

The play's the thing University and county move forward with plans for the Coconut Grove Playhouse

SIMONE GARVEY-EWAN
Staff Writer

Plans to revive Coconut Grove Playhouse are moving forward after Miami-Dade County and the University cleared up the facility's debts on Jan. 15, granting them control of the building which would have otherwise been put up for sale.

This is a victory for the partners who hope to revive the building as an architectural and historical landmark.

The University will invest zero dollars and will instead offer expertise and personnel to the project in return for learning and internship opportunities for students, according to Dean Brian Schriener of the College of Architecture and the Arts.

"This creates all kinds of unique opportunities for our students in the form of internships so they're job-ready when they graduate for not just perfor-

mance but stage management, costuming, lighting and set design," Schriener said.

The University and the county will be co-lessees of the facility with GableStage managing the theater.

The University's theater department will also be involved in the project, but GableStage will serve as the artistic director of the playhouse.

“

This creates all kinds of unique opportunities for our students in the form of internships.

Brian Schriener
*Dean
CARTA*

When GableStage is not in season, there will be opportunities for students to put on their productions

and exhibit their work at community events.

"This is an opportunity to take students and all the talents we have and take them to the Grove to showcase what's here," said Amira Ajlouni, a senior architecture major.

Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell called the project a good business deal for the University in an earlier interview with student media.

Prior to the acquisition of the playhouse, Jessell confirmed that the county had already invested \$20 million into the project.

"There was no source of funding previously," he said. "This funding came from county bond issues associated with improving the quality of life in Miami-Dade County."

A Board of Trustees Agenda and Finance Audit Committee report clarified that \$5 million of

LAWFULLY INFORMED



OSCAR LIN/THE BEACON

Several law students including Jessica Satinoff, middle left, and Michael Rowe, far right, checked in to expand their knowledge by attending the Stanley Fish and Meaning of academic Freedom Lecture intended specifically for law students.

these finances come from Convention Development Tax Bond proceeds. Meanwhile, \$15 million comes from the Building Better Communities-General Obligation Bond program.

The partners hope to "establish the Coconut Grove Playhouse as a real important treasure to the community."

"I think it's inspiring to work outside in the city and have people other than the students see your work," Ajlouni said. "I think this will work well both for the students and for the

community."

The playhouse's history dates back to 1927 when it was designed as hub for the community by the architectural firm Kiehnel and Elliott.

It was remodeled in 1954 under the architect Alfred Browning Parker and became Miami's first live and legitimate theater.

As reported previously by FIU student media, a Florida Theater On Stage article by Bill Hirschman noted that it was one of the leading regional theaters of the post-World War II era.

Last year, the state re-took ownership of the theater from a nonprofit group that closed operations in 2006 after administrative troubles and mounting debt.

In August, Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Cabinet approved FIU and Miami-Dade's plan, giving them the Jan. 15 deadline to clear the property's outstanding claims.

The University and the county are now in a 50-year deal with two 25-year renewal options.

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Getting wired: FIU Panther Tech opens its doors



JEFFREY PIERRE/THE BEACON

From left to right, SGC-MMC President Liane Sippin, Provost Douglas Wartzok, MDC Superintendent Alberto Carvalho and President Mark B. Rosenberg unveiled the new FIU Panther Tech facility.

JEFFREY PIERRE
Asst. News Director

Students and staff looking to pinch a few pennies on the hunt for computers and software won't have to travel far.

FIU Panther TECH, whose doors offi-

cially opened Jan. 6, is an authorized retailer for Apple, Lenovo, Dell and HP products and students, faculty and staff can purchase computers and tablets at discounted rates.

The store takes the place of GameStop in the Graham Center, which closed last semester.

Robert Grillo, vice president and chief information officer, began the project when he saw a need for a computer store.

With the launch of FIU Panther TECH, the University joins a Miami-Dade County-wide initiative headed by Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho -- who was also present at the ceremony -- to bring interactive technology to every classroom.

"You and your team are raising the bar," said President Mark B. Rosenberg in his address at the store's Jan. 26 ribbon cutting. "What that means for us is as your students come to FIU, we have to raise the bar."

"There's no more important an area than the digital economy for us to both reach for the stars," Rosenberg said. "If we don't then our students and staff won't have the connectivity and quality they need to ensure excellence."

Along with discounted computers, tablets and Adobe Creative Suite products, shoppers can find free Microsoft Office and McAfee Antivirus.

FIU Panther TECH says its staff prides itself in offering shoppers first-rate customer service, repairs and upgrades, custom computer orders and online shopping found at panthertech.fiu.edu.

Store manager Jose Lopez-Varela said

that the store is here to provide students and staff with "a great resource conveniently on campus."

Stephen Gonzalez, a political science major, said the store is a step in the right direction.

"I'm looking forward to the TECH center and I like the fact that they are giving discounts to students," said Gonzalez. "As a part of this new age of technology, we're going to need computers."

"Hopefully they can put together payment that will out do stores like Best Buy or the Apple store," said Corey Fairfield, recreation and sports management major. "Financial aid is really getting cut down lately and we need something that is affordable."

Payment plans are currently only being offered to faculty and staff, but this is in the works for students as well.

Rosenberg expressed his excitement and optimism about university's newest store.

"There isn't a person who goes to FIU who is not dependent on technology," Rosenberg said. "I'm thrilled to have a state-of-the-art tech center right in the middle of campus that is accessible with a reasonable cost. I'm extremely happy."

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WORLD NEWS

World stocks continue drop on emerging market woes

Global stocks continued to fall on Monday, extending a rout begun last week, as investors worried about a slowdown in growth in China and other developing economies that is causing big losses among emerging-market currencies. Markets first became unsettled on Thursday, when a survey indicated a drop in Chinese manufacturing activity, the latest sign that a painful slowdown in the world's No. 2 economy is likely to continue.

Ukrainian minister threatens state of emergency

Ukraine's justice minister is threatening to call for a state of emergency unless protesters leave her ministry building, which they occupied during the night. The seizure of the building early Monday underlined how anti-government demonstrators are increasingly willing to take dramatic action as they push for the president's resignation and other concessions.

