

Student Affairs

update

SPRING 1998

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



To Your Health

The Health and Wellness Center will present free health screenings, exhibits, lectures, dramatic educational presentations, and contests at University Park April 1 to 3 and at North Campus March 31 to April 2.

Health professionals provide class presentations on stress management, nutrition, weight management, exercise and fitness, general health and wellness, alcohol and drug prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, and others.

The Center has a new web site at <http://www.fiu.edu/~health> which features information on the Health Clinic, the Wellness Center, a variety of health topics, "Emergency?", health insurance, immunization, travel medicine, "FIU Healthy Happenings" Calendar, external links to health organizations, and the popular "Ask Dr. Well B Interactive" column.

Performance Art at Wolfe University Center

The Wolfe University Center completed a work of art during Welcome Back Week last Fall. This "happening in the arts" was a collaborative effort with faculty, staff, and students. The painting is hung on the first floor near the game room.

The project, coordinated by Greg Wilkins and Carol Aubrun, sought to bring together the campus community for a project that could last as a visible hallmark and become an annual tradition. For the first week of the Fall semester, anyone who came through the Center saw the work in progress. People were urged to become active participants in the project, and the painting evolved.

"The importance of the project was in the process, not the product itself," Wilkins said. "What we had was the community coming together in a celebration of diversity. There was much energy and enthusiasm by the students that participated, as well as the faculty and staff. Where there once was a blank wall, now there is a work of art."

Wolfe University Center director Whit Hollis, who funded the project, hopes the project will become an annual event. "I like the fact that we have no idea what we will end up with thematically," he said. "We'll see different styles and attitudes over the years as these paintings fill the building with beauty and expression. We're a young institution and we have the ability to start our own traditions. I hope more students get inspired to bring about their ideas. With a little creativity, anyone can start a tradition that can out live them."

Division of Student Affairs MISSION STATEMENT

The Division of Student Affairs seeks to educate a diverse body of students by supporting their growth, both personal and academic. We promote cross-cultural outreach and understanding, provide programs and services to encourage student development, and prepare students to become contributing members of their communities.

Student Affairs: The Year in Review



The only thing to do

In celebration of her 26th birthday on March 4, the auditorium in Graham University Center 140 was renamed the Margaret E. Anliker Auditorium in a ceremony held that day.

Margaret was FIU's director of orientation programs from 1996 to 1997 and died tragically in a traffic accident October 9, 1997. A memorial service was held for her at University Park October 15.

"Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing."

—Albert Schweitzer

During the past year, several major accomplishments were noted in the Division of Student Affairs under the direction of Vice President Paul Gallagher, who celebrated his first anniversary in the division in March.

Minority Student Services (now the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services), has excelled with grants being awarded to the department. Its Student Support Services received \$180,000 per year for four years for Super Summer students. Upward Bound, a program for 9th to 12th grade students to stimulate their interest in attending college, was awarded \$228,000 per year for four years.

Also receiving grants was the Victims Advocacy Center, which, along with Child Assault Prevention Program and Jackson Memorial Rape Center, received \$88,000 to establish a student coalition of peer educators and volunteers. The center also was awarded and doubled its Victims of Crime Act grant to provide crisis counseling to crime victims and to enhance its 24-hour crisis line.

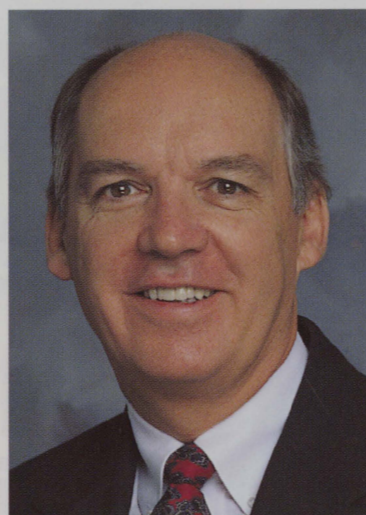
The Graham University Center Phase II renovation plan was completed in time for the 25th anniversary celebration last Fall.

New residence halls are also planned for University Park and North Campus. A program statement for a new residence hall at NC has been completed, and one was also finished for a new facility at UP. Major renovations will also be done to the UP apartments and the residence hall at NC.

