

Summer 1997

# Florida International University Magazine Summer 1997

Florida International University Division of University Relations

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GR. 42-1

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

*Theater and the Healing of Croatia*  
*Waltz Leads Amnesty International*  
*Jews of India*

# FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Summer 1997

# magazine

It is our hope that the innovative research at the University will help us reclaim and preserve our most basic legacy as human beings: the earth's environment.

**A** We need to develop the right solutions without unintended side effects.

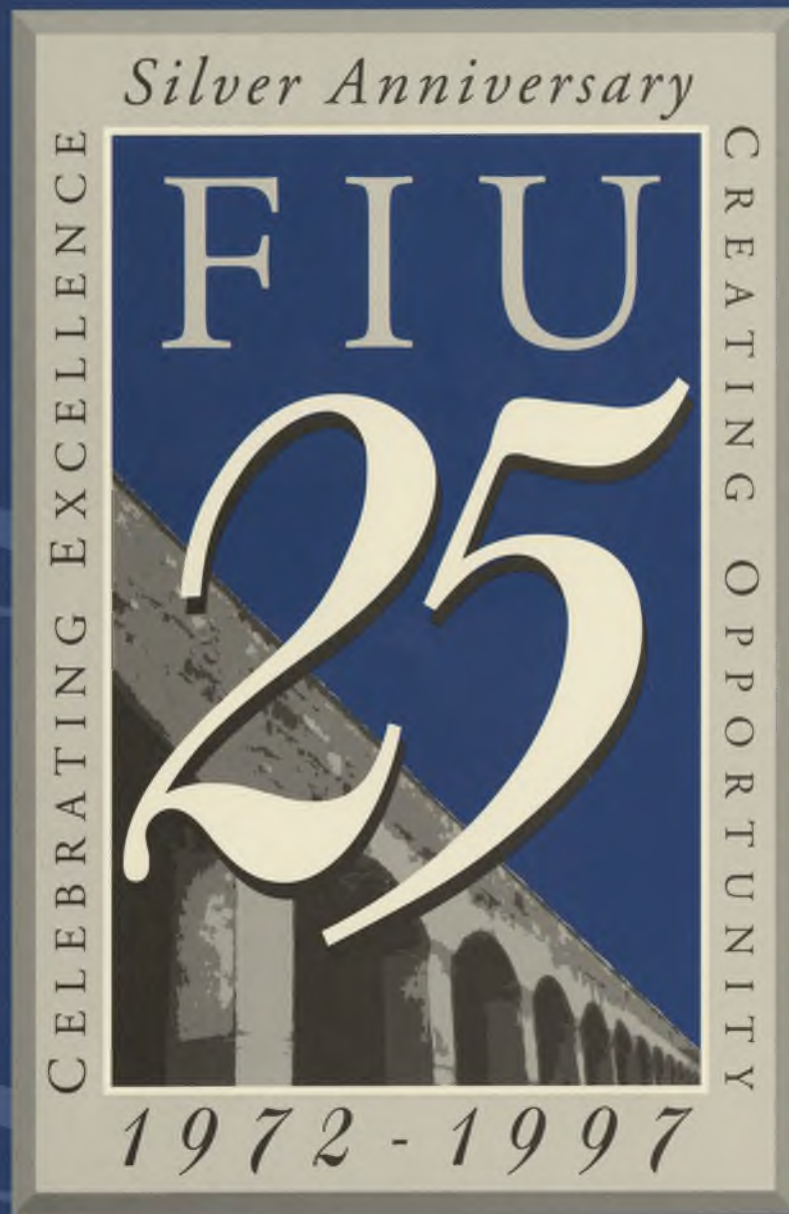
FIU has designated the environment as one of its five strategic themes.

**S U R F A C E**

**W A T E R**



## Cleaning up for the 21st Century



## FIU's 25th Anniversary Celebration Starts This Fall

Mark your calendars, hold the dates and get ready to join in the greatest celebration in FIU's 25-year history!

September 19 marks the 25th anniversary of the day that FIU opened its doors to the largest first-day enrollment in the history of American higher education. In the past quarter-century, the University has witnessed its enrollment grow more than five-fold and its facilities expand tremendously to serve the three million residents of South Florida. The University's phenomenal record of achievement, unparalleled for an institution that opened just 25 years ago, has made it the finest young university in the United States.

Starting in September, there will be a series of special 25th anniversary events commemorating the University's opening and its tremendous success. The list of events at right are scheduled for the kickoff week.

*Sunday*  
**Sunday, September 14:**

FOUNDERS' RECEPTION (by invitation)

OPENING HOME GAME OF THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

*Monday*  
**Monday, September 15:**

DEDICATION OF GRAHAM CENTER ADDITION - the bookstore and mini-mall addition to the Graham Center at University Park will be dedicated and there will be a tribute to the Graham family, who made major contributions to the inception and development of FIU.

*Tuesday*  
**Tuesday, September 16:**

TORCH RUN FROM NORTH CAMPUS TO UNIVERSITY PARK

ANNIVERSARY PARTY - celebrations on both campuses.

UNIVERSITY REDEDICATION - the evening rededication will be followed by the relighting of the Torch of Knowledge.

*Wednesday*  
**Wednesday, September 17:**

SGA LECTURE SERIES

*Thursday*  
**Thursday, September 18:**

ALBITA CONCERT (ticketed event)

SGA COMEDY CONCERT

*Friday*  
**Friday, September 19:**

CONVOCATION

SGA '70s "FLASHBACK PARTY"

OPENING OF ART MUSEUM EXHIBITION

*Saturday*  
**Saturday, September 20:**

CELEBRITY DOMINO-THON - sponsored by the School of Design

*Other special events will be announced throughout the '97-'98 academic year.*



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Volume III, Number 2

Summer 1997

## Editor's Note

About 20 years ago I had the privilege of being with Buckminster Fuller — the architect, designer, engineer, poet, philosopher, author and visionary who was the 20th century's Leonardo da Vinci — at his annual "World Game" conference, which focused on innovative solutions to global problems.

Fuller is best remembered as inventor of the geodesic dome, but I've always found his philosophical world view most compelling.

"We are all passengers on Spaceship Earth," Fuller said, cognizant of the interrelatedness of all people and the common environmental destiny we share.

FIU's strategic emphasis on environmental issues responds to the needs of our age and acknowledges (albeit indirectly) that we are *all* touched by the degradation of the planet. It's our mess and it'll take all of us to clean it up. Moreover, the "I" in FIU reflects the University's commitment to greater worldwide understanding. Case in point: Susan Waltz, a courageous member of the faculty, is now chairperson of Amnesty International, the world's largest human rights organization.

There are countless instances of FIU's continuing mission on behalf of the common good, and we hope you'll help us celebrate them in September. That's when the University will kick off its 25th anniversary celebration, a series of events to which the entire FIU community (past and present) and the community at large are invited. See you there.

Todd Ellenberg  
Editor



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Editor Todd Ellenberg Creative Director Terry Witherell Art Director Bill Stahl Writers Todd Ellenberg, Victoria Stuart, Louis Tucci, Roger Wyman Photographers Gloria O'Connell, Michael Upright, George Valcarce

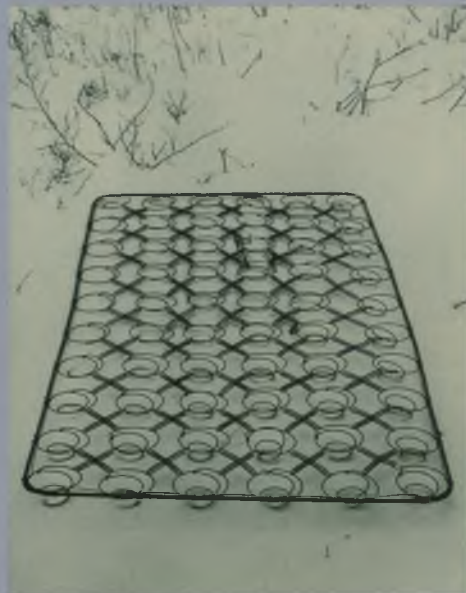
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SPRING COMES TO CHICAGO  
POEMS  
CAMPBELL McGRATH

## PROFESSOR WINS TOP AWARD IN POETRY WORLD

Assistant professor Campbell McGrath, a faculty member in the Department of English and the Creative Writing Program at FIU, has been awarded the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, the most distinguished honor in the world of poetry.

McGrath's book, "Spring Comes to Chicago," was selected as the best book of poetry published in 1996 by a distinguished panel of judges, including Alice Quinn, poetry editor of *The New Yorker*, Jack Miles, book editor of the *Los Angeles Times*, and poets Garrett Hongo, Gary Soto and Daniel Halpern. The award carries a \$50,000 cash prize.

"I was very surprised when I was notified of the award," McGrath said, noting that his book had been nominated by one of the judges. "It felt very good to be honored with an award that was established to draw more attention to poetry. Further, I'm relieved that I'll now be able to pay off my own student loans and make a down payment on my sons."

The Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, inaugurated in 1993, was established through an endowment grant to The Claremont Graduate School in Cali-

fornia valued at more than \$1.25 million from Kate Tufts to honor her late husband, poet and writer Kingsley Tufts. McGrath is its fourth and youngest recipient. It is the largest single-book cash prize in American poetry, and among the most distinguished honors in American letters today.

In its review of "Spring Comes to Chicago," *The Miami Herald* praised McGrath, stating, "There is hope for poetry in this country, in this century when poems as intellectually provocative as these are brave enough to take an occasional detour through the heart." The central work in the book is "The Bob Hope Poem," an epic 70-page work.

Summarizing the reaction of the jury to "The Bob Hope Poem," Miles writes, "The tone Campbell McGrath adopts is simultaneously hilarious and troubled. ...Stylistically, McGrath alternates over-the-limit, speed-demon long lines with traffic jamming, stalled-out short ones. He plays the cliches of the wise against the cliches of the simple. And he sets the whole thing, brilliantly, in Chicago, that most American of all American cities — a Chicago swathed, draped, smothered, muffled, crowned, paralyzed with snow."

A former resident of Chicago, McGrath said the title of the book was something he had been carrying around in his head for a long time.

"If you live in Chicago, the arrival of spring is a very powerful, visceral event," he said. "My son was born in spring 1992 in Chicago. What informs the book is the mindset of a father-to-be. ...Rebirth and those kind of themes are tied together."

McGrath attended the University of Chicago and Columbia University, where he received his MGA in 1988. He is the author of two previous books of poetry, "Capitalism" and "American Noise," and has also been awarded the Pushcart Prize and the Academy of American Poets Prize. He previously taught at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University.

"Spring Comes to Chicago" is published by The Ecco Press. McGrath is now working on two new books: "Florida Poems," a collection based on the landscape and culture of Florida, and an unnamed book of prose poems.

The following is an excerpt from "The Bob Hope Poem" by Campbell McGrath.

*To understand America you must smell the odor  
of ancient popcorn and suck upon a petrified Twizzler  
within the sanctified precincts of the Music Box theater  
where the sky machine frees the souls of mechanical clouds  
and you must laugh as the crowd laughs  
at the absurd fraternal violence of the Three Stooges film festival  
and feel in that sheltered place a deep-rooted communion  
that will last as long as the darkness lasts  
and disperse with its members onto windy avenues  
of particulate commerce and falling snow.  
To understand America you must understand  
the kinds of community we are and are not.  
To understand America you must understand the dream.*



Campbell McGrath

## ADDRESSING A NEGLECTED PROBLEM: NEW AGING AND HEALTH PROGRAM TARGETS LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Once again, FIU is sharing its expertise and experience to help address a serious social issue in another part of the hemisphere.

The FIU Southeast Florida Center on Aging and its partners, the World Health Organization and Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO), have launched a collaborative program in Latin America and the Caribbean on aging and health.

To help facilitate this objective, plans are moving ahead to establish a Latin American and Caribbean Aging and Health Program at FIU to coordinate professional exchanges from developed and developing countries on a variety of aging issues.

This program will be dedicated to the development of international partnerships to exchange information concerning the health, social and economic dimensions of aging populations in the hemisphere. The multidisciplinary program will:

- conduct short-term courses for policy makers, educators and trainers;
- offer fellowships and internships in aging and health for students and professionals;
- offer fellowships and visiting professorships to scholars and professionals;
- develop collaborative research initiatives; and
- provide consultation to governments, universities and other entities.

