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Florida International University

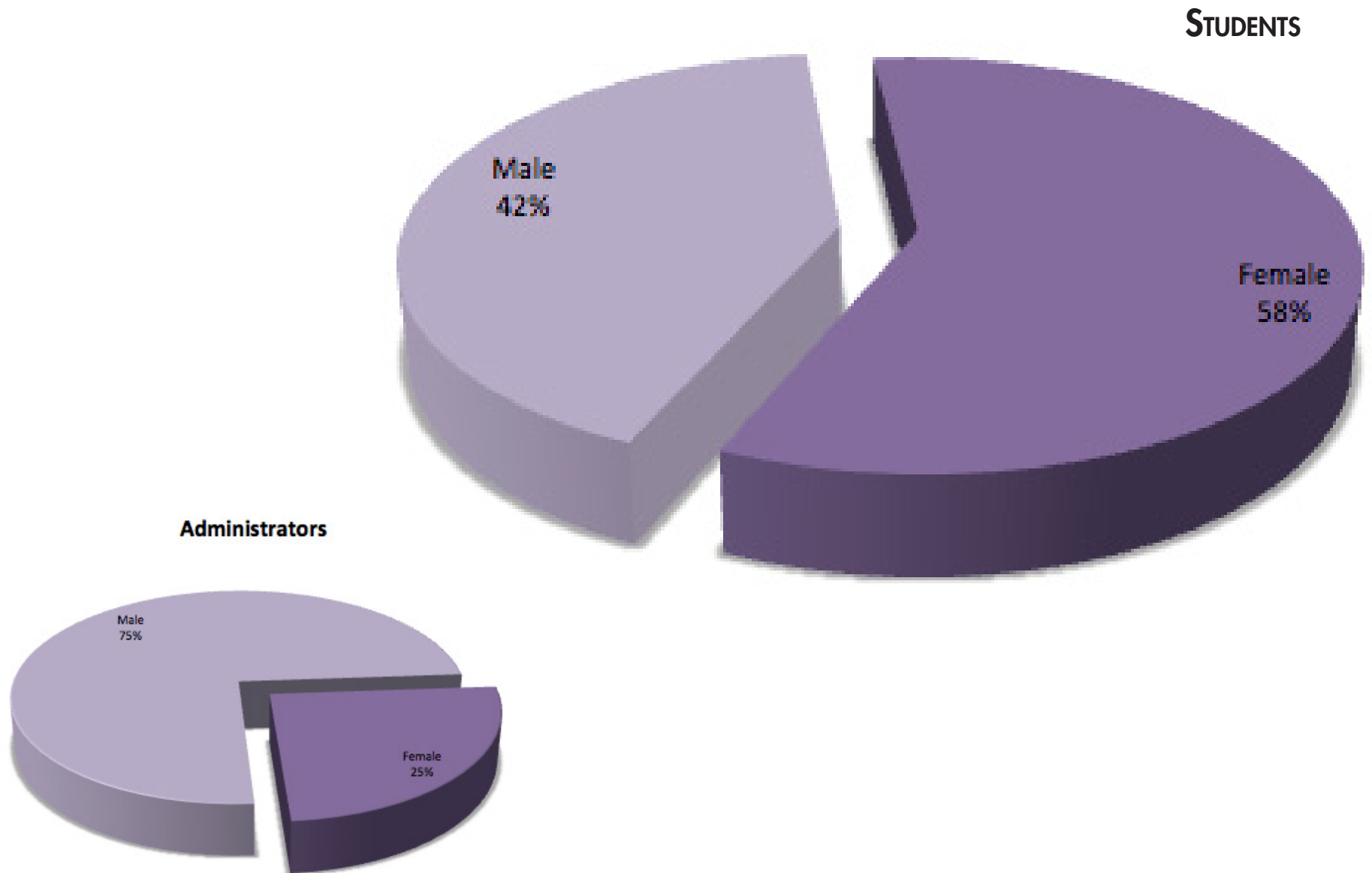
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CELEBRATING HER-STORY



CAYLA BUSH/PANTHER PRESS

Data shows the male to female ratio during the 2016-2017 academic year at the University compared to the ratio of women in administrative positions. Sources: FIU Analysis and Management, FIU Administration Index.

University appoints College of Business dean

GUETHSHINA ALTENA
Assistant Sports Director

The University has a great mission, according to its newest dean.

Joanne Li, Ph.D., has been appointed as the next dean of the University's College of Business, effective May 8, 2017.

A search committee comprised of 12 individuals with representation from faculty, staff, human resources and students began the selection process in the summer of 2016.

Atilda Alvarado, the special assistant to the provost, witnessed the process of hiring a new dean for the College of Business.

"This whole selection process took about a year, really. Before summer, the provost selected the members for the search committee who reviews the applications," Alvarado said.

First, the search committee detailed the dean's job description and then reviewed a number of applications and resumes. They initially narrowed it down to 15 applicants according to Alvarado.

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton worked closely with the search committee to select the top five applicants. They were then invited to visit



the school and meet the employees and faculty.

Later on, the committee picked the top three most qualified to be reinvited to the University and meet with President Mark B. Rosenberg. Joanne Li was one of the three finalist who later earned her title as the newly appointed dean of the College of Business.

Li is the vice president of the Council of Chinese American Deans and the president and treasurer of the Mid-American Business Deans Association. When asked why she wanted to be the dean of the College of Business, Li's answer was: "why not?"

"FIU has a great mission and I do believe that I will be able to participate and contribute to the FIU mission," Li said. "The FIU College of Business provides me with a great opportunity to do things that are aligned with my personal mission of giving back to the Institution, giving back to the state of Florida, impacting a lot of students and being a very good support for faculty and staff over there."

Li said that she will not suggest any changes at this point, but one of her short term plans as the dean of the College of Business is to get to know the people that she works with.

"I am gonna do my homework, so to speak. I am gonna visit and get to know my faculty, my staff, my students, our donors, businesses and community partners," she said. "I am a relationship builder, I plan to know my players before making major decisions"

Li was an international student who grew up in an entrepreneurial family in

one of the most metropolitan cities in the world, Hong Kong, which she says is a financial center in Asia.

"That actually nurtured my interest in business. I became a finance professor because I find finance to be very fascinating" she said. "My love for business is just natural; it's probably in my DNA."

Li believes that the FIU College of Business plays a very important role in Miami when it comes to developing and retaining talent.