Tense session breaks up over Syria transition

The first meeting meant to discuss the contentious issue of a Syrian transitional government broke up less than an hour after it began Monday following a tense session that one delegate described as "a dialogue of the deaf." The Syrian government has said it will not discuss replacing President Bashar Assad as the leader of a country his family has ruled since 1970. The opposition insists he must step down in favor of a transitional governing body with full executive powers that would lead the country until elections are held.

For more world news, check out FIUSM.com.

From vice president to vice provost: Office of Institutional Research's VP assumes new responsibilities

ALONSO MONTANO
Staff Writer

Jeffrey Gonzalez of the Office of Planning and Institutional Research was recently appointed vice provost of the department — a promotion from his vice president title that he says is part of the office's "reorganization."

Gonzalez adds the task of overseeing the entire curricular process — reviewing program changes and considering program proposals — to his list of job responsibilities which already included managing enrollment and academic space, and collecting data to support decision making processes within all departments of the University.

"I have also asked him to work with the vice president of research to develop a consolidated strategy to manage the University's academic and research space," wrote Executive Vice President and Provost Douglas Wartzok in a University-wide memorandum on Jan. 10.

Gonzalez has worked with the University for almost 11 years and said he is happy to accept the additional responsibilities and proud to call the University his home.

His recent appointment comes "in light of his expanded portfolio" with the completion of his doctorate of management from the University of Maryland-University college this past summer.

The Office of Planning and Institutional Research is the official source of University statistics and is responsible for providing data and information to support the decision making processes within all academic and administrative units.

As vice provost of the office, he will work with most, if not all, areas of the University — but this is not new to Gonzalez.

"Basically, the promotion was a reorganization of responsibilities," he said.

"Some of the areas that are there are areas that I actively oversee, like institutional research, enrollment

management, class management and academic space," Gonzalez said. "Some of the additional responsibilities are reviewing curricular changes and the program review process."

In his new role, Gonzalez has set some goals: making the management and integration of space on campus a priority for the institution, and integrating the curricular process with institutional research.

"We're looking at ways to improve the organization and efficiency as best as we can," Gonzalez said. "The reorganization is just a way to ensure that the institution is functioning effectively and is integrated and serving the community."

Gonzalez earned a salary of \$198,300 as vice president of the office, according to floridahasarighttoknow.com. Whether or not his promotion came with a raise was not disclosed.

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Kovens Center works on plan to close out debt

KOVENS, PAGE 8

The center pays seven percent to the University on every expense it incurs.

When asked why the center's previous fee structure did not incorporate operating costs, Champagne said to an extent, it did.

“They’re working right at this moment on the business plan.”

Simone Champagne
Executive Director
Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Education Research

However, the audit claims that the center's previous methodology was based solely on the conference rate of surrounding hotels and conference centers.

"The operating cost of the center was never factored into the methodology; therefore, the center could not cover its cost of operations," the audit said.

The new fee structure is based on a total number of conference attendees divided by the budgeted operating cost. This figure calculates a per head

breakeven point.

Under the new fee structure, a large meeting room is \$70-\$75 per person. This includes breakfast, audio and visual use, an afternoon break and dining room use with cocktails.

Kovens management was concerned that the new fee structure would price it out of the market, so a discount was negotiated: employees and student organizations can use the large meeting room for \$65 per person.

The Office of Auxiliary and Enterprise Development is continuing work to eliminate the center's operating deficit and negative fund balance.

"They're working right at this moment on the business plan," Champagne said. "With the numbers we have provided them,

with our new pricing structure, with the audit report and with our sales plan, they will be able to provide us, with continued growth, how long it will take to remove the deficit."

She said some sort of conclusion should be reached by the end of January.

Brandon Wise contributed to this report.

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Students who purchased stolen exams avoid criminal process

FIUSM STAFF

Nine students who were implicated with purchasing stolen tests as part of the exam theft ring last semester are working with the University to avoid the criminal process.

According to the Faculty Senate, seven informal investigations of academic misconduct have been completed. All of those students have agreed to take an F in the corresponding course, pay to take an ethics course, voluntarily sit out a semester and speak to at least five first-year experience classes — exposing 1,500 students to the consequences of cheating.

The Faculty Senate is still trying to get the faculty member whose exams were compromised — whose name has not been disclosed — to explain to faculty assemblies how they can avoid "the trap of phishing emails which is how this all became possible," according to the minutes from its Jan. 14 meeting.

Last semester's finals week scheme compromised microbiology tests when alumnus Alex Anaya allegedly broke into an Owe

Ehan room, hacked into a professor's email account and obtained unauthorized material.

Students Krissy Lamadrid, 21, and Jason Calderon, 23, distributed the exams and collected the money. Tests sold for \$150 each, according to arrest forms.

The arrest forms also state that student Naisy Vasquez Amador, 22, was also a financier of the operation. All students admitted that they knew the exams were stolen.

Under Florida statute, those who steal and then plan to sell stolen property face first-degree felony charges and those who knowingly purchase stolen property face second-degree felony charges.

Lamadrid faces six felony counts of dealing in stolen property, Amador faces three and Anaya and Calderon both face one.

Assistant Chief Benjamin Guerrero of the University's Police Department could not be reached to discuss the outcome of Jan. 8 and 9 hearings due press time. The investigation is ongoing.

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CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 25, Issue 55 the article titled "Miss FIU pageant opens doors for participants" had an incorrect byline; Giselle Cancio wrote the story.

In the same issue, the photo in the At the Bay section was miscredited; Stephanie Mason took the photo.

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

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Student makes case for legalizing prostitution

JOHANY HERNANDEZ
Contributing Writer

The late night hours, men known as “Johns” and a long history as far back as the ancient world pull in a subculture seen as vile and dangerous. Prostitution, dubbed the world’s oldest profession, has an awful stigma attached to it. Religion may deem it immoral and feminists may call it degrading and lacking in integrity, but its legalization has powerful good as well.