It is hoped that the center will initiate programming in the 1997-98 academic year. Dr. Alexandre Kalache, chief medical officer of the Aging and Health division of the World Health Organization, has agreed to serve as chair of the new program's advisory board.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the size of the older population is expected to increase at an unprecedented rate — from 41 million or 7.2 percent of the total population by the year 2000 to 96.9 million or 12.8 percent of the total population in the year 2025.

"The demands created by these significant demographic changes are enormous, particularly in poor countries," said Max Rothman, executive director of the Center on Aging. "Aging is a largely neglected area and urgently requires policy development, research and education in the health and human service sectors. We intend to advance the state of knowledge about geriatrics and gerontology through special training, research and dissemination of available data on

aging and programs and policies designed to provide health services."

Last July, the Center on Aging hosted meetings at FIU with WHO and PAHO which focused on:

- healthy aging in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- prevention and management of age-related conditions; and
- priority areas for policy and program development.

At the meetings, the Center on Aging was designated "regional hub" to assist WHO and PAHO carry out its objectives in the region. Following the meetings, the Center on Aging hosted a forum on aging in Latin America and the Caribbean which was attended by leaders from business, foundations and universities. The purpose of the forum was to inform leadership about the dimensions of the issue and to explore the potential for developing research, education and training to address them.

Martha Pelaez, associate director of the Center on Aging, has been helping PAHO develop a five-year plan on aging and health care in the region and provide assistance on the development of programs. Pelaez and the Center on Aging are currently working on related projects assisted by the Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action. In Guatemala, she and Rothman are working with government officials to help develop a new national aging policy, while in Jamaica they are working with Burton Dunlop, the Center's director of research, and the University of the West Indies on the development of databases on aging in the Caribbean. Pelaez has participated in the development of aging policy in Uruguay and training of professionals in Colombia.

## DEVELOPING THE 'VIRTUAL' UNIVERSITY: FIU JOINS IBM GLOBAL CAMPUS

FIU has become part of the IBM Global Campus, an international education and business framework that helps colleges and universities use computer networks to redesign learning, teaching and administrative functions.

The IBM Global Campus offers new tools and services to enable higher education to extend its

*continued on page 4*





reach to current and new students who would like to learn in a more time- and location-independent fashion. For example, it will help participating colleges and universities reach audiences who cannot come to campus for regularly scheduled classes. In addition, it will grant students the opportunity to interact with faculty and experts worldwide.

The Global Campus brings together more than 30 colleges and universities that can share in the exploration of these new ways of teaching, learning and delivering education through multimedia online technology. IBM is offering member institutions specially designed software, consulting and services, as well as the global reach of its infrastructure, to help them develop and implement computing tools to achieve these goals.

"FIU's participation in the IBM Global Village will advance the concept of the virtual university," said Arthur S. Gloster II, FIU vice provost and chief information officer.

"It will help put FIU in a position of adopting curricular content in a multimedia format in the same way faculty utilize textbooks to aid their teaching."

To start on the road to the Global Campus, an academic institution team of administrators, faculty, and sometimes students, is paired with a cross-functional IBM team. The school's particular situation is assessed and analyzed to devise a tailored IBM Global Campus plan. This process can take from three months to a year, depending on the extent of customization and the functions required. To implement the plan, IBM assigns a team of specialists whose areas of expertise may include server systems, personal computers, Lotus Notes, Internet, educational methods and networking.

"We listened to our customers' challenges and as a result created the framework for this initiative," said Sean C. Rush, general manager, Higher Education, IBM North America. "We are applying what we do best — providing technology solutions and the power of network computing — to help institutions of higher education better serve their students and faculty. The initial interest from the charter institutions demonstrates the powerful potential of IBM

Global Campus solutions and how higher education can join with IBM in framing the future of learning."

For more information, visit the IBM Global Campus home page at: <http://ike.engr.washington.edu/igc/>

## MEMBERS OF FIU FAMILY COME TO MIAMI'S AID

Members of the FIU family have been assisting the city of Miami through its process of economic recovery.

Cynthia Curry, FIU vice president for Business and Finance, and Adolfo Henriques, president of NationsBank-Miami and an FIU alumnus (1976 M.S.-Accounting), were among the four community leaders and Lt. Gov. Buddy MacKay named by Gov. Lawton Chiles to the city of Miami's Financial Emergency Oversight Board. The board has the responsibility to review the city's current and future budgets, its fiscal recovery plan and implementation of the plan. In May, the Oversight Board approved the five-year recovery plan the city proposed. MacKay stepped down as chair of the committee and Henriques has filled the position.

"The process will now focus on the city's ability to manage the plan," said Curry, who is now chairing the board's Estimating Conference Committee. "The Oversight Board will continue to monitor the city's implementation of the plan."

The board, appointed last December, mandated the city to submit a plan to eliminate its current \$68 million deficit. The city has a \$48 million recurring deficit, with the rest representing shortfalls in capital projects.

Last fall, two FIU faculty members, Milan Dluhy of the Public Administration Department and Antonio Jorge of the Economics Department, served on Miami's long-range strategic planning committee established by acting city manager Merritt Stierheim, who left office in November. The committee reviewed an economic recovery plan drafted by Stierheim to help the city find revenue sources and cuts.

"The committee thought it was very good for the short-term recovery to balance the \$68 million deficit," Dluhy said. "The committee thought more long-term planning needed to be done during the next five years so the city wouldn't wind up in that situation again. The new city manager would need to come up with a long-term plan.

"The city of Miami is so poor that it needs to find a way to get revenues from commuters and tourists. They can't raise the local property taxes of residents, the tax base is not there. They need to find creative financing."

Dluhy and Howard Frank, associate professor of Public Administration, had an article published in *Municipal Finance Journal* on the fiscal crisis, titled "Miami: Teetering on the Precipice of Disaster."

## GREEK HOUSING ON THE WAY

A state of the art performing arts center opens on the southeastern side of campus. An eight-story library tower rises in the heart of University Park. What's next in the evolution of University Park? How about fraternity/sorority row on the west side of campus?





Plans have been established for the creation of Greek housing at University Park, which would be located directly west of the FIU Community Stadium. As the first step in the process, four lots for Greek houses, each approximately one acre in size, have been reserved for development.

The FIU administration and the Florida Board of Regents have endorsed the establishment of on-campus Greek houses, which would eventually accommodate 5,000 students. Greek housing objectives include:

- provide affordable housing for chapter members
- direct the focus of chapter activities to the mainstream of campus life
- help ensure the long-term viability of participating chapters
- reaffirm that the Greek system plays a vital role in the University and contributes to the quality of student life

John Bonanno, assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs, has been meeting with representatives from fraternities and sororities that are interested in building houses on campus. Overall, there are 17 Greek organizations at FIU with approximately 600 members.

In order to proceed with the building of a fraternity/sorority house, a Greek organization has to submit a plan detailing private financing for the house. There was a June 1 deadline for Greek organizations to submit a letter of intention if interested in building a house.

Bonanno noted the fraternities that have taken the lead in the efforts to open houses: Pi Kappa Alpha, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Mu and Tau Kappa Epsilon. The University administration has consulted with several local financial institutions which are willing to assist the Greek organizations in obtaining funding for the construction of the houses.

Paul Winkeljohn, the alumni representative of Pi Kappa Alpha, said that the fraternity has established the Kappa Gamma Housing Corporation, which is handling fund raising for the project. The board of the corporation would secure financing for construction and manage the house once it is built. Chris Vasta, alumni representative of Sigma Phi Epsilon, said the fraternity is now raising funds from local alumni, with \$10,000 raised to date.

## LEE REVEALS SECRETS OF THE RAINFOREST BLUES

We expect leaves to be green. But for two decades David Lee, professor of Biological Sciences, has been studying the secrets behind rare blue plants found in tropical rain forests.

In the January/February issue of *American Scientist* magazine, Lee discussed the research he has conducted for two decades on the subject. When he was in Southeast Asia in the early 1970s, he was astonished by the shimmering electric blue of *Selaginella*, a relative of the ferns, which he first saw in the Malaysian tropical rain forest. He has also found the iridescent blue plants — which thrive in the shady understory environments of rain forests — in Honduras, Costa Rica and French Guyana.

Chlorophyll pigments give leaves their familiar color. Chlorophyll absorbs light at all visible wavelengths, but little in the green range; light scattered out of the leaf surfaces makes them look green. Chlorophyll is also responsible for photosynthesis, which transforms light, water and nutri-



ents into the sugars that enable plants to live.

Lee found that the basis of color production in *Selaginella* plants was not pigmentation, because the leaves lost their color when immersed in water. He theorizes that the plants' blue tones are a protective mechanism. To adapt to their shady environment the plants became very sensitive to the available dim light. The blue color protects them from other wavelengths of light that would be harmful.

The article in *American Scientist* has stimulated considerable interest in Lee's work on the subject. He was invited to present a seminar at Penn State, and a physicist there is interested in collaborating on future research on the subject. He has also applied for a grant from the National Geographic Society to support research on the physiology of blue plants.

"I want to test the hypothesis on the physiological function," Lee said. "I don't have the evidence for that yet, but it seems like a reasonable explanation."

*In Brief continued on page 6*



## INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR TO DIRECT FIU'S AFRICAN-NEW WORLD STUDIES PROGRAM

Renowned scholar and author Carole Boyce Davies has been named director of FIU's African-New World Studies Program. Boyce Davies, who has conducted wide ranging research in the fields of African-American/African studies, women's studies, and cultural studies, was a professor of English and African Studies at Binghamton University. She joined FIU July 1.

Boyce Davies is the author of numerous articles, chapters and five books including a two-volume work titled "Moving Beyond Boundaries," which was published in 1995. She speaks French, Spanish and Portuguese in addition to English.

Originally from Trinidad, Boyce Davies earned her bachelor's degree in English (summa cum laude) at the University of Maryland in 1971. In 1974, she received her master's in African Studies from Howard University and three years later she earned a Ph.D. in English from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

"I see a lot of possibilities at FIU," said Boyce Davies, who will assume her new responsibilities in July. "It's a place with plans for the future and lots of energy."

Boyce Davies would like to help the FIU African-New World Studies Program develop into a unique program that looks at the African communities not only in the U.S. but also in Latin America.

"Issues such as gender and the African diaspora have not really been explored fully," she said.

Having travelled extensively throughout the Caribbean, Brazil, United States, Europe and Africa, Boyce Davies has developed an international perspective on many issues.

"It's professionals of the caliber of Dr. Boyce Davies who are helping to make FIU a truly great university," said FIU President Modesto A. Maidique. "She will contribute immensely to the enrichment of our multicultural environment."

Founded in 1994, the African-New World Studies Program is a certificate program featuring an interdisciplinary curriculum, as well as cultural community-based components, research and special events.



## FIU LAUNCHES DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

FIU has something new to celebrate: the Diversity Initiative. FIU's strength is already reflected in its broad representation of minority group members and individuals with a wide range of backgrounds and perspectives. FIU's Diversity Initiative recognizes the individual interests of the student body, faculty, and staff. It also promotes a well educated, ethnically diverse student body with access, retention and graduation equally available to all students.

The Initiative was launched by Vice President for Business and Finance Cynthia Curry last year with the appointment of the Diversity Initiative Advisory Committee. The group advises the administration and assists the University community in valuing differences, communicating across cultures, and weaving diversity and minority issues into University life through special programs and activities.

Consultants from the National Conference of Christians and Jews conducted climate assessment interviews last fall with students, faculty and staff. Interview and testimony findings from three public forums on student, academic/faculty, staff and North Campus issues were reported to the University Executive Council. The assessment identified differences in University perceptions based on race, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, economic status, marital status, religion, creed, and the range of other differences that exist among people.

The findings were the basis for the Diversity Initiative Training Team workshop developed and conducted by the consultants for 35 volunteer faculty and staff members. Universitywide diversity training for students, faculty and staff is planned. An ongoing diversity training program will become an integral part of FIU's commitment to the Diversity Initiative.

Julianne Malveaux, economist and media commentator, was the first speaker in the newly initiated FIU Diversity Initiative Speakers/Lecture Series in October. A new *Diversity Exchange* magazine was published, which showcases FIU's diverse community and accomplishments and addresses University diversity issues.