"Part of our responsibility at the College of Business is to build a very strong workforce development program," Li said. "Not only are we creating knowledge through scholarly works but we will be able to convert it back into the classroom."

Li believes that the upcoming semester will be a good one because she plans to work to the best of her abilities to meet the needs of the student body, staff and faculty.

"Our acting Dean is a very, very good leader. He has done a tremendous job and I would like to continue that [success] to get on campus and know my people very well." Li said.

WOMEN IN CHARGE

Female deans discuss what it means to be in positions of power

CAYLA BUSH
Editor-in-Chief

The most successful women in academia act like men, according to Lesley Northup.

“That doesn’t mean being ‘mannish’ or whatever,” the dean of the Honors College explained to Student Media. “It means being aggressive and assertive and being willing to participate in the often very nasty politics that occur in academia.”

Northup, one of the four females who serve as a dean at the University, says that the same traits valued in men who are leaders are not valued in women who are leaders, though they are necessary.

Ora Strickland, dean of Nursing and Health Sciences, says this is a cultural issue.

“Gender does not determine who can lead — it’s your readiness to lead,” Strickland told Student Media. “Where women are different from men and why men are in higher positions in education and administrative positions is because the culture has predetermined that it should be so and it has provided more avenues for men to move up into key professional roles than it has for women.”

Both Strickland and Northup say while they may be pioneers in many fields they have worked in throughout their life, such as creating some of the first Ph.D programs in the nation and being the first woman in the Episcopalian church to be a naval chaplain respectively, it was never their goal.

“I don’t focus on being first at anything, I don’t focus on being female at anything. I don’t focus on being black at anything. I am just what I am,” Strickland said.

According to her, she is someone who works to serve the University, its students, faculty and staff.

“In my role as dean, my first obligation is to serve

students because that’s why all of us are here — to serve students, to make sure that they get the best possible education in the field that they have selected,” Strickland said. “The second part of my role is to serve the faculty and staff who are trying to deliver curricula to students, to help bring in the resources they need to

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“Gender does not determine who can lead, it’s your readiness ... Why men are in higher positions in education and administrative positions is because the culture has predetermined that it should be so and it has provided more avenues for men to move up into key professional roles than it has for women,

Ora Strickland
Dean

Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

”

do the very best job that they can do once they are in faculty.”

The third, she says, is to serve the University by turning out the best possible students hiring and supporting the best possible faculty and staff building the reputation of the University as an outstanding educational institution throughout the world.

Northup says her job with the Honors College is a lot of fun and probably the best job on campus because

it doesn’t have the accreditation constrictions of a degree-offering program.

“We’re kind of an experimental lab for the University in terms of pedagogy and new types of courses,” Northup said. “We can do really exciting things that are hard for someone else to do.”

She says because of this and honors education’s core value of having smaller classes, exciting classes are not jeopardized by low enrollment.

“We get to try a lot of new things. A lot of those things have either been adopted by the University or adapted.” Northup said.

Both women agree that in order to advance in academia, a Ph.D is necessary, and that mothers can find success in the academic field and at home. Strickland stresses, however, that being a dean is a 24-hour job.

“If you’re going to do it well, you are need to have the time to do it well. As dean, you are responsible for the quality of every program [in the school],” Strickland said.

Northup advised that women interested in becoming an administrator in higher education may have to adapt to the reality of the job market.

“Certainly, we need more women getting Ph.Ds in STEM fields,” Northup said. “I don’t think being inherently female isn’t keeping you from getting a job.”

Strickland also feels this way, saying that it’s more about the candidate knowing her strengths and talents.

“You’ve got to be self confident,” Strickland advises. “It’s ok to push against the tide of your profession. Sometimes, you will have to lead your profession against the will of your profession.”

To read the full article, go online on pantherNOW.com

Office seeks to ‘increase faculty diversity and excellence’

TAPKANNIA KOEUN
Contributing Writer

Less than half of FIU faculty members are women, they represent 41 percent overall in fall 2016, according to the Office to Advance Women, Equity & Diversity.

Only 924 women are professors compared to the 1,153 men who hold that position. However, more women, 1,149 more specifically, hold non-instructional positions

faculty with African-Americans and Latinos at the University.

“We are developing new programs and activities that can lead to more balanced hiring and improvements in the climate for women and minority groups,” said Suzanna Rose, founding associate provost of the office and professor of psychology and women’s studies. “[They] involve mentoring, interactive theater, and bystander intervention workshops to benefit all faculty and to increase faculty diversity and excellence over the next five years of the grant.”

The office is an initiative committed to gender equity and diversity in faculty positions; the focus of the grant is to create pioneer women in their fields, Rose says, in order to promote success in male-dominated arenas.

The ratio of FIU female to male faculty members differ depending on tenure and department, with 37.5 percent of women among the tenured faculty, according to Rose. Tenured members conduct research for their corresponding departments and possess higher salaries in comparison to professors.

However, the science, technology, engineering, and math departments include the fewest female faculty, 43 percent amongst all the departments. Notably, there is a lack of women who acquire the roles of professor and senior instructor in STEM.

An explanation to these statistics, could derive from a social norm: the majority of women associated with primary and secondary education

versus the majority of men holding higher education roles.

“There is definitely such a stereotype. Just do a google image search, you will mostly see images of women for ‘teacher’ and mostly images of men for ‘professor,’” said Rose.

The lack of female professors also correlates to the level of academic enrollment; the Office of AWED observed that when there is a low number of women professors, female students are less likely to obtain undergraduate or graduate degrees in any field of interest.

The lack of female faculty affects not only student enrollment, but also hinges on the psychological state of isolation in the workplace.

“Research has shown that there is less conflict and more satisfaction between employees when there is more gender balance,” said Rose, who holds a doctorate in psychology.

A woman who is the only female employee in a work environment, could lead to a sense of isolationism and can hinder a woman’s career development. In some cases, mental and physical health are negatively impacted, Rose says.

As a result, The Office to Advance Women, Equity & Diversity are trying to improve the inadequate female to male faculty ratio. With a \$3.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, the grant directly improved the percentage of female STEM faculty from 13 percent to 18 percent since the endowment was awarded.