Both *The Beacon* and WUFI radio continue to improve. The newspaper won the highest award it has ever received from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and has purchased new computers to improve its operation. The radio station received more than \$100,000 toward equipment purchases needed to reach FM status. It is anticipated the station will go FM at 88.1 prior to this semester's end.

Other key division accomplishments included the creation of a Panther Parents Association, the Volunteer Action Center's Alternative Spring Break being named the top program in the nation, the Student Handbook being named the best student handbook, Career Services international award for Picture Tel's Best Practice, the Team Ropes Adventure Course becoming fully operational at North Campus, and the accreditation of the Counseling and Psychological Services Center.

The Student Affairs directors surprised Dr. Gallagher with a cake and gifts to celebrate his first year in the division at a Director's Meeting March 4. The division looks forward to another year of accomplishments under his leadership.



Vice President Paul D. Gallagher

FIU has the largest enrollment of international students of universities and colleges in Florida and the most international students of all doctoral granting institutions in the United States!



Get a Grip

The Division of Student Affairs is home for the Team Ropes Adventure Challenge, which is located adjacent to the Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center at North Campus.

The TRAC is a unique series of activities designed to build confidence and enhance the performance of individuals, teams, corporate groups, and organizations. The program focuses on teamwork, with participants working together to solve structured problems in

an outdoor setting.

By design, these problems require constant group communication, cohesion, trust, and experimentation in order to achieve success. The activities promote respect, sharing of ideas and opinions, and understanding of individual strengths and weaknesses, while illustrating the importance of well-conceived and implemented plans.

Additional information and costs for TRAC can be obtained by calling 919-5800.



During the Fall, 1997 semester, University Housing staff, with the cooperation of several campus departments and faculty members, planned and implemented 152 social, cultural, and educational programs within the residence halls. In evaluations of the programs, 97 percent were rated by students as good, very good, or excellent.



LEFT: Despite intermittent rain and heavy humidity, several hundred people took part in dedication ceremonies of the new wing of the Ernest R. Graham University Center last Fall.

BELOW: A portrait of Ernest R. Graham is unveiled by members of his family, including U.S. Sen. Bob Graham (left of portrait), during the ceremonies.



Ernest R. Graham University Center Rededicated

The Graham University Center was re-dedicated last September 15 in ceremonies featuring U.S. Senator Bob Graham, FIU's first president, Chuck Perry, and a day full of celebrations and activities.

Sen. Graham was the keynote speaker at the dedication of Graham Center's new mini-mall, food court, and classroom wing. The senator also presented the University with a portrait of his father, Ernest R. Graham, for whom the building is named. The latter Graham first introduced legislation to establish a public university in South Florida.

The original building, "University House," opened its doors in June, 1974, with a gross square footage of 186,006 and housed basic facilities for food service, administrative and

student service offices, bookstore, game room, and meeting rooms.

The first major addition and renovation of 54,424 gross square feet, accommodating ballrooms, cafeteria, Gracie's Grill, game room, Faculty Club, Graham Center Office, and Student Affairs services, was completed in 1991. On September 30 of that year, it was renamed in tribute to the late Florida state senator.

The most recent addition of 167,320 gross square feet for 23 classrooms, a University Mall with a food court and retail spaces, computer lab, and renovation of the second and third floors, was completed in September, 1997, at a cost of \$11,276,192. The new total gross square footage is 207,750.



SAFE ZONE

FIU's new Safe Zone program has received a \$2,500 grant from the Dade Human Rights Foundation. The new program has been implemented as a result of conversations with faculty, staff, and students who thought that places need to be identified where individuals can discuss sexual orientation issues.

Safe Zones are also places where individuals who have learned that a parent, roommate, or friend is gay, lesbian, or bisexual can go and speak with someone who is understanding, supportive, and trustworthy. They are good listeners and have community resources that people can go to if necessary to get additional information.

A "Safe Zone" office is identified by a pink triangle magnet or sign with a green circle around it. The pink triangle has long been a symbol of gay pride and awareness of gay issues. The green circle serves the opposite effect of the popular red circle with a slash, denoting that it is okay to talk about gay issues where the magnet is displayed.

