

## MIDDLE EAST

### Afghan candidate wounded in attack

A candidate in this month's Afghan parliamentary elections was wounded in a grenade attack amid growing political violence and insurgent attacks aimed at polls.

## MEXICO

### Soldiers kill 30 in border state

Mexican soldiers killed at least 30 suspected cartel members in two shootouts near the U.S. border in a region that has become one of biggest battlegrounds in the country's drug war.

## COLOMBIA

### 14 cops killed in ambush

Suspected leftist rebels killed 14 police officers and wounded seven in an ambush of a five-truck convoy in southern Colombia.

# FUNGUS AMONG US

## Political Science offices closed due to mold infestation

**GABRIEL ARRARÁS**  
News Director

An unwelcome visitor has caused a stink in the Department of Political Science.

According to Russell E. Lucas, associate professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, professors were informed of a mold infestation on Aug. 19 and were told to stay clear of the Political Science Department offices in the Deuxieme Maison building.

"We were informed that there was a mold problem that needed to be immediately remediated," Lucas said.

The offices affected, DM480-488D, are used by 30 individuals; this includes 12 faculty members, 3 staff members, and 15 teaching assistants. Also affected in the DM building were the Modern Languages Department offices, DM487B-499B, which has 20 individuals displaced from their offices.

"We were told by email that the office and our belongings were now totally off limits and that any books or other possessions that were determined to be contaminated would be destroyed," said Political Science Professor, Sean Walsh.

According to Maydel Santana-Bravo, director of FIU Media Relations, the mold was first reported in March and was cleaned by the Department of Environmental Health

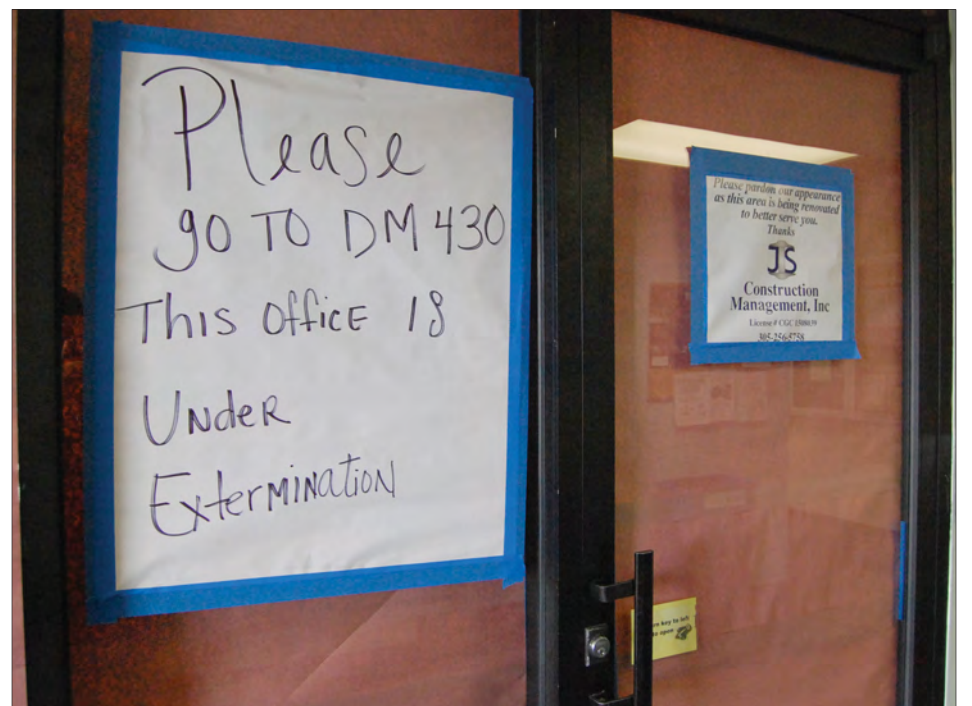
and Safety. A second report was then made on Aug. 12 which found Penicillium and Aspergillus, two types of mold that are typically associated with allergy symptoms; they do not present serious health risks.

"I am told that the strain of mold we are dealing with is not among the most hazardous or worrisome. That being said, I understand they have to take every possible precaution especially because we have staff [that] are exposed to that environment everyday and all day," said Walsh.

Since members of the Political Science Department were told that their possessions would be "off limits" and quarantined, concerns have been raised by several faculty members. According to Santana-Bravo, members of Facilities Management met with staff from the affected offices during a meeting in the Green Library on Aug. 26 in efforts to address some of the concerns.

"Some people have books and other research materials that cannot be replaced," said Walsh. "We have since been told that anything scheduled to be disposed of could be given to us in a sealed container, and would have to be taken off campus."

According to Santana-Bravo, the faculty, staff and graduate students who work in the area have been temporarily assigned new spaces to work by their departments and no person will be allowed in the quaran-



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

**OFF LIMITS:** After Aug. 12, this sign appeared outside the political science offices on the fourth floor of DM.

quarantined area until air quality results provide clearance.

"At our meeting last week, we were given a target date of Sept. 7. I'm sure that is not an ironclad commitment, but it is nice to hold out hope," said Walsh.

"The affected area is being cleaned

and ventilated. Larger air vents are being installed to prevent the mold problem from reoccurring. The work should be completed by Sept. 4 and the testing by the middle of the following week. We expect that the

**MOLD, page 2**

## Plans for Student Academic Support Center underway

**ALEXANDRA CAMEJO**  
Asst. News Director

Since the allocation of \$21,833,698 from the Florida Legislature in May, plans surrounding the construction of a new Student Welcome Center at the Modesto Maidique Campus, the Student Academic Support Center, are progressively underway.

The SASC will be a 74,000 square foot

building aiming to give students the opportunity to conduct all university business from recruitment to graduation in a single location. The facility will be the new home for the Department of Enrollment Services including Admissions, Office of the Registrar, Financial Aid, Student Financials, Enrollment Processing and Enrollment Information Services.

Specifics surrounding the SASC have yet

to be determined, but according to Project Manager, Danny Paan, fundamental decisions will be made in the upcoming months.

After the selection of a construction manager, a team effort between the University, architect, and construction manager will provide the best design for the needs of students.

"The project is currently in the conceptual schematic design phase, where general

layouts, space interaction, and integration with the existing campus are being developed," said Paan.