“Research has shown that there is less conflict and more satisfaction between employees when there is more gender balance,

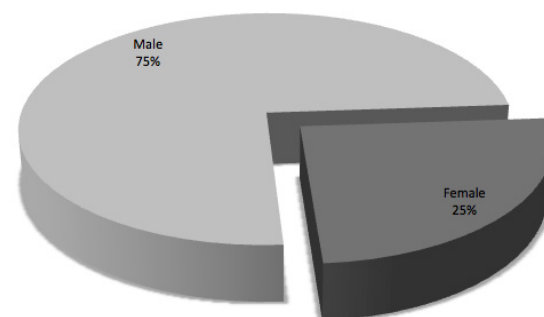
Suzanna Rose
Founding Associate Provost

Office to Advance Women, Equity & Diversity

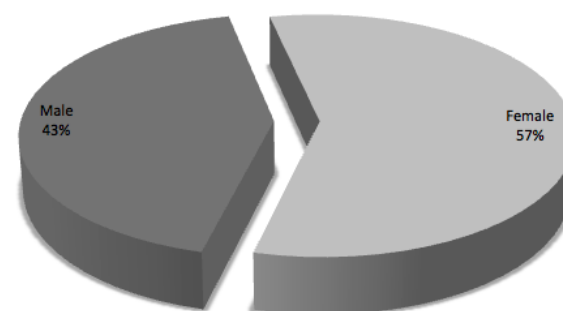
according to data retrieved from the Office of Analysis and Information Management.

The Office to Advance Women, Equity & Diversity is working on a five-year plan to increase female faculty members and diversify the

Administrators



Non-Instructional Positions



Instructional Positions



MARTINA BRETOUTS/PANTHER PRESS

Data shows the male to female ratio in 2016 at the University for administrators, non-instructional positions and instructional positions. Sources: FIU Analysis and Management, FIU Administration Index.

Conference to offer ‘more possibilities’ to students

CEYLIN ARIAS
Staff Writer

In alignment with supporting women to take a stand to make changes, FIU will hold their 11th annual “Women Who Lead” conference, serving to encourage FIU females to enhance their leadership development in their society.

“... We know that even though women make up more than 50 percent of our student population ... when we look beyond college

years to come,” said Pelaez.

Throughout the conference, which will take place March 21 at MMC and March 22 at the BBC, students will hear from keynote speaker, Angela Y. Davis, activist and scholar, engage and interact with women leaders in various fields including business, law, education, science.

The event will also include a networking breakfast with various community organizations and businesses, several panel discussions.

“The reason why we provide the

possibilities for FIU students to imagine themselves on their own leadership path.”

Pelaez mentions the significance in having women leaders with distinct backgrounds and experiences attend the conferences. She shares that each woman leader has a personal story to tell, one that can inspire both women and men to overcome life’s obstacles.

“We like to bring women from all of these different fields, backgrounds, and experiences to share their personal stories of how they got to where they are today and how they achieved what they did and what challenges they had to go through,” said Pelaez. “Furthermore, the strategies and skills they’ve used to overcome any obstacles can serve as inspiration for all women and men.”

There are no fees for University students, faculty or staff but it’s \$8 for lunch, and alumni and community members are required to pay \$25. The payment of fees can take place both on the day of and before the event. Registration online takes place through FIU Student Affairs website.

For more information on the conferences, contact the Women’s Center at 305-348-1506, women@fiu.edu, or their offices in GC room 2200, and WUC room 353 at BBC.

“

The more variety in the leadership stories that our students have access to, the more possibilities for FIU students to imagine themselves on their own leadership path,

Bronwen Bares Pelaez
Director
Women’s Center

”

and grad school and out into all the different career paths such as education and government, we see that women are breaking through boundaries and taking a major role in society,” Pelaez said. “Not only to provide a better representation of what women are capable of doing, but also creating monumental change that can affect generations for

‘Women Who Lead’ Conferences for the 11th year here at FIU is because we believe women and men need to have access to a variety of diverse women leaders from diverse career paths and fields,” said Bronwen Bares Pelaez, Director of the Women’s Center. “The more variety in the leadership stories that our students have access to, the more

EDITOR’S NOTE

Women of FIU: We salute and celebrate you

CAYLA BUSH



EDITOR IN CHIEF

celebrating all things female.

We’re celebrating some of our female deans, discussing the Women Who Lead conference coming soon, and showcasing the women who attend our university.

We talk about what it means to play sports “like a woman” and why it’s important to have better representation of women in media.

As an editorial board, we explain to our male counterparts how to be a feminist and why they should be one.

Yes, we stated the obvious: it’s the ethical thing to do.

The University is a majority-female campus, with 2,821 more females enrolling than males this year.

So, to all female and women-identifying folk on campus: we support, recognize and celebrate you.

Happy Women’s History Month.

The future is female.

Student Media’s 2016-2017 editorial board is proof of this. But, if you need more proof, women are more likely to graduate with a bachelor’s degree than men and more likely to get a Ph.D than men.

When it comes to the workforce, 63 percent of millennial women are employed, sailing past previous generations in labor force participation.

Yet, we still have a fight ahead of us.

Two days into Women’s History Month, we are

Students discuss Roe vs. Wade significance for women’s health care under current office

BARBARA BRITES
Contributing Writer

Norma McCorvey, the anonymous plaintiff in the Supreme Court Case Roe v. Wade, died on Feb. 18, 2017 at the age of 69.

Roe v. Wade was a landmark Supreme Court case that fell within the right to privacy protected by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Better known by her legal pseudonym “Jane Roe,” she was 21 years old when she was pregnant with her third child and decided she wanted to get an abortion. She lived in Texas where abortion was prohibited so she filed a lawsuit as Jane Roe asking for the procedure to become legal.

The decision gave women the right to abortion during the entirety of the pregnancy and defined different levels of state interest for regulating abortion in the second and third trimesters.

“This case was the beginning of our era,” Clarissa Martin, sophomore majoring in Women’s and Gender studies, said. “For me, the importance of this case and the legacy that Jane Roe left is not about what side you choose or if you agree or disagree. It’s about how women had, for the first time, the right to do something for themselves.”

Since the ruling, more than 50 million legal abortions have been performed in the United States. In 1965, abortion was so unsafe that 17 percent of all deaths due to pregnancy and childbirth were the result of illegal abortion, according to Planned Parenthood. Today, less than 0.3 percent of women undergoing legal abortions at all gestational ages sustain a serious complication requiring hospitalization.

“For me, this case was a way for feminism,” said Rayna Milfort, vice-president of the National Organization for

Women at FIU. “In a sense that they were fighting for abortion access for everybody no matter what was going on with that person and I think that is something really important that we must remember.”