For one, it would reduce the violence against prostitutes, more so for the women. They are vulnerable to

violence from their customers, pimps and madams. With prostitution legalized their profession would escape the shadows of illegality and allow its workers to call the police. If still illegal, they would be too afraid to call any authority and the rape and murder count would continue to rise.

Legalization would make sex workers healthier. The pressure of prostitutes to forego condoms is a great health risk on a global level. If legal, its workers can get tested regularly and practice safer sex. Sex workers in Nevada have to get monthly tests for Syphilis and HIV, and weekly tests for Gonorrhea and Chlamydia. Nevada

“Prostitution is not going away anytime soon.”

also requires condoms for all sex in brothels.

Prostitution is arguably a victimless crime. If both parties are consenting adults and the “victims” are the prostitutes themselves, what crime is there?

If legalized, women may feel empowered instead of corrupted, and the act can be seen as beneficial and

uplifting.

Legal prostitution can be a source of tax revenue. If legal, then state and county governments could gain significant revenue. Even though in Nevada brothels do not pay state taxes, they do pay significant amounts of other taxes which would give the county and state governments significant revenue.

Legalization could also save law enforcement resources. The investigation into notorious John and former New York governor, Eliot Spitzer is a great example of how costly it can be to investigate sophisticated prostitution rings. From wiretapping to intercepting emails, these resources could

be spent on catching terrorists instead of prostitution.

Prostitution is not going away anytime soon. There will always be lonely and kinky men looking for sex and women ready and waiting to rent out their bodies for the right price. Prostitution is a part of every culture. We legalize and regulate commerce that’s morally controversial — like tobacco, alcohol, gambling, lap-dancing, and pornography. Yes, women can be coerced into prostituting themselves, but we’re not helping them by making consenting sex-work a crime.

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Miami and web affected with Bieber fever

DANIEL HIDALGO
Contributing Writer

If you’re a citizen of Miami (or live anywhere in the Western Hemisphere), then you’ve probably caught wind of the latest shenanigans involving a yellow Lamborghini and a Canadian pop star. Like Lindsay Lohan, Britney Spears and Charlie Sheen before him, the artist known as Bieber is melting down before our very eyes — and America is eating it up.

In case you lack a steady connection to the internet and social media, Justin Bieber was

arrested on charges of street racing, driving under the influence, driving without a valid license and resisting arrest early Thursday morning on South Beach. The internet exploded because like, oh my God, Bieber. Within minutes the media storm descended upon West 26th Street and Pine Tree Drive.

News helicopters flew overhead, the beach was lit by the flash of cameras and CNN interrupted its discussion about NSA wiretapping and privacy in America in order to inform the public of this dreadfully important news.

To this moment, this new edition of Bieber

fever is still enveloping the news stream. Should Bieber be deported? Where are his parents? How low will he go? Can he be helped? These are the critical questions of our day.

The media has a long track record of creating feeding frenzies out of celebrity controversy. The current climate makes these kinds of stories rather inescapable. Since I heard about the story, I’ve been purposely avoiding Facebook and Twitter.

I work at a law office where we do serious work that people’s lives hinge on. Inevitably, the first thing I heard when I walked into work on Friday was, “So what do you think about Bieber?”

I know I’m going to come off as hypocritical. I’m railing against the attention being given to Bieber by dedicating a couple hundred words to Bieber.

As I write this, I admit to having fallen into an internet rabbit hole. It started with an Associated Press reporting of the incident and ended on Wetpaint.com’s list of the “17 Happiest Celebrity Mugshots.” I have wasted about 45 minutes of my life that I will never be able to get back.

After all of this exhaustive research, here’s my take on Bieber: find better things to do with our time. To borrow a line from Neil Postman, we truly are “amusing ourselves to death.” If you haven’t fallen prey to the Bieber mania, then I salute you. You are doing something right.

But if you have, or if you can identify the kind of media vacuum I’m describing, then strive to break free of it. Crack open a book. Go for a walk. Find true passion. Rise above the nonsense.

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GIOVANNI GARCIA/THE BEACON

Lose boat shoes & socks

RAFAEL ABREU
Contributing Writer

Next to Converse sneakers, boat shoes are my favorite kind of shoes. Sperry Top-Sider is the only brand I go for, with Sebago being second and anything that I inherit being excluded from expulsion.

Ever since I started wearing them back in high school, and especially since I began attending FIU, I’ve noticed how the South Florida’s denizens also love boat shoes.

They wear different styles, different brands and different material, rarely caring about what sort of outfit goes well with that kind of shoe. And let me not forget to mention: many people wear socks when wearing their boat shoes.

If you’re wearing socks with your boat shoes, you’re wearing them wrong. The boat shoe was made so a man would not slip when the deck of a boat was wet. Socks have no place around this sort of apparel, especially when the shoe itself can stain socks due to the material inside where the actual foot is placed. Simply stated, you aren’t to wear socks with boat shoes.

It’s quite infuriating to notice this, but not everyone does it. And if you’re trying to be

professional while wearing said shoes, then the socks are fine. However, boat shoes as is are more casual, so when you’re looking casual and you’re wearing boat shoes, you shouldn’t be wearing socks.

If Sonny Crockett has taught the world anything it’s that pastel suits are awesome and that socks aren’t necessary on certain types of shoes, mainly ones you can wear both casually and professionally (as well as slip on and off easily).

I’d go into some of the odd designs I’ve seen companies make in regard to the boat shoe, but I’m not too knowledgeable about that fashion.

What I do know is that socks and boat shoes don’t mix and if you do wear socks with said shoes, it should be for legit professional reasons, or because the socks you wear can actually work with said shoes, i.e. made out of a material that is meant to be worn with socks on.

On a final note: a legitimate, leather-feely, water-free-zone boat shoe should never be socked. It’s the real deal, and not some brand that usually never makes that kind of shoe, heed what I say.

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SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

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Live long and prosper in Greek life



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Sasha Mallet, sophomore in marketing and finance, and Michael Dibono, sophomore in mechanical engineering, took advantage of Rush Week at the University recruiting for their fraternity Theta Chi. This was just one of many fraternities recruiting last week.

