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A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents.

Vol. 26, Issue 26 Friday, October 10, 2014

# Faculty Senate talks adjuncts, beauty queens

#### **REBECA PICCARDO**

News Director rebeca.piccardo@fiusm.com

State performance-based metrics have prompted the University to consider offering some part-time faculty a full-time instructor position

Kathleen Wilson, Faculty Senate chairperson, said that making some adjuncts that teach difficult or high-demand courses into full-time instructors would improve student success in these classes, which would therefore improve the University's graduation and retention rate.

Improving these rates is a priority to keep up with the Board of Governor's Performance Funding Model metrics. The amount of state money the University receives depends on a high metrics performance.

This year, the University tied in third place with the University of Central Florida, earning \$7.2 million in funding for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Changing part-time staff into full-time is a significant investment, Wilson said, and the adjuncts with priority are those that teach multiple courses and don't have another full-time job.

Elizabeth Béjar, vice president of Academic Affairs, said that the University is trying to internally distinguish between the adjuncts and evaluate who should be offered a full-time position.

"We're not targeting the [doctors] that teach at the [FIU Herbert Wertheim] College of Medicine and have their own private practice,"

SEE SENATE, PAGE 2

## **HANDY HENNA**



IASMINE ROMEDO / THE REACO

Members of the Muslim Student Association draw henna tattoos on students in Graham Center to raise funds for the organization.

# HOMECOMING

#### **Midday Madness**

Oct. 10 MMC Betty Chapman Plaza 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Unleash the Crown

Oct. 11 MMC GC Ballrooms 6:30 p.m.

#### Panthermonium Concert

Oct. 12 FIU Football Stadium 6:30 p.m.

#### **Kickoff By the Bay**

Oct. 13

BBC Lawns by the Bay noon to 4 p.m.

#### Panther Regade Fest

Oct. 14
BBC Lawns by the Bay
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## Panther Prowl

Oct. 15 MMC U.S. Century Bank Arena 6:30 p.m.

#### **Panthers Got Talent**

Oct. 16 MMC U.S. Bank Century Arena 5:30 p.m.

## LXV Lounge (Homecoming Dance)

Oct. 17 BBC Ballrooms 7 p.m.

#### **Homecoming Day**

Oct. 18

The Parade and tailgate will be held throughout the day. The game starts at 6 p.m.

# College of Law ranks fourth place in Florida bar passage rate

#### **ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA**

Staff Writer

adrian.suarezavila@fiusm.com

The University's College of Law ranked lower in bar passage rate for the July administration as compared to the February administration.

Ranked as fourth in the state with a bar passage rate of 78.2 percent, a tie with Stetson University's law school, the College of Law moved one spot below the third ranking position for the 81.3 percent passage rate it achieved earlier in February, according to the Daily Business Review website.

Ranked first was University of Florida's Levin College of Law, with a bar passage rate of 90.6 percent. Florida State University and University of Miami law schools ranked second and third with passage rates of 81.8 and 81.2 percent respectively.

For the Florida bar exam administration in July 2013, FIU Law also ranked fourth, according to sunEthics.com.

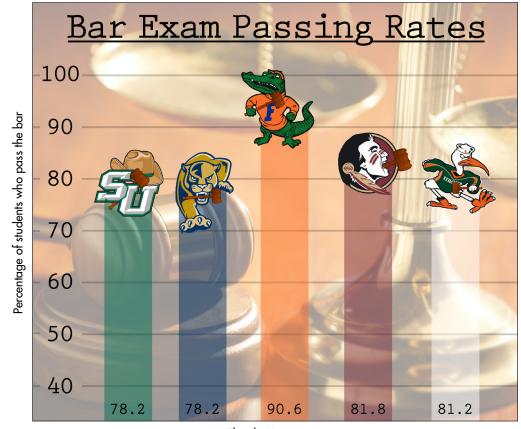
In July 2011, FIU Law reached the No. 1 spot with a passage rate of 89.6 percent.

Dean Alexander Acosta doesn't mind the fluctuations.

"Consistency is what is most important," said Acosta. "Year after year, we are among the top three or four law schools among the 12 law schools in Florida."

Despite ranking below the passage rate it achieved in February, FIU Law actually improved in relation to the statewide average, performing better this year than in previous ones, according to Acosta.

"It's great to be No. 1, but the reality is that there's statistical noise, and one year we're No. 1,



Florida Universities

Krono Lescano/The Beacon

FIU is in fourth place in the state, alongside Central Florida's Stetson University, with 78.2 percent of Florida law students passing the bar exam. University of Florida came in first place, followed Florida State University and University of Miami.

and one year UF is No. 1," said Acosta. "As long as we're in that top grouping, I'm good with that."

While most law schools don't offer courses that

help students prepare for the bar exam, the College of Law takes a different approach.

In addition to offering a third-year class that emphasizes preparation for the exam, the College offers a first-year course that introduces students to the law school environment in an effort to provide them with different perspectives on how to approach legal matters that may appear in the bar exam.

"[Studying for the bar] really falls on the students to take advantage of the faculty's expertise," said Daniel Rock, a third-year law student. "But even with that being said, the professors always include

Year after year, we are among the top three or four law schools among the 12 law schools in Florida. [...] As long as we're in that top grouping, I'm good with that.

ith that.

Alexander Acosta

Dean

College of Law

SEE LAW, PAGE 2

# NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

#### Professor who lost university job offer lashes out at school administrators

Controversial professor Steven Salaita, who lost his job offer from the University of Illinois after criticizing Israel on social media, lashed out at university administrators Monday for overreaching in their decision not to hire him. Salaita, in a wide-ranging, 40-minute speech at Northwestern University, focused on academic freedom and the recent conflict in the Middle East. He made comparisons between his own situation and the subject of colonialism that he studies, saying that the university was suppressing a minority position. "Watching my own firing happen publicly on the Internet was surreal, but not just for me," he told a largely supportive crowd that filled most of a 300-seat lecture hall. "Anyone who tuned in could see how the corporatization of academe functions in real time."