“

Roe vs. Wade gave us the power to choose for ourselves what we want to do with our bodies and I hope that we will continue to have that right to choose,

Rayna Milfort
Vice-President

National Organization for Women at FIU

”

Theological, ethical and legal debates about abortion continue in religious circles, governing bodies and political campaigns. This topic has influenced elections and the lives of ordinary people through books, films, the Internet and other forums.

“Whether we think about it or not, we can’t deny the mayor impact that this case has have in our life as women,” said Milfort.

President Trump has expressed a strong opposition to abortion, except in cases of rape, incest or when the mother’s health is endangered.

“If Roe vs. Wade were ever overturned, it would go back to the states,” Trump said during an interview on 60 Minutes.

At a Republican presidential debate in February, Trump acknowledged that Planned Parenthood “helps millions and millions of women” who go for services like breast and cervical-cancer screenings. However, he also said he would defund it because a portion of its services goes toward providing abortions.

“Look, if we had started laws telling men what they can and can’t do with their bodies, I am sure it would have been a different story,” said Milfort. “Roe vs. Wade gave us the power to choose for ourselves what we want to do with our bodies and I hope that we will continue to have that right to choose.”

Stephanie Espaillet, senior studying psychology and Women’s and Gender Studies, also gave her opinion about women’s healthcare in today’s political climate.

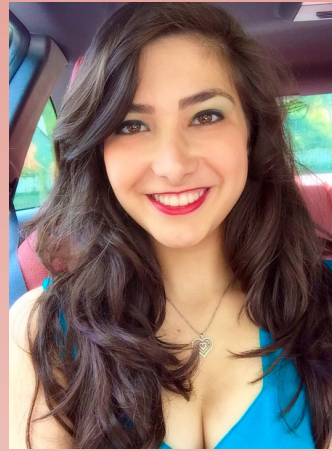
“It is understandable to be frightened, but I don’t believe we will ever see a day that having an abortion would be illegal,” she said. “Maybe, in the future, politicians will find avenues to restrict capabilities to perform them which are real scenarios. However, I still believe that we are ways away from seeing Roe v Wade from being overturned.”

Milfort added the fear doesn’t only relate to abortion and the right to choose, but also women’s health care, meaning birth control, HIV, aids, breast cancer screenings.

“A woman’s right to her body is a fundamental human right, and I am happy that this case helped solidify that notion. I believe that every woman has a right to choose and for me that idea is empowering,” Espaillet said. “I still see why this is such an important milestone in women’s history, even though I find sometimes that this should have always been understood that women have this fundamental right to choose.”

What are your thoughts on Women's History Month?

(FIU Students share their thoughts with Student Media)



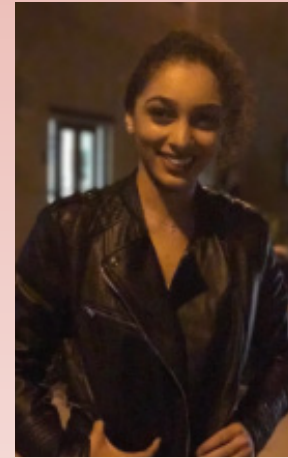
"I think it's incredibly important. Women have striven for independence and opportunities that they were once denied and we should showcase their accomplishments. If it wasn't for strong women from the past, I wouldn't have had the choice to go to law school or apply. It's necessary that we create history in order to inspire women in the future and constantly do better. We couldn't always vote so we need to appreciate the many rights we now have."

Ashley Fondon
Senior
English Major



"Now a day's women have all power and strength. In some fields we are even better than men."

Polina Kleiner
Junior
Business Economics



"Who run the world girls, who run the world girls."

Rua Al Mughairi
Freshman
Tourism Major



"I am a women and I am strong,
I am a women and I am courageous,
I am a women and I am ambitious,
I am a women and I can be whatever I want to be."

Raji Uma
Freshman
International Relation and
Political Science



"Being from Arab country, people think men have more power than women but I'm proud that I can make my decision and say out loud what I want to do and what I don't want to do."

Farah Refaat
Freshman
International Business



"I think its extremely important. I think it's extremely important for women who are coming into the university as well... they need to be really pushed up the ladder and have all this support from other women as well. "

Elizabeth Herreraame
Senior
History Major

White feminists invited to join 'Black Lives Matter'

WHAT'S UP FIU



LAQUAVIA SMITH

Emphasizing their anti-Trump energy, thousands of women joined hands and knocked signs as they collectively rallied for Women's Rights at The Women's March in Washington, D.C. and in other cities like Miami. As one who was unable to take part in this historical event, I depended on social media platforms, such as Twitter and Instagram, to get me behind the scenes. Of the two images that stood out to me, both involved the reading of a sign.

"Don't forget: White women voted for Trump" read the first sign. The picture went viral, receiving over 25,000 retweets on Twitter, even becoming the headline of some of the most prominent news channels.

The image depicts an area full of women, with a distinctive four as the center of attention, one black and three caucasian. The black woman holds the sign, eating a lollipop, appearing upset while the others are on their phones, smiling and taking selfies.

There is so much nonverbal communication present in this one image and as a communication arts major, it's mind boggling. The woman at the center of this now-viral image is none other than LGBTQ activist,

Angela Peoples.

"We need to be really honest about why we're here," Peoples said to The Root, explaining what her sign symbolized. "There was a sense for me of being at the march and in community with folks that were wanting to resist this horrifying reality, but also not wanting folks to get complacent."

As a black woman who only voted in order to not

"I don't think it's a matter of white women becoming interested in our issues; I need them to recognize they are implicit or complicit benefactors of systems like white supremacy and patriarchy — and that's a problem."

Angela Peoples
LGBTQ Activist
GetEqual

forfeit my own vote as a "Trump vote," I can relate to the confusion, anger and passion that comes along with Peoples' sign.

Some did not react well to the sign, according to The Root. "Not this white woman," or "No one I know!"

were common responses Peoples said she received.

"[53 percent] of white women voted for Trump," Peoples said. "That means someone you know, someone who is in close community with you, voted for Trump. You need to organize your people."

Peoples has hope that her sign and the meaning behind it will encourage white female Trump supporters to join in other rallies, such as Black Lives Matter.

"... I don't think it's a matter of white women becoming interested in our issues; I need them to recognize they are implicit or complicit benefactors of systems like white supremacy and patriarchy — and that's a problem," she said.

Peoples emphasized that a person must realize they are benefactors to such issues, which brings me to the second image, which is different but still carries the same amount of regard and conflict.

The image features Persian-American actor, Amit Talai, holding a sign that reads, "I'll see you nice white ladies at the next #BlackLivesMatter march, right?"

