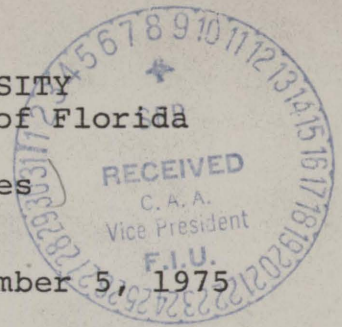


FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
The State University System of Florida

Office of Information Services
(305) 552-2231



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, September 5, 1975

FIRST DIRECTOR NAMED

FOR FIU CHILD CARE CENTER

Miss Nancy Ponn will direct Florida International University's first Child Care Center when it opens in the Fall Quarter. During the past three years Miss Ponn organized and then directed the first day care program of the Jewish Community Centers of South Florida.

Miss Ponn, a resident of southwest Miami, first learned of FIU's plans for a day care center when Mrs. Barbara A. O'Nan, student member of the Center's Board of Directors, contacted the Jewish Community Centers several years ago about setting up a joint program.

That idea was abandoned, but Nancy became excited at the prospect of tackling a new center. "I really enjoy working with children and teachers and putting together a good quality program," she said.

The Center can accommodate up to 45 children of FIU students, faculty and staff at one time. There are still openings in the afternoons. No children have been turned away, except those ineligible due to age requirements. Children must be between the ages of two and one-half and five years. Parents with younger children can add their names to the waiting list.

The Center is located in a mobile home unit at the northwest section of the Tamiami campus, adjacent to the tennis courts. Four teachers and four student assistants will help operate the program. Hours are 7:45 a.m.

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to 6:15 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The annual operating cost of the program will be covered by funds from the United Way and tuition fees, based on a sliding fee scale depending on the ability to pay. The Student Government Association gave \$7,691 to the Center for indoor and outdoor equipment, a fence, and permanent classrooms.

Miss Ponn received a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Development from the University of Missouri. Her philosophy for working with children includes "teaching children to be responsible for their actions and their feelings, to be aware of how they feel in all situations and to be able to share this awareness verbally with each other and with the adults in their lives."

"It is a very special feeling to be able to help little people establish a comfortable atmosphere for growing," she said.

Application forms and information are available at the Institute for Women, Florida International University, Primera Casa, Room 220, phone 552-2373.

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