STEPHANIE PIEDRAHITA
Staff Writer

As stated on their webpage, the Interfraternity Council here in Florida International University is the governing body of 12 student run Greek lettered organizations and promotes “positive interfraternal competition in scholarship, service, athletics, and other events that may be deemed advisable for the betterment of the participants.”

Last week marked the beginning of Recruitment, or “rush week,” for many of these fraternities in hopes of finding new members to expand their respective organizations and continue in process to become a brother. Spring recruitment is in full swing and FIUSM had the opportunity to sit down with different fraternity men to talk about the importance of Greek life, why they decided to go through recruitment and how it positively impacts those who make it through the process.

Fraternities have the opportunity to recruit all throughout the year but spring semester recruitment is unique. IFC President Victor Javier Rodriguez, a junior completing a double

major in psychology and anthropology and a current brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE), highlighted these differences for us.

“Spring recruitment usually tends to be the toughest semester. The least we’ve ever had is ten and the most is around 22, I believe. As opposed to fall, we usually have around 300 grade checks, from then the average bids given out in 2013 was 25-30 per chapter,” said Rodriguez.

The numbers do offer a stark difference due to the fact that there aren’t as many new faces this time of the academic year when compared to the fall and summer semesters. These statistics never deters fraternity men from seeking out members, however; so of course the week continued on flawlessly.

The biggest question being asked this week had nothing to do with how many bids were being given out or what the letters meant but rather: Why should anyone go Greek to begin with?

The organizations you see on campus are but a select few from a massive and

SEE GREEK, PAGE 5

Order of Omega re-establishes chapter at the University after two inactive years

GISELLE CANCIO
Staff Writer

Over 500 campuses have the honor of the establishment of a chapter of Order of Omega. Founded at the University of Miami in 1959, Order of Omega recognizes outstanding fraternity men and women in the Greek community.

The idea of an honorary for fraternity men at the University of Miami is attributed to Parker F. Enright, the advisor to fraternities at the time. The Chapter of Miami had long desired for their organization to expand to other colleges and universities. It wasn’t until 1964 when a second chapter was chartered

at the University of Pittsburgh. There are now over five hundred chapters in the United States and Canada with approximately ten new chapters being chartered each year. Considering the age of the American college fraternity, the “active honorary” concept was long overdue.

The Lambda Phi Chapter of Order of Omega at FIU was founded in 1991. Membership is limited to collegiate juniors and seniors, representing the top 3% of the campus’ Greek population. This makes Order of Omega one of the highest honors a Greek member can receive.

“Joining Order of Omega is not just a resume booster. It’s a

great networking opportunity, there are scholarships offered and conferences that can expand leadership skills,” Vanessa Martinez, Order of Omega Secretary and senior majoring in political science said.

Nationally, according to the Order of Omega constitution, Order of Omega helps recognize those fraternity men and women who have attained a high standard of leadership in interfraternity activities, it encourages them to continue along this line, and to inspire others to strive for similar conspicuous attainments.

It unites outstanding fraternity men and women to create an organization which will help mold

the sentiment of the institution on questions of local and intercollegiate fraternity affairs and it brings together members of the faculty, alumni, and students of the institution’s fraternities and sororities on a basis of mutual interest.

It also helps create an atmosphere where ideas and issues can be discussed openly across Greek lines and to help work out solutions. For the past two years, Order of Omega has been inactive, but 2014 proves to be a successful year for FIU’s chapter. There is an exciting year ahead with multiple programs planned including a Greek workshop and helping Campus Life coordinate Alcohol

Awareness Week. Qualifications to apply include being a junior or a senior, maintaining a 3.0 cumulative GPA, having significant leadership at FIU and being in good standing with your fraternal organization.

For more information and applications, visit Greeks.FIU.Edu and click on “The Next Level” tab.

“Order of Omega has countless benefits that will help students grow personally and professionally. Individuals with potential and passion to help the community and emerging leaders should consider applying,” Martinez said.

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Meet your SGC-BBC Vice President

ARIEL WEINSTEIN
Staff Writer

So far in the series of “Meet your SGA,” FIUSM has sat down and interviewed Luis Cabrera, our Student Advancement Coordinator for SGC-MMC, Stefan Bahad, our Business Senator and Vice Chairman of the Operational Review Committee for SGC-MMC and our SGC-MMC President, Lianne Sippin. This time, FIUSM got to sit down with our SGC-BBC Vice President, Richard Azimov.

The Student Government Association at FIU serves as representational government for the student body.

Their mission is stated on their website as the following:

- Serving as an advocate for the rights and common interest of the students;
- Fostering student life, encouraging

community involvement, and embracing diversity

- Enhancing and preserving academic excellence and integrity;
- Acting as a liaison between the student body, the University, and external communities.

What position do you hold within student government and what are your duties?

Vice President of Student Government Association-Biscayne Bay Campus. My duties are to support the council’s projects, address student concerns, advise the Legislative Branch, and serve on University-wide committees.

What was your platform when you first ran?

My platform was to create and implement programs that will benefit the student body and collaborate with clubs/

organizations to enhance student life at BBC.

What does it take to be a leader and why are students the best kinds of leaders?

Becoming a leader requires one to set an example for our students. Moreover, a leader is one that has his or her values aligned with core values. For example, a leader must possess integrity and assist others in achieving a common goal.

Students are the best kinds of leaders because they display their dedication in whether it is maintaining a sufficient GPA or participating in extracurricular activities. In fact, students already display themselves as leaders when showing their commitments in helping communities achieve common goals.

What made you want to be part of the SGA?

I wanted to work with other student leaders on the initiatives from prior years and during this academic year. Being an advocate for our students to address concerns is a privilege and a rewarding experience.

Are you involved in anything else on campus?

I am a Peer Career Coach at the Career Services Office.

What’s your favorite part of being in the SGA?

Listening to our students and working with FIU’s administration. My belief is simple: an enriched student life translates into academic success!