A push for this \$30,887,426 facility has been in the works since 2000, according to Student Government Association MMC Vice President Nick Autiello. Through a collaboration with governmental relations, SGA

**SASC, page 2**

## FIU Faculty Senate meeting focuses on academic policy

**MELISSA CACERES**  
Staff Writer

With students gathering for classes and organizational meetings to start off the year, those among the FIU staff are not far behind.

The FIU Faculty Senate gathered for its first formal meeting of the academic semester, bringing together around 45 representatives from each of the colleges and schools of the University. Among those at the Aug. 31 meeting were

Chairman Thomas Breslin, University Provost Douglas Wartzok and Kathleen Wilson, president of the United Faculty of Florida chapter at FIU. Senators from the Biscayne Bay Campus were able to attend via webcast.

"The Faculty Senate constitutes a formidable array of talent and professional experience," said Breslin in his opening report. "I encourage all of you to be active in the work of the senate."

Members discussed the need

to draft a new version of their constitution and appointments to specific committees, while reviewing the reports from the UFF and provost. They also approved the termination of the Bachelor of Science program in Environmental and Urban Systems.

The senate focused a significant amount of time, however, on issues pertaining to the forgiveness policy within the Graduate School.

Dr. Fredrick Blevens, Journalism professor and

Honors fellow, along with Dr. Victoria Castellanos, an associate professor of Dietetics and Nutrition at the Graduate School, presented their research on the correlation between graduate students and the forgiveness policy, finding that many were using it to repeat courses in order to improve already acceptable GPAs.

"We examined the forgiveness policy for graduate students and decided to amend that policy so, essentially, when a student repeats a course, in-

stead of the second grade replacing the first grade in the GPA calculation that both grades be counted in the GPA calculation," said Blevens, to the senate members.

Among the 6,039 degrees given to graduates between fall of 2006 and spring of 2009, there were a total of 250 forgiveness applications. Of those applications, there were 79 with a final GPA higher than 3.5, 106 with a final GPA of 3.2 to 3.5, and 66 with a GPA of below 3.2. Six of those 66

used the policy twice.

"There were several issues that came about and I think the primary one is that if you have 250 students repeating courses for really no reason but to improve an already acceptable or good GPA, people are in a seat that another student could have," said Blevens. "It's not a very efficient system."

Many among the senate, however, disagreed with the adjustment to the policy, claim-

**FACULTY, page 2**



## WEIRD NEWS

### Swiss Grandmas Knit Sweater for Smart

Three “grandmothers” from Switzerland have enthusiastically been knitting a car cover for three weeks as part of a project to bring young designers together with the elderly, according to AOL News.

Initiated by the Senior Design Factory, a Zurich-based creative hot spot that aims at bringing the world of young people a bit closer to that of their grandparents, its latest creation is the 66-pound wool car cover in the shape of a roller skate for the Smart Car.

The car cover, in bright and clear colors, was partly knitted with a machine, while the three old ladies focused especially on the details.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

## CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 4 of *The Beacon*, The story “Health education program to aid 36,000 households”, and headline incorrectly indicated that the Green Family NeighborhoodHELP program students would “aid 36,000 households.”

The GFNHELP project pairs each individual medical student with one household in North Miami-Dade.

The same story also mischaracterized the origins and purpose of the survey conducted by the CoM. The CoM Benchmark Survey was conducted to determine the health issues and needs in the neighborhoods where students would be visiting households through the GFNHELP program, not chosen on the basis of the survey.

Lastly, the same story indicates that “the program” was intended to study infant mortality rates.

Neither the survey nor the GFNHELP program was created to study infant mortality rates, but was one of the factors included in the benchmark survey.

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

# Professors inconvenienced by mold

## MOLD, page 1

office employees will return to DM shortly thereafter,” stated Santana-Bravo in an email to Student Media.

While closed offices are an inconvenience, members of the Political Science Department have had to find ways of getting around the problem: preparing for classes the night before

from home, or being accommodated in the offices of the neighboring International Relations department in Deuxieme Maison.

“It’s been a real inconvenience, but, for me anyway, nothing more than that. I don’t really have access to a computer on campus, and I don’t want to bug our staff every time I need something printed,” said Walsh.

Professors have also told their students to contact them via email if they need assistance.

“I hold my regular office hours – just not in my regular office. I am encouraging my students to contact me by email when they need to see me,” said Lucas.

Walsh said the timing of the mold problem wasn’t

particularly good, considering it happened the first week of class; however, Lucas believes the University’s response has been quick and helpful, with regular updates.

“In the end, it’s just an inconvenience, and it’s certainly more important to make sure that no one suffers any health problems from mold,” said Walsh.

# Forgiveness policy concerns faculty

## FACULTY, page 1

ing that there shouldn’t be an issue with graduate students who wish to improve their GPAs.

“If the reason behind the motion is that someone is taking another person’s space then what we need is evidence from the administration of the fact that the students who are tak-

ing advantage of this policy are keeping other students from graduating,” said Victor Uribe, senator from the College of Arts and Sciences and associate professor of history. “I don’t have any problem with students who want to do better, take the class and pay for it again.”

Senator Dean Whitman, an

associate professor of earth sciences, brought up the concern that students for whatever reason, may need to take the class again because of personal issues that arose during the semester. An instance like that “could be very devastating to a grad student’s GPA,” according to Whitman.

The next Faculty Senate

meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 1 p.m. in room 155 of the Wolfe University Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus. For more information visit [www.fiu.edu/~fsenate](http://www.fiu.edu/~fsenate)

For more on this story, visit [www.fiusm.com](http://www.fiusm.com)

# SASC ‘will be closer to heart’ of FIU

## SASC, page 1

was able to visit Governor Charlie Crist and the legislature in Tallahassee to secure this project for FIU.

Paan anticipates that the remaining balance of \$9,053,728 needed for the facility would be acquired in the upcoming fiscal year.

“We have the funding.

It’s still not the full funding that we need for the entire complex we want to build, but it’s enough to get it started and then we go back and try to get a little bit more,” said Autiello.

The SASC was implemented in Phase III of FIU Stadium’s construction plan to be connected to it. Since the acquirement of funds

from the State of Florida; however, the intention to adjoin it with the stadium has significantly weakened.