Carole Boyce Davies

## REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN ALUMNUS' MEMORY

The late Jerome Bain, a member of FIU's inaugural class of 1972, was memorialized recently with the establishment of the Jerome Bain Real Estate Institute at FIU, a project in partnership with the Realtor Association of Miami. The Miami Board of Realtors Educational Foundation presented FIU with a \$500,000 donation to create the institute, the first of its kind in South Florida, in Bain's memory.

Bain received a master's degree in business administration from FIU in 1975 and taught as an adjunct faculty member in the mid-70s. Upon his death in 1991, FIU received \$100,000 to establish a scholarship fund in his name. Bain's gift was one of the first large donations made to the university by an alumnus. The rest of his assets were distributed among several professional and educational organizations. The largest portion of his estate was donated to the Realtor Association of Miami, which Bain led as its 1980 president.

Six years after Bain's death, the Realtor Association and its Education Foundation, together with the executor of Bain's estate, decided to give FIU the bulk of the gift left to the association to establish a real estate institute to educate future realtors.

The Realtor Association of Miami and FIU intend to build a real estate program in South Florida that will achieve national distinction. The real estate institute at FIU will serve as the hub of real estate higher education starting with a fully accredited and state-endorsed curriculum. In addition, the institute will be a center for applied and theoretical real estate research. With increased demand and additional funding from private sources, FIU can facilitate professional certification programs, academic scholarships and international conferences.

"Jerome Bain recognized the importance of education," said Maurice Veissi, chairman of the Education Foundation. "This institute will afford future realtors the opportunity to learn and grow in the competitive field of real estate."

The Jerome Bain Real Estate Institute will be administered by the Department of Finance in FIU's College of Business Administration and will offer courses in the field of real estate. Upon completion of required course work, students will be able to obtain a bachelor's degree in business with a concentration in real estate.

For more information about the institute, call FIU Finance Professor John Zdanowicz at (305) 348-2771.



Jerome Bain

## VIDEOCONFERENCING SYSTEM RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

In recognition of the University's innovative use of videoconferencing, FIU placed third in the national 1997 Best Practices Competition sponsored by PictureTel, a company that manufactures teleconferencing equipment.

The first and second place winners were Chrysler Motors and American Management Systems. The goal of the award is to publicize case studies of innovative uses of teleconferencing.

"We are thrilled because FIU is the first university to ever place in the top three in the competition," said Olga Magnusen, director of the Office of Career Services, who organized the University's entry with her husband, Karl, a professor in the College of Business Administration. "Through this technology, we are able to afford our students, faculty and staff opportunities they may not have otherwise."

FIU uses videoconferencing in a number of ways, including distance learning, monthly faculty meetings, interviews with potential professors, staff meetings, group interactions, and interviews between potential employers and students. FIU also forms a consortium with three regional universities that is geared to offer students advanced level distance learning courses in various languages.

Use of the technology offers a number of benefits: greater number of classes offered, diversity in the curriculum, reduced travel time and costs, increased participation at meetings, larger employer pool for students and alumni, and larger applicant pool for employers.

In 1994, FIU's Office of Career Services became one of the first university offices in the country to purchase video teleconferencing equipment to assist students in their job searches. Today, FIU uses the equipment to beam students to recruiters all around the world.

Entries to the 1996 Best Practices competition were judged by a panel chosen from the PictureTel User Group executive committee, PictureTel management and other impartial videoconferencing industry experts. This year's award winners were announced recently during a teleconference involving users in 12 locations in England, Ireland, Sweden and the United States. In previous years, winners have included 3M, Mobil and Allied Domecq, Plc. ■■■■■







Ken Boodhoo



Nancy Wellman



Jack Dye



Eduardo Gamarra



John Dufresne



Dario Moreno



Suman Kakar



# FIU CITINGS

## Being (un)neighborly

"You will always find problems between these two countries that have historically been rivals," said Ken Boodhoo, FIU associate professor of International Relations, referring to relations between Haiti and the neighboring Dominican Republic. "Sometimes the problems ease up a bit, but they are always there and they can get really bad."

(From *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, March 30)

## School protein for the '90s

"What you're looking for in a school meal is a good supply of a whole variety of nutrients to help children grow both physically and mentally," said Nancy Wellman, FIU professor of Dietetics and Nutrition, commenting on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision to classify yogurt as a protein in school lunches. "A number of yogurt-type products are not only tasty but low in fat and very nutritious."

(From *The Sun-Sentinel*, March 25)

## Hot, dirty and high-paying

"Construction is hot and dirty, and a lot of people don't like to be hot and dirty," said Jack Dye, FIU professor of Construction Management, referring to the shortage of workers in the field and society's emphasis on white collar professions. "The high schools stress college, college, college. Everybody is not suited to go to college. What we need to do is let the public know that there are good-paying jobs in the construction industry."

(From *South Florida Business Journal*, February 21)

## Improved relations shot down

"That shoot down essentially ended the U.S.' carrot-and-stick approach toward Cuba, the process of opening, which most of us believed was positive," said Eduardo Gamarra, FIU associate professor of Political Science and acting director of the Latin American and Caribbean Center, about Cuba's downing of two Brothers to the Rescue planes in 1996. "I don't see much chance of any significant improvements in Cuba-U.S. relations for some time."

(From *The Dallas Morning News*, February 24)

## Understanding the imponderables

"Love and death are the only things that interest me," said John Dufresne, FIU associate professor of Creative Writing and author of the recently published novel, "Love Warps the Mind a Little." "I try to write about things that I don't understand. "Take love, for instance: We all need it, and yet we manage to screw it up all the time. As a fiction writer, you realize you're never going to get an easy answer to something like that, so my job is to ask the questions, and let the readers take it from there."

(From wire service stories printed in several newspapers)

## Miami: pride versus pocketbook

"Blacks and Hispanics ... have a lot to gain from the city of Miami," said Dario Moreno, FIU associate professor of Political Science, about the debate about the possible dissolution of Miami. "The city of Miami ... is a source of jobs and they see a great deal of economic stakes in the city of Miami continuing the way it is."

(From *The Christian Science Monitor*, February 12)

## Sticks, stones and guns

"A shooting no longer shocks the children," said Suman Kakar, FIU assistant professor of Criminal Justice, commenting on the nation's escalating rate of firearm-related deaths among children. "Children have accepted as part of life that any time someone gets angry, they're going to get a gun."

(From *The New York Times*, February 11)



present century has one species —



# CLEANING UP FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

*"The most important thing about Spaceship Earth: an instruction book didn't come with it."*

— Buckminster Fuller

Buckminster Fuller — the 20th century scientist/humanist/visionary best known as the inventor of the geodesic dome — questioned the ability of "Spaceship Earth's" inhabitants to properly manage the planet.

Wreckless exploitation of natural resources and population growth have created environmental problems that will worsen if they are not addressed. This is especially apparent in South Florida, an expanding urban region surrounded by fragile and unique marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems.

Cognizant of today's critical environmental problems and the unique opportunity to develop solutions that can be applied locally and elsewhere, FIU has designated the environment

as one of its five priority academic strategic themes. FIU's programs in Biological Sciences, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Geology, Landscape Architecture, Mechanical Engineering, and Environmental and Urban Systems are leading the thrust in environmental research and training. In addition, several interdisciplinary centers — including the Drinking Water Research Center, the Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems, the Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology, the International Hurricane Center and the Southeast Environmental Research Program — are taking advantage of the talents of faculty from different departments.

*continued on page 10*

“Only within the moment of time represented by the

— Rachel Carson

of his world.”



will help us reclaim and preserve our most basic legacy as human beings: the earth's environment.

"It is our hope that the innovative research at the University

"FIU's setting and the global trends that will dominate in the 21st century led us to determine that environmental issues would be among the priorities guiding the University's development," said FIU President Modesto A. Maidique. "It is our hope that the innovative research at the University will help us reclaim and preserve our most basic legacy as human beings: the earth's environment."

Last year, approximately 25 percent of the \$30 million FIU attracted in sponsored research and contracts — \$7.5 million — was for environmental research.

"Our success in this area has been the result of a purposive, long-range plan," said Tom Breslin, acting vice president of Research and Graduate Studies. "Years ago, the College of Arts and Sciences took the lead by focusing recruitment efforts on faculty specializing in tropical and warm water environments."

Breslin said much of the University's research has taken an interdisciplinary approach since many of the problems and solutions involve expertise from a variety of fields. In addition, he noted that funding agencies are interested in organizations employing an interdisciplinary approach.

"A multidisciplinary approach helps establish the broad perspective we need," he said. "A 'silver bullet,' single application approach may not provide the answers we seek. We can't focus too narrowly on certain aspects of environmental problems — or we may create other problems. We need to develop the right solutions without unintended side effects."

"We're well positioned for the long-term in critical areas and we'll keep a multidisciplinary focus on the solutions to those problems. I believe the challenge will be to clean up the mistakes we created during the past half-century — it will keep us busy the next half-century cleaning up the mess," Breslin said.

FIU faculty-scientists are busy researching ways to manage and clean up the "mess" we've created in different environments.

While the scope of FIU's environmental research goes far beyond the following examples, these "snapshots" are representative of the cutting-edge research taking place at the University.

### Cooking and the air we breathe

Air pollution is usually associated with exhaust from vehicles, emissions from factories and other industrial sources. There are other ubiquitous types of air pollution, however, that pervade our most private and safe space: the home.

Indoor air quality is of fundamental importance because, on average, we spend most of our days indoors and roughly 75 percent of that at home. In urban areas plagued by outdoor pollution, indoor air quality is substantially modified by outdoor pollutants penetrating the building shell. According to recent studies, indoor pollutant levels can be appreciably higher than those measured in the outdoor atmosphere. People may be spending most of their day in an environment more hazardous to human health and well-being than the outdoor urban environment.

"Indoor air quality is not well regulated compared to the outdoor environment where there are many pollutant standards," said Wolfgang F. Rogge, assistant professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at FIU. "It's an unregulated environment — and we cannot sue ourselves. But if we look at indoor air quality there are a lot of problems, which made it an obvious target for research."

Rogge is currently conducting research on a major source of indoor pollution: cooking. Next to cigarette smoking, indoor cooking is the second leading source for gaseous and particulate pollutants released indoors. His research is being supported by a \$287,000 grant from the Center for Indoor Air Research in Maryland.

As a doctoral student at California Institute of Technology, Rogge researched the effects of cigarette smoke and meat cooking on the outdoor atmosphere. He found that cigarette smoke was responsible for 1 percent of Los Angeles' particulate air pollution, a relatively

most basic legacy as human beings: the earth's environment.

—President Maidique



created during the past half-century

it will keep us busy the next half-century cleaning

"I believe the challenge will be to clean up the mistakes we

insignificant amount. However, the study on charcoalers and meat cooking operations was startling. Rogge found that the 4.4 million pounds of meat cooked daily in the Los Angeles area generated particulate emissions as high as the emissions of all motor vehicles in the area. And if so much outdoor pollution was generated by the cooking of hamburgers, it would follow that the impact on indoor air quality could be substantial.

Little is known about the adverse health effects associated with indoor cooking. Recent studies have indicated that potent carcinogens are formed during meat cooking, with levels determined by cooking temperature and time. But there's very little data on the chemical nature of gaseous and particulate emissions generated by cooking.

"Considering that epidemiologists recently suggested that every year up to 60,000 people in the U.S. die due to the inhalation of fine particles, the research we are currently doing is of major importance — not only for the science community but also for the public," Rogge said. "The result of our study may in the long-run result in changes in building codes and cooking procedures."

To study the pollutants generated by indoor cooking, Rogge developed an experimental system with a large stainless steel chamber in which there are two full-size electrical and natural gas kitchen stoves. A powerful fan and vacuum system collects emissions which are then measured and analyzed on the molecular level. A variety of foods have been cooked during the current research project, including: beef (steak, ground meat, roast), pork, chicken, fish, potatoes, noodles, eggs, vegetables and breakfast meat. Cooking methods have included pan and oven broiling, roasting/baking, pan and deep frying, and boiling.

The environmental scientist pointed out that the design of newer homes may also contribute to elevated indoor air pollution from cooking. In older homes, the kitchen was usually a separate room that could be ventilated easily. In many newer homes, however, the kitchen is integrated with others rooms, such as the dining

room or family room, and pollutants are dispersed throughout the entire house.