Over 25 staff, faculty, and students were trained at the North Campus in a pilot series earlier this semester. Over the next few months, additional training will take place on both campuses. For additional information, contact White Hollis at North Campus, 919-5800 or e-mail at hollisw@fiu.edu.

The name of the Office of Pre-College and Minority Student Services has been changed to the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services. The department will continue to provide programs and services for all students and will report to Helen Ellison, associate vice president for Student Affairs.

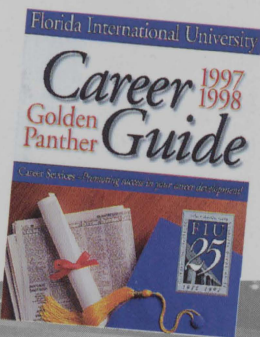
"HOW TO" Get A Job... *The Easy Way*

Career Services has been breaking records lately! For its 1997 Career Fair, 157 employers, 1,300 students, and 10 faculty attended. Twenty-three College of Engineering faculty and 38 recruiters participated in the first Industry and Engineering Forum.

In 1998, 157 employers, 1,700 students, and 10 faculty attended the Career Fair. Twelve College of Business dean, associate deans, chairpersons, and faculty and 36 recruiters participated in the first Industry and Business Forum.

The first Education Forum in Spring drew 160 students, 12 recruiters, and three faculty members.

Career Services also published the first *Career Manual*, hosted the SUS Career Services Directors Annual meeting, and had over 100 students attend the Fall Business Etiquette Dinner. Director Olga Magnusen made a Power Point presentation at the Spring meeting of the Board of Trustees.



Center Accredited

FIU's Counseling and Psychological Services Center met the criteria for full accreditation by IACS, the University and College Counseling Center's Board of Accreditation. The board complimented the center on its strong staff, excellent outreach program, the integration of the center into the campus community, the strong administrative support, and very effective leadership. The practicum training programs and the wide array of services for students were also praised.

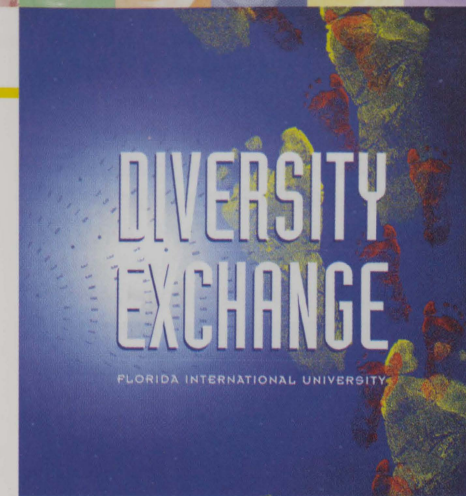
The Center has offices at both North and University Park Campuses.

assistance

Counseling Psychological

SERVICES CENTER
A DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

conflict solutions



Diversity update

Since FIU's Diversity Initiative began in Fall, 1996, the Student Team has been charging ahead with its mission—creating opportunities for dialogue on diversity among the students. The Diversity Student Team is primarily comprised of members from Student Affairs. In fact, there are 19 staff from Student Affairs on the team: Cathy Akens, Alex Azan, Robert Coatie, Sharon Hart, Nancy Hernandez, Whit Hollis, Kate Kominars, Sean Kramer, Maria Leviste, Larry Lunsford, Cheryl Nowell, Raysa Richardson, Leonie Senior, Richard Taylor, Patricia Telles-Irvin, Kathy Trionfo, Gisela Vega, Vera Velez, and Greg Wilkins.

The Student Team has provided close to 50 diversity workshops to approximately 1300 students. Evaluations have been positive, and faculty that have invited classroom presentations have written letters of appreciation. In addition to Freshman Experience classes, presentations have been made in Education, Engineering, Sociology, Psychology, Dietetics and Nutrition, Health Services, Administration, and the Language Institute.

The P.E.A.C.E. program (Peer Educators Advocating Cultural Enrichment) sponsored a diversity forum for students. For the past two years, the Student Government Association has also included diversity training at its annual retreat.

Eleven members of the Student Team will present diversity workshops at the Southern Region Orientation Workshop to be hosted by FIU at the Kovens Conference Center at North Campus in March. There will be nearly 1,000 in attendance at the workshop.