“The final decision on the new location has not been made, but it will be closer to the heart – and to the energy hub – of the campus,” said Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, John Cal.

These indications that the stadium will no longer be the location for the facility and is being absorbed by Athletics as options are being discussed.

“This really isn’t an Athletics item. We are being advised on what’s going on, but that’s about it,” Assistant Athletic Director Julie Berg said. “There have been problems relative to the location of the stadium. It would be removed from where students usually are on campus.”

Berg recognizes the importance of the new building for the student body and its location.

“We’re just happy that funding was given for this facility since we know how important it is for students and how much it is needed on campus,” Berg added.

An architectural firm, Gould Evans, has been contracted “for the design of the SASC and has been working with the future building occupants as well as student groups,” said Paan.

It is the hope of these student groups, such as SGA, that collaboration between FIU students and administration can successfully answer questions still remaining with the SASC, according to Autiello.

Design for the SASC is expected to be complete for the early summer of 2011 in the hopes for ground breaking for the fall of 2011.

Paan anticipates that with a successful project, the building would be open for the spring semester of 2013.

Additional reporting by Joel Delgado

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## The Park51 center is not a victory mosque

ROMNEY MANASSA  
Staff Writer

I support the construction of the so-called "9/11 mosque" because I feel it is the right and proper thing to do. It seems that this entire issue has been blown well out of proportion, degenerating into yet another polarizing culture war. Exploitative politicians, sensationalist media and a paranoid public are all to blame.

Of course, it doesn't help that there are many myths and misconceptions mucking up the discussion, as tends to happen with every public discussion.

Firstly, the structure is not a mosque, but a community center. While there will be a Muslim prayer room in the building, Park 51 (formerly the Cordoba Center) will include a 500-seat auditorium, theater, performing arts center, fitness center, swimming pool, basketball court, childcare area, bookstore, culinary school, art studio and food court, which will all be opened to the public.

It is explicitly based on a counterpart known as Y-Street, a

community center in Manhattan built around Jewish principles but also serving an interfaith initiative.

People seem to imagine the center will be an ostentatious structure that will have towering minarets and Islamic architecture as an in-your-face presentation meant to snub

**Most crucially, we seem to have forgotten that Muslim Americans are still Americans. As citizens, they are entitled to the same rights as we are.**

9/11 victims and Americans in general. The building plans do not call for such a thing, as the proposed design has shown.

Ultimately, the term "mosque" sounds much more controversial than an Islamic community center based off the JCC or YMCA. I suppose that's why some headlines and opponents have made a point of

calling it a mosque. Even so, I don't doubt it's a genuine misunderstanding in some cases.

Furthermore, the structure was already serving as a place of prayer for several hundred Muslims since 2009. There are two other mosques near Ground Zero and a mosque outside the Pentagon, another target of the 9/11 attackers.

This project wasn't a spontaneous burst of insensitivity or malfeasance. The building was already owned by the Cordoba Initiative and the plan has been in the works for several years.

To clarify, Park 51 is two blocks from Ground Zero, not on top of it as many believe. Even if you think two blocks is still too close, such a difference goes a long way for many people who have the impression that the center is right on top of Ground Zero.

Also, the center was deliberately built to be unseen from the future 9/11 memorial.

All this begs the question: what is considered sacred land and what isn't? How far away from 9/11 should this center be built? What is the radius of

hallowed ground and what can or cannot be built within it? This raises concern as to how arbitrary and potentially abused the distinction really is.

Most crucially, we seem to have forgotten that Muslim Americans are still Americans. As citizens, they are entitled to the same rights as we are. So why make the references to the extreme Islam of Saudi Arabia or Muslim transgressions of the past?

What do Muslims elsewhere, or in history, have anything to do with those in our country? Why should the actions of other Muslims affect the rights we bestow to Muslim Americans? Would it make sense to hold Catholic Americans to account for what the Vatican does, or American Jews for the actions of Israel?

By viewing Muslims as Muslims first and Americans second, we're echoing the same ideology of terrorists like Osama Bin Laden, who try to espouse such differences in order to rally Islam against the west. We're much better than this.

THE BEACON | Editorial

## Intended SASC building location short sighted

In the summer of 2007, the Florida Board of Governors passed a resolution that allowed FIU to move forward with the first phase of an elaborate plan for a new football facility. The project included a second and third phase, which was to create a student center that would handle undergraduate advising, admissions, financial aid and a welcome center.

Plans for construction on the second phase, the Student Academic Support Center, are under way. However, all indications show the location of the SASC will not be built in conjunction with the football stadium. Associate Vice President for Facilities Management John Cal told *The Beacon* that the building will likely be "closer to the heart of the campus."

*The Beacon* disagrees with having the location of the SASC close to the Graham Center or near the Charles Perry building, where student services are currently handled. It is also questionable that the SASC was advertised as part of the stadium, and is now going to be built elsewhere.

Firstly, the congestion at Modesto Madique Campus has reached a grueling level, and having the SASC in the center of campus can potentially clog up the center of MMC even more, especially with the recent spike in enrollment.

If the SASC were located at the stadium site, as initially planned, it could bring a lot of the University's student traffic to another side of campus, which would allow the Graham Center to serve its purpose at a distance from a student services complex. By extending Panther Tram routes to the stadium, the distance should not be an issue. Additionally, *The Beacon* believes that placing the SASC toward the middle of MMC could halt future growth and hinder possible expansion to the west side of campus. Although acquiring the Miami-Dade County Fair grounds just behind the stadium has been discussed, it is not likely to occur.

Having the SASC at the stadium could attract students to another part of campus that is usually unoccupied. The union of the stadium and the SASC also has a potential to spark stronger student support for athletics.

The SASC will be a 74,000 gross square foot facility that is budgeted for \$30,887,426. The State of Florida has already put forth \$21,833,698, with the remainder of the money projected to be included in the upcoming fiscal year. The building is projected to open during the Spring 2013 semester.

Although *The Beacon* acknowledges that the construction of the SASC is necessary and the details of the site are intriguing, it appears that the University is being short-sighted.

In 2007, Athletic Director Pete Garcia stated that upon the completion of the project, the stadium would be the "crown jewel of the athletic department and the focus of the entire campus."

While the Stadium may one day be the crown jewel of the athletic department, administration seems intent on having the heart of our campus clogged.