Rogge has conducted other air pollution research. He did a study on the use of compressed natural gas as an alternative



Wolfgang F. Rogge

fuel for vehicles in order to reduce pollutant emissions. He found that emissions for natural gas-powered vehicles were lower than gasoline-powered vehicles only when the vehicle was carefully tuned. Considering that cars in daily operation are tuned very infrequently, Rogge found it likely that vehicles operating on compressed natural gas as an alternative fuel would emit more pollutant mass overall than gasoline-powered vehicles.

### Managing the nuclear legacy

Less than 60 years have passed since the atomic age kicked into high gear. In the United States it began with the Manhattan Project, which culminated in the atomic explosions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki and gave rise to the U.S. nuclear weapons complex. The Cold War arms race fueled nuclear material production, fabrication, research and test facilities.

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 facilitated the private development of nuclear power in the U.S., which gave birth to the commercial nuclear energy industry. Following the lead of the superpowers, numerous foreign countries also jumped on the nuclear bandwagon. Although the production of nuclear weapons has subsided in the post-Cold War era, there are now 109 operating nuclear power plants in the U.S. and 437 plants worldwide.

For decades, the environmental issues associated with the nuclear age, including waste management, received secondary attention. Some six decades of nuclear production have left a distressing legacy. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), charged with the responsibility of managing and resolving radioactive structures, materials and waste, estimates that more

*continued on page 12*

up the mess. " - Tom Breslin



"People may be spending most of their day in an

than 7,000 facilities require environmental action, including 700 targeted for decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) at a cost of \$65 billion. It's estimated that the cost for D&D of nuclear utility facilities worldwide could exceed \$100 billion.

And that's where FIU's Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology (HCET) steps in.

HCET was established in 1995 by FIU and the Department of Energy's Office of Science and Technology to research, develop and demonstrate innovative environmental technologies and to facilitate their transfer to commercial and DOE users. FIU and the federal agency entered a five-year agreement in 1995 that provides \$22 million in funding for HCET. As a testing center for industry and DOE, HCET evaluates and demonstrates new technology, principally for D&D. Additional support for HCET's activities comes from other federal agencies and private corporations. This interdisciplinary center now has 24 researchers from Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Environmental and Mechanical), and Information Systems, as well as 10 full-time staff and 30 undergraduate and graduate students who are working on a variety of projects.

"Over the years, FIU handled several projects for DOE that achieved their goals and objectives with high quality and at low cost," said M.A. Ebadian, director of HCET. "DOE felt that this is a place where they can get their work done effectively. ...Although our primary mission is the management of nuclear and other hazardous waste, we're looking at developing our capabilities in pollution prevention, soil bioremediation and other areas. We're trying to be diverse in our approach."

Due to the University's strategic location, HCET was designated by DOE as its principal technology transfer agent for the Caribbean and Latin America. HCET seeks to establish model partnerships for the diffusion of environmental and sustainable technologies that promote economic growth and well being for nations throughout the hemisphere.

In order to develop partnerships with other nations, HCET has been working closely with

FIU's Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC), which has relationships with many foreign governments, universities and industries. Last year, HCET was instrumental in forging a historic environmental technical cooperation agreement between the DOE and the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission. The agreement promotes cooperative development, implementation and transfer of environmental technologies between the two nations. In addition, the agreement has a second long-term objective: to open new markets and opportunities for U.S. and Argentine environmental technology companies.



M. A. Ebadian

"HCET strives to position itself as a partner for companies that want to increase their exports to other countries," Ebadian said. "We can assist these companies by demonstrating their technologies, which will help ensure their commercialization and implementation. We would like to attract a lot of national companies to Miami and create more jobs and opportunities."

Some of the projects HCET has completed include:

- a comparative analysis of seven different surface blasting methods to decontaminate structural steel. The study was conducted with the Fernald Environmental Management Corporation.
- development of an evaporation process to concentrate the liquid radioactive and hazardous waste stored at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Melton Valley Storage Tanks, thereby expanding the storage capacity of the tanks.
- an engineering study for the review of literature and vendor technologies related to waste characterizations.

health and well-being than the outdoor urban



because the DOE felt that this is a

Over the years, FIU has handled several DOE projects

In addition to technology evaluation and commercialization, HCET conducts its own innovative research. HCET laboratories are preparing to patent two innovative sensors designed to measure the viscosity and density of waste found in storage tanks and transport systems throughout the DOE complex. HCET researchers are also developing two new technologies for separation of vitreous slag from molten metal produced by the thermal processing of mixed waste streams at DOE sites.

Next December, HCET will team up with DOE to present the largest and most authoritative symposium of international experts in the D&D field. X-Change '97, a five-day event held at multiple sites in downtown Miami, will highlight new operational approaches, technologies, and innovations that can reduce the costs of D&D. The unprecedented event promises to bring together 1,500 participants from 30 countries.

"We intend for HCET to be one of the world's major players in environmental technology," Ebadian said. "HCET can become one of the outstanding cornerstones of the University."

### The future of the Everglades

"The future of the Everglades is *the* environmental issue in South Florida and one of the major environmental issues in the world today," said Ron Jones. "The only other thing on a scale this big may be the preservation of the rainforests. We've interfered with this system as much as possible and now we have to do something about it. If we lose it, we've lost that type of environment in the U.S."

When it comes to the Everglades, Ron Jones, professor of Biological Sciences and director of the FIU Southeast Environmental Research Program (SERP), doesn't sound like just a scientist describing his work. He's more akin to a zealot on a mission. Given the special nature of the Everglades, one of the most unique ecosystems in the world, perhaps his fervor is understandable.

Established by Jones in 1993, SERP has gathered a diverse group of faculty, research associ-

ates, students and technicians to address the myriad environmental challenges facing South Florida. Since its inception, one of SERP's primary missions has been to serve as a resource center, performing



Ron Jones

vital basic and applied research with and for individuals and organizations deeply concerned about the condition of South Florida's unique ecosystem. Much of their work focuses on the troubled Everglades landscape, from Lake Okeechobee south to the Florida Keys tract, and the results of their applied research projects reveal practical solutions for current problems and prevention of future crises.

Currently, SERP has more than 50 people associated with its programs, including 19 faculty members from a wide variety of academic disciplines, four research scientists, and 30 technicians and graduate students. From its inception to the present, SERP has attracted grant funding of more than \$8 million from agencies including the National Science Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency and National Park Service. It also houses the offices of two federal agencies working to restore the South Florida ecosystem: the U.S. Geological Survey - Biological Research Division and the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.

SERP has done considerable work for the latter agency studying the environmental degradation of the Everglades, a large portion of which is within the federal Everglades National Park. One of the central issues — and the subject of contention for parties on both sides of the Everglades debate — has focused on the maximum amount of phosphorous dissolved in water that can pass through the Everglades without changing the ecosystem. Phosphorous enters the system as a result of agriculture, most notably the vast sugar cane fields located in the Everglades Agricultural Area located near Lake Okeechobee.

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place where they can get their work done effectively."

-M. A. Ebadian



"The future of the Everglades is THE environmental

major environmental issues in the world today."  
-Ron Jones

There's no disputing that excessive levels of phosphorous above the natural level *will* alter the environment. The question is, how much? The level in the natural Everglades is a minuscule 10 parts per billion parts of water, and scientists have been debating how much more phosphorous above the natural level causes change — somewhere between 0 and 50 ppb. SERP has been leading the federal government's efforts to establish phosphorous criteria for Everglades National Park and other federal and state lands.

"No excess phosphorous is really acceptable, that's the problem," Jones said. "The Everglades can't receive any more than it has been receiving naturally. Any excessive amount will cause change in the system. The issue is whether that change is acceptable or not, and it's a matter of how long that change will take to occur."

Data compiled by Jones on the Everglades was utilized in 1988 by U.S. Attorney Dexter Lehtinen, who represented the interests of Everglades National Park which was at the receiving end of a polluted water flow. Lehtinen filed a suit on behalf of the National Park against the state for permitting the violation of its water quality laws. In 1991, the suit was settled, with the state agreeing to reduce phosphorous flows by at least 80 percent by 1997 and to earmark 40,000 acres of land to filter out phosphorous flowing from the sugar fields.

The future of the Everglades was hotly contested on Florida ballots last November when voters rejected a proposed measure to assess a one cent per pound tax on sugar, but approved a bill that would require those responsible for pollution in the Everglades to pay for its clean-up.

SERP is now working closely with scientists from Everglades National Park on a project to restore more than 10,000 acres of abandoned farm fields, located deep within the park, to their original wetland state. Data from the project will be applied when SERP faculty and scientists complete quantification of the water quality criteria necessary to maintain the ecological structure and function of pristine Everglades

wetlands. They will then collaborate with the state early in the next decade to create additional marshes in the northern Everglades designed to cleanse water draining from agricultural fields, which will greatly improve water quality in sensitive Everglades marshes and increase the chance for the viability of the natural wetlands.

Mercury contamination is another serious problem plaguing the Everglades. Largemouth bass caught in most of their waters are so contaminated that they cannot be consumed. SERP, along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, is conducting the most extensive mercury monitoring project in South Florida to understand both the distribution of mercury and the processes involved in its cycling.

Other SERP research efforts are investigating how water from the Everglades is affecting Florida Bay and the mangrove wetlands that fringe it. Its estuarine research includes extensive monitoring of water quality and seagrass in Florida and Biscayne bays, in conjunction with numerous projects directed at understanding how these ecosystems function. The monitoring network extends throughout the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and includes waters of the continental shelf of Southwestern Florida to the Dry Tortugas.

Although SERP's geographical focus is defined by its name, Jones envisions a time when the program will conduct activities that will reach throughout the Caribbean Basin and Central America and portions of South America.

"We want to make sure that the lessons learned here in South Florida are applied elsewhere," he explained. "However, we don't want to get too big. We need to keep our focus on the Southeast.

"When you start studying the Everglades you find it's a place where very little scientific work has been done. It's virgin territory for a scientist. When you get into the Everglades you're almost guaranteed to find something unique. That's a heck of a lot of fun, plus you can't help but be attracted by its aesthetic qualities. It's one of God's creations and we have to protect it. It's my desire to be a good steward of the earth." ■



"We'll be able to give the world information that's been

locked up for decades." -Gail Clement

# everglades online

The close relationship between FIU and Everglades National Park, fostered by the pioneering research of the Southeast Environmental Research Program, has given rise to an innovative new collaborative project: the Everglades Information Network and Digital Library.

The mission of the Everglades Information Network (EIN) is to provide worldwide, timely and effective access to the universe of Everglades information — both print and online — with the goal of supporting and facilitating research, education, restoration and resource management. The EIN integrates both traditional and electronic services to provide comprehensive information on the South Florida ecosystem.

One of the most innovative and unique elements of the EIN is the Everglades Digital Library, a World Wide Web site of electronic documents, images, maps, photos and other educational and interpretive materials.

"This has really been an entrepreneurial project, it isn't like it was handed to anyone," said Gail Clement, FIU science information services librarian, who has spearheaded the project on the University side. "Due to funding cuts, the Everglades National Park could no longer support a viable library and information service. It was also difficult for much of the scientific community to get access to a lot of Everglades-related information. Because of these factors, we started to discuss some possible solutions which led to the current project."

The Everglades Digital Library, which went online the beginning of this year, is still in its embryonic stages. However, it already offers documents on the "Hole-in-the-Donut" restoration site; annual reports and other materials from agencies involved in the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force; information on the Walt Dineen Society, an interdisciplinary forum for South Florida science; and a directory of other Everglades-related Internet sites and resources.

"We had the right mix, the right interest and the right vision, and the project came together with serendipity," Clement said. "This is a wonderful example of how the Internet and the World Wide Web can be employed to make a difference in accessing information that's critical to the restoration effort. We'll be able to give the world information that's been locked up in a room for decades."

The Everglades Information Network and Digital Library can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://everglades.fiu.edu>.

<http://everglades.fiu.edu>





# Nenni

**THEATER** is often regarded as a leisure diversion, an opportunity to escape from the concerns of everyday life. In a cloistered, darkened room, the audience is entertained by the drama, musical or comedy presented on stage. But for Nenni Delmestre '81 '86, one of Croatia's leading directors, the line between life and theater wasn't so clear when she was presenting plays in the midst of the war that shattered her nation for five years.