# Mexico confronts reports that police helped massacre 43 students

President Enrique Pena Nieto sought Monday to confront a growing human rights nightmare, declaring an investigation into reports that police had rounded up 43 student-teachers late last month, then worked with gangsters to have them killed and their bodies dumped in mass graves. The horrific massacre near Iguala in Mexico's Guerrero state on the Pacific coast appears likely to become the worst slaughter by police or soldiers since Pena Nieto came to office in December 2012, pledging a savvier battle against drug cartels than that of his predecessor, whose six-year term left more than 60,000 dead and many more thousands officially missing. It's the second time in just over three months that Mexican police or soldiers have been implicated in a mass execution. Jose Miguel Vivanco, the head of the Americas division of Human Rights Watch, said Mexico faced "a national human rights crisis" over police and soldiers who thought they could remain off the hook for mass murder.

#### MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

#### **CORRECTIONS**

In Volume 26, Issue 25, the article "Homecoming incorporates new events this year" states that the Homecoming game begins at 7:30 p.m., though it begins at 6 p.m. In the same issue, on page seven, the appropriate story was not placed under its headline, "Panthers snap their 10 game losing streak in win over Alabama Blazers." For the accurate story visit fiusm.com.

*The Beacon* will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

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# Students create Seeds of Change Initiative for education

**NICHOLAS OLIVERA** 

Contributing Writer news@fiusm.com

A student-led initiative at the University wants to bring education and sanitation to the Maasai, a tribe indigenous to the deserts of Loitokitok, Kenya.

The Seeds of Change Initiative was started by two of FIU's own juniors: Susana Guzman, an international relations major, and Alexandra Castillo Escobar, a public relations major. The two of them have teamed up Angely Requena, a junior political science major from the University of Miami, as well as the nonprofit organization Prints of Hope International.

Escobar says of the Initiative's decision behind teaming with this organization, "They have been active since 2000. Their focus is on children; that's

why we thought we should partner with them."

Together, they hope to use education as a weapon in their fight to put a stop to a common practice for the Maasai people: the circumcision of young girls by removing their clitorises

For these people, it is considered a rite of passage for girls that are transitioning into womanhood. It is a painful procedure, done without the use of anesthesia. In addition to this, the same blade is often used for most of the circumcisions.

The three students believe that through proper education they can make a breakthrough with the Maasai, ultimately showing them that their custom of circumcision is not one that benefits their girls.

"Since they use the same blade, it spreads HIV and AIDS," says Guzman. "These are things they don't even know - simple sanitation."

Seeds of Change hopes to accomplish their mission of empowering through education with the construction of an education center for the Massai. There is just one man that they need to get through in order to have permission to build this center: the leader of the tribe.

Due to a drought that had ravaged their land from 2004 to 2009, the tribe leader has one request for the Seeds of Change Initiative.

"We created a pact with the tribe leader," says Guzman. "If we bring in water wells, he will give us the land to build this school."

If the group is able to accomplish this for the Massai, only then will they be willing to listen to the group's message of empowering through education. Overall, the construction of the education center will add up

to \$10,000, of which they have already raised over \$2,000.

Without a school, it's very unlikely anyone from the tribe will receive an education because they are so cut off from civilization. Loitokitok is approximately 158 miles away from Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya.

The Seeds of Change Initiative isn't trying to change the culture of these people, but instead trying to get the civilization on its own feet. This is something they hope to accomplish through the power of education and compassion, which is something Guzman feels society is greatly lacking.

"No one cares," said Guzman. "I'll post a picture online of a child asking to sponsor them and the picture will get, at best, four likes. Then, I post a picture of my dog, and she gets 100 likes!"

# Faculty Senate considers hiring adjunct professors full time

SENATE, PAGE 1

she said. "We are looking at the adjuncts that teach several courses and trying to make ends meet."

The University has between 700 and 800 adjuncts, Wilson said, and about two-thirds teach more than one class.

Also at the meeting, members of the Faculty Senate moved to request a special meeting with President Mark B. Rosenberg to voice their concerns about the Miss Universe Pageant.

Some faculty members don't think the possible benefits of a spotlight in prime-time television and \$75,000 in scholarships to students outweighs the toll hosting a beauty pageant will have on the institution's image and credibility.

"Although it is an opportunity to show FIU around the world, I've heard comments from many of [faculty members] that believe it doesn't project an image of serious scholarship," Wilson said.

Faculty complained to Wilson that they were neither consulted nor involved in this decision and that there is a certain hypocrisy since the University turned down a substantial gift from the World Erotic Art Museum.

We're not targeting the [doctors] that teach at the [FIU Herbert Wertheim] College of Medicine and have their own private practice. We are looking at the adjuncts that teach several courses and trying to make ends meet.

Elizabeth Bejar Vice President Academic Affairs

"We need some kind of procedure and not have it be a done deal by the time we hear about it," said Joan Baker, associate professor in the Department of English. "I do not want to be at the mercy of Pete Garcia."

Pete Garcia, executive director of sports and entertainment, was the University representative at the Oct. 2 press conference when Donald Trump announced that the University would host the pageant.

Baker said that faculty should have been involved in the decision-making, since it is their careers, credibility and respect that are at risk.

"I'm very anxious about how we are going to be portrayed," she said. "The kind of jokes that get made with something like this—I feel very helpless that our image gets taken out of our hands."

Yesim Darici, director of the Center for Women's and Gender Studies, attended the Oct. 7 Faculty Senate meeting to ask that the event be cancelled.

"It is a very inappropriate event; this feeds into that destructive culture of dehumanizing women," she said. "It is an insult to all our female students and faculty. It's embarrassing."

Béjar, who admitted she was just as surprised by the pageant announcement, said she would take these concerns to Rosenberg.

There is no concrete action yet, but Béjar agreed that at a minimum, there should be a conversation between the faculty and the administration about the risks and the benefits of hosting this event.

