

Faculty Senate talks enrollment and budgeting

RAUL HERRERA
Asst. News Director

The University's Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in the Wertheim Conservatory. Among the topics discussed: decreasing the student-to-faculty ratio and accreditation of massive open online courses decreasing enrollment in graduate studies and budgeting concerns.

Provost and Executive Vice President Douglas Wartzok addressed the Senate with concern of budgeting, noting that the University is spending more than it is taking in.

He also spoke of the Board of Governor's new funding initiative, which will maintain five percent of the University's reserves, as well as other funding.

Wartzok is concerned about a decreasing the 26:1 student-to-faculty ratio – a result of the University's rapid growth.

"We have been victims of our own success," said Senate Chairman

Delano Gray.

University Graduate School Dean Lakshmi Reddi then reported that the graduate school will be taking a "multi-pronged" approach to improve graduate studies, noting a decrease in enrollment rates.

Improvements would include communication and outreach through social media and a new application process.

The Senate discussed possible causes for the decline, including a decrease in demand for graduate degrees and limits on financial and residential student aid.

The Senate also discussed the accreditation of MOOC courses, free online courses offered by FIU Online that do not require enrollment at the University nor offer college credit. The Senate is considering accrediting these courses using CLEP-like exams to replace UCC credit.

Hassan Zahedi, professor of mathematics and statistics, expressed concern over whether or not there

CALLING ALL CANDIDATES



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Shams Alsafar (left), MBA, met with a representative from Ikea at the University's Career Fair. Alsafar was among many job-seeking students and alumni at the fair in hopes to network with and possibly land a career with one of the over 80 companies that attended.

would be an issue of fraud in presenting knowledge of the MOOC material.

Kathleen Wilson, professor of voice and associate director of the School of Music, said that students would not receive credit from MOOCs

unless they show competence.

Concerns caused the motion to be tabled by the Senate.

Nonetheless, the Senate passed two motions, approving two new global learning courses—Global Capitalism and African Diaspora in

the Modern World-System—and a new graduate degree program in mathematical sciences.

The Faculty Senate will meet next on Feb. 18 at Biscayne Bay Campus.

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Provost appoints first VP of Access and Success

ALONSO MONTANO
Staff Writer

Vice President of Human Resources Jaffus Hardrick was recently appointed the University's first vice provost for The Office of Student Access and Success—a position with a job responsibility that reads "enhancing access to FIU for students in our community who are not receiving optimal preparation towards a college career."

This piggybacks on the University's service to high numbers of Hispanic and economically disadvantaged students.

"This appointment recognizes Dr. Hardrick's commendable efforts in support of our minority student population," wrote Provost and Executive Vice President Douglas Wartzok in a memorandum to the University.

The University currently ranks first in the nation in awarding bachelor's and master's

degrees to Hispanic students.

It also serves a large percentage of economically disadvantaged students. Almost 50 percent of all undergraduate students receive financial aid, and nearly 60 percent of those financial aid recipients come from families with annual household incomes under \$30,000.

Hardrick assumes the duties as vice provost for Access and Success in addition to his service as vice president of the Department of Human Resources. He said it came with a slight raise. His previous salary was \$193,553, according to florida-hasarighttoknow.com.

He will now run the Golden Scholars program, a summer bridge program designed to help students coming out of high school make the transition to college, and is respon-

sible for implementing recommendations of the Task Force on Recruiting and Graduating Students of African Descent.

Recommendations include: (1) creating mentoring programs, (2) encouraging participation in service learning initiatives and (3) creating an intensive advisement strategy that involves mentoring high-risk students.

"I'm excited for this because it gives me an opportunity to do something that I'm passionate about, which is serving our students," said Hardrick.

The University stated in its 2012 Work Plan that it is committed to increasing the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded to black students while maintaining the percentage of total bachelor's awarded to this group.

Hardrick said this is part of his ultimate

goals: to promote academic success and help students graduate in a timely manner.

He plans to accomplish these goals with the support of local organizations and community partners.

"We are reaching out and collaborating with the various school districts and local community organizations that really focus on student recruitment and having those entities partner with us in getting students in school," Hardrick said. "We're also working with our community partners to help support a lot of the programs and initiatives that we have related to student access and success."

This is not only a University mission, but also part of a national agenda by President Barack Obama to increase the number of minority and low-income students enrolled in institutions of higher education.

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IMAGE OF HARDRICK COURTESY OF DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Governor Rick Scott budgets for Everglades

MARIA BRITOS
Staff Writer

Governor Rick Scott recently announced a \$130 million budget to improve water flow and quality in Everglades National Park.

The restoration project will reconstruct the water treatment plant for Martin and St. Lucie counties in North Florida as well as part

of the Tamiami Trail. There are also plans to move water from the Kissimmee River down to the Everglades.

"This is an important work for Lake Okeechobee," said Michael Ross, associate professor in the Department of Earth and Environment and Southeast Environmental Research Center. "The more they naturalize the Kissimmee River, the

better."

Funding for these restorations come collaboratively from both the federal and state government. The plan was originally an \$880 million budget, but Governor Scott negotiated to a \$130 million budget. This year, the Everglades budget increased by \$60 million from last year.

For Jim Riach, professor

at the Department of Earth and Environment, these restoration projects don't help to prevent future threats to the South Florida ecology, especially the Everglades.

"This funding is for projects that, at least from the information I have so far, seem to be disconnected from a larger more comprehensive understanding of the problem," said Riach.

He doesn't think the funding will protect the Everglades nor Florida residents.

The Everglades is only one of a number of water-related issues being discussed in upcoming legislative sessions.

Governor Scott announced earlier this month that he would also ask for \$55 million to restore and protect Florida's springs, and

central Florida lawmakers have pledged efforts to clean up the Indian River Lagoon.