Building the SASC near GC is a ridiculous notion. There is no reason to place student services in a heavily congested area. Parking in the Blue and Gold garages is a nightmare, and placing a new student services building in the area it will only make it worse. Let's build the SASC where it was originally intended to be.

### CABRALITICS

## Rick Scott perfect for big business

When it comes to constitutional law, Rick Scott may be an expert, especially on the 5th amendment. In just one statement he gave to investigators regarding Columbia/HCA, the Healthcare company where he was formerly CEO, he pled the 5th 75 times.

While the company sustained 2 massive fines for defrauding Medicare and Medicaid out of \$1.7 billion, he left the company with \$300 million in tow. He was never charged, but the company was found guilty of bilking these programs for billions while he was CEO.

Later Solantic, another company he helped found, settled out of court regarding charges of discrimination in hiring practices.

To some, the fact that as CEO he allowed his company's hospitals to overcharge the government may appear unsavory, not to mention the Solantic allegations. After all, Medicare and Medicaid are programs that help the elderly, poor and disabled receive health care.

However, his conservative supporters know that these experiences have taught him valuable lessons that are reflected in his platform for Governor, as stated on his website, RickscottforFlorida.com.

### Proposal 1: "Limit frivolous lawsuits by implementing tort reform"

No one knows the danger of lawsuits better than Scott. Thanks to unjust rules favored by Democrats that allow people to sue when they are discriminated against, Solantic was forced to settle out of court for millions. If there were laws capping the amount companies would be forced to pay out in court while shielding them from frivolous complaints regarding discrimination, misuse of medical licenses and wrongful death, all of which Solantic has been accused of, businesses would have more money to create jobs-though, maybe not for minorities.

### Proposal 2: "Lower workers' compensation costs; a 35% reduction in workers' compensation costs would save businesses approximately \$2.46 billion."

Again, Scott intimately knows the struggle of big business against the tyranny of employees and their "rights." If employees weren't entitled to so much money when they got injured on the job, businesses wouldn't have to worry so much about their safety, and they wouldn't have to waste money ensuring their employees have enough money to feed their families in the event of an injury.

Less money for workman's comp means more money in the pockets of people like Scott: people who really deserve it.

### Proposal 3: "Impose a regulatory freeze and implement a comprehensive review of existing and proposed regulations."

Enough regulations already! Who needs rules protecting workers, the environment or the public from shady business practices? All businesses are perfectly trustworthy. We don't need pesky things like government oversight and regulation to ensure they don't harm the public.

Columbia/HCA was a victim of terrible regulations limiting their right to decide how much to charge government programs, and mandating that businesses only charge people for medical procedures that actually happened. As governor, Scott will make sure companies have fewer regulations and fewer laws to worry about breaking.

With his track record, Scott is the perfect person to implement the conservative vision for Florida: a state where business is allowed to police itself, a state where government programs are put under the control of corporations instead of the democratically elected government.

Some Democrats, may disagree with this vision, calling it appallingly naive, even dangerous. Yet for true conservatives like Scott, it's a beautiful dream: a state government that bows before the altar of the mighty corporation.

### VERBATIM

"I believe some of the greatest stories in history are some of the great comebacks. You think about Winston Churchill, I mean he spent years in the political wilderness . . . If Churchill can comeback from something like that, when I'm vindicated, I certainly don't write myself off."

Rod Blagojevich, former Democratic Gov. of Illinois seeking vindication for corruption charges

### PUBLIC REASON

A radio show gathering opinions and promoting discussion every Tuesday and Thursday at 12 p.m. on Radiate FM, 95.3 in Miami, 88.1 in Homestead, 96.9 in North Miami and streaming live on FIUSM.com.

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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. Please send them to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

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# A NEW DECADE FOR FIU FOOTBALL

## 2010 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

### Looking forward to the next ten years, lots of possibilities on the horizon

COMMENTARY



FULL NAME

Golden Panther football is turning the page to what has been a turbulent first decade of existence. To say that the program has gone through growing pains would be a massive understatement.

But for the first time in a long time the future looks bright and FIU can finally see brighter days lie ahead. The ship has been turned in the

right direction and a sense of normalcy mixed with optimism has been instilled to a team that was in shambles a few short years ago.

Over the next decade, with FIU finally back on even ground with most programs in the country in terms of scholarship offers available, scheduling and facilities, the team should be able to become a dominant force in the Sun

Belt Conference sooner rather than later.

With talk of conference realignment buzzing across the collegiate landscape, it is not beyond the realm of possibility for FIU to end up in a new-look C-USA or perhaps even the Big East. With a growing emphasis on athletics in place, FIU Stadium should have the north-side stands completed over the next

10 years, which would greatly improve the way it looks.

The general feeling is that Mario Cristobal, who took over head coaching duties in 2006 and has proven to be a shrewd recruiter despite essentially having one hand tied behind his back the past four years, is about to get the team winning in the same way he helped Greg

Schiano get Rutgers winning. If that is the case it is not beyond the realm of possibility that Cristobal, a Miami native with strong ties to the area, stays with FIU and continues to foster its development.

And it is undeniably appropriate that the Golden Panthers will host that same Rutgers team at FIU Stadium to kick off the decade.

And by the end the next ten-year period, FIU should be the Scarlet Knights of the Southeast.

The bottom line is that there is little reason for fans not to be more enthusiastic. There is still a lot to be done, but the foundation has been put in place. The only thing left to do is build on top of it.

## 2000

**2002-** The Golden Panthers win their inaugural game vs. Saint Peters College 27-3 as a Division I-AA team.



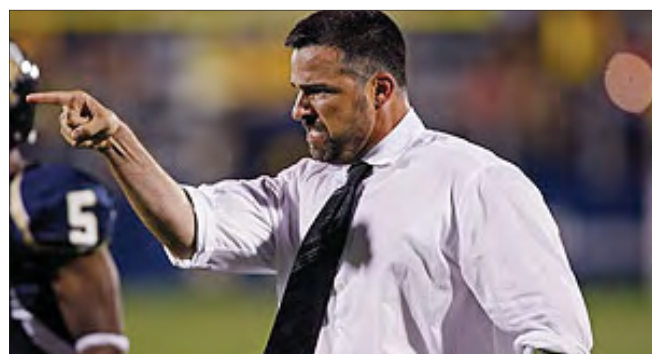
**2006-** After one season in Division I-A, FIU played the University of Miami and engaged in a infamous brawl that saw 31 players disciplined. The team went on to finish winless at 0-12.