In the wake of the breakup of Yugoslavia in 1991, war was a day-to-day reality in Croatia and neighboring Bosnia. Sometimes rehearsals would take place with shelling rumbling nearby. Other times, performances had to be done in attics.

"We were presenting the play *"Simone of Cirene,"* which I directed for the Split Summer Festival," Delmestre recalled. "The play is about Christ and Simon carrying the cross to Golgotha. It was presented in the open space, in front of the cave of St. Geronimus, located in the mountains of Split. At some point, five Yugoslav army helicopters crossed right in front of our noses on their way to attack the Croatian island of Solta. What was happening on stage at that time had the symbolic value as the real aggression happening at that moment. Theater became life and life took part in the theater. But that was only the beginning. We worked on *"Death and the Maiden"* in Dubrovnik at the same time when this great city was mutilated and raped (just as the main character in the play) by the shelling of Serbian barbarians. We did not leave the city, we did not run to shelters, we worked in our theater. That kept us sane, because as we came out we

saw people we knew without legs and arms. Some we never saw again.

"During those years, war was always present as an extra character in my plays," she explained. "It was not always a conscious choice. War was simply a tenant occupying our mind and our soul at all times. Nothing was done without its presence; no birth, no wedding, no funeral — especially no funerals. So, it also came to the theater, sometimes invited and sometimes not. And now that a peace has emerged we want to laugh and cry about something else. Now we are healing with American melodramas and comedy."

Theater as part of a nation's healing process? Given Croatia's cultural heritage, it's not so surprising — there is a great theatrical tradition that's ingrained in the nation's fabric. Going to the theater in Croatia is as common as going to the movies, and most of the country's four national theaters have existed for more than 100 years. When the Croatian National Theater of Split — Delmestre's home town — burned down in 1968, local residents agreed to a 12 percent increase in taxes for 10 years in order to rebuild their beloved theater.

Although Split, an ancient city where Roman Emperor Diocletian built one of the finest temples of antiquity, has a strong theatrical tradition, Miami was the place where Delmestre would first study theater. And it wasn't the stage, but tennis that originally brought her to the U.S. One of Croatia's leading tennis players (she competed at Wimbledon), she first came to the U.S. when she was offered a tennis scholarship at Lamar

PROBES THEATER AND SP





# Delmestre

University in Texas. After one year in the sleepy town of Beaumont, she took a friend's advice to move to Miami and study at FIU. Delmestre received a B.S. in Communications Technology in 1981, and then went to Rome to study film directing.

"I was there about a week when I realized that I really wanted to devote my life to theater," she recalled. "I went back to FIU, where I had already taken some elective courses in theater, and started all over again. I met Professor Therald Todd who provided immense support and encouragement. Most important was the sense of artistic freedom, of not being cloned from some strict mold but being allowed to pursue one's real interests within the art of theater."

Delmestre worked on plays with Professor Todd, including "Waiting for Godot," and he arranged for her to work with famed theater and film director Jose Ferrer at the Coconut Grove Playhouse.

I wasn't at all surprised to hear of her success," Todd said. "As a student, she showed such such fine perception, an ability to really understand theatre and translate it into effective dramatic terms."

After receiving her B.F.A. in Theater in 1986, she returned to Croatia and started to work as an assistant director at the Croatian National Theater. Soon thereafter, she directed her first play, Marsha Norman's "Night Mother," which was a great success and performed in several cities. Since that time she has directed 17 plays; several of the plays she directed she also translated from English or Spanish.

In 1991, she accepted an invitation from one of Latin America's leading directors, Carlos Gimenez, to direct "Woyzcek" at the National Youth Theater in Maracaibo, Venezuela and a festival in Caracas. She was invited to return in 1993, and is scheduled to direct productions there this summer. Over the years, Delmestre has received four national and international awards for directing, and actors and designers in her productions have received seven national awards. She recently directed "The Glass Menagerie" at the Dubrovnik Festival, recently revived after the devastation of war.

Critics have written extensively about Delmestre's theatrical vision and as a fresh new force who brought the plays of Americans Edward Albee and Sam Shephard, who she greatly admires, to the Croatian stage. Her work has been described as "metaphysical realism," and she has been heralded as an innovator who has introduced a new aesthetic style to Croatia.

"The thing that has always attracted me to directing is the possibility to create a certain imaginative world," she explained. "In that world I feel free to live my dreams, to think the unthinkable and do the impossible.

"In Europe, in Croatia, theater is the only refuge left for reflection, for contemplation. It reflects who we are now and here. It may not be able to change the world, but it certainly can enable things to be seen from a different point of view. Croatian theater has always been sort of a sign of things to come, a finger on the pulse of our society, an important spiritual and intellectual consciousness."

IRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS



# Doctors and Nurses:

by Louis Tucci

## Cost cutting of managed care spawns greater opportunities for nurses

In the clinic waiting room, several patients with acute episodic conditions like flu and bronchitis sit patiently. In the corner seat, a diabetic waits to have her insulin adjusted. Next to her is a hypertensive patient who is early for his weekly appointment to have his blood pressure regulated. In the new world of managed health care, these patients are not waiting to see doctors — they will be treated by a nurse.

In this primary care clinic and others like it across the country, certified nurse practitioners (NPs) carry their own patient caseloads, examine patients, make diagnoses, and prescribe treatment regimens. In hospitals, they make rounds, perform physical assessments of patients, and confer with specialists on a patient's rehabilitation program. And in all but three states, NPs write prescriptions for drugs.

Because of visionaries like FIU School of Nursing Dean Linda Simunek, the nursing profession is weathering a turbulent era of downsizing and managed care by elevating the educational requirements for nurses, thus qualifying NPs to care for patients previously treated solely by primary care physicians. In her office, decorated with her son's paintings and part of her collection of antique timepieces, Dean Simunek explained the market forces that have made cost containment the prime concern of hospital administrators.

"That's why it took an act of Congress to allow new mothers to stay in hospitals at least 48 hours," she said.

The nursing field has changed substantially since Dean Simunek joined FIU as founding dean

of the School of Nursing 15 years ago. She discussed how advanced practice nurses — an umbrella term that includes nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives as well as nurse practitioners — now play a key role in the delivery of health care services.

"Unlike RNs, the nurse practitioner is trained to assess patients within the tradition of medicine," she said, reciting course titles for the master of science in nursing degree: Physical Examination, History Taking, Prescribing Medications, Case Management. "We can do simple medical procedures that 80 percent of all primary care physician visits are for, plus what physicians don't provide... teaching individuals to manage their own health care."

Because of their emphasis on patient education, nurse practitioners help reduce costs by preventing illness from happening, a neat fit to the needs of managed care providers.

"Our NPs have the training to do that," said Simunek. "Now medical schools are taking a second look at what type of private practitioner they must prepare." She predicts that the need for a new type of primary care physician will be the avenue by which FIU establishes a medical school. (A feasibility study is already underway.)

FIU began a graduate certificate program to train nurse practitioners in 1988, after a request by the Dade County Office of Public Health.

"The county had to upgrade the skills of their health department employees," Simunek explained, "and they approached FIU because of our tradition of attracting minorities and our more affordable tuition."

By 1992 the NP program was upgraded from a certificate to a master's degree curriculum. With jobs begging to be filled at hospitals, physician offices, home health care agencies, nursing homes and school clinics, the number



Dean Linda Simunek





# closer than ever

of NP graduate students last year increased by 104 percent. "Success is killing us," the dean said jokingly.

But at the same time, the professional outlook for baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses is less promising. "As hospitals downsize or merge with other hospitals, RNs are laid off," said Divina Grossman, department chairperson of adult/gerontological and psychiatric nursing. Indeed, over the years the class size of FIU undergraduate nursing students has shrunk from 120 to 48.

Dean Simunek's next crusade is to establish a doctoral program for advanced research in nursing health care delivery. Her pursuit is both knowledge driven and gender based. "Nurses are predominantly female, and I believe they should have the same access to higher education (as men)," she said.

The typical NP graduate student is a 20- or 30-something with five to 10 years of RN experience. Some seek greater professional challenge, while others are simply reacting to the economies of downsizing. Darlene Boitel (BS, Nursing '89, MS, Nursing '96) serves as a nurse practitioner and administrator for a physician-owned ambulatory surgical center. She compared her duties as an RN with her present position.

"As an RN I did basics — assessments, taking blood pressure and histories and physicals. But as an NP my professional role is health care provider," she said.

Her duties now include performing PAP tests, prostate and rectal exams, diagnostic tests, suturing and patient education.

"My approach as an NP is more holistic," she said. "I teach about lifestyle modification and diet. I counsel patients if I see a psychological problem. And I always stress disease prevention."

## OPPOSITION TO NURSES' EXPANDED ROLE

Although most HMO accountants are gladened by the growing numbers of NPs, many doctors are less sanguine. In advertising campaigns and legislative lobbying efforts, the American Medical Association argues that hospitals are lowering health care quality by allowing NPs to practice within the discipline of primary care medicine. Discussing nursing's own lobbying efforts, Simunek noted that they are pushing a model bill for adoption in all states that would grant full prescriptive authority and direct reimbursement for NPs.

Advances in technology coupled with changes in the delivery of nursing health care may ultimately have a greater impact on patients' well being. Because of cost cutting, most hospital patients are released sooner.

"Patients are being sent home with a lot of technology," Grossman said. "That means that nurses working in home health must have their skills upgraded to deal with those acutely ill patients." Home health nurses, whether RNs, NPs or Ph.D.s, operate ventilators and portable oxygen units, adjust intravenous infusion rates and temporary pacemaker settings, and provide tracheostomy care, all formerly done strictly in hospital intensive care units.

At the other end of the spectrum are ambulatory care patients. Grossman said there has been a steady increase in demand for nurses to work in ambulatory clinics where doctors perform all types of surgeries. "This has changed the whole paradigm of health care; everything now is like an assembly line where everyone must work faster and more efficiently."

Perhaps not surprisingly, because health care is increasingly entering patients' homes, cultural sensitivity has been incorporated in FIU's nursing curriculum. In Miami, a day's assignments in home

The nursing profession is weathering a turbulent era of downsizing and managed care by elevating the educational requirements for nurses, thus qualifying NPs to care for patients previously treated solely by primary care physicians.

health nursing might include visits to Anglo, Cuban, Jewish, Haitian and Filipino homes. Students are trained to adapt benign cultural practices and beliefs in the treatment regimen.

"Let's face it, what a person believes about ideology affects the type of treatment they seek and will affect the type of care they accept," said Grossman, who teaches a course called "Culture in Advanced Nursing Practice."

## NURSES AND THE MANAGED CARE FUTURE

Nurses perform minor surgeries and deliver babies. Patients (and presidents) receive knee surgery in the morning and go home in the afternoon. A Vietnamese mother gives her sick child a traditional folk remedy, which the home health nurse incorporates into the treatment regimen. All these changes came about because of managed care, in which hospitals and doctors receive a flat fee instead of a fee that escalates with the amount of care provided. Many people think that we, as health care consumers, are losing with managed care.

"We can't choose our doctors, we stay in the hospital less, we are not being taken care of as well as in the past," says Dean Simunek, echoing our concerns. "But because of the growth of nurse practitioners, I can argue that managed care is spawning something better."





PRE-TRIAL DETENTION CENTRE NEAR MOSCOW, WHERE 140 PRISONERS OCCUPY A CELL DESIGNED FOR 35. WIN TIN, AN IMPRISONED JOURNALIST IN BURMA. DISPLACED PERSONS FROM BOGOTA IN A MAKESHIFT SHELTER.

# Making a world of difference



Last September, Susan Waltz, professor of International Relations at FIU, was elected chairperson of Amnesty International, the first American ever to hold that position.

Hers is a story of extraordinary human compassion permeated by the pure light of intellectual dispassion.

"Susan Waltz is able to research things of such human horror that most of us can only understand in the abstract, and she is able to bring it to the attention of the world in a way that is neither extravagant nor cheap, but in a way that can't be denied. That's what really sets her apart," said Judith Stiehm, FIU professor of Political Science.

For the past 20 years, Waltz, a professor of International relations, has been a volunteer with Amnesty International (AI) — the world's largest human rights organization, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 for its advocacy of basic human rights for all and its efforts to gain the release of political prisoners.