However, Ross believes these projects are a good thing for both the Everglades and the federal and state funding collaboration.

Mike Wolff, a senior geological sciences major,

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 2

WORLD NEWS

Nearly 1,900 killed in Syria during peace talks

Fighting in Syria killed nearly 1,900 people during the week of U.N.-hosted peace talks in Switzerland, activists said Friday. The death toll indicates that violence barely paused as the warring parties met but struck uncompromising stances, failing to reach any agreements that could help resolve the conflict. The figures were reported by the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Its director, Rami Abdurrahman, said the week's bloody toll was about average for the three-year conflict. The number included at least 430 civilians, killed by bombs, snipers, missiles, and other causes. The rest were rebels and forces loyal to President Bashar Assad. The conference didn't produce any tangible results, although connections made in Switzerland are likely to develop into prolonged negotiations to try to resolve the war.

Knox says she will not willingly return to Italy

Amanda Knox said Friday she will fight the reinstated guilty verdict against her and an ex-boyfriend in the 2007 slaying of a British roommate in Italy and vowed to "never go willingly" to face her fate in that country's judicial system. "I'm going to fight this to the very end," she said in an interview with Robin Roberts on ABC's "Good Morning America." Knox said she has written a letter to the family of her slain British roommate, Meredith Kercher, expressing sympathy for the legal ordeal that continues more than six years after she was stabbed and sexually assaulted.

For more world news, check out FIUSM.com.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 25, Issue 57, in the article titled "Students allowed guns, University changes its policies" it said "the University does possess the legal authority to draft its own policies banning firearms on campus" when it should have said "the University does not possess the legal authority to draft its own policies banning firearms on campus."

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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New position to 'enhance community's access' to FIU

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"We have an epidemic in the country with these particular groups not going to college," Hardrick said. "A lot of Latino males, black males, low-income students and first-generation college students are, for whatever reason, not enrolling in college or matriculating from college

in a timely manner."

"You may have someone who will get in college but barriers that prevent them from being successful certainly come into play," Hardrick said. "We want to be able to help eliminate some of those barriers so students can focus on their academics."

Hardrick will work with all academic departments and the

Student Government Association to alleviate any barriers.

He will also collaborate with the Science Technology Engineering and Math Transformation Institute and the Training and International Research unit in the Division of Research, which includes the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement, Minority Access to Research

Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research and Bridge to the doctorate programs.

"It's a way to help ensure that the university is tapping into underrepresented student groups who need that extra encouragement," Hardrick said.

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Scott budgets for Everglades

BUDGET, PAGE 1

thinks the restoration will help improve his visits to the Everglades.

"The Everglades has been my favorite place since I can remember and the fact that they're actually fixing some long time issues means a lot to us Everglades fans," Wolff said.

Another problem that Riach is

concerned with is the future population rise and how sea level rise will affect the water quality of the Everglades.

He talked about a proposal from environmentalists to purchase land "for conservation and incorporating sea level rise into restoration, conservation and development plans."

Scott called the Everglades the "key to a vibrant community" at the Florida

Cabinet meeting.

"It's all politics," Ross said about the projects, which are predicted to help Governor Scott's future campaigning strategies.

Additional reporting by Associated Press.

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Controversy not about the man hunt

SPC, PAGE 8

One student asked how long a person should be in a relationship before they decided to commit, get married and start a family. Aaron Roberts, a senior majoring in criminal justice, commented, "It's not how long you know the person; it's how well you know the person."

The debate ended on a neutral note: Stephanie Felix, the movie director for SPC-BBC and one of the event coordinators, said it's all about how students read the article and perceive it.

Compared with how the event was marketed—a title and flyer that carried both shock factor and stereotypical undertones—the conclusion of the discussion was not as provocative.

Kaytien Franco, the marketing assistant for Campus Life, admitted that the name of the event might have been misleading, but said being provocative wasn't their intention. She said staff members and students visited the Campus Life office asking for clarification about the title of the event.

"We didn't mean to offend anyone," said Franco. "It was a miscommunication."

Felix said the event exceeded her expectations in terms of turnout and participation. She was concerned that people would not be open-minded about the topic of discussion and that they wouldn't participate as much as they did.

Last Thursday's discussion was the first of the "Think

About It" series, and Felix looks forward to the others.

Jennifer Sans, the secretary and comedy director for SPC, said that one of the objectives of this discussion series is to give students a platform

for expression. Felix agreed, and said she hoped these discussions would encourage students to be open-minded.

The topics for this series are supposed to be taboo, and Felix hopes that students will

feel comfortable discussing controversial topics among large groups of people, not just in secret among close friends.

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Light Skin versus Dark Skin

KIERON WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

It wasn't supposed to become a cultural crisis.

It started in a light-hearted manner, just like everything else. Black people have joked about the different skin tones in our community for years. We've described ourselves as different kinds of chocolate, sometimes as "café con leche," or even spices like cinnamon. In my opinion, these were simply observations of the diversity in the black community, a funny way to celebrate something cherished.

But when the "Team Light Skin/Team Dark Skin" pictures, hashtags, and vines started showing up, it felt a bit different. There was something more militant and aggressive about it. After a couple of weeks, it didn't feel like a joke anymore. You were either one or the other. Either you chose to participate or your peers chose for you. You've got selfies on Instagram because you're light-skinned. I can't see you because you're dark-skinned. Come on, laugh, you don't want people to think you're light-skinned, do you?

I am not trying to say the problem is the jokes themselves, because that's just

a matter of taste. The real problem, and the reason I think everyone reading this should be worried, is the fact that we have become such a culture that we allow racism to slip past our front lines and infect us like a plague, so long as it wears

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When the "Team Light Skin/Team Dark Skin" pictures, hashtags, and vines started showing up, it felt a bit different.

an attractive mask.