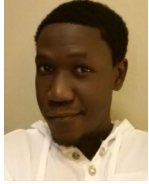
This highlights the line between what rights matter within a racial spectrum, but also the lack of awareness there is of this ongoing issue.

"I've always noticed white people being hesitant or resistant to getting involved in Black Lives Matter," Talai said. "But it really struck me when, in the days

SEE BLM, PAGE 5

Women need more quality representation in media

MALE MAIL



DAMIAN GORDON

The quality of representation is more important than the quantity

representation.

Consider the focus people put on things to be equal. People are concerned with things being perfectly balanced and are not focused on the TNT that sits on either side of the scale.

Quality of representation is that TNT. It can turn equal representation into an unlevel playing field.

In the last couple of years, women's portrayal in media is better than it's ever been because of the quality of female roles.

Look at the latest Star Wars film, *Rogue One*. It features a female lead and a diverse cast which adds to an already great film.

The heroine, Jyn Erso's gender is not mentioned once in the film nor should it need to be. She is a character that I engaged with due to how well written she is, not because of the ruggedness of her beard.

According to a CNN article, women had a record number of lead roles in 2016. 29 percent of women were protagonists; this is a 7 percent increase from the year before.

Portrayal of women in television is also progressing; there are many instances of women taking front and center.

CW's show lineup features a lot of female leads, especially "The 100", these aren't strong female characters, they're just strong characters as the roles could be switched and nothing would skip a beat.

However, sitting there with a tally board may not be the way to look at gender roles in the media, because that's not what determines whether something is good or not.

There are still some aspects

that need work like women attire in the news being low cut and more sexualized while males are still in suits.

Where is Dan Rather's pair of short shorts for the evening news? At least show some wrist in those suits next to the cleavage bearing anchors.

Even in women's sports teams, such as volleyball, the clothing is 100 times more revealing than their male counterparts.

I assume the outfits are skimpier to draw in a crowd. I wouldn't be surprised if women are playing professional Ping-Pong in a thong.

How can things ever be seen eye-to-eye if both parties are looking from different floors? I guess it's a good thing FaceTime exists.

Bottom line is you don't have to look far to see great portrayal of women in the media these days. It's not perfect, but the days of Baywatch are far-gone.

'Lack of respect and regard' present after Women's March

BLM, PAGE 4

before the march, I read a couple things by Jamilah Lemieux and Ijeoma Oluo and they were both like, 'I support the march, I'm glad it's happening, but I'm not gonna be there because I'm hurt over the people who have not paid attention to black pain and the Black Lives Matter movement for these years.' I really related to that..."

Talai discussed a few of the reactions he received from the sign, emphasizing that people were upset, but also inclined to inquire about these issues and their own role in them.

He also said he was told, if he were black or if it were them holding the sign, they could "never get away with that."

Reading this sign brought joy to my heart because it's the truth — it's so important to unmask it and see it bare. Racial segregation of rights and support is real.

The Huffington Post reported that 8 percent of blacks voted for Trump however, that does not

make up for the 35-plus percent of individuals — regardless of race — who voted for Trump and the millions of women who were present at the Women's March but have never even re-posted a post about police brutality when it comes to black males. Those 8 percent of black individuals do not amount to the 500 men killed in Chicago over 2016 or the 250 African Americans killed by police alone.

When people wonder why we are protesting and rallying, why there is conflict around the corner, it's because our people are dying. They are being killed.

On one side of the scope, we have Trump threatening to deport innocent civilians, and on the other end, we have a lack of respect and regard for the lives of the still oppressed. Both of these signs have built a fence that many did not see but will soon have to cross.

Laquavia Smith is a staff writer for Panther Press. Her column, What's Up FIU, is a commentary on the latest style and entertainment news.



Women's Clinic offers health services at 'base cost'

Women's Services Available at the Women's Clinic

○ Test for STI

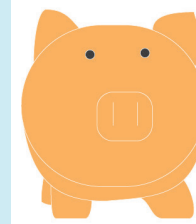
○ Well-Woman Exams

○ HPV Scening

○ Depo Proval (Birth Control Shot)

○ Colposcopy

○ GYN visits



Cost: \$0-\$140
* subject to change

Information courtesy of student health services

NIA YOUNG

Entertainment Director

FIU students do not need to travel far to receive women's health services at competitive cost or visit a GYN provider.

The \$93.69 student health fee, which students pay each semester, cover the upfront cost for many health services, including services at the Women's Clinic.

The most frequently requested services at the Women's Clinic include pap smears, HPV screening, Depo Provera (birth control shots), colposcopy, and Well-Woman exams. These services range from \$33.00 to \$140.00.

"The cost of these procedures are negotiated annually," Registered Nurse Lourdes Diaz-Bergouignan clarifies, explaining that the cost of some of the procedures and labs are set at "base cost."

"We are not for profit, so we don't make money on any of these services, we just try and have them available for the students."

Diaz has been working at the Student Health Center for 11 years, and she shares that "sometimes I'm mom, sometimes I'm a nurse, sometimes I'm just a friend."

Students looking for a walk-in appointment can be seen for pregnancy tests, UTI testing and severe symptoms, Diaz says.

For other issues that either require a scheduled exam at the Gold Clinic or have "acute" symptoms, you will be asked to make an appointment to meet with an RN another day.

"If you've been having irregularities with your menstruation, but you are not menstruating right now and you feel fine, you're gonna be scheduled for an appointment," Diaz said. "That's the difference for whether you are gonna have a walk-in appointment that day or you need a scheduled appointment."

The website for the Woman's Clinic will be up soon, with a feature that will allow students to schedule appointments online.

"We started piloting the online appointments about three weeks ago," Diaz says.

Students who have requests that are not one of the listed options, there is an "other" option that will prompt the clinic to call for more information.

The new online services at the Women's Clinic will be available to students summer 2017.

For more information on the services available at the Women's Clinic, call 305-348-2401 (MMC) or 305-919-5620 (BBC). Drop by Student Health Center, room 101 at MMC or Student Health Center at BBC. For details on cost of services, or visit go.fiu.edu/healthfee.

WOMEN: MORE THAN GLAMOUR

Gender equality doesn't mean drafting women

PULITZER'S PHENOMENA



DANIELA PEREZ

Despite not using a mandatory military draft since 1973, the Senate voted to require women to register in June of 2016.