"We will work with what we have and leverage the best opportunities for our students," she said.

# University bar exam passage rate drops

LAW, PAGE 1

significant portions of their classes directed specifically towards preparation for the bar."

Other law schools have implemented techniques similar to that of the University, a fact that motivates the school to do more.

"Now that other schools have done better than in other years, we have to redouble our efforts to keep up with them," Acosta said.

One of these efforts involves guiding graduates while they prepare for the exam during summer.

According to Acosta, while it's traditional for students to study on their own for the exam after graduating, the law school

offers a preparation program to keep track of students as they study in the summer months.

For the preparation program, law faculty are assigned groups of students to which they provide study tips and counseling.

The counseling component proves important when graduates consider making crucial decisions.

"You're going to have a small number of students who make certain life choices right around the time of the bar that weren't good to make at that time," said Louis Schulze Jr., assistant dean and professor of academic support.

"They'll decide in the middle of bar prep to move across the country, which takes a lot of effort. If they do that, then it will impinge on their likelihood of passing the bar."

# OPINION

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# **NEW CHALLENGE**

# Take action in your local community, don't just share photos

**STEPHANIE PIEDRAHITA** 

Staff Writer

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If you own a smartphone and attend classes at a university, you're more than likely checking social media around

We've all heard the disadvantages of staying glued to our news feeds and about how it disconnects us from the real world. I wholeheartedly disagree with this, since I feel that our connection to others via Facebook or Instagram has actually united people with similar perspectives and can inform the masses of social issues we weren't aware of before.

This past summer we saw trends that were both good and bad. The Fire Challenge seriously had me referencing Charles Darwin's natural selection theory since the results of participating in that fad had life-scarring consequences.

Some movements however, like the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, directly made a positive impact by raising awareness for Lou Gehrig's Disease along with fundraising over \$21.4 million dollars in one quarter of the year. Any movement that

Visiting hospitals or collecting money on the streets to support a local hospital will always be more effective than sharing a picture of a bedridden child in need.

gains that much attention and actually changed some aspect of society in a good way is fine by me.

After all the videos of ice dunkings stopped overflowing my feed, it came to my attention, however, that these random philanthropic gestures died down all together which is not okay. It saddens me that there are individuals out there that just scroll by and never donate even a dollar to a cause that needs it because of the assumption that it never really changes

I appreciate my friends on social media who constantly share sad stories about domestic violence, animal abuse or any social issue since good intentions are there, but this is as far as some people will go to really "do something" about it.

Visiting hospitals or collecting money on the streets to support a local hospital will always be more effective than sharing a picture of a bedridden child in need.

The same goes with rescue animals. Adopt it if you are able to and show it the love and compassion you feel when seeing the picture.

I understand we don't all have the time to feed the homeless on our days off or to take month-long trips to a disadvantaged country to build schools due to all the responsibilities we have back home. All that I hope for in this informed technological society we've bred is that at some point in your life, you consider doing something out of your comfort zone to help humanity out. Next time you feel like there is a huge injustice you've seen in your life, log out of Facebook and advocate against it, speak up and make your ideas into

# Fan forums reveal unspoken rules of band shirts

**JUNETTE REYES** 

Editor in Chief junette.reyes@fiusm.com

As someone who likes reading up on music news, I sometimes browse several fan website forums of bands I like. In one particular instance, while looking through a Nine Inch Nails forum, I came across a post where fans were debating concert etiquette. A topic that specifically peaked my interest were the guidelines for wearing a band T-shirt.

A search here and there led me to similar posts, most of which agreed on one thing: never wear a band's shirt to their concert. It's just lame and redundant, it seems. Everyone knows you're there to see said band, so why wear their gear? And whatever you do, make sure to never wear the shirt to the concert as soon as you buy it from the merchants. Hold it all night for the sake of staying cool.

Alternatives on what to wear to a concert were thankfully provided. One suggestion was to wear the gear of another band. Like this you can show just how far your taste in music goes.

While highly entertaining to read, the hought of anyone genuinely believing in this philosophy baffles me. For a rock 'n'

roll culture so enthralled with the idea of being free of any rules and just enjoying the music, it is quite interesting to see any sort of guidelines for concert attire, serious or not.

Yes, it might be redundant to wear a

the first place was to wear it, regardless of where you wear it.

In the words of Jeremy Piven in "PCU," "don't be that guy." Piven says it

band's T-shirt to their concert, but who in terms of not being the guy that wears cares? The reason you bought the shirt in the shirt of the band you're going to see. I'm saying it in terms of not being the guy who cares about what other people think.

Wear the damn shirt if it so pleases you, or don't. It's your choice.

# PARKING IMPOSSIBLE

# LOT THREE HOW IT SHOULD BE

The reason you bought the shirt in the first place was to wear it, regardless of where you wear it.

## SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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The Beacon – 4 Friday, October 10, 2014

# Student radio DJ dedicates his life to art

**VINCENT RIVES** Staff Writer vincent.rives@fiusm.com

Juan Neira has given in to the chaos, but he's not complaining.

The junior art and art history double major says he was compelled by a greek goddess who shared Neira's interpretation seeking to control the uncontrollable. His art — mostly sculptures, film photography and abstract paintings - is modern-day adaptation of what Eris, the goddess of discord and chaos, represents.

> Chaos is this brand that we don't understand, so we don't accept. But, by her being able to accept it, she was able to control chaos.

> > Juan Neira Junior

Art and Art History Major

"What happens with this goddess is that she can control everything because she was able to control nothing," Neira said. "Chaos is this brand that we don't understand, so we don't accept. But, by her being able to accept it, she was able to control chaos."

On Oct 2, Neira showcased his refined depiction of life's turmoils.

He celebrated the opening of his exhibition at the Alberto Linero gallery, located in the heart of Wynwood. The gallery was filled with family, friends and his peers from WRGP Radiate FM.

Neira, the traffic and training director of the University's student radio station, is also host of a Wednesday folk, lo-fi radio show called "Meet Us in Montauk," a reference to the cult classic film "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind."