Last September, Waltz was elected chairperson of the organization, the first American ever to hold that position. She is responsible for the activities of AI's more than 1.1 million volunteers and provides political leadership to the organization.

"Being a U.S. citizen effectively heading a worldwide grassroots democratic movement requires extraordinary qualifications, a reservoir of complex skills, and a razor-sharp sensitivity. Susan brings to the table a deep understanding of the complex issues the human rights movement is facing, shaped by years of first-hand experience in dealing directly with victims and survivors of horrific human rights violations," said Curt Goering, deputy executive director of Amnesty International USA. "She is now uniquely placed to apply that wisdom in ways which will make a profound difference in many lives of those the world so easily forgets."

Waltz acknowledges her new role with the quiet, self-effacing manner and gentle humor which are characteristic of all her relationships, whether she is meeting with students, colleagues, or heads of state.

"I'm not sure that everyone would tell you that I always have the best diplomatic skills," she quips, "but we pull together and we

manage. My role is not as a spokesperson for AI to the outside world, but, instead, to ensure the smooth functioning of a very complex, international, non-governmental, membership organization."

As the head of Amnesty International, Waltz travels overseas frequently to meet with representatives from dozens of countries and hundreds of cultures and languages. She is responsible for setting much of the organization's international policy, overseeing its international budget, and serving as chief liaison with AI members around the world. She is also committed to creating new opportunities for universal human rights to flourish.

One of her first actions as chairperson was to initiate preparations for the next Biennial Congress of AI members worldwide, to be held in Capetown, South Africa, in December 1997. She is also enthusiastic about a recent decision to host the first all-Africa meeting of human rights defenders, to discuss critical issues and examine ways in which AI can help.

"We've never held our Council meeting in Africa before," Waltz explained. "Even though human rights problems in Africa have been so serious in recent years — and exacerbated by the international arms trade — we, the world, have not known quite how to respond. To be able to take this step now is very exciting."

By themselves, these events may seem like very small steps, but the world is changed step by step, and Susan Waltz has been quietly forging a path toward justice in North Africa for the past 20 years.

A pioneering researcher into the culture and politics of the nations of North Africa, Waltz's knowledge helped her, in her early days of involvement with AI, to become the advisor to AI groups soliciting the release of prisoners in Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria.

Waltz had lived in North Africa for a year during her dissertation research, and had revisited the area several times for research and interviews. She drew upon that wealth of experience not



*“Susan Waltz’s work resonates with what this university is all about,” Stiehm said. “Her work proves that FIU is truly an international university.”*

by Victoria Stuart



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS/GUATEMALA MARCH 1996.

PICTURES OF “DISAPPEARED” ON WALLS OF GAM’S (GRUPO APOYO MUTUO, MUTUAL SUPPORT GROUP) OFFICE.





FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: REFUGEES FROM SIERRA LEONE CONSTRUCTING A CAMP IN LAYA, FORECARIAH, GUINEA. NIGERIAN GENERAL OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, IMPRISONED AFTER SECRET TREASON TRIALS. TOURKIA HAMADI ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED IN TUNISIA, JULY 1995.

only to advise AI about the region, but also to write about the rise of the Islamist movement during the 1980s, and to author the text of Amnesty International's 1991 testimony before Congress, which documented Morocco's operation of a secret, dungeon-like prison for political and religious prisoners. Two weeks after the revelations before Congress, the prison was razed and its survivors freed.

There are also individual triumphs. Waltz remembers helping one prisoner by convincing the king of his nation that it was too expensive to keep him hostage for life. She helped another by asking AI members at Georgetown University to arrange a fellowship for him, and he was subsequently released. She helped an imprisoned mathematician gain his freedom by arranging for mathematics professors and students to write letters. She helped another prisoner by urging AI volunteers to address their letters to law deans and judges in his country.

"There are not too many university professors who save people's lives on a regular basis," Stiehm said.

It is a measure of Waltz's extraordinary well of inner strength, as well as her dedication to academic research, that she can speak calmly and logically about instances of extreme injustice, inhumanity and abuse. She manages to maintain a delicate balance between an academic interest and a moral imperative. In addition to her work with AI, Waltz's recent book, *Human Rights and Reform: Changing the Face of North African Politics*, has become a principal text in the study of North African politics.

"I have always made an effort to keep my work for AI and my academic research separate, but my experiences have helped me to bring the world into my classroom," she said. "It has especially sensitized me to the kinds of jobs students in international relations might attain, and the preparation they need to be able to perform those jobs."

For instance, Waltz works closely with her students to develop familiarity with nonacademic source materials in addition to standard texts, including government documents, news reports, and the World Wide Web. In several undergraduate classes, she requires students to prepare policy briefings rather than traditional academic research papers.

"Susan Waltz's work resonates with what this university is all about," Stiehm said. "Her work proves that FIU is truly an international university."

FIU President Modesto A. Maidique added that: "Academic freedom is the essence of what a university is about. A university is the kind of place where people should be able to explore all types of ideas. It is particularly appropriate, and at the heart of the academic tradition, for professors to be included in leading the charge to protect the rights of people throughout the world. It is in this noble tradition that I celebrate the election of Susan Waltz as the chairperson of Amnesty International."

Waltz will continue her teaching responsibilities while fulfilling her role with Amnesty International. Among her goals are the strengthening of AI's presence in South America and non-Western parts of the world. ■

*"I'm excited about the opportunity to amplify the voices of those who speak out for human rights," she said.*



# NATHAN KATZ

by Roger E. Wyman

## Searching for

Nathan Katz, chair of FIU's Department of Religious Studies, never expected that his visit to a small, declining Jewish community in India almost 15 years ago would change his life. What he found there, however, started him on what he casually refers to as his "second career," one that merged his lifelong fascination with Indian culture with the intensification of his own Jewish beliefs.

Katz's "new" career established him as a leading authority on the relationship of Judaism to eastern religions and cultures. In 1990, his stature led to his inclusion among eight Jewish leaders invited to visit the Dalai Lama in India. The Buddhist high priest wanted to engage in a dialogue on how an exile community without a homeland could preserve its religion and culture over many generations.

"From the time I was five or six, I knew I wanted to go to India," Katz admits. While his childhood fascination limited itself largely to collecting Indian postage stamps, he managed to travel to India one summer during college.

An English major, Katz applied for and received a job with the U.S. Information Agency in Afghanistan after graduation. From there, he pursued language study in India and returned to the U.S. for graduate study in classical Indian and Tibetan languages, religion, philosophy and literature. He earned master's and doctoral degrees from Temple University, aided by a Fulbright dissertation fellowship in Sri Lanka.



*Pictured at left: Dr. Katz with the eminent Theravada Buddhist monk, the late Ven. Nyanaponika Mahathera, in 1976.*

*Pictured far left: interior of the Cochin (India) Synagogue.*

**"By seeing ourselves reflected in the eyes of the Tibetans we began to form a clearer image of ourselves."**

## a Connection





Katz's "second career" took root during a sabbatical from Williams College in 1983-84, when he visited the centuries-old Jewish community of Cochin, in southwestern India. Although weakened by recent emigration to Israel, the Cochin Jewish community dated back perhaps to the first century, when Jews may have migrated there after the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem by the Romans. From at least the medieval era, Jews in Cochin enjoyed special privileges from the Maharajah of the region and were prominent in both the military and agriculture as well as the spice trade. In addition to their socioeconomic success, the Cochin Jews enjoyed warm and affectionate relationships with Hindus. The Jewish and Hindu temples were adjacent to each other, and each congregation could hear the prayers and music of the other. Representative of this friendly coexistence, there is no word in Hindi equivalent to "anti-Semitism."

Katz's interest in the Cochin Jewish community led to the publication of *The Last Jews of Cochin*, with photographs taken by Katz's wife, Ellen S. Goldberg. The University of California Press will soon publish Katz's more comprehensive book on Jews in India.

*The Jews of Cochin photographed by Ellen S. Goldberg (at left, from top to bottom): Reema Salem cleaning wheat for Passover use, Yosef Hallegua discusses Judaism with Indian tourists in the Cochin Synagogue, Raymond Salem in the Cochin Synagogue during the festival of Sukkot in 1986, a Passover Seder at the home of Jacob and Sarah Cohen, 1987, and Yosef Hallegua sounds the shofar (ritual horn) for Rosh Hashanah in 1986.*

Recruited from the University of South Florida in 1994 to build a Department of Religious Studies at FIU, Katz is pleased with the progress of the new department. Its new master's degree program exceeded enrollment projections, and it is adding two new faculty for 1997-98, with specialties in Japanese religions and African and Afro-Caribbean religions, to bring it to eight full-time members.

Katz's intensive encounter seven years ago with the Dalai Lama was a defining moment in his professional career. Prior to the Chinese takeover of Tibet in 1959, the Dalai Lama had been that nation's spiritual and temporal leader — "both king and pope," as Katz puts it. In a 1989 meeting with Jewish leaders at a Buddhist monastery in the U.S., the Dalai Lama stated that



he wanted to learn the "Jewish secret" for surviving exile and preserving their religion for 1,900 years without a homeland.

The following year, Katz accompanied seven rabbis and Jewish scholars on a two-week trip to the Dalai Lama's monastery and palace in Dharamsala, India. Tibetans and Jews had much in common, the Dalai Lama told his guests; after all, they both considered themselves "chosen people." Tibetans admired Jews because "no matter how they are scattered through all corners of the earth, they maintain their sense of unity."

The trip had a profound impact on the Jewish leaders. "By seeing ourselves reflected in the eyes of the Tibetans," Katz reflects, "we began to form a clearer image of ourselves. In Christian and Muslim cultures, we Jews have seen reflections of condescension if not outright hostility. But in Tibetan eyes, we saw reflected affection, respect, even a bit of awe."

The Dalai Lama's quest to learn the "Jewish secret" produced a great deal of introspection and dialogue among the Jewish leaders themselves. Was their "secret" the adherence to a particular set of religious beliefs? Was it the establishment of esoteric languages such as Yiddish? Was it the ability of Jews to maintain a core set of beliefs while embodying parts of the larger culture in which they lived? Or was it the factor emphasized by a woman in the group — one that particularly interested the Dalai Lama — the unique forms of observance and transmission reserved for the family? "It was the Dalai Lama's fascination with our home-centered observances

*Dr. Katz and the Dalai Lama*





*Pictured at left:  
In his palace in Dharamsala,  
India, in 1990, His Holiness  
the XIVth Dalai Lama of Tibet  
listens attentively to Dr. Katz's  
presentation in Tibetan.*

that made me appreciate the singularity of Jewish traditions," Katz noted.

Katz remains in awe of the Dalai Lama. As an example of the Dalai Lama's "legendary warmth and humor," Katz cites the great lengths to which the Dalai Lama and his followers went to attend to special needs of the Jewish leaders during their stay. For instance, they made sure the delegates could maintain a kosher diet, including stocking their guests' quarters with entirely new pots, pans, cutlery and dinnerware, as well as by providing strictly vegetarian food.

It was the Dalai Lama's intellect, however, that impressed Katz the most. "It goes beyond the usual sort of brilliance which one often encounters around universities," he says. "His

help Jews more fully understand Judaism in modern America and help to preserve Jewish heritage for the future.

A major theme of Katz's lectures is that Jews' relationship to larger cultures has been essential to the survival of Judaism. "In America, the Judaism we know is shaped by American Protestant culture as well as by its Judaic roots, and that is our genius. That is how we survived if not flourished for so long without a homeland," he says.

Katz's studies of Eastern Jewish communities also show that embracing too much of a majority culture threatens the survival of Jewish communities. While Jewish communities survived and flourished in such places as India and Afghanistan, as well as Europe and the U.S., centuries-old Jewish communities in China virtually disappeared in the 19th and 20th centuries. While their isolation was an important factor in their demise, the fact that the Chinese Jews embraced many traditional Confucian values that paralleled those of Judaism — concern for family, education, and patriotism — eventually eroded the distinctiveness of the Jewish communities.