Though the House's version of the Selective Service amendment bill did not include this requirement, "this is a "profound shift," said Jennifer Steinhauer from the New York Times.

Steinhauer feels that, should the Senate's version of the bill make it through the House, women will be "forced" to register for The Selective Service, "just as men do right now," when they turn 18.

While this seems like an achievement towards breaking the glass ceiling, it really should have been last on the senate's list when it comes to gender equality — especially in the military.

The vote has a striking "Women want equality? Well here it is" tone.

Before forcing the draft onto young American women, the Senate should have focused on looking inside the military.

Women in the military are not safe. We put a band-aid on it and then require women to register for the draft, even though women in the military are suffering.

According to the American Journal of Industrial Medicine, 1 in 3 women are raped in the military. Female veterans are at a higher risk for unemployment and homelessness, according to a 2012 study by the Veterans Health Administration.

Therefore, why is the U.S. focusing on enforcing the draft to meet a pseudo-equality complex when we are disregarding the

women that are already in the military?

The vote to pass the bill was supported by a majority of Republican senators, but was argued by the ultra-conservative bunch, including Texas Senator Ted Cruz and Kentucky Senator Rand Paul.

Cruz, a father of two young daughters, said in a statement, "I could not, in good conscience, vote to draft our daughters into the military, sending them off to war and forcing them to combat."

“

The vote has a striking "Women want equality? Well here it is" tone.

”

The bill was generated just to create discussion, according to Republican Representative Duncan Hunter.

In his article, featured on Fox News, Hunter said "Let me be clear: I don't support women in the infantry or special operations, nor do I support women registering for the draft. When I proposed my amendment, I even did so with the intention of voting against it."

According to Jennifer Bendery from The Huffington Post, Hunter thought that "people would have to face the fact that women might have to 'rip the enemy's throats and kill them for our nation.'"

However, Hunter never expected that the amendment would pass 32 to 30, with five Republicans joining the Democrats' endorsement of the bill.

Ishanti Marshall Holmes, a

junior majoring in health services administration, is a retired United States Armed Forces veteran. When not battling senioritis, she is battling Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

According to Holmes, the purpose of the draft registration now is questionable.

"Are there not volunteers?" Holmes asked. "Because all of the volunteers have been keeping the draft from happening."

Holmes, as a retired veteran, woman and feminist, has felt ignored by the country and finds it mildly suspicious that women now have to register for the draft. However, Holmes finds light in this situation.

She alludes to Cruz' dilemma of having daughters and admits that this will make citizens realize what the military does for the United States.

There have been times, Holmes said, that she has asked for a "measly" military discount and has been told things along the lines of "You think you're owed everything," and "What are you really doing for us, anyway?"

So, all that Holmes can wish for, despite her ambivalent feelings towards this draft, is that people treat their veterans with more respect now that their daughters have to enlist as well.

The country is lacking sympathy for women in combat and is generating a false resolution in regards to gender inequality. This bill is a mere band-aid over a deep gash that is hurting our country.

To read the full article, go online to PantherNOW.com

Daniela Perez is a staff writer for Panther Press. Her column, Pulitzer's Phenomena, is a commentary on human interest.

Quotes to live by every day

SOCIAL SCOOP



ALHI LECONTE

When I hear the word woman, I associate it with the words power and strength because those words define the women that I interact with on a daily basis.

I place high importance on the positive ways women are represented in the media. There are some quotes by women, in the past few years, that I feel society should always value.

"There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and the other is the pen. There is a third power stronger than both, that of women." — Malala Yousafzai

The youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai is a crusader of girl's education.

As a child, her life was threatened and almost taken because of her activism and outspokenness about the importance of schooling and education of girls in her country. A quote like this inspires feminism and inspires people to champion change for women.

"Remember, the Constitution doesn't begin with, 'I, the president.' It begins with, 'We, the people.'" — Gloria Steinem

Gloria Steinem, an activist and journalist, was an honorary co-chair for the Women's March in Washington earlier this year.

She addressed government officials, informing them that they would be held accountable for the decisions they make and the actions they take on issues pertaining to women's rights, safety and health.

"We need you to roll up your sleeves. We need to get to work. Because remember this: When they go low, we go high." — Michelle Obama

Former First Lady of the United States Michelle Obama, said this in a historical speech at the 2016 Democratic National Convention. This is how she culminated her speech about her time in the White House and her thoughts on arguably the most memorable presidential election.

The aim of Obama's overall emotional message was to be strong and fight for what is right.

"My third grade teacher called my mother and said, 'Ms. Cox, your son is going to end up in New Orleans in a dress if we don't get him into therapy.' And wouldn't you know, just last week I spoke at Tulane University, and I wore a lovely green and black dress." — Laverne Cox

Laverne Cox is an actress and LGBTQ rights advocate. As a transgender woman, she uses her star power to educate people about the issues that affect the trans community.

This quote is all about confidence. It's about courage and boldness. Monumental obstacles can be overcome with words of wisdom such as these.

"You have the power to change perception, to inspire and empower, and to show people how to embrace their complications, and see the flaws, and the true beauty and strength that's inside all of us." — Beyoncé

The year 2016 is not thought of fondly because of politics and numerous events that have negatively impacted culture and society. Thankfully, it was a great year in music.

Beyoncé's album, Lemonade, greatly contributed to this as it aided in furthering feminism and bringing to light society's racial inequality. Young girls who read this quote should know that they are able to do big things, be leaders, and should believe in themselves.

Alhi Leconte is a contributing writer for FIU Student Media. His column, Social Scoop, is a commentary on social issues and pop culture related matters.

'Disney has failed Hispanics'

M TALK



MICHELLE MARCHANTE

Disney has failed Hispanics.

Last year, Disney debuted their first Hispanic princess, Elena of Avalor. As Avalor's princess, she is a skilled sword-fighter, has magical powers and does not have a love interest. She is a mixture of different Hispanic heritages, cultures and legends.

She sounds fascinating, except, Disney has belittled and discriminated against her.

starring in her own-spin off show, "Elena of Avalor."

Is there a feature film in the works? Not likely.

“

According to Disney, [Elena] is only meant for the small screen.

”

Disney has not treated her like the other princesses. All "official" Disney princesses make their debut in a movie. Not Elena. She made her debut on a Disney Junior show, "Sofia: the First," before

According to Disney, she's only meant for the small screen.

During an interview with ABC News, the creator of "Sofia: the First," and "Elena of Avalor," Craig Gerber said that he

works on the TV side of Disney and has "nothing to do with the features side." His show about a Latina princess, he said, was also "luckily compelling enough" for Disney to let him produce it.