"Eris," the title of his exhibition, was Neira's first professional art installation.

Neira says the University has aided his growth in art- both through its symbolism and actual craft. As an art history major, Neira was able to delve deep into

"I read a lot," Neira said. "Mythology is a straight depiction of what is humanity. Humanity was transformed to tales so that people could refer to them and help each other to pretty much set up values and norms in their society. The thing about Eris is that [she] and my artwork are a straight reflection of society."

"That's how art works. Good art is a direct reflection of society."

Neira says he doesn't limit himself to just one specific medium for his art. He uses film photography, sculpture and abstract painting to utilize his

Becoming a full-time artist wasn't always the plan. After graduating from Felix Varela High School, his first major at FIU was business. He admits he, like most individuals, thought that this was the only way to become successful after college.

Neira has thus taken a different approach on how to achieve success.

"What makes a successful artist is someone that really works hard, as simple as that seems," he says. "I'm sure you've heard, 'I wanted to be an artist when I was young, but when I grew up I realized I had to get a real job.' These people didn't realize that they needed a real job, what they realized is that being an artist is in fact a very tough job. You have to sacrifice yourself to your art."

"So many people tell me, 'Hey, I was trying, but things weren't really happening with it, so I stopped.' I haven't stopped. I had

to sacrifice a lot of my free time, my relationships, my friends, my money— everything goes to my art, and that's what, I guess, makes someone successful, how they're willing to sacrifice themselves for something more important."

Neira's work will be on display until Tuesday, Oct 21.



Juan Neira, an art and art history junior, showcases his first professional installment titled "Eris" on Oct 3. The subject of his work focuses on the goddess Eris, and the chaos and disorder that defines her myth.

# 'Hands up, don't shoot:' students discuss policing issues



SALDAÑA-ROJAS

Ferguson, Missouri may seem like a distant memory. Ebola and ISIS have resurfaced as headline news on major

Look on the list of trending Twitter topics and as of 2:50 p.m. on Wednesday Oct. 8, Ferguson is nowhere on there.

Students may seem to have forgotten and let the memory slip from their minds.

But this past Friday, several students made a firm decision to keep the memory alive.

I figured few students would show up to an event titled "Hands up, Don't shoot," branded as an open forum discussing police brutality, militarization and race — I was

Esi Fynn-Obeng, a communication arts and sociology senior and president of the African Student Union found the need for a discussion on the topic necessary, especially in lieu of the recent protests in Ferguson, Missouri over the shooting death of unarmed black teenager, Michael Brown.

"We've seen a trend of police brutality and a confrontation." trend of people of color being gunned down. I want to provide kids a platform to speak about these issues," said



DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS/THE BEACON

(from left to right) Senior history major Gordon Kingston, Professor Donna Weir Soley, University Police Lieutenant Ricardo Torres and Senior English major Eric Hunter speak at a forum about police brutality, militarization and race.

The police see blacks as criminal before they see them as innocent.

> Donna Weir-Soley Associate Professor **Department of English**

Fynn-Obeng.

She feels a lot of students don't understand the severity of the policing issues at hand and some will take on an offensive tone on social media without being truly informed.

"How can you go and fight something and you don't even know what you're fighting? They need to find out why it's a significant issue in the first place," said Fynn-Obeng.

In organizing the event, Fynn-Obeng reached out to English major, Eric Hunter, president of Fostering Better Communities and Sigma Tau Delta, and international honor society for English majors.

Kingston says the student union is "against police brutality and against racism," as part of the reason for their

As for Hunter, one of the reasons he placed the English honor society as an event sponsor was to combat the idea that English majors are not civically engaged.

"There is a misconception that English majors, all they talk about is literature and poetry in a vacuum. Our professors place great emphasis in class about social issues and how they weave into the texts we analyze," said Hunter.

It was through Hunter's position that he was able to easily reach out to University English professor Donna

Looking on her pages of notes, the University English professor gave a brief U.S. history lesson and in the process informed everyone that we're all part of a large structure that created and embraced institutional racism.

One of the peaks of her speech went directly towards criticizing the police. According to her, it's not her fault that the police will presumably see blacks as perpetrators.

"The police see blacks as criminal before they see them

as innocent. They assume that they are criminal. Sometimes they fabricate reasons to make them criminal when they realize they are not because then they [the police] are already in trouble. How could they not see them that way when that is the way we have been structured to think in this country

Although race, history and class were the focus of the evening discussions, police militarization was given it's fair

"From my fellow students and I at the Florida Student Union, we find these weapons troubling and call for more transparency into why the campus police have this equipment. It is our fear that these weapons will be used against us students," said Kingston.

Kingston also addressed the audience and focused on police militarization. He specifically cited the University Police Department's acquisition of 50 M16 rifles and an

Despite the other panelists speaking, it seemed that all questions went directly to Lieutenant Ricardo Torres of the lorida Student Union member Gordon Kingston and Senior University Police Department, one of the panelists invited

> The 21 year UPD veteran began by stepping on a chair to show the audience all the equipment on his waistband. The purpose of this exercise it seems, was to create sympathy from the audience. He kept referring to how much he did not want to have more equipment added to his already heavy

> After introducing himself, he dived immediately into discussing Ferguson and it's policing failure.

> "[Ferguson] was a total and complete failure — failure, by everybody in that community. Everyone there should have come together way before this happened. The justice department should have gone there way before. By the time Eric Holder got there, it was already too late."

> Torres promised that the M16s and armored vehicle on campus were for extreme uses only.

> "I can guarantee we will never unleash one of these weapons on the students, that's not how we operate," he said.

> The one other thing he did promise — there will be more

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# Hijab-A-Thon gives opportunity for awareness and understanding

ISABELLA HERRERA
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

University Muslims are looking to both spread breast cancer awareness, and raise cultural sensitivity.