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The Black History month models kick off February 2014

COLUMNIST



FRANCISCO RIVERO

This weekend will be the first sneaker release for the month of February, and what better way kick off the month than releasing the black history month pack.

The BHM pack will be released on Saturday February 1 and will include the Kevin Durant 6, LeBron 11, Nike Dunk low, Melo 10 and Jordan retro 1.

However, after spending over \$200 on myself this past weekend with the LeBron Graffiti release, I understand the name of the game is save, save, save.

So for the person whose wallet is leaning towards the thinner side no need to fear because Adidas, that's right Adidas, has come through this weekend.

Derrick Rose releases the tiger this upcoming weekend

Anyone who knows me will tell you that I am the last person that would through on a pair of

Adidas, but with weekend will see the release of the Rose 4.5 "Tiger".

As a fan of the bright and colorful style of sneaker I must say this one is a must buy.

The Tiger is a high top shoe with an orange and black tiger stripe theme throughout the entire sneaker. At an affordable cost of \$140, the Tiger is atop of my list this upcoming weekend.

SEE SHOES, PAGE 7

LONDON CALLING



DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS/THE BEACON

Local band Jacuzzi Boys performed at the Museum of Contemporary Art on Friday, Jan. 24. The Music at MOCA performance was in celebration of the first American museum exhibition for acclaimed British artist Tracey Emin. The Jacuzzi Boys and Awesome New Republic performed their favorite music from the United Kingdom.

CAREER FAIR

MMC CAREER FAIR

WHEN: Jan. 29, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

BBC CAREER FAIR

WHEN: Feb. 11, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WHERE: WUC Ballrooms

Students and alumni wishing to attend Career Fair DO NOT need to register to do so. However, in order to attend students and alumni must wear professional attire, be able to submit one copy of their resume, and have a Panther ID.

Greek life builds spirit and networking

GREEK, PAGE 4

varied selection throughout the nation so the networking possibilities are endless. "Going Greek is the best thing ever. The sense of community, structure and support you develop over the next four years will definitely benefit you in the future and help you grow," said Elijah Salver, a senior advertising major and a brother of Alpha Epsilon Pi (ΑΕΠ) who recently got hired by one of his own brothers. Involvement on campus is also something you could look forward to when going Greek.

Ariel Cosio, a senior Broadcast Media major and brother of Sigma Alpha Mu (ΣΑΜ), agreed with this statement by saying "I think Greek life in general is a great choice for anybody because it is an opener for anyone who does want to get involved on campus but have a hard time doing so since this is a commuter school for many".

Certainly there are many benefits to joining a fraternity but there was one similar response among those that were interviewed.

"This might sound a little cliché but the brotherhood is the best part" said Allan Espinoza, a sophomore studying mechanical engineering and High Alpha or president of Lambda Chi Alpha (ΛΧΑ). He continued on by saying "The friendships you make within a fraternity are ones that will last forever. You go through an experience that is shared all throughout the nation in different chapters and even then you can also have friends in other fraternities and sort of understand each other. In the end, we're all here motivating each other to be the best kind of person we can be at the end of our college careers."

Now that we've had a little bit of an inside look on why anyone should go through recruitment, what do these fraternity men actually look for when talking to potential new members?

Michael Santiago, a freshman who is the External Relations chair for Beta Theta Pi (ΒΘΠ), said "Fraternities don't look for a mold. There's a certain criteria of course they have to meet, but the focus is on finding leaders on campus. You see many students who are affiliated come out to events and set the example and this is what we look for when we recruit."

John Bowman, a senior Accounting major and brother of Phi Gamma Delta (ΦΓΔ), said "My favorite part of recruitment is meeting new people and seeing if they actually have the drive and motivation to join an organization, since not many people do, is very exciting because you can be looking at your future brother. When you find someone like that, you start getting to know them and see if they match up to what we're about."

Greek life has certainly been a part of

the FIU experience for many students and has been since the 1980's. The importance of maintaining fraternities and sororities on campus is a continued debate between the student body but Austin Nowak, a senior completing a triple major in Mathematics, Physics and Economics; and Archon or president of Pi Kappa Phi, believes that Greek life really is an integral part within the dynamics of this university.

"I honestly believe that Greek life reflects the overall school spirit we have. A couple of years back, the football stadium was always packed with a massive crowd mostly consisting of active Greek members as well as alumni and also the friends of the Greek community. In the end we all take classes and do class projects together and are students so we don't limit our friendships and create this extensive network of support. If we limit

Greek life, we're limiting that sense of school pride," said Nowak.

He also reflects on how much of an impact you can make if you join a fraternity. "In my fraternity, we raise awareness about different kinds of disabilities and it does hit close to home since I myself have a disability and didn't know until after I joined. We remind others that these people have feelings and expressing this to others is why fraternity men hold service and philanthropy to such a high regard," said Nowak.

If you are interested on how to get further involved on campus through joining a fraternity, you can always go to greeks.fiu.edu or speak to anyone wearing greek letters.

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FIU

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Panthers edge rival Owls, look toward Marshall

PATRICK CHALVIRE
Staff Writer

The Panthers (11-9, 3-2 C-USA) almost saw their 10-point halftime lead turn into a loss, but a group effort offensively helped keep the Owls at bay, defeating intrastate rivals in Florida Atlantic University 66-57, Saturday night.

The meeting was the first time both teams played each other as members of Conference USA.

"We made some big plays when they [FAU] made the run," Head Coach Anthony Evans said. "Tymell [Murphy], Dennis [Mavin] and Jerome [Frink] did a great job down the stretch."

Senior forward Tymell Murphy finished the game with 14 points and 14 rebounds, leading to his eighth double-double of the season.

According to Murphy, the thought of the double-double never crosses his mind during the games, though he has been putting in time with another one of the Panthers top players.

"I'm just trying to get every rebound," Murphy said. "I've been going against Rakeem [Buckles] a lot so I just try to use him to motivate myself on the defensive end."

Redshirt junior guard Dennis Mavin also contributed with 14 points of his own. The former Owl faced his old team for the first time since transferring to FIU.