Katz has the same concern for American Jews as they face the challenges of the 21st century. "Chinese Jews succeeded because of their diligence in learning Confucian culture. Similarly, entrance into the American mainstream requires mastery of Euro-American culture, and an Ivy League-style education is *de rigeur* for many professions. Without a firm grounding in Judaic culture, the continuity of that culture is threatened. The preservation of Judaism in any majority culture depends upon that continuity." ■

## Dalai Lama to visit FIU

*The Dalai Lama's travels to keep the plight of the Tibetan people before the world will bring him to Miami and FIU to receive an honorary doctoral degree. The Dalai Lama has accepted the University's invitation to come to campus, but the date of the visit has not been determined. It may occur sometime in 1998.*

*FIU has a tradition of awarding honorary degrees to revered world figures, which began with its granting of a degree to U Thant, then secretary general of the United Nations, in January 1971 at the University's groundbreaking ceremonies. Last year, the University conferred an honorary doctorate on Madeleine K. Albright, then U.S. ambassador to the UN and now U.S. secretary of state.*



*Pictured for right:  
The participants in the  
1990 Tibetan-Jewish dialogue  
in Dharamsala, India.*

mind penetrates with lightning rapidity; he gets to the heart of the matter more directly than anyone I have ever met. Perhaps it is the Buddhist teaching of non-egoism which creates such a flexible type of intelligence."

The visit to Dharamsala helped Katz synthesize his thoughts about the relationship between Judaism and Eastern religions and cultures and what that relationship means for American Jews. The result was a series of five lecture/multimedia presentations, entitled "Reconnecting East and West: Judaism and Eastern Religions." The videotape series aims to show how "an understanding of the ways in which Judaism has interacted with other Eastern religions in the past" can





\$65,000,000

# CAMPAIGN UPDATE



The past year will be remembered as one of important firsts for Florida International University. Sponsored research and grants exceeded a record \$30 million, the first traditional professional school (architecture) was established, and major new facilities were opened to keep pace with enrollment and programmatic growth. Years from now, however, another first may be regarded as one of the most important steps ever taken to ensure FIU's future vitality: the launching of the University's first major capital campaign.

The Campaign for FIU had its official kickoff in February 1996. By the end of the 1996, the total of private gift and matching fund commitments reached \$46 million, and by May 1997, FIU had raised \$55 million, 85 percent of the Campaign's \$65 million goal.

"I am gratified by the overwhelming response to the Campaign, which has exceeded our expectations," remarked Carlos Palomares, president and CEO of Citibank Florida and co-chair of the Campaign for FIU. "This demonstrates FIU's considerable impact throughout the region and beyond." Herbert A. Wertheim, campaign co-chair and the founder and chairman of Brain Power Incorporated, added, "An investment in education enhances the quality of life enjoyed by citizens throughout the community. We hope individuals and organizations will continue to provide generous support to make this a most successful campaign."

Highlighting the past year were two \$5 million commitments, consisting of gifts of \$2.5 million and state matches of equal amounts. In April 1997, the University announced the largest cash gift in its history, \$2.5 million from Steven and Dorothea Green, which will establish a \$4 million program endowment for The Art Museum at FIU and a \$1 million visual arts purchase endowment for the University Libraries. In recognition of this landmark gift, the new University Park Library tower will be named the Steven and Dorothea Green Library.

Last fall, FIU secured a \$5 million irrevocable deferred gift, including state matching funds, from Dr. Sanford L. Ziff that will fund scholarships in education and arts and sciences and establish a library purchase endowment. In honor of this contribution, the new education building will be named after Dr. Ziff and his family.

A major campaign priority is the establishment of at least two dozen Eminent Scholar Chairs throughout the University. Prior to the launching of the campaign, the University had a total of two such chairs. Funds have now been committed for a total of 13 Eminent Scholar Chairs.

Scholarship support is another priority area, especially as tuition continues to increase. "An important Campaign goal is to establish a million-dollar scholarship endowment in each of our major schools and colleges," said Paul Gallagher, vice president for University Advancement and Student Affairs. "We are moving steadily towards achieving that goal. Million-dollar scholarship endowments have already been established in the College of Arts and Sciences, Education, Hospitality Management and Nursing. The College of Business Administration should realize the goal within the next six months."

The School of Hospitality Management secured several six-figure gifts during 1996.

They include a \$1 million scholarship endowment established by gifts from The John W. Kluge Foundation and Metromedia Restaurant Group; \$400,000, including state match, from Southern Wine & Spirits of America to establish the Southern Wine & Spirits Beverage Management Center in the School of Hospitality Management; and three endowments in the \$150,000 to \$200,000 range, from Carnival Hotels & Casinos, the Estate of Norman Ringstrom, a former hospitality management faculty member, and an anonymous donor.

\$55,000,000

Other major corporate and foundation gifts committed during the past year include \$500,000 from the educational foundation of the Realtor Association of Miami to establish a real estate institute in the College of Business Administration; a \$200,000 grant from the Citicorp Foundation for scholarships for students in the College of Education's FOCUS Program; \$290,000 from the Ford Foundation for the College & Careers Program of the College of Education and the Greater Miami Urban Education Pact; and \$175,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to fund research by faculty in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology on improving interethnic and interracial relations among youth.

In addition, other major gifts to The Campaign for FIU that were announced at the start of the Campaign have come from Ryder System, Knight-Ridder, We Will Rebuild Foundation, Roz Kovens, Herbert and Nicole Wertheim, Patricia and Phillip Frost, Amancio V. Suarez, and Alvah and Betty Chapman.



What do you get  
when you combine  
mind & muscle?

# Smart SPORTS

by J. Darin Darst

**T**ake a walk out to the track. Go to the tennis courts or swing over to the Golf Club of Miami. Chances are you will find FIU student-athletes like Racquel Baquero, Kyle Nisbett, Trisha Grier and Jaime Fillol. If they are not out there practicing or competing, then they might be doing something you wouldn't expect. Like running a business, helping out teams at a local school, or preparing to become a CPA. Although they have different interests and pursuits, all four personify the way in which athletics can help develop the "total" individual.

*continued on page 28*





Racquel Baquero

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Junior Racquel Baquero, who plays No. 6 singles on the women's tennis team, does more than the average student at FIU. Along with studying Economics and playing tennis, she operates her own business.

It all started when she was 19 years old and joined forces with her cousin Fernando. In their native Dominican Republic, the two of them used to sell uniforms, towels and tablecloths to hotels, but she wanted to do something more ambitious. They began selling industrial uniforms of blue jeans and shirts.

"It was always difficult getting the denim," said Baquero. "Eventually we got a contact in Canada to supply us. Then we became an importer in the Dominican Republic. We would sell to the people who make jeans, and use it for ourselves to make uniforms."

"I got to a point where I couldn't go any further with that company, and I wanted to do something else."

Baquero, 23, was going to school in Santo Domingo at night and running her business during the day. Fernando told her about FIU and she transferred to the University last July.

Although she came to FIU to finish her degree, she figured that her tennis background would enable her to play on the women's tennis team. Soon thereafter, Coach Ronni Reis-Bernstein saw her practicing on the court.

"I could tell she had lessons and had some experience," said Reis-Bernstein, who invited her to join the team.

Since then, Baquero has been juggling school, tennis and her business. Her father is now managing much of the business, but she still places orders to her contact in Canada.

After completing her degree, Baquero hopes to stay in Miami to attend an FIU training program for international students.

Until then, she will continue to work, go to school, and play tennis. She hopes that one day her name will be on a building in downtown Miami.

"That would be good — Baquero and Associates. I'm working on that right now."

## UNSUNG HERO

Kyle Nisbett, a member of the cross country and track teams, is another student-athlete with a tight schedule. If he isn't at practice, chances are he's working on his Physical Therapy degree or at St. Agatha's Catholic School, across the street from University Park, helping their cross country and track teams.

"Very few college students are willing to give up their time to assist kids," said Joe Velazquez, St. Agatha's athletic director. "Kyle is a great runner, very kind and very giving."

Often during the season, Nisbett would be attending a St. Agatha's meet and as soon as it was over he would participate in an FIU meet.

"He is an example of what we're trying to do with our students," said FIU track coach Mike Becker. "We don't want to just breed athletes, but develop kids who are more than athletes," said coach Mike Becker.

Nisbett moved to Jacksonville from Bermuda when he was 10 years old. He participated in cross country and track at Bishop Kenney High School and was named Athlete of the Year in his senior season. He was attracted to FIU by the University's outstanding Physical Therapy program.

A member of the TAAC All-Academic Team, Nisbett said his packed schedule actually helps his school work.

"Because I don't have that much free time, I use my time wisely," said Nisbett, a co-winner of the President's Award, presented to the senior with the highest grade point average. "I think being in the Physical Therapy and athletics programs at the same time helped me with my time management skills."

Nisbett, who runs the 800 meters, long distances and 4 x 400 relay team, would like to use his Physical Therapy degree to work in orthopedic medicine. He also hopes that his degree and athletic experience may generate a job opportunity in professional sports.



Kyle Nisbett



Kyle Nisbett receives the President's Award from FIU Vice President Cynthia Curry.



Trisha Grier receives the Pat Bradley Endowed Athletic Scholarship from FIU Golf Coach John Cusano.



## LEADING THE TEAM

Two other students-athletes have business on their mind, but they're taking care of it on the court or on the course: Jaime Fillol of the men's tennis team and Trisha Grier of the women's golf team. Both lead their respective teams and each has their sights set on a pro career. But they also know that if that doesn't work out, their academics will help them in the future.

Trisha Grier, who led the team with a 79.9 average this season, finished in fourth place in the Trans America Athletic Conference championships. She was team leader for the past three seasons and was honored with TAAC All-Conference for the second time in four seasons. She is majoring in Accounting and Finance and ended her intercollegiate golf career this spring. She wants to turn pro, but if that doesn't work she will turn to her degree to help her find a career.

"I've been playing (golf) so long that if I don't try to turn pro, then 20 years down the road I may be kicking myself because I didn't at least try," said Grier, who hopes to follow in the footsteps of former teammate Moira Dunn, a current member of the LPGA Tour. "If I can't play golf, I probably will take the CPA exam. I really like the tax aspect of accounting."

Grier came to FIU in 1993, after a stellar career at Cape Coral High School. She was the MVP of her team all four years and named All-Southwest Florida as a senior. She received athletic and academic scholarships to come to FIU.

"She allocated her time properly, which made her a good athlete and a good student," said coach John Cusano. "You have to practice at the right times and be able to study at the right times. She was able to handle that. We're disappointed to see her leave."

When next year rolls around, she will most likely be out on the golf course preparing for the LPGA Tour — but if she isn't, be sure to look her up before your taxes are due on April 15.

Jaime Fillol, who is from Santiago, Chile, would like to become a tennis pro after receiving his degree. Fillol, who coach Peter Lehmann calls the most improved player on the team, finished the regular season with the most wins (34), most wins in doubles (19) and best winning percentage (.773).

Fillol will attempt a professional career when he plays in some Satellite Tournaments this summer. He will then return to FIU to finish his studies and when he completes his degree take a shot at it full time.

This past semester, Fillol won five of his first six singles matches, and paired with Federico DePetris, won 10 of his first 11 doubles matches. He also helped the FIU team advance to the NCAA regionals for the first time in the squad's history.

Fillol came to FIU in 1995 after meeting coach Peter Lehmann at the NCAA Championships in Georgia. He played in some earlier Satellite Tours, but didn't fare very well. His father, a former tennis pro who attended the University of Miami and now runs a tennis shop and works with ATP Tour events in Chile, taught him to play tennis.

If a pro tennis career doesn't work out, Fillol said he will either return home to work with his dad or stay in the United States. He is majoring in International Business and believes that his bilingual abilities would be attractive to an American company.

## BEYOND FIU

Grier and Nisbett recently graduated, while Fillol and Baquero are continuing their studies at the University and will compete on the FIU tennis team next year. Given their records of achievement and strong initiative, these are four student-athletes who will certainly make their mark in the world that lies beyond the court, course and track.



Trisha Grier



Jaime Fillol



Please inform us of your

latest accomplishments,

career changes, geographical

moves, family news, etc.

for upcoming Class Notes

in the Alumni News.

Give us a call at

1-800-FIU-ALUM (348-2586)

or drop us a line at

Florida International University,

Office of Alumni Affairs,

University Park, PC 225,

Miami, Florida 33199-0001.

We love to hear

how you're doing!



## The development of an institution...

Greetings from your office of Alumni Affairs. Next September, FIU will kick off its yearlong 25th anniversary celebration. The approach of our Silver Anniversary celebration has made me look back at the history of FIU. My goodness, how we have grown.