On Thursday, Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Muslim Student Association is planning to host their third annual "Hijab-A-Thon" at Graham Center room 343

The event, adapted from ideas received by a northern university, will allow non-Muslim women to select a hijab to wear throughout the day in order to help them experience a special part of Islamic culture.

The event will take place in the GC Faculty Lounge from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. that same day.

Honoring breast cancer awareness month, Nandee Shabazz, a junior majoring in political science and international relations, puts the group's plans simply: From the garments to the decorations, "everything will be pink"

This will also serve as a way to promote unity, according to senior Adnan Samma, majoring in economics and international

"Breast Cancer is a disease in society which needs a lot of attention," Samma said. "I'm glad that there are foundations that are willing to devote entire months to breast cancer awareness, and if they can do so, why can't we?"

Shabazz describes hijabs as the "Islamic headdress for Muslim women." However, both she and Samma emphasize that this tradition is much more than just a piece of clothing — it's a way of life.

"Islam has designated certain private parts of the body for the woman; it's the entire body except the face and the hands," Shabazz said. "The hijab is more than that. The hijab is a sense of modesty, and it's a character, and a state of mind that you have to put yourself in."

"It has to go in line with your character: being modest, being shy, but not reserved...the hijab fulfills that," Shabazz added.

The MSA and National Organization for Women are working together to help emphasize these values and ultimately, allow non-Muslims to get a taste of what this way of life means to them.

"Besides the religious point of view, people see me differently Islam has designated certain private parts of the body for the woman; it's the entire body except the face and the hands. The hijab is more than that. The hijab is a sense of modesty, and it's a character, and a state of mind that you have to put yourself in.

Nandee Shabazz

Junior

Political Science and International Relations Major

than they see other girls," Shabazz said.

Samma later mentions this aspect as being one of the main purposes for planning the celebration.

"When we try to convince other women to wear it for a day, we want to let them know how it feels to be in [Muslim women's] shoes," Samma said. "How it feels to be clinging to [what is] actually a divine tradition for us."

He further outlines the difficulty of this practice.

"What happens is that society evolves to a point where this doesn't hold any significance. We still practice [Islam] as it was practiced 14,000 years ago," Samma said. "You're living in a modern society that is evolving so quickly. You have norms and

customs transitioning, changing all the time. Modern society changes, so the perception of religion also changes — but we stick to it."

Although men are not to wear the garment, the Hijab-A-Thon is not only geared towards the women on campus. In fact, Samma mentions that Muslim men must cover their bodies as well.

"Our entire body is a private part," Samma said.

Shabazz said that with the help of the event, more people will be able to come to the understanding of what wearing a hijab means and gain a greater respect for it.

"I really just want people to learn from the event. Everything that you see in the media about Muslim women — especially everyone that has this perception that, 'oh, they're oppressed because they're forced to wear the hijabs,' — and I want people to see that it's not what they think, and basically to open their eyes to what things really are," Shabazz said.

Samma said that, "men cannot understand what it means to wear a woman's version of a hijab. They will never understand the pain that she goes through when people look at her like that."

While men and non-Muslims have their ideas of what this life would be like, no one knows it better than the wearer herself, and the perspective she takes on it is truly inspiring.

"It's part of my religion, and I'm required to wear it, so of course, I wear it. But it's also something I feel...protects me in a sense," Shabazz said.

"You know when everyone talks about guys catcalling girls and stuff like that, that never happens to me. And the few times that it did, they're always like 'oh I just want to let you know you look really beautiful today.' It's harder for them to see what's on the outside, and so when they get to know you, they're seeing you for what's inside. And I feel like that's really special."

# Latin Grammy winning artists team up with FIU for a Spanish Songwriters Workshop

SAMANTHA DAVIS
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The College of Architecture + The Arts has partnered with the New York, Los Angeles, and Miami offices of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) to provide all currently enrolled students with the opportunity to participate in a free bilingual songwriting workshop.

ASCAP is a membership association of more than 500,000 U.S. composers, songwriters, lyricists and music publishers of every kind of music. It is the only US performing rights organization created and controlled by composers, songwriters and music publishers, with a Board of Directors elected by and from members.

ASCAP has helped thousands of artists achieve success in their music careers including Duke Ellington, Leonard Bernstein, Jay-Z, Katy Perry, Marc Anthony, Beyoncé and Alan Jackson.

This workshop will give students the chance to work with Latin Grammy winners Yoel Henriquez and Fernando Osorio, along with Jorge Luís Piloto, who is another of Miami's leading bilingual songwriters.

ASCAP Associate Director Karl Avanzini, a veteran in the music industry, will be facilitating the workshop at the Miami Beach Urban Studios Gallery on Nov. 3 and 4.

Avanzini has been the Director of Creative Affairs, Latin Membership East

Coast at ASCAP for over a decade. He is responsible for signing most of ASCAP's successful songwriters and has served as panelist, creator and educator in the music industry.

He is well-known for his artist showcases during the Billboard Latin Awards including Enrique Iglesias, Kany Garcia, LENA, Debi Nova, Nahuel, Daniel Santacruz, Victor Manuelle and many others.

This workshop will engage students as they work alongside successful and distinguished songwriters, composers and producers.

"We have all these talented students," Vires said. "We need to explore that talent and help them get ahead."

Although the workshop is open to all students regardless of major, only six will be chosen by a panel of artist-faculty from the School of Music which includes Director of Music Business and Music Management Programs Karen Fuller and Director of the Jazz Vocal Program Lisanne Lyons.

The workshop will function similarly to a music business seminar. Vires mentioned that the workshop will teach students how to market themselves and their music.

In addition to learning about music marketing, students will get to showcase their talent for Piloto, Henriquez and Osorio.

"They get to perform in front of these people and be critiqued by them. That's amazing," Vires said.