"It was just a great

feeling just to be out there playing against my former team," Mavin said. "Overall it was just a great team effort by us. Changing some

19 in the second, including 4-of-6 from behind the arc.

According to Evans, though Bertone's offense helped give some life to the

Jerome Frink almost achieved his first double-double of the season, finishing with 13 points and nine rebounds. Frink also

key points throughout the game but were thankful when the Owls were unable to capitalize, converting only two points off the

changes, offensively of course," Evans said. "If he's not in the game, we try to do a little bit more with Ty and Dennis. Get them to the basket or to get them a touch. Defensively we do the same thing everywhere."

Though the Owls had the advantage in size, the Panthers were able to outscore them in the paint, 42-22.

On the road again

The Panthers will now take their two-game conference winning streak on the road as they face Marshall, Thursday.

The Thundering Herd (7-13, 1-4 C-USA) may not look intimidating by their record but rank 46th and 40th in the nation, respectively, in scoring and rebounding.

Marshall, which lost to Louisiana Tech 98-77 on Saturday, is led by senior forward Elijah Pittman, who leads the team with 21.4 points per game.

As the Panthers have seen the emergence of Freshman guard Jason Boswell, the Thundering Herd have a freshman guard of their own who seems to be making a name for himself.

Kareem Canty is second on the team in scoring with 16.8 points per game.

Pittman is the only returning starter from a 13 win 2012-13 season, including a 6-10 record in C-USA.

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JASEN DELGADO/ THE BEACON

Senior forward Tymell Murphy (right) registered a double-double against Florida Atlantic University on Jan. 25 with 14 points and 14 rebounds.

stuff that we messed up in the first half and did in the second half. It was exciting just to be out there playing against my former team."

The Panthers led the Owls, 34-24, at the half but a scoring flurry by senior guard Pablo Bertone kept the Owls in the game throughout the second.

Not scoring a single point in the first, Bertone scored

Owls, the Panthers made sure that each shot was not an easy one.

"I thought they paid extra attention to him," Evans said. "There wasn't a time where he caught the ball that someone wasn't on him. I don't think Bertone got any clear looks whether Dennis was on him or Tymell."

Sophomore forward

recorded a season high four steals.

"It was his best game in a long time," Evans said. "He rebounds sometimes, sometimes he scores but I think he put it all together. He almost had a double-double as well. As long as he continues to do that, then we'll be successful."

The Panthers did struggle to maintain possession at

Panthers 15 turnovers.

Redshirt senior forward Rakeem Buckles fouled out with just over two minutes left, finishing his night with 12 points and two rebounds.

Even with Buckles out due to foul trouble throughout the game, the teams defense does not change without their 6'7 big man.

"Defensively it never

The run around from the 2014 Tar Heel Open

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

One of the most unmentioned programs on both the men's and women's side at FIU is track & field.

These programs, currently headed by Interim Head Coach Ryan Heberling, have competed several times so far this season. Heberling is filling in after former Head Coach Eric Campbell resigned earlier this month.

The most recent was the 2014 Tar Heel Opener at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill on Jan. 25.

Women have strong winter showing

On the women's side, both throwing and running events had strong performances in Chapel Hill.

These included multiple top-5 finishes.

The top finishes for the Panthers came in the second place category as no Panther had a first place finish.

Sophomore Chelsea Gobourne has a 17.16 meter toss in the weight throw.

Freshman Caroline Reiser went on to add a time of 10:26.30 in the 3,000 meter run as well.

Other notable top-5 finishes include sophomore Miriam Pierre who had a weight throw of 16.78 meters which got her third.

Pierre also placed fourth in the shot put with a 12.58 meter throw. Junior Tikiera Relaford placed fourth in high jump with a 1.62 meter jump.

The A team of the 4 by 400 meter relay, which has sophomore Oriel Anu, sophomore Maya Balfour, sophomore Jaylaan Slaughter, and junior Desmika

White, brought in fourth place as they brought in a 4:06.72 time.

Anu placed third alone in the 60 meter hurdles with a time of 8.79 seconds and Slaughter also placed third in the 400 meter dash with a 58.73 seconds time.

Freshman Cam'ree Jackson was just off the top with a fourth place finish in the 60 meter dash at a time of 7.74 seconds.

Men strong but come up short

There were only a couple top-five finishers on the men's side.

Those came with senior Khristian Campbell placing third in the 60 meter dash with a time of 6.83 seconds.

Sophomore Marcus Ghent had a 6.78 meter long jump to place third.

Ghent also finished fifth in the triple jumps with a jump of 13.75

meters.

Senior Desmond McGill placed fourth in the 60 meter hurdles.

Other than those two, there were some top-10 finishes that came along with some multi-event participants.

Ghent was also involved in the sixth place finish of the 4 by 400 meter relay.

Along with sophomore Brandon Ballard, McGill, and freshman Christopher Prophete, the A team of the 4 by 400 ran a 3:25:84. This was 10.40 seconds faster than the B team.

Sophomore Eric Knott came in eighth place in the long jump with a distance of 6.47 meters.

Freshman Pablo Espita triple jumped 13.09 meters for a seventh place finish.

Espita no heighthed in the pole vault.

Sophomore Christopher Sullivan posted a high jump of

1.95 meters at the event, was involved for the B team of the 4 by 400 which placed thirteenth, and placed seventeenth with a throw of 11.24 meters.

"With everything that has happened this year, we have moved on and done very well," Sullivan said. "The coaches and athletes have stepped up and are looking forward to finish the indoor season strong."

Ballard also placed seventh in the 800 meter run with a time of 1:56.86.

Campbell also went seventh in the 200 meter dash final with a time of 22.42 seconds posted.

The next time the Panthers will take the track will be on Feb. 7 when they travel to New York for the Armory Collegiate Invitational.

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Panthers fall to Eagles, look forward to the Owls

LUIS BARROSO
Staff Writer

It was a cold Saturday morning in Naples as the FIU Panthers went on to drop their first dual meet of the season against the Florida Gulf Coast University Eagles on their senior day. The Eagles went on to take the meet with a score of 189.5-109.5. It was not all bad news for the Panthers as they were still able to take five events. FIU is now winless in the

previous 10 meets against the Eagles.