Members of the University's internal diversity training team include Azan, Coatie, Beverly Dalrymple, Hollis, Kominars, Lunsford, Manheimer, Nowell, Richardson, and Telles-Irvin.

First things FYRST

The Fall, 1997 semester marked the second year of University Housing's F.Y.R.S.T. (First Year Residents Succeeding Together) Program, based in Panther Hall. It is a program designed to assist first year residents with their transition to FIU. It doubled from its original size to over 80 selected students.

F.Y.R.S.T. participants are housed together on one floor of Panther Hall and take their Freshman Experience class together, right in the hall. As part of their acceptance into the program, students agree to a certain level of involvement in the residential and campus community. By attending Hall Council meetings and participating in community service and education and social programs in the hall, they gain valuable skills to assist them in their success as students at FIU.

Another addition to the F.Y.R.S.T. Program this year are the mentors. The mentors are a group of 12 second-year students who completed the program last year and volunteered to remain involved with F.Y.R.S.T. by each serving as a source of support for a select number of new students.



The Student Support Services Program is a federally funded program that FIU received in the Summer, 1997 under the direction of George Simms, former associate vice president for Pre-College and Minority Student Services. It marks the second TRIO program grant (the other is Upward Bound) that Dr. Simms received while at FIU. A third TRIO grant (Talent Search) was completed and submitted on his last day at the University.

TRIO refers to six programs funded under the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended: Educational Opportunity Centers, the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Programs, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Upward Bound, and a training program for TRIO staff. The Student Support Services program is aimed at increasing the retention and graduation rates of first generation college students until they earn their baccalaureate degree.

The program is directed by Dorret Sawyers, with the assistance of two coordinators, Jeanette Cruz, University Park, and Jeffrey McNamee, North Campus.

Moving on up

The Upward Bound Program is designed to help students overcome class and social and cultural barriers to higher education. FIU's Upward Bound Program was developed for students with academic potential and motivation to complete high school and later to succeed in college.

Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, Upward Bound began in the Fall, 1995 with a grant awarded by the Federal TRIO Programs, U.S. Department of Education. It is one of several programs developed by FIU to motivate high school students to pursue a college education. It is presently funded to serve 50 students.

The program provides on-going academic preparation, counseling, and enrichment activities to pursue a college degree. Students may participate in the program from the time they are enrolled in the Spring of ninth grade until they enter their first year of college.

During the Summer, a six-week residential program is offered. Designed to simulate the experience of attending college, the Summer program focuses on academics and counseling services.

The program is directed by Sofia Santiesteban with the collaboration of Carlton Daley, assistant director. The office is located in Graham Center 225.



STAFF NEWS

New Staff

Career Services

Connie Downey, liaison to the College of Business Administration and assistant director of cooperative education.

Health and Wellness Center

Mariela Gabaroni, senior health educator, University Park; **LaShondrea Rogers**, fiscal assistant, University Park.

International Student and Scholar Services

Kim Atchison, coordinator, North Campus; **Miriam Castillas**, part-time program assistant, University Park; **Georgia Zavalis**, senior secretary, North Campus.

Multicultural Programs and Services

Jeanette Cruz, coordinator, University Park; **Jeffrey McNamee**, coordinator, North Campus; **Andrew Barrett**, program assistant, University Park; **Chris Mahadeo**, tutorial coordinator, University Park.

University Housing

Brian Fisher, residence life coordinator, University Park apartments; **Patty Gomez**, residence life coordinator, University Park Panther Hall; **Scott Hauser**, acting residence life coordinator, North Campus; **Clifton Tucker**, acting facilities coordinator, North Campus.

Women's Center

Sharon Plezia, acting coordinator.

Division Changes

Robert Coatie was transferred to University Park as director of Multicultural Programs and Services.

Beverly Dalrymple, associate director, Career Services, University Park, has transferred to North Campus.

Barbara Douglas was promoted to office manager of Multicultural Programs and Services at University Park.

Jean-Claude Guigere retired as a maintenance specialist from North Campus Housing. He has since passed away.