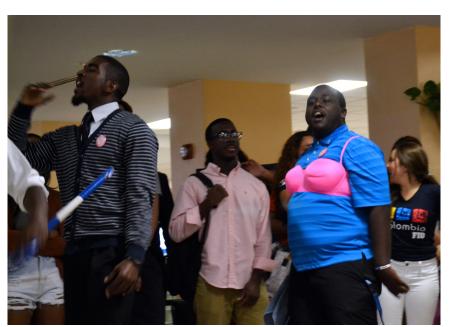
Students who are interested in being a part of this workshop can submit a short

biography which should include their Panther I.D., address, phone number and email address. Students also need to submit MP3s of two original songs in Spanish with lyric sheets. All of this should be submitted electronically to music@fiu.edu. The subject line in the email must say "ASCAP Songwriting Workshop." The deadline for submissions is Oct. 15.

After students submit their songs, the panel of judges will decide as a team which six students will be a part of the workshop. Those six students will then be notified of their acceptance and invited to Miami Urban Beach Studios Gallery on Nov. 3 and 4.

"We're giving students an opportunity. That's what this is all about," Vires said.

## **PRETTY IN PINK**



ASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

Johnny Moe, junior in recreation and sports management and a member of Phi Beta Sigma, wears a bra while dancing with other fraternity members to highlight breast cancer awareness.

# SPORTS

The Beacon – 6 Friday, October 10, 2014

SOCCER

# Panthers trek north for two-game weekend

**JAMES PROFETTO** 

Staff Writer james.profetto@fiusm.com

A weekend with some of Conference USA's best and worst are coming up for the Panthers. Beginning on Friday, Oct. 10, and ending Sunday, Oct. 12, Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt and his girl's soccer team will see two good opportunities to move up the ranks in the C-USA standings. The University of Alabama at Birmingham is the first match and Middle Tennessee State University caps off the weekend.

UAB, while currently sitting one game below .500 (5-6-1), benefits from a good conference record (2-1-1) that has propelled them to the No. 3 spot among the 14 C-USA teams.

Their success lies at home, undefeated in games played in Birmingham, Alabama. The Blazers' most recent loss came at the hands of Louisiana Tech University, a team left behind in the conference at the No. 13 spot. UAB has not seen a win since Sept. 28, which gives them an extra ounce of motivation when facing the Panthers. The Miami-based team should have no problem creating their motivation as well. With a win, the Panthers would have the golden chance to move into the top five in C-USA (currently seventh), due in large part to their overall record (6-5-1, 1-1-1).

The series history has been one that would make anyone bite their nails, as the last meeting on Oct. 13, 2013, provided a 3-2 overtime victory for the Panthers. With the help of redshirt junior Nikki Rios and Sara

Stewart, senior Marie Egan and the rest of the iron-core Panther defense, their strong play as of late will help stifle the attack of UAB's Johanna Liney's six goals this season, a teamhigh for the Blazers.

The final match of the weekend takes the Panthers north to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, to face MTSU on Sunday at 1 p.m. Traveling to different stadiums in one weekend is not unfamiliar to Chestnutt and his team, as last season resulted in a 2-2 conference record away from home with only one day of rest in between.

MTSU is on the lower end of the C-USA feeding chain, as they currently sit at No. 10 overall (4-6-2, 1-2-1). Struggling with conference opponents, the Blue Raiders can't seem to find their identity. Their recent game against the statistically worst team in C-USA, Southern Mississippi University, resulted in a 2-2 tie. MTSU's home record is a mere 2-3-1, while being outscored 18-10 on the season. This is what many would call a "trap game," meaning the team may be bad on paper, but any given game-day can provide a surprise win for the lesser team. The Panthers are not phased by "trap games," as their win against Old Dominion University held similar standards.

Senior forward Ashleigh Shim and redshirt senior Chelsea Leiva will have a field day in Tennessee, as the Blue Raiders are allowing 76 shots on goal and a .113 percent shooting percentage to opponents. The opportunities seen by the Panthers against Florida Atlantic University on Oct. 5 will surely be rewarded if they are found again against MTSU.

The series history with MTSU is 6-9-1, with the last meeting resulting in a 1-0 loss in 2013. Despite the past, the creation of chances are increasing as each game passes for the Panthers. Midfield play is clicking, as senior Johanna Volz leads the herd. Volz is finding her aggressiveness again, as she had a near-goal against FAU and her third penalty kick opportunity for the season.

Chestnutt will stress capitalization of chances whenever they present themselves and playing a full 90 minute game, or in some cases, 110 minutes. The Panthers begin their away-game journey on Friday, Oct. 10, at 8 p.m. against UAB and conclude the weekend on Sunday, Oct. 12, against MTSU at 1 p.m.

# Panthers travel to face off against conference foe Charlotte 49ers

**CAESAR ALVA** 

Contributing Writer sports@fiusm.com

After taking on their third conference opponent in South Carolina, the Panthers are packing their bags and preparing to play against the No. 4 ranked North Carolina Charlotte 49ers.

While the Panthers have struggled with consistency throughout the season, the 49ers have been a model of it. Charlotte won seven consecutive games since Coastal Carolina University gave them their only loss of the

This will be the Panthers fourth Conference encounter, and, therefore, very important for the team to stay afloat at .500. Each conference game brings added heat and much more pressure.

With an 8-1 record, the Charlottes 49ers expect to have a good, easy-flowing game against the Panthers. It is up to the Panthers to surprise them.

#### Closer Look at the 49ers

powerful team since the start of the season. seven opponents by a minimal margin of two

Ranked fourth in the nation, Charlotte looks to solidify themselves as serious candidates for the NCAA Championship.

goals per game. The 49ers have been extremely dominant with their opponents.

While Charlotte is led by their only veteran



MARIA LORENZINO/ THE BEACON

Sophomore goalkeeper David Mitchell (middle) covers his face after UAB got a goal through the panthers in the 89th minute, costing FIU their first conference game.

The Charlotte 49ers have been a very 49ers have been able to defeat six of their last

Charlotte has been playing with discipline player, senior midfielder Thomas Robby, the and consistency the last few games. In fact, the 49ers have a mature roster and are ready to encounter any opponent.