When I say racism, I don't just mean white people against black people. I'm talking about anyone who views him or herself as superior or more capable simply due to skin tone. This includes internal racism, which means dark-skinned black people against light-skinned black people and vice versa.

African-American culture has fought against racism since the beginning, promoting equal rights and equal opportunity for all black people. The white majority of the

early 20th Century America was strong in its oppression, embedding racism so deeply in its institution that it became inescapable, rendering black Americans as little more than slaves without chains. In order to survive such

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a terrifying environment, blacks had to rebel in mind and body. They galvanized their groups and became "African-Americans." They adjusted their perceptions of what made them most different, and declared "Black is Beautiful." Activists like Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks taught black America how to fight, arming them with knowledge of our history and a sense of liberation. These were necessary steps for a revolution. In order to change America, they had to change themselves.

But the revolution

happened. The war is not over, but significant battles have been won. It goes without saying that black people today are living in an environment that African-Americans of the 1950s only dreamed of.

But when many of our parents raised us, they taught us how to be warriors just like them. They armed us with their heightened sense of difference. And in doing so, they over-prepared us for racism that the majority of us no longer face on a daily basis. So when we failed to find enemies to unleash our weapons upon (in defense, of course), we looked elsewhere and found the next best thing: ourselves.

We need to be aware of traps like this so that we don't fall into them again. We have more education, more ability and more opportunity than any generation before us. Our environment no longer needs us to be warriors, which allows us to usher in a new era of opportunity, but it also strips us of a hard-earned identity. Looking into the future, I don't know what our new identity will look like, but one thing's for certain: we won't be picking teams.

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Space Kid already has cabin fever

LUIS SANTANA
Opinion Director

"Space, the final frontier." These words in the intro of Star Trek have set minds ablaze with the possibility of space travel, living on board the Enterprise and getting into adventures alongside Captain Kirk.

But when you turn off the TV and look at the comforts of home remembering that you were only watching something produced in a studio, you begin to think of the loneliness in space.

You begin to think that you'd have to leave behind everyone that you know and love and live adrift on a sea of black vacuum.

You remind yourself that the

end up going to space for any given reason?

What would he tell the people that saw him in his space suit before?

"Yeah I'm not going, sorry for being a cocky and wearing my suit around campus?"

Not only that, but according to Ford, "missions that call for a return trip are almost double the cost," meaning that there is no returning home.

Why would you want to leave everyone that you love behind? What about finding someone that you love and having children? Are these things that he doesn't care

for?

Or is he simply doing this as an act of public rebellion?

Saying, "I don't want what



PATRICK FORD

“

I'm glad that Ford is proud that he MAY be going to space, but isn't he counting his chickens before they hatch?

”

English majors hard at work

JENNIPHER SCHAFER
Contributing Writer

I've heard that some people don't think English majors do a lot of work. We don't have labs or massive medical vocabularies to build. We will be jobless after graduation. We have it easy. As someone with scarcely a moment to myself this semester due to an amount of reading unimaginable to even some of the graduate students in my building I need to put this to rest. English majors work very hard.

Ok, so a lot of my work is reading. I read for all four of my classes despite one not even having a textbook. The reading load would certainly bring someone not used to it to caution just one of the classes. It isn't unusual for English majors to be expected to read a novel in one to two weeks for most classes. Multiply that by four and you start to realize why writers and professors alike have a profound addiction to their coffee. It isn't uncommon for me to spend evenings awake until nearly two in the morning sipping the caffeinated bliss as I pour over Tolkien or Shakespeare only to slam the alarm at six wishing I'd get more than 15 more precious minutes.

The thing is we do a lot more than read. We read the material in the novel, play, or poetry anthology. We read the at times daunting supplemental materials flooding into our email from our professors. We scroll through Project

MUSE for articles to support our ideas about what we're reading. Some of these articles are upwards of thirty pages making them short stories in and of themselves. We compile this research into papers which are often a minimum of six to ten pages for the shortest. We schedule meetings with other English majors and our professors to make sure our papers are on topic and fluid enough to fully create an understanding of our viewpoint. Then we re-write the papers. Sometimes we re-write them several times. When they are finally completed we lose sleep wondering if it was all in vain.

This ability to cope with sleepless nights and excessive writing prepares us for graduate school. Some of us will apply to law programs and become lawyers or politicians. Some of us will teach. Some of us may go on for advertising or creative writing. There is no shortage of what can be done with this degree in reality. Sure, we might be a bit quirky and take electives in niche literature as I am this semester. But we are working. And for an elective to require an entire Game of Thrones book in one week takes more than a little dedication on the part of the student. So don't discount the English degree. We work a great deal harder than you might think.

-opinion@fiusm.com

ground is best, that you should stay here on earth and you push the thoughts of adventure aside, and return to life.

There are some who don't push aside the fact that it may just be a Hollywood fantasy.

Some who want to go into space and leave what they know behind in the hopes that they may find something new elsewhere.

One such student is FIU's very own Patrick Ford.

Ford who applied for the first round pick of the Mars One mission, has now been picked for the second part of the mission being one of over a thousand candidates.

He's been seen walking around campus in an astronaut suit proud of the fact that he has been chosen to for the second round; and that's where my problem lies.

I'm glad that Ford is proud that he MAY be going to space, but isn't he counting his chickens before they hatch?

What happens if he doesn't

'normal' people do. I want to go to space and be immortalized as one of the firsts to have gone to the martian landscape."

I love the idea of adventure, but I also love the things I've come to know here on earth.

I love waking up and hearing my little sisters say "good morning" in their broken baby English.