But diversity, Gerber said, is important to Disney and that it "doesn't really matter who is pitching the idea. If the idea is ready to go, they'll say go ahead and do it."

If it doesn't matter who pitches the idea, then why is there not a theatrical release dedicated to our first Hispanic princess?

SEE DISNEY, PAGE 7

PANTHER EDITORIAL

Everyone should be a feminist

The word “feminism,” obviously derives from “female,” but feminist thought and the feminist movement are not restricted to women. Men can be feminists.

In the same way that white people can fight for equal rights for minorities and people of color and humans can fight to end makeup testing on rabbits, being a part of the oppressed group is not a prerequisite for supporting the group’s rights.

Culturally, women have less power than men. It took women longer to get the right to vote, to own property, to drive, to have bank accounts in their own names, to be allowed full-time positions — the list goes on.

Feminism was born to lead the charge in creating equality and equity for women in these areas.

This doesn’t mean, however, that feminists hate men or hold grudges against them. If feminism only allowed for women to participate, the movement would be stagnant.

The support of men allows the patriarchy to be pushed back faster. When an oppressed group has those possessing privilege on its side, it shakes the norm of separating the two.

Feminists want to overthrow the patriarchy, not the entire male population. They understand what it’s like to be judged based on sex or gender alone and concede that progress will not be made by being hypocrites and turning the tables.

Men should be feminists.

The basic argument is that supporting women’s issues and equality is the ethical thing to do. Beyond this, feminism is beneficial to everyone.

It allows men to be released from the expectations of the gender binary system. Feminism supports men being allowed to

show emotion, to be stay-at-home parents, to have interests in “feminine” activities.

When women break the norm, by doing things like wearing what’s considered men’s clothing (think ties and suit jackets in the 1920s; pantsuits in the 1970s), it opens doors for men to be allowed to wear what is considered women’s clothing (consider the rising popularity of RuPaul’s Drag Race).

When women can speak out against domestic violence and sexual assault, it provides a platform for men to do the same. Feminism allows for the similarities between genders to be seen, because apart from a chromosomal and few chemical differences, women and men are very similar.

We’ve grown in closer contact and appreciation of each other over the centuries. If we’re not that different from each other, we can overlap in our personality traits and interests and not have it be seen as a collapse of society; rather, it’s precisely the opposite.

Men’s issues are a vital part of feminism, because when we tear down walls for one sex, we light the way for the other to have more freedom, acceptance, and rights.

By declaring yourself a feminist, regardless of sex, you’re showing support for equality between the sexes.

You’re making a promise to help all of us break the barriers that restrict our quality of life, whether that means getting paid the same amount for the same kind of work, or participating in the activities that have for too long separated us.

Being a feminist is not dependent on one’s amount of estrogen. It is dependent only on the wish to improve society and equality, and surely men have no argument against that.

Princess Elena deserves a big-screen debut

DISNEY, PAGE 6

There is no movie because there is no interest.

The first episode begins with a recap of her “origin story,” explaining in less than two minutes how an evil sorceress trapped Elena in an amulet for 41 years until Sofia released her, and with the magical powers she suddenly gained from her time in the amulet, Elena was able to defeat the sorceress and save her kingdom.

That recap, which sounds more like a prequel, resulted in the creation of “Elena and the Secret of Alavor.” But, this crossover made-for-TV movie, based on its synopsis, makes Sofia

sound more like the main character.

So, where is Elena’s story? Is a Hispanic character not worth starring as a feature film’s leading lady?

Without a theatrical release, our first Hispanic princess will never receive the same promotion or the same excitement as the other princesses, nor will she be able to have the same connection with the audience.

Theatrical films act like a “rite of passage” for our Disney princesses and gives them authenticity, but unlike the other princesses, it appears that Elena will have to prove herself worthy or she’ll be

forgotten the moment her show ends.

Disney invented Elena for bragging rights. She is considered an “official” Disney princess, had an introductory parade at Magic Kingdom, has Meet & Greets at the parks, and has merchandise in the stores so Hispanic girls can say, “She looks just like me,” because Disney princesses are meant to be inclusive role models.

Yet, they don’t think she’s worth the screen time. Shame.

Michelle Marchante is the Opinion Director for Panther Press. Her column, M Talk, focuses on new and innovative events and ideas.

FEMINISM FOR MEN: A GUIDE

1. Don’t speak above women, but speak with them.
2. Do be open to dialogue on sexism.
3. Don’t put yourself above women.
4. Do be respectful.

Lady Gaga a “breathing symbol of overcoming defeat”

POLITICOBUZZ



FABIENNE FLEURANTIN

“Ra ra mama. Ra ma, ra mama. Gaga oh lala, want your bad romance.”

Oh yes, yes I did.

The

ama z i n g , iconic and talented Lady Gaga. She is an attraction of controversy, a creator of comfort with eccentricity and most of all, a promoter of love.

Yes, she is the typical image of what a pop star is — she has the fame, fortune and following to back her up. However, there is something else about Gaga that makes her inspiring.

It’s not just because of her incredible music or the fact that her lyrics pull at the heart strings, but the fact that she is a living, breathing symbol of overcoming defeat.

She beat tough circumstances that made her into who she is today. She shared her experience during the Emotional Revolution Summit at Yale in October

2015.

“This is how I overcame my depression, is by creating somebody I felt that was stronger than me. But once I went through all sorts of changes, my career taking off, becoming more isolated, you know, nothing was able to fix how I was genetically made. I was born this way,” Gaga said at the Summit. “So, how do we now, knowing all of that, no matter how much success you have, no matter how many opportunities, fame, fortune, and no matter how many people accept you to your face, the person that really needs to accept you is you.”

This is what makes her so relatable and down to earth. Her words hit like a universal goal that every person strives to achieve — self-acceptance.

She spreads this message through a foundation in which she co-founded, Born This Way, a foundation “committed to supporting the wellness of young people and empowering them to create a kinder and braver world. We achieve this by shining a light on

real people, quality research, and authentic partnerships,” according to its website.

Over the past two years, the Born This Way Foundation had a huge impact “including: 2,500 global resource submissions to our Bravest Map Ever, more than 300,000 online subscribers, partnerships with over 50 nonprofit organizations across the country, cutting edge research on kindness and bravery through the Born Brave Experiences study, directly interacting with over 100,000 young people, and over 325 million media impressions for our Born Brave Bus Tour.”