**2008-** Team opens new stadium in front of a near sell-out crowd in a close loss to nationally ranked South Florida.



**2010-** Golden Panthers enter fourth season of Mario Cristobal's tenure looking for their first bowl berth.



All Beacon File Photos

## 2010

## Positional Breakdown

### QB

The race for the starting spot is a tight one. Redshirt junior Wesley Carroll and senior Wayne Younger have not shown the separation that head coach Mario Cristobal had been looking for prior to training camp. Although Cristobal has yet to name a starter, Wesley Carroll has taken the majority of the snaps with the first team offense.

Carroll has not seen any live action since 2008 as sophomore for Mississippi State. Wayne Younger saw limited time on the field, starting in only one game last season. He completed 14 out of 38 passes and was picked off three times in a 48-21 loss to Middle Tennessee State University.



Beacon File Photo

### RB

The Golden Panthers must improve their weak running game, which averaged a mere 3 yard per carry last season. It's a mystery when it comes to figuring out who will line up behind the quarterback for the first snap of the season. What is not a mystery though is that Cristobal plans to use nearly all of his backs. Expect Robert Boswell, Jeremiah Harden, Darrian Mallary, Darriet Perry and Khendrick Rhodes to all make solid contributions to the running game until he finds his pure "home run hitter". For the most part Mallary, Perry and Rhodes have been practicing with the first team offense.



Beacon File Photo

### WR

Along with the running backs, the wide receivers are one of the deepest positions in the depth chart. Cristobal expects T.Y. Hilton, a Preseason All-Conference selection, to have a better season than his 2008 campaign where he had 1,013 receiving yards while catching seven out of his 12 overall touchdowns. Hilton was bothered through a large part of the 2009 season with a knee issue but still caught five touchdowns and snatched 57 catches. Wayne Times, Ariel Martinez and Jacob Younger have all seen snaps with the first team. Don't be surprised if Willis Wright, a true freshman, gives the offense that added spark they've been looking for to compliment Hilton's explosiveness.

With juniors Dudley LaPorte and Jonathan Faucher dinged up throughout most of training camp, expect another red-shirt junior, Colt Anderson to be a key contributor to the offense at tight end. Anderson, once a quarterback at FIU, knows the offense as well as any player. Although he changed positions to see more playing time, Anderson only caught 12 passes for 154 yards last season.

### OL

Despite being led by senior Brad Serini, who has started in every single game as a Golden Panther, the offensive line is one of the most inexperienced units on the team. Besides sophomore left tackle Caylin Hauptmann and sophomore right tackle Rupert Bryan Jr., the rest of the line is a question mark. Cristobal will have to rotate between David Istanich, Cedrick Mack, Giacarlo Revilla, Donald Senat and Austin Tottle in hopes of finding his most productive lineup. Last season, FIU was among the leaders in sacks allowed in the conference.

### S

If healthy, Ash Parker can be one of the hardest hitting safeties in the SBC. Parker, a fifth year senior, has suffered consecutive season-ending injuries in the last two opening games of the season. Parker could pair up with Jonathan Cyprien at safety for the first time in their collegiate career. As part of the new defensive scheme, both Parker and Cyprien are expected to switch sides from time to time to confuse the opposing offense. Cyprien is the team's top returning tackler, with 78 last season.

### LB

The linebacking corps may benefit the most out of Geoff Collins' new defensive scheme, which will include plenty of blitzes. This is great news for senior Toronto Smith, who led the team with three and a half sacks last season, along with nine tackles for loss. Smith will line up alongside Winston Fraser, who has shined during fall scrimmages and could have a breakout year. Junior Aaron Davis could also enjoy a breakout season. He recorded the 59 tackles last season after beginning the season as a reserve. Sophomores Kenny Dillard, Markeith Russell and Larvez Mars are expected to continue their development and provide depth.



Beacon File Photo

### DL

The defensive line notably one of the weakest units in 2009. FIU finished last in the conference in total defense, allowing opponents to rush for 5.4 yards per carry. New defensive coordinator Geoff Collins plans to bring a new hybrid defensive scheme in hopes of improving the team's run defense. Like the offensive line, the Golden Panthers will use a deep rotation which will include contributions from Tourek Williams, Jonathan Jackson, Paul Crawford, Jerico Lee and Andrew Mattox. If he loses weight and regains his shape, 330-pound freshman Jordan White could play a big role at defensive tackle.

### CB

The cornerback unit is anchored by Preseason All-Conference senior Anthony Gaitor, who led the team with two interceptions and deflected eight passes last season, despite opponents reluctance to throw his way last season. Gaitor will likely be paired with red-shirt sophomore Emmanuel Souarin to start, and red-shirt freshman Jose Cheeseborough in nickel situations.

Cristobal could utilize a couple of freshmen like Khambrel McGee or Sam Miller Jr, but if experience is what heneeds, he will look no further to red-shirt senior Dez Johnson, who broke up three passes in the four games he played last season before sustaining a season ending injury.



Beacon File Photo

### ST

The Golden Panthers will have a hard time finding a replacement for place kicker Dustin Rivest. Despite claiming that Jack Griffin was the frontrunner to assume place kicking duties at the end of training camp, Cristobal has since declared the kicking race wide open. Griffin seemed to be the most consistent kicker throughout training camp. Michael Cal, Dylan Lynch and Julio Moraga are all vying to take that position. Sophomore Josh Brisk is the only true punter in the depth chart and should assume all the punting duties.

**FIU VS RUTGERS**

FIRST RESPONDERS & MILITARY TRIBUTE NIGHT

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**8PM AT FIU STADIUM**

GAME PRESENTED BY **Doctors Hospital**  
Center for Orthopedics & Sports Medicine

FREE T-SHIRTS FOR ALL STUDENTS | FREE SCHEDULE MAGNET FOR ALL FANS

FIU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION | **305.FIU.GAME** | **FIUSPORTS.COM** | adidas



## AFTER HOURS



The Target Wednesday After Hours Kickoff event celebrated the opening of two faculty exhibitions: *After History* by Jacek Kolasinski and *DEMONS nature/nurture* by Kathy Dambach. (1) Mark Rosenberg and his wife check out *DEMONS* by Dambach. (2,3) Visitors examine designs by Kolasinski. (4) Kolasinski introduces his exhibit.