I love coming to school and seeing my friends, and I love to plan travelling this entire earth one day.

Why would I want to leave all that behind to go to a planet covered in red dust?

There's a saying that goes, "To each his own," and I think it's perfectly applicable here.

I'll watch Ford's rocket (if he makes the cut) hoping he remembers the loneliness of the vacuum of space when he thinks of his family.

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Sitdown with local disc jockey and producer

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS
Staff Writer

In the series of sitdowns with local artists, FIU Student Media has had the opportunity to previously sit down and interview artist Smurphio from the local electronic funk band known as Afrobeta as well as local hip-hop artist Flight Williams from the collective rap group known as Outta This World.

This time around, FIUSM got to interview local disc jockey and producer Jesse Perez. WRGP Radiate FM DJs Digz and Mamey Disco had the chance to speak with Perez and this is how the interview went:

DIGZ: I noticed on the album that there are a lot of track names that you really have to be from Miami or Cuban to really understand. Is the whole a representation of your culture?

PEREZ: When I first set

out to do this album, I wanted it to be something very Miami because that's what's always inspired my music.

Everything from back in the day growing up here and just everyday life, from foods to just going around different places.

So, I wanted to make sure that it reflected in this album and there's even skits that I have recorded like at Leon medical center, the pastelito one I used to take my grandfather to his doctors appointments so I recorded a track there.

I pulled out my phone and started recording conversations.

Also, the South Miami metrorail comes out on the album, its just things I do everyday. It's Miami as a whole from beginning to end.

DIGZ: So speaking of Miami, where did you grow up in the city?

PEREZ: I grew up pretty much in Cutler Ridge. I would say that is the main area I've

lived the longest but I've lived in Hialeah and lived in Princeton as well, which is down south near Homestead.

So, yeah, I've lived pretty much throughout all Miami. Digz: When it comes to the album, more so your musical upbringing, what are your main influences?

PEREZ: I've listened to everything, everything that really came out of Miami. I was a big DJ Laz fan, 2LiveCrew, Danny D, Poison Clan; everything that was just Miami - that Freestyle era to me was just magical. That was the best time for music here I think.

In the album you can hear it, if you are about that music, if you know about that music you can hear the influences on this album.

MAMEY: Tell us about your mother and how she influenced you through what she does musically.

PEREZ: So my mom's a piano teacher as I grew up - a lot of DJs talk about that.



JUNETTE REYES/THE BEACON

Pictured left to right is disc jockey Mamey Disco and interviewee Jesse Perez, a local DJ and producer.

I was classically trained blah blah. I never really talk about that but I grew up with having a piano at her house.

And for Christmas we would always get like a

nice little keyboard, nothing expensive, not like a really cool synth or anything but we would get keyboards.

There was an interest in music and that started for me

at a young age. I was always trying to write piano riffs and stuff like that when I was a kid.

SEE LOCAL, PAGE 5

Movies to trick your friends into watching

COLUMNIST



ALEXANDRE NUNEZ

If you enjoy messing with your friends, then listen up.

You always hear how good a movie was and how recommended it is. You even read about

it in magazines and newspapers. But you never really hear how bad a film is nor receive any kind of warning that can save you from two hours of boredom and torture.

If this often happens to you, then you probably have bad friends that enjoy putting you through horrible situations. Well, now is the time to

pull the same on them.

January had a lot of films that would fall under this category of terrible films for several reasons. Here is a list of movies that you can use to mislead your friends into thinking they are really great when in fact, they are not.

"The Legend of Hercules"

Why? Just because. If you need a reason, you're probably 10 years old.

Released on Jan. 10, "The Legend of Hercules" stars actor Kellen Lutz as the Greek hero we are all familiar with, or at least should be. The son of Zeus

is betrayed, exiled and sold into slavery by his stepfather, the King, due to his forbidden love.

Length: A whole 99 minutes of torture.

"Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones"

My reasoning behind choosing "Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones" is because we've already had one too many. One was enough, two was acceptable, three more movies just milked a series that wasn't that great to begin with.

Released on Jan. 3, "Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones" was the fifth installation of the series.

It was a spinoff/sequel to the first four films, focusing on the story of Jesse (Andrew Jacobs) who has the unfortunate occurrence of becoming possessed by the same demon that claimed sisters Kristi and Katie.

Length: A whole hour and 24 minutes of torture.

"Ride Along"

It's not funny whatsoever and it's just plain boring. It's probably even my favorite choice from this list to trick a friend into watching.

Released on Jan. 17, "Ride Along" stars Ice Cube James Payton, an Atlantic Police Depart-

ment detective, and Kevin Hart as Ben Barber, a security guard. Barber is Payton's brother-in-law-to-be and joins Payton on a 24-hour patrol of Atlanta to show Payton that he is worthy of marrying his sister.

Length: A whole 99 minutes of torture.

So there you have it, the perfect films to recommend to your buddies or to someone you don't really like. You'll have them begging for their money back. Just make sure you tell them you recommend these films wholeheartedly.

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Quit sweet talking, get real LoDolce in Sex Fair

LOVE, PAGE 8

"I thought what an important thing for people who are in college before they are in committed relationships and marriage... to get some clarity on what their expectations are," Newman said.

Eric Feldman, global learning coordinator who is in charge of all the behind-the-scenes planning for the Roundtable discussions, called Newman a "veteran moderator." She has been moderating discussions for three years.

Feldman said the roundtable is "class but better."

"You have a different person every week and a different topic," he said. Each discussion is based on a different article from the New York Times.

"I like to pick articles that have a little edge to them..."

Diann Newman
Assistant Dean
Student Services

It is not a debate, according to Feldman; it is a forum where students and participants can be heard.

