in Haiti. His presentation will include a never-before-seen video capturing firsthand accounts of the aftermath of the earthquake and Israel's involvement in Haiti.

"It also demonstrates the University's continued commitment to bring the community and student body together on matters of great import," Dinar said. "In this fashion, students and community members have the opportunity to increase their awareness, engagement and involvement with local, regional, and global issues."