The senior power duo of Sabrina Beaupre and Sonia Perez Arau went on to win all of those five events for FIU. Beaupre capitalized on the one-meter dive as well as the three meter dive for the Panthers.

In the other hand Arau had one of the best meets of her career on Saturday by setting the pace for FIU winning the 1,000 freestyle in record fashion by breaking her previous school record by almost

four seconds with a 10:07.06 mark and finishing almost 16 seconds ahead of the second place. She also went on to dominate the 400 IM with a time of 4:19.44 with almost a 10 second lead and the the 500 freestyle breaking the five minute mark by recording a time of 4:57.06 and taking the event.

It was still a close meet in most events, it just didn't end up going their way for the Panthers against a really strong FGCU team with a very rich history in this

program. FGCU currently has a rank of 27 in the nation according to CollegeSwim.com. The Eagles came to compete as a very strong team and FIU just fell short against a powerful team.

Now FIU will set their sights against an Florida Atlantic University team that has already fallen to the Panthers once this season, they set to meet again but now as hosts in Boca Raton this upcoming Friday, Jan. 31.

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Coley leads the nation

STEVEN ROWELL
Staff Writer

Fueled by senior guard Jerica Coley, the Panthers made a surge midway through the second half to pull away from the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers 63-52 to improve to 9-10 on the season.

It was the first time FIU won at UAB and the first victory over the Blazers since 1992.

After trailing 35-30 with 16:21 left in the second half, Coley helped FIU chip away from the deficit before taking the lead for good with a three-pointer by Coley at the 12:39 mark to go up 40-37.

FIU increased their lead to as much as 13 points before coming out with the 11 point victory.

The first half saw the largest lead being six points by UAB at 11:20 mark before going into the break leading FIU 29-28.

The Blazers scored six quick points to start the second half before FIU went on the decisive run.

FIU won despite of not holding the edge in shooting percentage and points in the paint.

For the game, FIU scored 26

points in the paint while UAB totaled 34. FIU shot 31.1 percent compared to 35.2 percent for UAB, but the Panthers got the best of UAB from three-point land going 6-17 as UAB went 0-9.

Coley finished with 38 points on 12-35 shooting including 5-9 from beyond the arc.

This marks the first time since 2010 a player has scored 30 points against UAB.

Junior forward Tynia McKinzie posted yet another double-double with 10 points and a career high of 19 rebounds.

As of Jan. 27, Coley leads the nation in scoring, averaging a career-high 30 points per game.

Leading the way for the Blazers was senior forward Karisma Chapman with 23 points along with 10 rebounds and sophomore forward Kayla Anderson with 15 points.

Next up for FIU will be their second and final matchup of the season with the Owls of FAU on Saturday Feb. 1 at the Lime Court.

FIU won their earlier matchup in Boca Raton, Fla. on Jan. 15 96-88. Tip-off is set for 6 pm.

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COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF



JASEN DELGADO/THE BEACON

Senior guard Jerica Coley (middle) leads the nation in scoring by averaging 30 points per game as of Jan. 27.

Saving top priority this weekend

SHOES, PAGE 5

The Tiger will be released tomorrow Jan. 30, a day before the big BHM pack release.

This is also another advantage for the Tiger because while everyone will be saving and fighting for a pair of the BHM pack, anyone who is interested in the Tigers can hold off and get them whenever they like. The "it needs to be bought that same day" routine does not apply for the tiger therefor giving some breathing room for shoppers.

BHM pack to dominate shoe stores this weekend

There is no doubt that the number one prize this weekend will be any of the shoes involved with the BHM pack. Out of the seven pairs of sneakers involved with the BHM pack the two that stand out have to be the KD 6 and Lebron 11.

Let's begin with the KD 6 which will be releasing on Saturday Feb. 1, at a retail price of \$130.

The KD 6 is a low top sneaker that has a mostly purple color theme to it.

The KD letters located towards the back of the shoe and the Nike swoosh located at the front each have a gold color to them.

With a unique color pattern and a price that catches any shoppers eye, the KD 6 is by far the best and most affordable purchase of the BHM pack this weekend.

As far as the Lebron 11 BHM, this is a shoe that would be at the top of anyone's list this weekend.

However, for the people who ended up buying the Lebron graffiti's last weekend these Lebron's maybe out

of our price range.

Selling for a retail price of \$200, the Lebron 11 BHM is a high top sneaker that has a mostly black color to it with a hint of purple towards the bottom and inside of the shoe.

The Nike swoosh maintains its gold color theme with every BHM sneaker.

This is a must buy for anyone who did not get the Lebron graffiti last weekend however, this will also be the number one shoe that people will be buying this weekend. So make sure to go to your local shoe store on Saturday during the first day of the release.

Second Lebron flying under the radar

By this point I make sure to give you guys a shoe to stay away from this weekend. However, I couldn't help but notice all the attention the Lebron 11 BHM was getting while another Lebron that is coming out the same day was getting no attention.

The Lebron 11 Lifestyle BHM is a high top sneaker that has a complete gold color to it with a white bottom. As someone who loves the bright shoes I couldn't help but notice these kicks and be amazed. With so much attention towards the BHM pack somehow these Lebrons fly under the radar.

The best part about these golden beauties is that they are only selling for a retail price of \$130! Bright shoe, low price and it's a Lebron shoe; say no more you have me sold.

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No money, more problems Audit reports Kovens ‘cannot cover cost of operations’

MADISON FANTOZZI
News Director

What exactly is the Kovens Conference Center? It's a six-figure deficit to the University.

The over 57,000 square foot center that sits south of Biscayne Bay Campus has reached a \$379,426 negative fund balance

“

The operating cost of the center was never factored into the methodology

Office of Internal Audit

as of June 30, 2013, according to the Office of Internal Audit.