"The goal is to hear all perspectives on what other people think and why," Feldman said.

The Tuesday Times Roundtables began in 2009 as a response to low readership to the New York Times.

"The Student Government Asso-

ciation was the sole funding agent for the New York Times readership program," said Stephanie Doscher, associate director at the office of global learning.

"SGA was concerned that the newspapers weren't being put to good use. We thought it would be a great opportunity to partner with students to help everybody at the university to take advantage of these resources that are afforded to us."

The roundtable discussions are held every week at Modesto Maidique Campus and every other week at Biscayne Bay Campus. The upcoming discussion will begin at 12:30 p.m. in Wolfe University Center room 159.

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DATING, PAGE 8

Sarah Kenneally, senior health educator for SHS, explains that sex experts focus "just on the act of intercourse," and that it is necessary to discuss the steps that lead to getting there.

Kenneally said LoDolce's presentation is important because he teaches students how to be confident and sexy, and those attributes can be empowering and useful tools in social interactions.

"Having the ability to tell someone 'I'm not interested' or giving consent in relationships is powerful...Confidence is powerful," said Kenneally.

In a brief email interview, LoDolce said his mission is "to provide students with the tools they

need to socialize, flirt and date the people they desire."

Michael Collado, a senior majoring in broadcast media, did not know about the event and said it is unlikely that he will attend.

"I think it's a little strange to bring a dating expert to college when people are not at all that interested in dating specifically," said Collado.

SHS will be hosting its fourth annual Sex Carnival Tuesday, Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms. The carnival will address safe sex behaviors and attitudes, issues affecting the LGBTQA community, consent, victim empowerment and healthy relationships.

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Local artist Jesse Perez gives insight on music ventures

SEE LOCAL, PAGE 4

DIGZ: You mentioned earlier you had a piano that you used on one of your tracks like a Kmart piano?

PEREZ: Yeah, actually it's track two on the album and actually track five on the album as well, that was a Christmas gift my mom gave me when I was in high school and that was the very first keyboard that I started using to make beats with.

I look at it now and it's really pathetic, it's like a \$100 keyboard, nothing big, but to me that meant the world and I still use it to this day.

A lot of this doesn't really revolve around having a lot of money.

You can make music off of anything, as long as it makes a sound you can make music off it.

I look at this album and a lot of the tracks were made with really cheap keyboards and it came out sounding great.

DIGZ: You've been to several countries overseas, what are some of the recent places you've been in and toured around?"

PEREZ: The very last place I went to overseas was London, I played a really big show over there in London.

I primarily play in the U.K. the most, out of anywhere else and most DJs do too because that's just the mecca of music right now; the U.K. is on another level.

But I've been throughout everywhere, I've done a few gigs in Berlin, done Switzerland, um Spain, Ibiza, Italy and a few shows in Italy, Ukraine, and a lot of countries

MAMEY: Do you keep those parties all house or do you maybe give them a little curveball to show them where you're coming from?

PEREZ: Well, I definitely play my style of music. I wouldn't say it's all house, It's just my style. I call it Bump and Grind.

It's a lot of Miami influence, a lot of Miami bass records. I give them me, I don't go out there to play like I'm a German techno DJ. I give them exactly what they're paying for and I think that's the reason why they book me. They don't want to hear anything else.

MAMEY: So Jesse, MrNiceGuy Records launched. When did it launch?

PEREZ: In 2010.

MAMEY: Excellent you got some local support and local artists. Any plans for the future? Any surprises?

PEREZ: Our main thing right now as far MrNiceGuy is just getting a party going.

That's what I really want to do in Miami. We really don't play in Miami that much.

I think I only play in Miami like four times a year.

So I'm just looking into doing my own party, the same way we do the pastelito party.

I'm just like alright let's just do a monthly party and have all our guys play, rather than just sitting around waiting and hoping that one of the clubs calls us and be like "Can you play tonight?" So that's my main priority right now.

Then of course I have the album coming out. We have an EP which has various artists from Miami.

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Division of Student Affairs

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Upside Drown quenches thirst for depth

COLUMNIST

ROBERTO LOPEZ-TRIGO

In the album "Mood Music" by the band Upside Drown, a dynamic duo takes over your ears and hearts with their stop and go rhythms, ethereal yet powerful instrumental licks, and thought-provoking lyrics. The band came to fruition in 2009 in Oakland, California and came into being when Rosemary Steffy, vocalist and drummer, and Colleen Johnson, vocalist and guitarist, briefly collaborated with each other, but the brief collaboration turned into a permanent one when they saw the power of their sonorous partnership. Their debut album came

out in September of 2012 and features several guest artists. My two favorite tracks on this album are arguably "Still the Arrow" and "Rock in the yard". In the song "Still the Arrow" the harmonies are so tight that the two voices at times feel like they could be mistaken for one full and powerful voice, and if nifty vocal harmony doesn't get your juices

flowing, then the complicated, yet subtle rhythmic variations will definitely do the job. In this song the meter changes seamlessly between three and four that adds a different, but jazzy flavor to their sound. The song "Rock in the Yard" is one of the more harmonically interesting songs on the album and hits me straight in the gut every time I listen to it.

The song overall is very tense using dissonance and chromaticism to communicate the poetic genius of the lyrics. The lyrics tell a story about a woman that fell in love with a man that she shared love with that is no longer in her life. But as time goes by, so does life, and the memories of their love and time together leaves her memory, which ultimately satisfies the hole left in her soul. However, the most annoying aspect of this album is probably the lack of good diction in some of the songs. It really grinds my gears when a musician's beautiful song is shadowed by slurred pronunciation and lack of sound balance between the vocals and instruments. It's like giving the listener only pieces of a movie, sure you might be able to make out what's going on, but the overall power of the message is lessened or completely lost. This happens throughout the album in small sections, but

“The music of Upside Drown quenches the human soul through their subtle complexity...”

frequently occurs in the song "Sheltering Sky". Additionally, the song "Go" can be a bit boring and is instrumentally second rate to the rest of the album, but lyrically and vocally is moving to the point of tears when analyzed poetically. Overall, this duo creates a sympathetic resonance that rings through the listener gut, amplifying their hunger for more of their music. The music of Upside Drown quenches the human soul through their subtle complexity and in my personal opinion deserve a nine out of ten.