Nancy Hernandez was promoted to associate director of International Student and Scholar Services at North Campus.

Lynn Hendricks resigned as residence life coordinator, North Campus, to accept a position at the University of North Florida.

Deryl Hunt was promoted to acting associate director of Multicultural Programs and Services at North Campus.

Scott Jones resigned as residence life coordinator, University Park, to accept a position at George Washington University.

Sara Lipman, acting assistant director, student affairs (orientation director), has resigned effective April 30, 1998.

Rod Lipscomb was named director of campus life.

Kenneth Lundy, former tutorial coordinator for Multicultural Programs and Services, resigned to accept a position with Nova University.

Larry Lunsford was named university ombudsman, in addition to associate dean, student life.

Sofia Santiesteban was promoted to director of Upward Bound and Pre-College Programs at University Park.

Dorret Sawyers was promoted to acting director, Student Support Services, while continuing to serve as associate director, Multicultural Programs and Services.

George Simms resigned as associate vice president for Minority Programs to accept a position at the University of Notre Dame.

Gladys Tamame retired as a custodial worker for North Campus Housing.

Patricia Telles-Irvin was promoted to assistant vice president, Student Affairs.

Jorge Valerin resigned as a custodial worker for North Campus Housing.

Gisela Vega was named coordinator for programming and development, University Park Housing.

Travis Woodruff resigned as coordinator for residential programs to accept a position at Georgetown University.

Presentations

Campus Life/Student Activities

Sean Kramer, "Ropes Course and Alternative Spring Break," BreakAway Leadership Conference, Ann Arbor, MI, November, 1997. **Larry Lunsford** and **Rusty Belote**, "Finding Common Ground: Linking the Freshman Experience Course to the Disciplines," International Conference on the First Year Experience, Coventry, England, July, 1997. **Larry Lunsford**, "Hazing," "Risk Management," and "Fund Raising," North Atlantic Regional Leadership Conference, Philadelphia, PA, February, 1998.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Raysa Richardson, "Self-Esteem Issues of Hispanic Women," Women for Women's Rights International Conference, Miami, FL, September, 1997. **Alex Azan**, "Adultery," *En Persona* Media One TV series, January, 1998. **Patricia Telles-Irvin**, "Interracial Couples," *En Control* Univision TV series, October, 1997. **Patricia Telles-Irvin** and **Toni Margulies**, "Destination 2000: The Value of Differences," Hispanic Association for Colleges and Universities National Conference, San Antonio, TX, October, 1997. **Alex Azan**, "Assertiveness," The Florida-Georgia Alliance of Minority Participation in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics, Miami, FL, January, 1998. **Calixto Garcia-Abid**, "Cognitive Reflex Therapy," The American Society on Aging Conference, Nashville, TN, March, 1998. **Kate Kominars**, "Unlearning Heterosexism...", Rocky Mountain Psychological Association/Western Psychological Associations Conference, Albuquerque, NM, April, 1998. **Kathy Trionfo**, "Zooming in on AIDS: Using Focus Groups to Target High Risks Behaviors in Hard to Reach Populations," American College Health Association, San Diego, CA, June, 1998.

Health and Wellness Center

Robert Dollinger and **Mary Munroe**, "Wellness and Stress Management," Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Miami, FL, October, 1997. **Vera Velez**, "Sun Belt College Health Business Meeting: A Kaleidoscope View of College Health Nursing," Florida College Health Nurses Association, Boca Raton, FL, November, 1997. **Robert Dollinger**, "Alternative Medicine: Complement to Traditional Medicine," Southern College Health Association Annual Conference, Durham, NC, March, 1998. **Richard Taylor** and **Greg Wilkins**, "Think Big: Large Scale Programming for Minority Populations," Association of College Unions-International, Anaheim, CA, March, 1998. **Richard Taylor** and **Mary Munroe**, "Zooming in on AIDS: Using Focus Groups to Target High Risk Behaviors in Hard to Reach Populations," American College Health Association Annual Conference, San Diego, June, 1998.

Multicultural Programs and Services

Carlton Daley, "Race and Riots in a Tropical Paradise: The Miami Civil Disturbances of 1968, 1980, and 1989," National Association of African American Studies, Houston, TX, February, 1998.