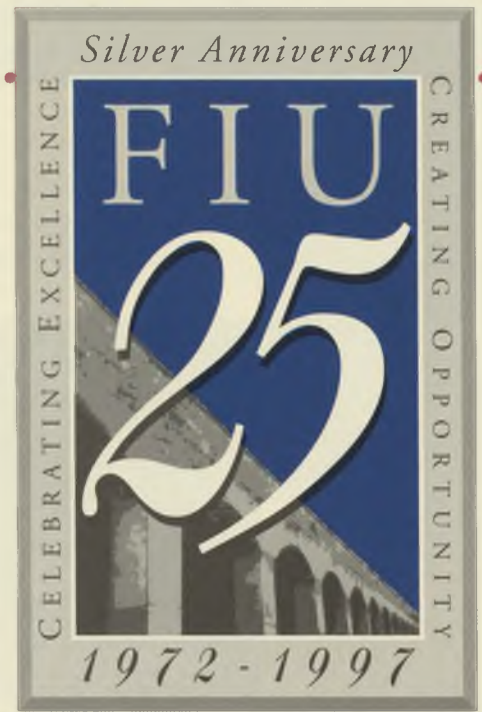
FIU's first day of classes on September 19, 1972, was the first indication that the University was going to make an impact. Nearly 6,000 students were enrolled, making it the largest opening day enrollment ever for a U.S. university. The South Florida community or even the ambitious FIU administration may not have known in 1972 what FIU would develop into, but everyone should be proud of what a great university FIU has become. We are the benchmark for young developing institutions of higher learning. Just imagine what the future holds.

On a recent Saturday, I met an alumnus from the class of 1985 who was strolling around University Park with his infant son. He had received the latest *FIU Magazine* and alumni newsletter, but had not been on campus for 10 years. He decided to show his son where daddy went to school. They found Alumni Affairs because PC (Primera Casa) was one of the few buildings he recognized. He was shocked! He had walked around campus in complete amazement and realized that FIU had become a "big time" university. We talked about all the construction, the planned football program, professors we knew, and other topics alumni discuss when they get together. He said he wants his son to be a star quarterback on the Golden Panther football team, and I responded by saying my son will be a defensive star. Suddenly we both got quiet — perhaps we were both thinking about FIU's future and all that needs to be accomplished. Then, instantly and simultaneously, big smiles filled our faces — perhaps a reflection of our shared realization that FIU's future is filled with great promise.

No university has done so much in its first 25 years like FIU. The precedent we have set leads all those associated with FIU to believe that our next 25 years will be even greater. However, it will take all of us to realize this dream.

Harvard is a great university not only because of its stringent academic standards, but also because Harvard graduates are very proud to tell you they are Harvard graduates. The ambassadorship granted to alumni when they graduate is a very powerful tool. We need you to carry FIU's flag proudly in your professional and personal lives. When talking about education, college life or favorite college teams to peers, co-workers, friends, trade or professional groups, etc., mention FIU. Be bullish about the Golden Panthers! People will see your spirit and pride about your alma mater and think positively about FIU. The next time they meet an FIU graduate, their initial perception of the individual will be enhanced because the person has already met you and other proud and successful FIU alumni. When the experience of meeting FIU alumni generates a positive initial reaction, then the value of all our diplomas has increased. That is why your task as alumni, fan and supporter is so important — you make FIU great!

Eduardo "Eddie" Hondal  
Director, Office of Alumni Affairs



## 25th anniversary celebration starts fall 1997!

Get ready to partake in the greatest yearlong celebration ever in FIU's 25-year history!

In September, the FIU will kick off a series of special events to commemorate the University's opening in September 1972. Activities planned for the week of September 14 include a relay run through Dade County from North Campus to University Park, culminating in the relighting of the FIU torch; numerous parties; campus tour; concerts; craft fairs; lectures, plus much more. There will also be other special events throughout the '97-'98 academic year.

We want all alumni to participate! We will have special hotel rates for those alumni and friends who want to fly in for the festivities. Be on the lookout for further information on this landmark year. **SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!**

## New Year's Eve at Vizcaya

Last year over 900 attended the New Year's Eve party at Vizcaya. The event was a great success. The **FIU Alumni Association** and members of **New Directions** group of the **American Cancer Society** were invited to join **La Lega dei Vizcayani (Young Vizcayans)** for a New Year's Gala. Since then, Alumni Affairs has been receiving numerous calls from alumni throughout the



country about this year's event.

Tickets are limited, so plan to get yours early. Last year many alumni unfortunately were left out because there were no more tickets available. The office of Alumni Affairs and your FIU Alumni Association is planning on making this a yearly event.

If you want to enjoy a night of music, open bar, exquisite food and Vizcaya, call your office of Alumni Affairs and purchase your tickets today.

Tickets are \$80 per person for FIU Alumni Association members and \$100 for non-members. There is a two ticket limit per person. Tickets are non-refundable.

## Travel Channel Latin America succeeds with help from FIU alumni

Thanks to the pioneering efforts of two FIU alumni, a television network is delivering its travel and tourism programming into millions of households throughout the hemisphere.

Raul E. de Quesada '74 and Luis M. Perez '89 were charter members of the executive team which launched Travel Channel Latin America two years ago. It is the only channel with programming exclusively devoted to travel and tourism. The channel now ranks in the top 10 among networks in Latin America and is seen by 5.4 million subscriber households.

De Quesada '74, a graduate of the School of Hospitality Management, was recently promoted to vice president of Marketing and Communications of Travel Channel Latin America. He formerly served as vice president of the channel's Communications and Development Division. This new position integrates both divisions under his leadership. De Quesada has more than 10 years of marketing experience focused on reaching Hispanic and Latin American audiences.

Civically, de Quesada is co-chairperson of the television programming subcommittee of the "One Community/One Goal" initiative of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, which is devoted to promoting and developing job opportunities and growth in South Florida's entertainment industry. He also is a member of the Miami chapter of



Raul E. de Quesada '74



Luis M. Perez '89

the Public Relations Society of America and the Kiwanis of Little Havana.

A graduate of Miami Senior High School, de Quesada placed All County and All American in basketball. When he graduated in 1968, he was offered a basketball scholarship at Eckerd College and later transferred to FIU to complete his education. Although FIU did not have a basketball program when de Quesada attended, he is a great fan of the University's athletic program and particularly the basketball team.

Perez '89, who received a master's degree in Finance from the College of Business Administration, is the channel's vice president of Finance and Advertising Sales.

Perez is responsible for the finance management of the company and all advertising sales. He has extensive knowledge of the Latin America market and brings more than 10 years of financial and advertising sales expertise to the channel.

Throughout his professional career, Perez

has been a strong proponent of FIU and its Alumni Association.

"I believe FIU is becoming comparable to other great public universities, such as the University of Florida, UCLA, Berkeley, and Michigan State, and I am very proud to see my University develop into a great resource for South Florida," Perez said.

## FIU cheerleaders number two in nation

Last March the FIU Golden Panther cheerleading squad placed second in the NCAA national cheerleading championships in Daytona. The squad competed in the Division I (non-football) category was the the highest ranked of any Florida university. They were two-tenths of a point from first place and the national championship title.

Over the years, the FIU Golden Panther cheerleading squad has established a tradition of excellence. This is more than evident to Golden Panther fans who get to see the squad show off its phenomenal gymnastic, dancing and athletic skills.

The FIU Alumni Association is helping to organize a one-day cheerleading camp for children, from elementary to senior high, of alumni. This is a fund-raising tool for the cheerleading squad and will be a great time for the kids.

If you are interested in getting your kids in shape and ready for their respective squads, have them learn from the best! For more information, call Judy Kubit at 305-348-2198.







# FIU

*Alumni Affairs*

**Whether networking, golfing or socializing, FIU alumni always have a good time!**

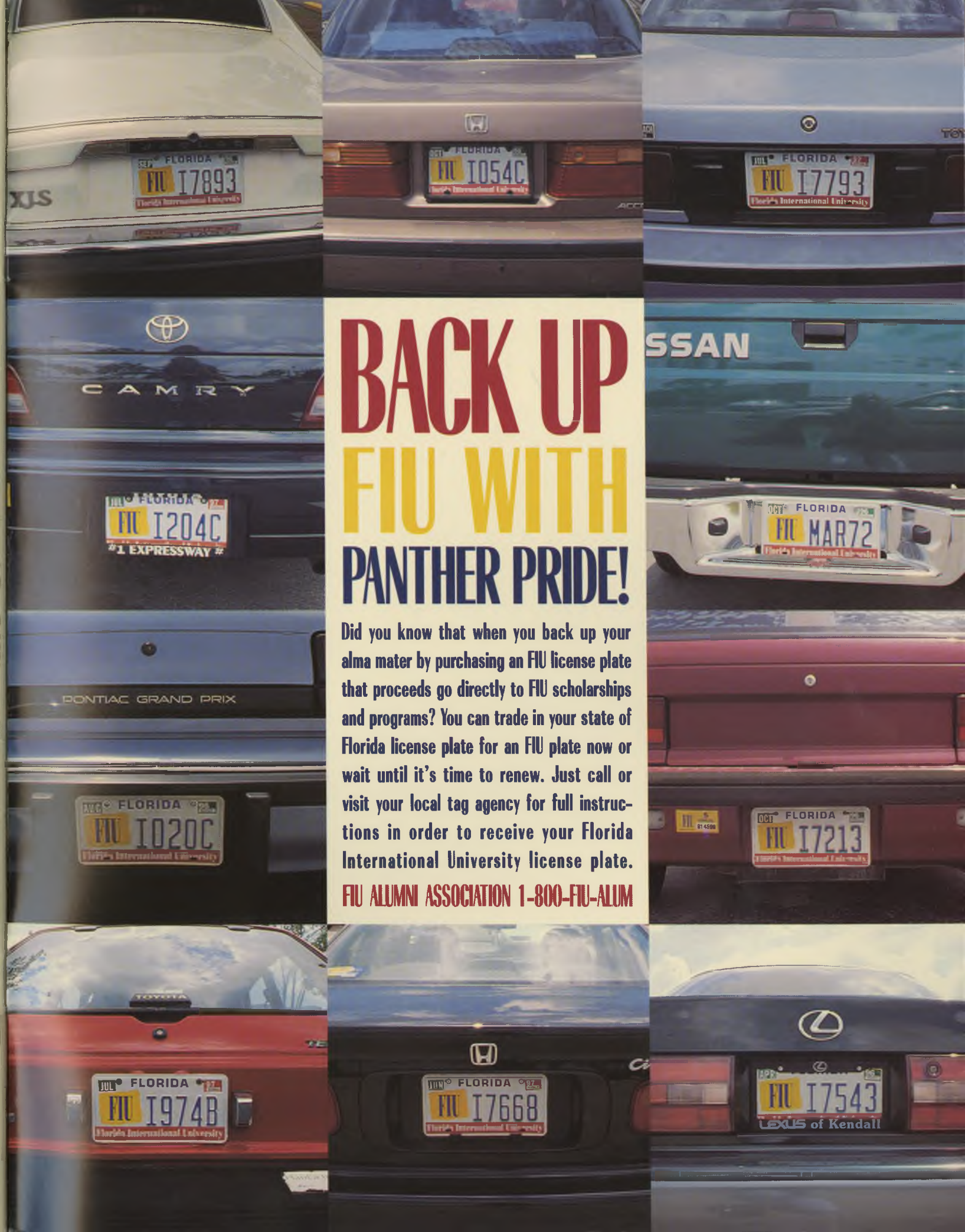


FIU Alumni Association (FIUAA) members, other FIU alumni, students, faculty/staff and friends of FIU seem to always have a great time at Association events.

Whether it's a golf outing during Homecoming 1997, the alumni party in Gainesville during the NCAA basketball tournament or a business card exchange at Dan Marino's American Sports Bar and Grill, the FIUAA's events are becoming the place to be. If you know of alumni who have not joined or need to renew their dues to the FIUAA, encourage them to join so they don't miss any of the 25th Silver Anniversary events starting next fall.







# BACK UP FIU WITH PANTHER PRIDE!

Did you know that when you back up your alma mater by purchasing an FIU license plate that proceeds go directly to FIU scholarships and programs? You can trade in your state of Florida license plate for an FIU plate now or wait until it's time to renew. Just call or visit your local tag agency for full instructions in order to receive your Florida International University license plate.

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