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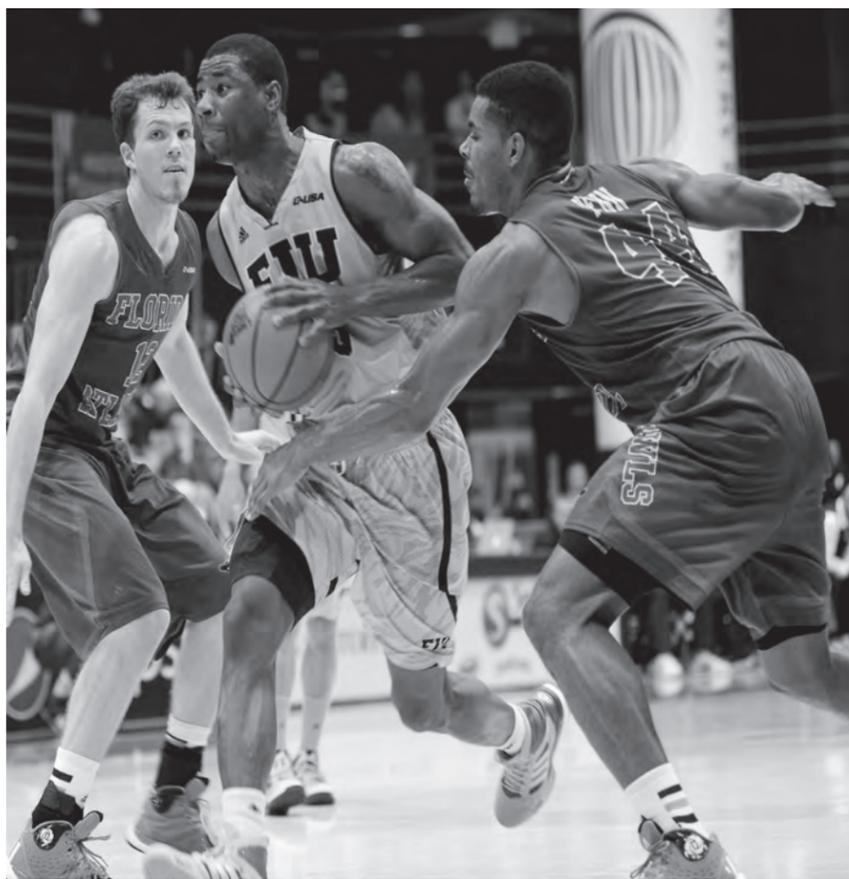
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CAREER NIGHT



JASEN DELGADO/ THE BEACON

Senior forward Tymmell Murphy (middle) put up a career-high 29 points against Marshall on Jan. 30. The final score was 80-68 in favor of the Thundering Herd.

Coley gets honored for work in the classroom

RUBEN PALACIOS
Sports Director

At this point in senior Jerica Coley's career, she has a mantle for awards and achievements earned on the hardwood, and another for her accomplishments in the classroom.

Coley, for the second time in her collegiate athletic career, earned first team Capital One Academic All-District accolades. The selection is made by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) on Jan. 30.

The reigning two-time All-America Honorable Mention sports a 3.41 GPA as a Dietetics and Nutrition major and garnered a spot on the District 4 team, which consists of athletes from schools in Florida, Alabama and South Carolina.

The Academic All-District teams recognize the

nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances athletically and in the classroom. The teams are divided into eight geographic districts across the United States and Canada.

Coley's future plans are to graduate in the fall after completing in a program that will allow her to take part in an internship within her career field. Coley has also been open to the fact that she would like to pursue her Master's Degree in Nutrition.

Despite her clear passion for an eventual career in nutrition, Coley plans on looking for opportunities to continue playing basketball after this season. Her options will include the WNBA or heading overseas to play professionally in Europe.

The St. Petersburg native made headlines recently by once again leading the

nation in scoring, she is averaging 30 points per game through games played as of Jan. 30. Coley has scored in double-figures in all 19 games this season -- and in 108-of-117 career games -- despite being the focal point of opposing defenses.

This season, the 2012 and 2013 Associated Press All-America selection has been responsible for 43.3 percent of the Panthers' scoring efforts. For her career, she has scored 36.5 percent of FIU's total points. The St. Petersburg, Fla., native leads FIU in eight statistical categories -- field goals made (201); three-point field goals made (30); free throws made (138); assists (78, 4.1 apg); steals (32, 1.7 spg); blocks (21, 1.1 bpg); minutes played (38.6 mpg); and points (570, 30.0 ppg).

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Commit receives T.Y. Hilton comparisons

RUBEN PALACIOS
Sports Director

Decommitting from the University of Miami and then committing to FIU for football doesn't happen often, but Dennis Turner did so in his first attempt to create his own legacy.

Turner, who has already drawn comparisons to FIU great T.Y. Hilton, is a product of Fort Lauderdale Dillard High and is rated a three star recruit by 247Sports. He eventually chose FIU over schools like: Toledo, Wake Forest and Northern Illinois.

Turner, in an interview with FIUSM through Twitter, expressed his desire to create his story at FIU, even though he takes the Hilton comparisons as a compliment. Turner said FIU receivers coach Cameron Turner said he compares favorably to Hilton.