University Housing

Scott Hauser, **Brian Fisher**, **Val Ferreri**, "The Higher Ed Files: How Your RA Position Can Lead Into A New Career," Florida Resident Assistant Seminar, Palm Beach, FL, January 1998; **Kathy Akens**, **Patty Gomez**, **Gisela Vega**, "F.Y.R.S.T. Things First," Southeast Association of Housing Officers, Savannah, GA, February, 1998. **Brian Fisher**, "Student Leaders in Student Affairs: Partners in a Diverse Learning Community," National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Philadelphia, PA, March, 1998. **Sue Beebe**, "Assignments R Us," Southeast Association of Housing Officers, Savannah, GA, February, 1998.

Publications

Counseling and Psychological Services

Kate Kominars and **Kathy Trionfo**, *The Golden Panther Power: Maximize Physical and Mental Power Using Performance Enhancing Strategies*, a publication for FIU's Athletic Department.

Health and Wellness Center

Richard Taylor and **Whit Hollis**, "University Center Operated Ropes Challenge Course: Using Experiential Learning to Build Partnerships with Academic and Business Communities," published in the *Bulletin* of the Association of College Unions-International, July, 1997.

Awards and Recognition

Campus Life/Student Activities

The Volunteer Action Center received the 1997 National Program of the Year Award for its Alternative Spring Break Program from the BreakAway National Conference. The VAC was also recognized by the Daily Food Bank as an "Outstanding Food Drive" in the 1997 Make A Difference Holiday Food Drive. The VAC raised over 4,000 pounds of food for needy South Florida families. **The Beacon** won a Gold Medal Certificate from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for its Spring, 1997 issues. The newspaper scored 986 points out of 1,000. It is the highest score **The Beacon** has received from this organization, the premier group for judging college press. The 1997-98 edition of **The Student Handbook** was named the best student handbook in a competition sponsored by the National Orientation Directors Association. **Betty Hernandez** was named to the 1998 Pre-Conference Committee for the Association of Fraternity Advisors. **Sean Kramer** was elected recording secretary for the Dade Office of Volunteer Administrators and is a member of the Dade County Presidential Summit on Community Service Team.

Career Services

Olga Magnusen is vice president for finance of the Southeastern Association of Colleges and Employers. Also, Recipient of the 1997 Division of Student Affairs A&P Employee of the Year.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Heidi von Harscher was awarded an Educational Leadership Enhancement Grant from the College of Education, was appointed chair of the Internship Training Program Committee by the International College of Prescribing Psychologists, and was nominated for Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1998. **Patricia Telles-Irvin**, **Raysa Richardson**, **Cheryl Nowell**, **Alex Azan**, **Heidi**

von Harscher, and **Kate Kominars** were named Adjunct Clinical Supervisors by the School of Psychology at Nova Southeastern University. **Patricia Telles-Irvin** participated in the 1997 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Stevens Institute.

Graham University Center

The **GC Custodial Staff** was awarded the Division of Student Affairs USPS Employees of the Year Award.

Health and Wellness Center

Robert Dollinger was awarded Associate status in the American College of Health Care Executives, received the AMA Physician's Recognition Award for 1997, and is immediate past president of the Southern College Health Association. **Dale Ayers** received the Outstanding Young Leader in Dade County Award, presented by the United Way for National Philanthropy Day. **Vera Velez** is membership coordinator and immediate past chair of the Florida College Health Nurse's Association. **Dorie Pollock** is Continuing Education Units coordinator for the Florida College Health Nurse's Association.

Multicultural Programs and Services

George Simms was honored with the Distinguished Leadership Award for his contributions to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Planning Committee for seven years. **Elizabeth Wilson** was recognized for coordinating the Dade County Public School's 500 Role Models of Excellence College Visitation Project. **Janice Givens** and her husband are the proud parents of a new son, **D'Angelo Rashaad Givens**, who was born December 31.

Vice President's Office

Larry Lunsford is a member of the board of directors of the National Order of Omega leadership honor society.