Her story hits home because just like her, I was bullied. I remember dreading those days of going to school because I was afraid of what would happen to me. I couldn’t see what was ahead of me. I could only see then, what happened in that moment and I felt alone.

I’ve dealt with mental illness first hand among my family, and to know that she came out on the other side of that darkness, to see the light, makes me hopeful of the future

that awaits me and my family.

Mental illness is common among youths and most stories end tragically. People tend to think that mental illness is a taboo subject that should stay silent, but she helped shed light on this issue and helped spread awareness with her platform of success.

She fought with all that she had within her, and she continues to fight for others for what she believes in. That, to me, is what makes Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, a monster inspiration.

Fabienne Fleurantin is a staff writer for Panther Press.

Her column, PoliticoBuzz, is a commentary that raises awareness about political issues in the US and worldwide. She also covers events at FIU’s Biscayne Bay Campus.

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Senior baseman ties home-run record in victory over Rutgers University

BRETT SHWEKY
Staff Writer

Senior first baseman Stephanie Teixeira is chasing history, after she tied FIU's career home-run record in the 9-5 victory over Rutgers University on Feb. 24. Teixeira recorded her first homerun of the 2017 season, tying former panther Ashley McClain for the all-time home-run lead, with 33.

In the second inning, Teixeira hit a two-run homer over the center field fence, allowing the Panthers to increase their lead to 6-0 over the Rutgers Scarlet Knights. The senior capped off the game going two for three, with two RBIs and three runs scored.

As a freshman, the first baseman was named Conference USA Freshman of the Year and also was named Second-Team All-C-USA. She topped the league with

11 home runs, while also finishing with a .516 batting average, the highest among freshmen in 2014. She concluded her freshman year with the second-best batting average in school history, being only one point off from the top average.

Throughout the rest of her career she has established herself as one of the best Softball players in the nation. As a sophomore, she finished with the best single-season batting average in FIU history, hitting .444 during the 2015 season. Her junior season, even though she missed 15 games due to injury, she still managed to lead the team with a .413 average, 13 home runs, 46 RBIs, and a .835 slugging percentage.

Senior religious studies major, Shanna Vick-Morris talked about Teixeira possibly being the best player in FIU Softball history.

"From her freshman year to her senior year, Teixeira has led the Panthers in almost

every statistical category," said Vick-Morris. "She has been able to help FIU softball transcend themselves as a program."

To start the 2017 season, Teixeira was named Preseason All-Conference USA. She was also named to the USA Softball preseason Player of the Year watch list.

Junior marketing major Julieth Gil believes this could be an exciting season for the Panthers and expects Teixeira to play a large role in their success.

"Going into her final season for FIU, I feel that she can lead the team to a potential C-USA championship appearance," said Gil.

FIU softball will hit the road for Citrus Classic II, where the team will play against University of Tennessee at Chattanooga at 3:30 p.m. and Mercer University at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, March 3 in Orlando.

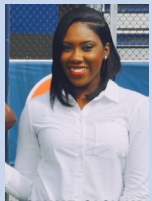


PANHTER PRESS FILE PHOTO

First baseman Stephanie Teixeira attempts to catch a ball during a softball game her freshman year.

Women's rugby club 'honored,' by and 'respect' athletes before them

JAS REPORTS



JASMINE CASIMIR

It has been almost 200 years since women started engaging in sports, specifically rugby. The first women's rugby team was established in 1881, and unfortunately endured violent treatment as men did not agree that women should be playing a man's sport.

Now, you can find a women's rugby team on almost every college campus, and Kerri Ann Elaise, a leader of FIU's women's rugby club, said she respects the struggle that took place in order for her to be where she is.

"I'm honestly honored that they paved the way for us to play freely now," said Elaise. "I respect what they went through to get here, and we also have the support from the guys as they have our backs."

Though women have come a long way to play in the sport, there are still people who believe that it's too rough of a sport for women to be involved in.

Ivan Henry, a sophomore majoring in communication arts, said it's bigger than just the sport being a man's sport.

"Unless you're conditioning right and are actually prepared for the possible hits you will take in the game, then I don't think they should be playing in it," said Henry.

Yes, rugby is a contact sport, which almost every sport is. But that's the

exact reason why there are practices and warm ups so that injuries can be prevented.

"It's a lot of contact involved which is why we have the team doing activities outside of practice," said Elaise. "There are set training schedules for everyone just so that they can be prepared and well trained."

When I used to play flag football, the first month of our practices consisted of conditioning before we were even taught any plays. Once we got closer to the season, that's when we were learning techniques and plays.

Selena Everitt, a sophomore majoring in political science major and a forward on the women's rugby team, said proper form is the biggest lesson when at practice.

"We're taught how to tackle and how to take a tackle, so if you practice and practice then it becomes muscle memory," said Everitt. "You would only sustain an injury if there is a miscommunication with a play and your form failed."

Tragic accidents do happen in sports, as in many other walks of life, which shouldn't be taken lightly. To suggest that women shouldn't play rugby – or any sport at that – is to say we're the weaker sex.

Jasmine Casimir is the assistant sports director for Student Media. Jas Reports is a column that focuses on University sports.

Females 'play just as hard' as their male counterparts

HEATHER O'DELL
Staff Writer

Amanda Lorenzo, a junior studying logistics, played softball her whole life and said she felt she never got the credit a baseball player would get.

"We do the same thing," said Lorenzo. "We play just as hard, we're dedicated just as much time, and we get less of credit."

Lorenzo also said when it came to sponsoring, men's sports receive more funds than women's sports.

"I played softball since I was in middle school and all throughout high school," she said. "I noticed how funding always went toward men's sports and never the women's. It always bothered me."

Katie Garcia, a sophomore studying psychology, said she feels the same

misjudgment other women in athletics feel.

"I am a dancer and it bothers me when people tell me that I am not an athlete because 'dance' isn't a sport," said Garcia. "I go to practice every day and condition my body. I may not be on a field or a court, but that doesn't mean that dancing isn't a sport. I hate it when guys say dancing is 'girly'. Because I am 'girly' does that underestimate what I do?"

The phrase "like a girl" has become something regularly said. You throw 'like a girl'. You run 'like a girl'. 'Like a girl' translates into doing an action poorly or not as well. There are women athletes who do not get credited with how well they perform because of their gender.

"I challenge any guy to come take a ballet class or participate in any women's athletic programs," said Garcia. "Maybe after that I can start saying 'like a boy.'"

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