"I been hearing them [the comparisons] a lot," Turner said. "He's T.Y. and I'm Dennis, I want create my own legacy."

If creating a legacy and impacting the team right away is what Turner truly desired in a college team, FIU was definitely the right choice for him. Turner will get an opportunity to play as a freshman, something that might not have been possible at UM.

"FIU is in my backyard," Turner said on why he chose FIU. "Playing time [was also a factor]. And I believe in coach Turner's plan."

For some recruits, FIU's horrific 1-11 season this past year could diminish their interest. This was not the case for Turner, he experienced similar growing pains when it came to winning during his first couple of years in high school.

"I'm ok with it [FIU's struggles last year] my first two years at Dillard we went 3-7 and 2-8," Turner said. "So I know how to deal with that."

Turner's experience on less-than stellar teams could prove beneficial as he knows what it takes

to turn the misfortunes around. Dillard went 8-4 this past season, and 6-6 the year before that.

"It's gonna take a team effort, no one man can take on a game by himself. Everyone has to believe in coach Turner's plan," Turner said. "I do, but I'm gonna try to build chemistry with the team so I can have a bond with teammates. I can't just go in there with cold feet and know no one it's going to be chaos."

Turner will have a familiar face helping him face the chaos, his Dillard quarterback, Bud Martin, has already enrolled at FIU. Martin and Turner will bring that special quarterback-to-receiver bond to FIU.

"Nothing would have changed whether I went to a different school," Turner said of his relationship with Martin. "We still would of been boys, but the fact we're at the same school is even better."

Turner was a two-way player at Dillard, playing both the wide receiver position and the cornerback spot. It was rumored at first that Turner decommitted from UM because they were recruiting him primarily as a cornerback when he wanted to play receiver.

"It would have been fun playing some cornerback, but it's receiver I'm most comfortable with," Turner said in an interview with the Miami Herald.

FIU picks up a big-play receiver in Turner, who is 5-11, 170 pounds and accounted for more than 1,100 receiving yards and 14 touchdowns to lead Dillard to the Region 4-6A quarterfinals last season.

"I'm going to bring FIU some explosiveness, tenacity, a team-first type of player who loves being around teammates," Turner said. "Somebody who fights for their team, each and every game."

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Faciane continues work for dream of playing in the NFL

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The words that every football player want to hear after they finish their collegiate career are similar to what NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell will be saying in May.

“With the first pick in the 2014 NFL Draft, the Houston Texans select...” Goodell will say when time is up on the first pick clock.

However, there are players who know that their name will not be the first overall. These players are just hoping to get a shot at playing at the top level.

Former FIU football defensive lineman Isame Faciane is one of those guys.

Since the end of the first semester, Faciane has been taking online classes towards a Liberal Studies degree and training towards that goal of playing professionally.

“I should be done with my degree by the end of Summer A term,” Faciane said. Right now though I’m training at Fourth and Inches Performance Group in Dallas, Texas.”

It wasn’t just by coincidence that he ended up deciding to train there.

“The owner Noel Scarlet played for Coach Patterson while he was in the Dallas Cowboys organization,” Faciane said. “Coach told me about them and I decided to go because Coach P never led me wrong. My



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Former FIU football defensive tackle Isame Faciane (left), has been spending the winter preparing to play football at the professional level in the NFL. The NFL draft will take place from May 8 to 10.

agent also had sent some guys to him in the past to train and told me how good Scarlet was at what he does.”

Faciane said his training is going great.

“Everyday is like the hardest workout of my life but I feel like I’m getting so much out of every lift and run,” Faciane said.

Faciane is not the only athlete there looking to play professionally.

“Pierre Desir played for a Division II school called Lindenwood University,” Faciane said. “In my opinion he was the best corner in Division II ball. He played in both the East-West Shrine Bowl and the Under Armour Senior Bowl where he balled out.”

He also spoke on how his personal progression has been.

“It’s been great. I feel like I’m learning how to make myself better every time we do position work. And that I get faster, more technique sound on every drill, and stronger with every lift,” Faciane said.

His senior campaign at FIU was only victorious a single time. That

would leave a bad taste in anyone’s mouth, but he thinks differently on a personal level.

“I do have a bad taste from a team standpoint, but I feel as if I played my best football last season,” Faciane said. “I feel like I gave myself a hope for my future of getting a shot at my dream job in the NFL.”

The 2013 Conference USA Honorable Mention for defensive line is ranked number 109 out of 228 defensive tackles by nfl-drafts-out.com. draftinsider.com has him going into the league as a free agent saying that he “flashed skill in the past two years but he has yet to pull it together.”

In an interview with FIUSM, Patterson said that Faciane was in the top 10 percent of the defensive linemen that he has ever coached.

That compliment came from a coach who worked in the NFL and other various collegiate level teams. From 1997 to 2006 he worked with teams such as the Dallas Cowboys, the New England Patriots, and the Denver Broncos.

The Broncos played again in Super Bowl XLVIII this past weekend against Pete Carroll’s Seattle Seahawks. Carroll was Patterson’s head coach in New England.

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Think about it: Campus event controversy not so provocative



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Stephanie Felix (far left), movie director for SPC, and Jennifer Sans (far right), comedy director for SPC, lead the discussion at the "Think About It" event organized to discuss an article written by Susan Patton, a Princeton graduate, in which she tells the ladies of Princeton to find their husbands before they graduate. Students discussed what they believed, whether they agreed or disagreed and debated specific points in the article.

ALEXI CARDONA *Contributing Writer*

The Student Programming Council presented "Think About

It...find your husband before you graduate—advice for FIU women," or so read the description on the University's event calendar for Thursday, Jan. 30.