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

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THE  
CASTING CALL

No purchase necessary to enter or win. A purchase will not improve your chances of winning. Void where prohibited by law. Contest is open to female legal residents of the 50 United States and D.C. who are 16 to 24 years of age. Entry period starts 07/14/10 and ends 09/28/10. Complete rules and prize details are available at [www.thetalentshow.com](http://www.thetalentshow.com). Sponsor: Alloy Media, LLC, 151 West 26th Street, NY, NY 10001. © 2010 Alloy Entertainment

COVERGIRL *Secret* PANTENE Venus. Olay



# At forty-five years, University parties with rally

**ADRIAN ESPINOSA**  
Staff Writer

Middle aged and still growing, FIU is celebrating its 45th birthday this year on Sept. 10.

Since 1965, the brainchild of Ernest Graham has been making use of all its territories in a collegiate manifest destiny.

From its humble beginnings as a small state university, FIU quickly grew into the international university it is today.

The school's speedy expansion is witnessed even now as new buildings and garages spring up every few weeks.

Any students that were here last year can attest to the influx of students that came this year, totaling in 42,000 students.

Although it has been 45 years

since the actual founding of the school, it was not until 1972 that FIU began to operate with its first class of over 5,000 students.

During the weeks before school began, the Week of Welcome team and the Student Government Association were hard at work formulating the events for FIU's 45th birthday bash on Sept. 8.

Starting at 12 p.m., the celebrations will be kicked off at the pit in the Graham Center then move outside for the main event.

While outside, a portion of the FIU marching band, dubbed the Pep Band, will be tooting their own horns and marching about the birthday grounds.

Miriam Blasco, the SGA marketing coordinator was one of the hands working on preparing the party.

"What we want to achieve with this event is to get more student involvement and make them feel proud of their school," Blasco said.

Also in attendance is the Athletics Department, which will be working side by side with SGC-MMC and the Week of Welcome committee to coordinate the proceedings.

There will be free cake, ice cream, and t-shirts and anyone wanting to step up to the free cupcake eating contest can eat their way to history, or until they've had their share.

The cake that will be hauled in is supposed to be the size of a dinner table and enough to go around for anyone who attends.

The events for the celebration will be spread out as time goes by

and most of the campus will have some sort of affair to join in on.

A special guest, whose identity is a secret, will also be there, the only clue is that he/she is a very important figure around the campus.

Roary will take the stage in a pep rally to get the crowd, and incoming freshman, pumped for another eventful Panther's athletic season.

He'll also be given the responsibility of cutting the enormous cake and passing out free items to everyone.

"At the core of being an FIU student, however, is the gratitude that each and every one of us has for the founders of this great institution of higher learning," said Helena Ramirez, SGC-MMC president and university trustee.

The theme for next Friday's birthday party is "Getting Old Never Looked This Good" and the SGC-MMC hopes to make celebrating FIU's birthday a yearly tradition in the future.

Sara Conklin, a junior International and African studies major and student lobbying coordinator for SGA said about the event, "I want every student to come together and celebrate how lucky we are to attend one of the country's most incredible Universities."

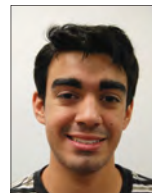
In planning since summer 2010, both committees have been diligently at work hoping to make Sept. 10 an opportunity to bring new and current students together as one group and instill a united sense of pride and appreciation for the University.

## PANEL PANEL

### War, what is it good for?

Comics can be political. They can point out society's foibles and make a statement on current events just as well as any form of writing.

#### COLUMNIST



SEAN GONZALEZ

Even one of the earliest newspaper strips in existence, The Yellow Kid, brought about the term "yellow journalism" in the late 1800s.

With all the capabilities that the comic book medium has, one would assume that when DC reuses one of their most popular World War II era heroes, Sergeant Rock, in the new one-shot *Our Army at War*, they would attempt to comment on America's current wartime climate.

This is where one would be wrong.

The book focuses on two unknown soldiers in two different eras; one being an infantryman during WWII and the other soldier is a communications expert in Afghanistan. Sgt. Rock and his platoon, Easy Company, are just supporting characters in one of the soldier's story.

The book's transitions between the two soldiers flows constantly.

While both characters inhabit two completely different eras, they live the same basic story.

Though the people and setting in every other panel are different, one can barely notice the switch between the past and present.

This gives the comic some poignancy that I had originally thought it lacked.

It's interesting to see how no matter what the reasons for the war are, the effect on people is the same.

Now, even though the book attempts to incite an emotional response from the reader and the attempt is made with wonderful form, it still manages to fall short.

On the last page, one can feel a sense that they've heard this story before. None of the sentiments are original or creative and the obvious lack of any detailed response to current events is frustrating.

Aside from an extremely brief mention of the correlation between Pearl Harbor and the World Trade Center in the beginning of the book, every other moment is detached and hollow.

For all intents and purposes, the wars that the men in this book are fighting for are make-believe and bear no weight at

all.

While I appreciated the original intent of nostalgia and heart, what the book ended up being was a product of consumerism and propaganda.

Even though *Our Army at War* was first published in the '40s specifically to sell comics and profit off the war boom, the current effect is that the heroes in this book don't seem to belong to *Our Army*.

This book is the first in a new series of one-shots based on old war characters such as Sgt. Rock and Easy Company.

The upcoming comics will feature different writers and artists so it's hard to foresee how they will hold up to the *Our Army at War* one-shot.

Because of this, I find it difficult to recommend this book to the average reader.

There's always a chance that the sentiment will hold more weight with a veteran or someone who has family currently stationed overseas.

The book would, of course, be a nice gift to any military personnel one might know.

But be warned that those looking for depth will find themselves wading in a shallow story.

In which case, I can highly recommend some classic collections of the original Sgt. Rock stories from WWII, where the propaganda and corniness is blatant, and because of that, they are plain, simple, and most importantly fun.

Panel Panel runs every other Wednesday.



## Mogwai releases live album

**HECTOR MOJENA**  
Staff Writer

For years, Mogwai has dealt in the sort of doleful indie rock that few can successfully duplicate.