With the team and Head Coach Kevin

Langan on the same page, this season for the 49ers is bound to be a successful one.

#### David vs. Goliath

Although the Panthers are no strangers to taking on powerful opponents, this will probably be their toughest game of the season. Being on the road and pitted against another highly ranked opponent, expecting a victory isn't an easy task to accomplish— but the Panthers expect nothing but excellence of themselves.

After losing senior midfield Nelson Milsaint, due to red card in their New Mexico game, the Panthers hope to have his shoes filled by any of the great bench players available.

Coming up short in the last two Conference games is a sore spot for the team and Head Coach Scott Calabrese, but they expect to bounce back, regardless of situation.

While they may be one key player down, on the road and placed against a powerhouse, the Panthers expect to leave everything they have on the field— win or go home.

Following this game, the Panthers will head ome to face the University of Central Florida Oct. 15.

VOLLEYBALL

# Volleyball expects further improvement

**ALEJANDRO AGUIRRE** Contributing Writer sports@fiusm.com

After getting their first win in Conference USA play this past Sunday and their first win since Sept. 6, the volleyball team is going to play two road games this weekend. Their first matchup is against the Charlotte 49ers on Friday, Oct. 10, and the second match against Louisiana Tech is Sunday, Oct. 12.

For the first time in a while, the Panthers will head to an opposing home floor with winning momentum. This past weekend Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett made changes to the starting lineup, which lead to a win over UAB. Expect to see the same starting lineup and rotation for this weekend's games.

The changes seemed like an odd or gutsy move for some, as Buck-Crockett placed three freshmen in the starting lineup and made gameplay changes for one of the team captains, Lucia

Her response to this change in the rotation was, "This past week we finally found what wasn't working and we were able to bring the new energy in a new lineup to today's game ... I'm also in a funk right now, so I am trying to not hurt the team, and if I am not hitting well, I just have to focus on other things to try to get the point."

With this lineup move, more offense is brought to the team, something lacking in the past. Expect the same energy brought for the UAB match to transfer when playing Charlotte and

Coming into the match, Charlotte has an overall record of 12-9 and a record of 1-3 in conference play. Even though the 49ers have a winning record, they are coming into the Panthers match after losing their last two games, and of their last five games, they have lost four. The Panthers, however, are coming off a win and with a lot of optimism since they snapped a 10-game losing streak.

This optimism was on display when Castro was asked what to expect from the team for the rest of the season.

"Well, today we finally saw again how it felt to win and we are definitely going to use that and just keep winning from here on out," Castro said.

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 7

#### FOOTRALL

# Panthers ride win streak into San Antonio

JORGE CORRALES Staff Writer jorge.corrales@fiusm.com

The Panthers head west on Oct. 11 to take on the Roadrunners of University of Texas at San Antonio. Game time is set for 7 p.m. It will be the first meeting between the two schools

The Panthers enter the game 3-3 and are riding a two game Conference USA win streak. They are 2-0 in conference play and currently sit in second place in the east division behind the University of Middle Tennessee.

"The attitude around here is good," said Head Coach Ron Turner. "Hopefully, they're still hungry and they've still got an edge



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Junior wide receiver T.J. Lowder tries to run through FAU defenders on Oct.2, where the Panthers won 38-10. FIU will play at the University of Texas at San Antonio on Oct. 11.

about them. We've had two really good days of practice."

On Thursday, Oct. 2, the Panthers defeated the Florida Atlantic University Owls in a prime-time Shula Bowl showdown. The Owls were fresh off a 41-37 victory against the Roadrunners. Despite their impressive effort against the Owls, the Panthers still enter Saturday's game as a 13-point underdog.

The Roadrunners will limp into Saturday's matchup. After opening the season with a 27-7 victory at the University of Houston, the Roadrunners dropped their next four games. The 1-4 record is not indicative of UTSA's talent. They have lost some close games to elite opponents, including a 26-23 loss to now number 10 Arizona.

The key for the Panthers against the Roadrunners will be containing a very big and experienced offense.

"They do a lot shifting and a lot of motion," said Turner. "They're a veteran team. They've got 36 seniors with a few young guys sprinkled in. You can tell they spent a couple of years before they played in the weight room. They must've lifted, like, seven days a week. They are big and strong and physical. They're also extremely well-coached."

The Roadrunners are coached by Larry Coker. South Florida fans may remember Coker from his days coaching the University of Miami. He led them to a National Cham-

pionship in 2001.

The Panther defense is used to stopping strong offenses. They visited a University of Alabama at Birmingham team two weeks ago that was averaging 40 a game and held them to only 20. Their 21 takeaways lead all of college football.

Freshman quarterback Alex McGough is coming off a good performance against FAU. He threw for 160 yards and ran for a touchdown. He will have to continue to play well if the Panthers hope to have their best game.

Saturday's game will be played in the Alamodome. The multi-purpose facility is used for football, basketball and baseball. The San Antonio Spurs played there from 1993-2002.

To prepare for the noise, the Panthers practiced all week with crowd noise blasting through the speakers in The Cage.

"We always do that when we play on the road if there's a chance there's gonna be a lot of crowd noise," said Turner. "During certain periods we make it loud so they have to communicate through it. We have music playing all the time in practice but we just turned it up... a lot."

If the Panthers win on Saturday and Marshall beats Middle Tennessee, the Panthers will be atop the Conference USA East division for the first time in school history.

#### CROSS COUNTRY

# Cross Country gears up for Disney Classic

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The Panthers continued their preparation for the 19th Annual Disney Cross Country Classic with a strong performance at the Florida Runners Invitational. Freshman Ronny Greenup added another first place finish to his 2014 campaign and the team took a step towards success in Orlando this weekend.

The upcoming Disney Cross Country Classic will be the biggest event the Panthers have competed in so far. Thousands of runners from across the nation will travel to ESPN Wide World of Sports to compete.

In addition to an 8,000-meter race for the men and a 5,000-meter race for the women, the promoters of the event encourage the participants and their families to enjoy Orlando's theme parks and a large pregame pasta meal arranged for the runners.