University Housing

Patty Gomez is a directorate body member of the American College Personnel Association Commission XVIII (Alcohol and Other Drug Education). **Cathy Akens** is vice chair of the American College Personnel Association Commission II (Housing and Residential Life) and co-chair of the Southeast Association of Housing Officers Placement Committee. **Sue Beebe** is co-chair of the Southeast Association of Housing Officers Placement Committee.



Alex Zyne, Paul and Jo Gallagher and Helen Ellison proudly display their Golden Panther support.



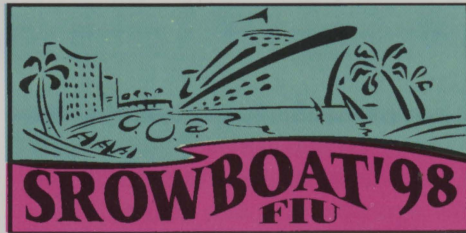
Bahamian Student Association members drum up support for the Golden Panthers.

Panthers Supported

It was a windy, not-too-hot Winter Saturday afternoon Valentine's Day as nearly 100 members of the Student Affairs staff gathered for a tailgate party and munched on pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers, and cookies prior to the Golden Panthers men's basketball game against arch-rival College of Charleston.

Decked out in t-shirts bearing the FIU Golden Panther logo and reading Student Affairs loves (symbolized by a red heart) athletics, the Student Affairs contingency was part of more than 1,500 fanatical FIU fans that watched the host Panthers beat the Cougars for the first time in 10 attempts, 74-67.

In a post-game radio interview, FIU athletic director Butch Henry cited and thanked Student Affairs for its support of and activities held at the game.



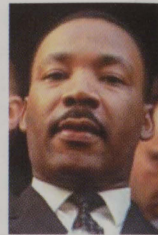
FIU will host the National Orientation Directors Association Region VI conference—SROWBOAT '98 March 20 to 22. This conference, known as the Southern Regional Orientation Workshop (SROW), is expected to have nearly 1,000 orientation directors and student leaders in attendance from nine southern states.

While at the conference, which will be held on both North and University Park Campuses, participants will attend education sessions featuring FIU's diversity initiative team, compete in the annual skit and song competition, and experience the many cultures the Miami community has to offer.

The planning committee, led by Sara Lipman, Ellen Plissner, and Valerie Pfrongner, has representatives from throughout the University and state.

You can visit the SROWBOAT web site at <http://www.ufsa.ufl.edu/oss/srow.srow.html>.

MLK Breakfast a Success



The Office of Multicultural Programs and Services held its seventh annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast on January 16 in the Graham Center Ballroom. Patricia Russell-McCloud, a motivational speaker based in Atlanta, was the keynote speaker for the event which attracted more than 500 people. Her topic was "One nation indivisible: Three decades after King, striving toward excellence and equity while remembering the past."

A panel discussion, "FIU 25 Years—Has Martin Luther King's Dream of Equality Become Reality at FIU?", was held January 15. Panelists included Mayor Robert Ingram, attorney George Knox, health service administration professor Vandon White, assistant vice president for equal opportunity programs Toni Margulies, and North Campus Student Government Council president, Arthur Papillon. Carole Comarcho, assistant director of the Institute of Government, was the moderator.



Women's Center Active

The Women's Center co-sponsored "Domestic Violence Awareness Week" with the Victim Advocacy Center last Fall. The Center also sponsored a Women's Self-Defense Workshop, which included a demonstration of domestic violence.

The Center is also hosting monthly Women's Spirituality Forums and matched 16 women students with mentors from FIU. The latter were presented with an introduction and orientation to the Mentoring Program.

The Women's Center also collected donations which were given to women who were in a domestic violence shelter over the holidays.

The Women's Center is located in Graham Center 318.

update staff

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Equal Opportunity/Equal Access Employer and Institution

It's All Greek To Me

Greek Housing continues to inch its way closer to becoming a reality at FIU. At least six Greek organizations have expressed an interest in the first phase of the housing plan.

The Greek housing project has been on the drawing board for at least two years and is overseen by John Bonanno, assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs.

The first four houses will be built adjacent to the FIU Community Stadium at University Park.

Two major local banks, Nations Bank and Sun Trust, have made presentations to University officials and Greek representatives to finance the project. Should plans proceed as anticipated, ground breaking for the houses could take place this Spring.