The ladies in the room for this student-led discussion jested about why they were there—to look for a man, to find out if it was really about finding a husband

before graduation, or out of sheer curiosity.

To the surprise of the thirty-or-so students who attended the event, it was not about looking for a husband at all.

It was a discussion based on an article written by Susan Patton, a class of 1977 Princeton graduate who advises her fellow Princeton women to find their husbands before they graduate. The opinion piece titled "Letter to the Editor: Advice for the young women of Princeton: the daughters I never had" was published in the Daily Princetonian on March 29, 2013.

"The cornerstone of your future and happiness will be inextricably linked to the man you marry, and you will never again have this concentration of men who are worthy of you," Patton wrote.

Patton said that "it was seen as heresy" to express her desire to get married and have children while the pioneer women in her class talked about "navigating the virile plains of Princeton as a precursor to professional success."

She also discussed how, as female students get older, the pool of men available for them shrinks.

Most, if not all of the students in attendance, considered her advice heresy as well.

There was generally disagreement about the topic among the students, but some tried to understand Patton's viewpoint.

Several of the male students agreed that men who go to college are of better quality than men who do not attend college.

The discussion quickly turned to the topic of marriage, divorce, changing gender roles and successful relationships. While discussing the new role of some men as househusbands and women as breadwinners, Tennison Harmitt, a senior majoring in journalism, commented on machismo being a factor in men feeling inferior in these types of relationships.

"Men sometimes refuse to set their egos aside," said Harmitt. "If men learn to put their egos aside, they can make any relationship work."

SEE SPC, PAGE 2

Furniture Testing: Progress at ASK!

SOFIA GALIANO *Staff Writer*

A presentation of furniture samples for the upcoming Academic Skills and Knowledge Center will be held in room HL 210 in the Glenn Hubert Library at Biscayne Bay Campus, Wednesday, Feb. 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In the meeting, students and faculty will preview potential furniture to go in the upcoming ASK! Center located on the second floor of the library.

"If we like something, then we are going to want samples of it," said Gustavo Arauz, office manager for administrative office in the Hubert Library. "And then we are going to have students test the furniture."

Furniture testing was scheduled to begin this month, but vendors were being confirmed for the presentation meeting at that time.

However, students can start testing sample furniture on Feb. 6 in room HL 206 of the Hurbert Library during regular business hours and can for a week following the start date, according to Arauz.

The presentation of furniture samples is the first step of the renovation project set to begin in the upcoming months.

Arauz said there will be five vendors presenting physical furniture samples, in conjunction to a PowerPoint presentation.

He said the library asked vendors

to bring furniture, but he is unsure whether they will all bring samples the day of the presentation or the following week.

"Each vendor is going to give a presentation regarding what furniture they might bring," said Arauz.

The schedule for the presentations is split into vendors, including an hour lunch break. The first vendor will present at 9:30 a.m., and the second vendor at 10:45 a.m.

Lunch will be from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., and the third vendor will begin promptly after the break; followed by the fourth vendor at 2 p.m. and lastly, the fifth vendor at 3:15 p.m. Furniture testing will commence the following day.

Students need to visit the circulation desk on the first floor of the library to get the key for the room where the testing will take place, in addition to a comment card to review the furniture.

Furniture samples will be labeled so students can easily identify the pieces they want in their future library space.

When students finish testing the furniture, they will submit their comment cards along with the key to the room at the circulation desk.

Students are encouraged to attend the presentation meeting and the furniture trial-run since the renovations are geared toward student's needs.

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Tuesday Times Roundtable getting real about love

ZORAIDA PASTOR *Contributing Writer*

Does love last? The Feb. 4 Tuesday Times Roundtable hopes to answer this question in time for Valentine's Day.

The discussion is based on a New York Times article "New Love: A Short Shelf Life," by Sonja Lyubomirsky who based her research on 1,761 newlyweds who were tracked over the course of 15 years.

Findings showed that the newlyweds experience greater joy during

the first two years, and that over time that happiness wanes.

The happiness only peaks again during what is called an "empty nest" phase when the kids are gone and couples are left to rediscover themselves.

The discussion will be moderated by Diann Newman, assistant dean of student services at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, who says the articles are a reflection of her own interests.

"I like to pick articles that have

a little edge to them, things that people don't typically talk about," Newman said.

Newman said she advocates open communication at the University.

"I feel that the roundtable discussion is a wonderful vehicle for the university community to get together to discuss interesting issues."

She said she wants to "take the temperature of the audience" in this Roundtable discussion.

SEE LOVE, PAGE 4

Adam LoDolce to heat up Sex Fair with dating advice

ALEXI C. CARDONA *Contributing Writer*

Adam LoDolce, the dating confidence coach, will be speaking at this year's sex carnival. LoDolce has appeared on MTV's show "Made," and has been featured in national magazines, newspapers and television news stations, including Cosmopolitan, Men's Health, CNN and the Boston Globe.

He also authored "Being Alone Sucks!" a book on transforming people's dating and social life, and founded the website SexyConfidence.com for women and GoTalktoHer.com for men.

This will be the first time LoDolce speaks at the University, but he has been a guest speaker for several other universities, including Notre Dame,

University of Texas and University of Alabama.

The presentation will take place at 1 p.m. on Feb. 4 at the Wolfe University Center ballroom. The event is free and open to FIU students and staff and to outside guests as well.

FIU students can expect more than just a lecture; LoDolce gives his audience members more personal experience at events like this. According to his website, AdamLoDolce.com, the dating expert stays at his events until the last person leaves and offers mini dating coaching sessions for students.

Why would Student Health Services bring in a dating expert to present at a sex carnival as opposed to a sex expert?

SEE DATING, PAGE 4