There aren't many bands out there that can claim to be world renowned for morose instrumental passages with names like "*I'm Jim Morrison, I'm Dead*."

They have a serious cult following, and for good reason: Mogwai has constructed a formula that usually works to a stunning degree (see: *Happy Songs for Happy People*) or at least delivers solid results (see: *The Hawk Is Howling*).

So, in that spirit, it seems about right that their latest effort, *Special Moves*, plays more like a greatest hits package than it does a live document of one of Scotland's finest combos.

Each of the eleven tracks here are called at least one or two a piece from their six studio albums.

The set starts with the aforementioned

"*I'm Jim Morrison, I'm Dead*", a dirge whose guitar heavy attack comes out so much more realized in a live setting than it did on their last record.

From there on out the band pulls together a set that combines all of the band's sensibilities over its esteemed career.

They absolutely tear through Mr. Beast's *Glasgow Megasnake* and yet are able to deliver one of the most affecting versions of *Hunted by a Freak* ever recorded; the original version's orchestral swells replaced by alternately jangling and thundering guitar leads.

Elsewhere, the band blows up on live staple *Like Herod*, allowing for the full dynamics of the unit to come into play atop buzz saw guitars and cavernous percussion.

The sense of tension that pervades their music is completely realized on this live set and it's certainly pleasing to see that a band going on as long as Mogwai can still do post-rock better than most.

And song naming, but that's a given.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8

#### MEET & MINGLE



Come meet FIU faculty Jacke J. Kolasinski and Kathy Dambach, artists of *After History* and *DEMONS nurture/nature*.

WHEN: 6-8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public  
WHERE: The Frost Art Museum

#### Intramural Flag Football League Deadline

Last day to apply for an intramural flag football league. Entry forms available at Rec Center or online.  
WHEN: Deadline is 5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$30 fee  
CONTACT: matthew.oconnor@fiu.edu

#### Entrepreneurship Forum

Join Alpha Kappa Psi in this Rush event. Attire: business casual.  
WHEN: 7-11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: CBC 232

#### GROUP SESSION

University Health Services provides a support group for those who want to quit smoking.  
WHEN: 5:30 - 7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 1235  
CONTACT: wellness@fiu.edu

#### SGC-MMC CABINET MEETING

WHEN: 4 - 5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public  
WHERE: GC 150

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 9

#### INTERNATIONAL WELCOME DINNER



Hosted by the International Students Club.

WHEN: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID  
WHERE: GC 243

#### ROCK-A-TIE SOCIAL EVENT



Join Alpha Kappa Psi in this RUSH event, don't forget to wear a tie!  
WHEN: 7-11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC Faculty Club

#### JUDICIAL ENGAGEMENT LECTURE

Mr. Clark Neily lectures.  
WHEN: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: RDB 1000

#### HOLISTIC YOGA



Including hatha yoga, breathing and relaxation techniques.  
WHEN: 10-11 a.m.; 4-5 p.m.; 7-8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10  
WHERE: Panther Suite, GC 324  
CONTACT: 1008yoga@gmail.com

Want to have your event featured? Write to [calendar@fiusm.com](mailto:calendar@fiusm.com)



## MIAMI

### Suspicious activity at MIA

Airport security shut down most of MIA on Sept. 2 when a metal canister brought from the Middle East was found in former professor Dr. Thomas Butler's luggage.

## ARIZONA

### Drug lord sentenced to prison

A Mexican man who headed a major marijuana-smuggling ring was sentenced to 27 years in prison and ordered to forfeit \$4 million to the U.S. government.

## VENEZUELA

### Chavez broke campaign rules

One of Venezuela's National Election Council's directors accused Hugo Chavez of breaking campaign laws by using state-run media to criticize rivals and praise friends.

# HTM holds auction to benefit scholarship funds

**OMAR NINAQUISPE**  
Contributing Writer

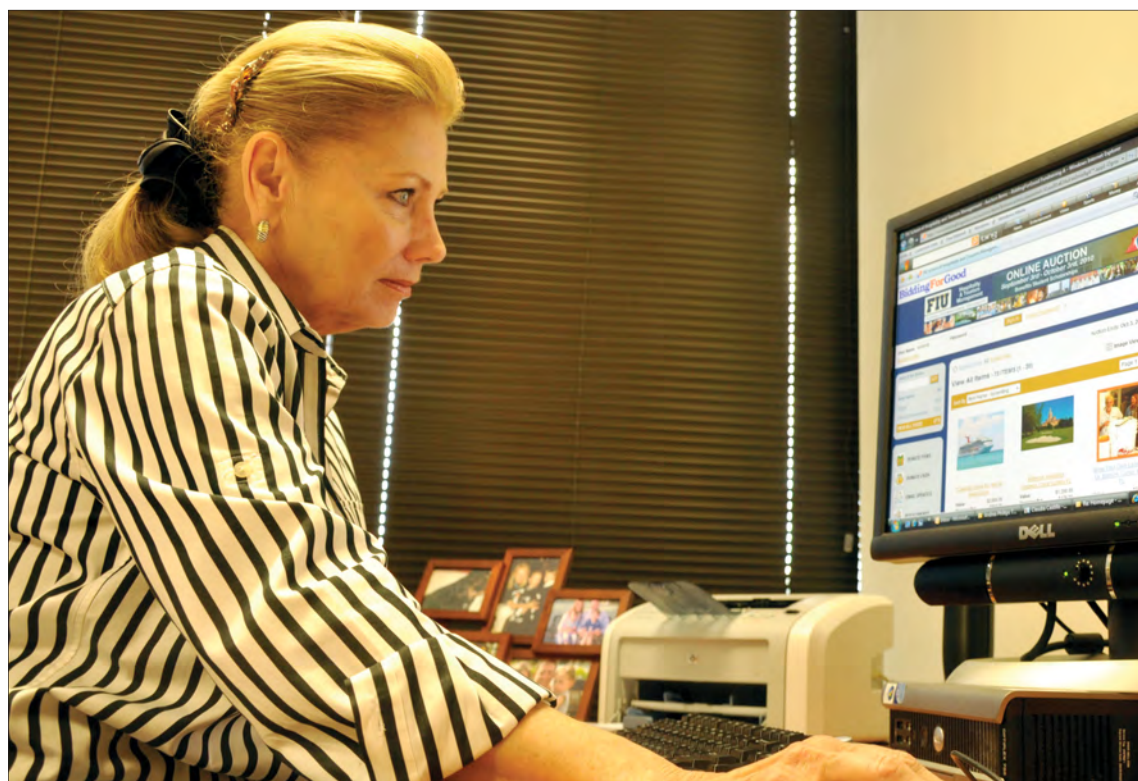
At the start of the economic recession two years ago, businesses, corporations and families alike experienced the hardships of not having enough money in their pockets. The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management has been no exception to this rule.