While the center has a long history of financial trouble, over \$138,000 of the

debt was incurred in the last two fiscal years alone under the management of the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

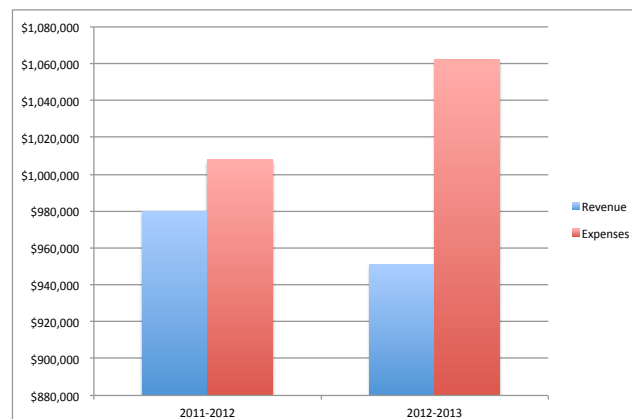
Simone Champagnie, the executive director of the Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Education Research who oversees the center's operations, said a timetable for closing out the deficit is yet to be determined but she is hoping it's "as quickly as possible."

Champagnie noted that the center was in a deficit when the hospitality school assumed operations in 2008. And while she could not disclose a figure, the center was in fact in a \$213,000 deficit in 2007-2008, according to a finance report provided by Kenneth Jessel, senior vice president and chief financial officer.

Kovens was able to gain half of its assets back the following year, but has since struggled to make profit.

The center generates almost a million dollars in revenue each year from fees

Revenues and Expenses for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013



DATA PROVIDED BY OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT

charged for conference services offered to both the University and the general public. Fees are established by the center's management -- a structure that has changed in response to the audit.

The center sustained operating losses for fiscal year 2011-2012 totaling \$27,839 and fiscal year 2012-2013 totaling \$111,023. According to Champagnie, the

center revised its fee structure during the audit to cover its operating costs.

"We have a pricing model in place that incorporates variable costs, expenses of actually running events and a shared fee that we have to pay as an auxiliary to the University," Champagnie said.

SEE KOVENS, PAGE 2

Comedian first guest speaker of the semester

ALYSSA ELSO
Staff Writer

Biscayne Bay Campus welcomes famous stand up comedian to kick off the spring lecture series.

The first lecture series for the spring semester will host socio-political comedian, and former late night TV host, Walter Kamau Bell.

The Student Government Association will host Bell on Wed. Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. where he will perform his one-man show "The W. Kamau Bell Curve: Ending Racism in About An Hour."

Every semester, the lecture committee discusses possible guest speakers that students would enjoy.

"The committee let us know

that Bell was available on certain days and we thought he would be someone interesting students would like," said Rafael Zapata, associate director of student affairs.

Like "The Colbert Report" with Steven Colbert and "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, Bell hosted his own late night television show on FXX titled "Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell."

Until its cancellation in November, "Totally Biased" discussed topics in politics, pop culture, race, religion, sex and media.

"His [Bell] show is similar to "The Daily Show," but a bit different," said Zapata. "He has political commentary and skits and the show is very much satirical."

“

The committee let us know that W. Kamau Bell was available on certain days and we thought he would be someone interesting students would like.

Rafael Zapata,
Associate Director
Student Affairs

”

After dropping out of the University of Pennsylvania to pursue a career in comedy, Bell became a member of the comedy collective "Laughter Against the Machine."

In 2011, after raising funds

through Kickstarter, the group traveled to different cities across America and put together a documentary based off their shows.

In 2007, Bell released his first stand up album, "One NIGHT Stand Up."

That same year he also developed his one-man show "The W. Kamau Bell Curve: Ending Racism in About An Hour."

Chris Rock became a fan of Bell's after watching a performance of his one-man show and became the executive producer of "Totally Biased."

A few years after releasing his first album, Bell released his second stand up album. It was titled "Face Full of Flour," which was named one of the Top 10 Best Comedy Albums of the year

by iTunes.

In addition to Bell's comedy shows and albums, he also co-hosts the podcast "The Field Negro Guide to Arts and Culture with Vernon Reid and W. Kamau Bell," in which they discuss various topics: from award nominated films to Colombian coffee to Lance Armstrong and Miley Cyrus.

He also writes his own blog "Kamau's Komedy Korner" featured in the San Francisco Weekly.

At least two other guest speakers will be hosted in this semester's lecture series, but they have yet to be verified.

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FIU hosts event to help women snag a husband

ARIEL WEINSTEIN
Staff Writer

There's this preconceived idea that every girl dreams of that one special man in her life, what her wedding dress will look like and what color bouquet she will have as she walks down the aisle. But what is the preconceived "right time" to get married? The Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus is hosting "Think About It... find your husband before you graduate - advice for FIU women."

Contrary to what the title suggests, the event is not to encourage women to marry before graduation, but to discuss different ideas on marriage and the "right time" to tie the knot.

Ten to 15 people are already RSVP'd to the event, while others are hesitant.

But SPC-BBC calls the "Think About It" series is a "new and improved" Tuesday Times Roundtable. It will be an interactive discussion between the audience and the

speakers.

"We wanted to go deeper and discuss topics that may be more taboo in nature that one would not normally discuss unless they are with others who are close to them," said

“

It is about people finding their future partners before they graduate because after that it becomes more difficult to find that person,

Stephanie Felix,
Movie Director
SPC-BBC

Stephanie Felix, SPC-BBC's movie director.

Felix said the event will start with some "icebreaker" activities to encourage the discussion of an otherwise

controversial topic of conversation. Felix ensured that everyone will have the chance to share their opinions.

"Not only will horizons broaden, but many mindsets may change," said Felix. "Someone's perspective may be transformed."

While the "Think About It" series may rub people the wrong way, the events are simply meant to open minds and stimulate conversation.

Felix said the purpose is not to convince students that it is a good idea to marry before graduating, but to make a mere suggestion.

Felix personally encourages women to consider snagging a husband before graduation.

"It is about people finding their future partners before they graduate because after that it becomes more difficult to find that person that you may spend the rest of your life with," Felix said.

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