"The lack of capital troubled the school to the point where it found itself suspending all scholarships one semester," said Jessica Siskind, senior development director for HTM.

The absence of scholarship money becomes a heavy burden on most HTM students, but particularly on the working, international and first-year students who constitute a great portion of the school's student body.

Pierre believes that the scholarship money not only helps students stay in school, but also encourages HTM students to explore other areas relating to his or her major in an effort to better prepare themselves for the demands of today's workforce.

Jay Litt, the valedictorian of the inaugural HTM graduating class of 1973, was the first



NANCY ORTEGA/THE BEACON

Jessica Siskind, senior director of development for the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, organized the school's online auction that started Sept. 3.

student to present the idea of an online auction. A year and a half has passed since Litt's suggestion and a great deal of time was spent researching procedures on how to run a successful auction.

But on Sept. 3, Litt's idea came to play.

The first ever University online auction will be held for exactly one month – the last day to bid is Oct. 3 and the deadline

is 6 p.m. "The auction is open to the general public and all proceeds will go to provide unrestricted scholarships for the HTM students," Siskind said.

If the event renders a success, HTM plans to organize another auction in May 2011.

Auction sponsor Carnival Cruise Lines, after whom HTM's forthcoming student support complex is named after, will publish the results on its Bidding For Good website.

Online auction bids can be made by visiting, [www.bidding-forgood.com/fiuhm](http://www.bidding-forgood.com/fiuhm).

Over 100 items and services are being offered on the Bidding For Good website ranging from \$250 to \$7,500.

"We are really wanting to make sure that our own [University] family is aware of the auction so that they can take advantage of the savings," said Siskind.

Upon a quick glance at the price range of the items, these savings might not be instantly noticed. For instance, consider a two-night stay at the renowned Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach. The package has an estimated value of \$600, but the opening bid on the HTM auction is \$200.

According to Siskind, this online auction is a way to generate much needed revenue and is a win-win for everyone in this bad economy.

# SPC engages students to show Golden Panther pride

**LAUREN KHALAF**  
Contributing Writer

It's the third week of the fall semester and that means it's time for the Student Programming Council's annual Fall Fest.

This year's Fall Fest is just a few days before the Golden Panthers' first football game of the season against Rutgers on Sept. 11. What better way to initiate the hype, than with a sports theme.

Fall Fest events are on Sept. 7 and Sept. 9. SPC, an organization that programs events for University students and its community, teamed up with Biscayne Bay Campus' spirit organization, Panther Power. SPC assisted Panther Power with Tuesday's "blue and gold bonanza" themed pep rally.

The spirit-themed menu items included golden chicken wings with bleu cheese, blueberries, pineapples, blue punch and yellow lemonade.

When planning the pep rally on Sept. 7, Vice President of Panther Power, Gaby Wheeler, aimed to awaken the student body.

"We want people to wake up and get into their inner panther," Wheeler said.

Along with Roary, SPC and Panther Power have also arranged for appearances from football players at the pep rally.

Later that day, students and faculty members had the chance to compete in a friendly game of battlefield laser tag. President of SPC, Tanha Dil, is enthusiastic and has high expectations for this year's Fall Fest turn-out.

"The goal is to have over 300 students show up because it's SPC's first event of the season. I want to get the students jazzed up for the football games and extra-curricular activities. There are two campuses but we work together as a whole to show our school spirit," Dil said.

According to Dil, last year's carnival themed Fall Fest lacked a marketing team. This year the main target has been to reach out to freshmen because SPC feels the earlier you reach the students, the longer you get their involvement throughout their college experience.

Plenty of opportunities for students and faculty to show their Golden Panther spirit will be provided this year, even though there will be fewer but bigger events at BBC. With

more interest and participation from students, events have the ability grow.

Thursday's Sports Bonanza, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., will include everything from food and beverages to a mechanical bull, boxing joust, basketball hoops and a photo booth.

The games may be over, but the fun doesn't end just yet. Come to the Wolfe University Center's theater for a showing of "The Blind Side" at 3 p.m., and again at 7 p.m., where refreshments will be provided.

Wear Golden Panther gear and show school spirit to receive special giveaways. According to Wheeler, beware when wearing another universities' apparel as the University's "fashion police" and "spirit squad" will be walking around to swap it out for a University t-shirt.

# Events held for homosexual, bisexual and transgendered students

**MELODY REGALADO**  
Staff Writer

The office of Multicultural Programs and Services will host a welcome reception for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered students on Sept. 9.

Students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the reception, which will include refreshments, so they can mingle and learn about the services available on campus and

events planned for the year. The reception begins at 12:30 p.m. in room 255 of the Wolfe University Center.

"We want to let everyone know the office is here and make ourselves visible," said Camille Perkins, LGBT initiative graduate assistant for MPAS at BBC.

This is the first time a graduate student is assigned specifically to LGBT matters on campus, according to Perkins.

"LGBT is a part of the FIU community,"

Perkins said, "and being involved makes you a better person and offers a different perspective on things."

Upcoming activities include: monthly LGBT coffee hours, where people can meet in an informal setting to engage in casual conversation.

Also coming up is a day to celebrate bisexuality on Sept. 23 and Coming Out Day on Oct. 11.

For those who are interested in getting

involved throughout the school year, Stonewall 2 BBC is a student organization that supports the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

The first S2B meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. in WUC 140 following the event. Those interested can email Vicky Owles, S2B advisor, at [owlesv@fiu.edu](mailto:owlesv@fiu.edu) with any questions.

To RSVP for the reception or get more information, contact Perkins at [cperkins@fiu.edu](mailto:cperkins@fiu.edu) or 305-919-5361.