The Panthers are coming off an impressive effort at the Florida Runners Invitational, which featured a 5,000-meter run for the men and women's teams.

Greenup and the men's and women's teams will need

to carry that momentum into the weekend to place high in the larger-scale Disney Cross Country Classic.

Greenup continues to make big strides in his successful freshman campaign. He ran the 5,000-meter in 15.45.26 at Florida Runners Invitational. This time beat the rest of the competition, and was his third first place finish this season and his first in the 5,000-meter.

Junior Brandon Ballard made his 2014 cross country debut at the Florida Runners Invitational with a time of 19:21.70. He placed 16th among participating men.

Despite being listed as a sprinter, Ballard is not new to cross country; in fact, his career best time for the 8,000-meter was at last year's edition of the Disney Cross Country Classic (27:13.10).

But it is not clear if he or junior Daniel Puentes, who did not run in the Florida Runners Invitational, will travel to Orlando this weekend.

Unlike the men, the women typically run the 5,000-meter, so the Florida Runners Invite was a good measuring stick for the team. Senior Catherine Ventura led the women's squad with

a time of 20:37.07. Despite this being the women's best time for the event, Ventura's times at the University of South Florida Invitational, the University of Central Florida Cross Country Invitational and the Mountain Dew Invitational were faster. She will need to have a good showing at the Disney Cross Country Classic if she hopes to surpass her career best time of 18:41.30, which she ran at the USF Invitational last year.

The rest of the women ran solid times last weekend, but did not produce a slew of 2014 bests like they did at the Mountain Dew Invitational.

Sophomore Sheri Menna, who is normally identified as a thrower, saw her first cross country action of the year and ran a 33:42.00.

Both teams should look forward to the Disney Cross Country Classic as an opportunity to have fun and compete hard at a premiere event. This season, the stage will be bigger than ever before as runners from all around the nation flock to Orlando.

Coverage begins at 7:30 a.m., Oct. 11, from ESPN Wide World of Sports and can be followed on Watch ESPN.

# Panthers on the prowl for fifth victory

**VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 6** 

Hopefully she is right and can lead this team to get back to .500.

One of the players the Panthers need to hold their own against is Charlotte freshman outside hitter Irem Asci. She is already leading the team in scoring and recorded kills. She is also second on her team in digs with 241. This unique blend of offense and defense could give the Panthers some trouble.

Overall, the new players in the starting lineup need to step up like they did against UAB and Lucia Castro needs to get more involved

in offense, as somebody needs to go toe-to-toe with Asci.

The Panthers' next opponent, Louisiana Tech, comes into the match on a five-game losing streak, which has plunged their record well below .500 at 7-11. Also, they have not won a game in Conference USA play with a record of 0-5.

The main weakness for Louisiana Tech is defense. They have been outscored by their opponents by over 100 points. Expect the Panthers to get their three top scorers — Lucia Castro, Gloria Levorin and Lea Montavon — heavily involved in setting the offensive tone early.

A key matchup for this game will be between two seniors. For Louisiana Tech, it is outside hitter Rebecca Redgen. On top of almost every offensive and defensive cate-

gory, she leads her team in kills, points and digs by a large margin.

To go up against Redgen, the Panthers have senior outside hitter Martyna Gluchowicz. She is coming off a great match against UAB in which she recorded eight kills, nine digs and four blocks. Gluchowicz has the capability to play lockdown defense to protect the back row and still supply the offense needed to get the win against Louisiana Tech.

Hopefully, after this weekend, the volleyball team can get these two much-needed wins and their Conference USA record back to .500 to stay in the hunt for a top



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACO

Freshman outside hitter/right side hitter Lea Montavon waits for a serve against the Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers.

# **JOIN OUR STAFF!**

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The Beacon – 8 fiusm.com Friday, October 10, 2014

# New library space to officially open later this month

**ALEX BLENCOWE** 

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The unveiling of a one-stopshop for students academic needs is happening this month.

The Glenn Hubert Library will officially welcome the Academic Skills and Knowledge Center on Thursday, Oct. 30, located on the second floor.

The ASK! Center will provide students with tutoring services, tech support and library assistance all in one place.

"As an incoming freshman, you get sent around to a lot of places and students don't have that kind of time anymore," said Gustavo Arauz, criminal justice senior and office manager of the library. "By having everything in one location, we can try to avoid that."

The newly renovated area will offer quiet study spaces for students, and will provide all of the assistance needed for class assignments, projects and the like.

The ASK! Center will feature state-of-the-art Windows and Apple computers, cell phone charging stations, numerous outlets and energy-efficient lighting.

Arauz said the new digital viewing stations and Blu-ray Disc/DVD racks make it easy for students to watch videos and find digital content for projects.

Columns with reading material based on specific University programs will be displayed around the center, as well as an information desk for research and writing tools.

"Libraries are changing, they're becoming more digital," Arauz said. "We want to make it easier for students to spend their day here."

Bryan Cooper, associate dean of technology and digital services at the library, said the new center will help students interact with others and will provide a chance for students to get exposed to new resources

"It was a highly collaborative process and the University is committed to students' success,"

## **FRESH BREW**



NATALIE REYES/THE BEACON

Starbucks barista Jorge Gatica attends Assistant Food Service Director Lorvin Ramirez and hospitality junior Bryanna Cooper on the opening of the Biscayne Bay Campus Starbucks on Oct. 8.

said Cooper, who hopes that the changing library scene will be a trend sustained in the future. "This is an important start to revitalizing the larger spaces in the library."

The ASK! Center will feature artwork from the winners of the International Student Photo Contest over the past eight years. Students can also expect new furniture at which to use reference

books

Ashley Kearns, public relations junior, thinks the new center will give students better access to research tools, but could also make the library more crowded.

"I like to get in the zone when I study, but by attracting more students, there will be more traffic," Kearns said.

Other students believe the new

center is conducive to students' academic success.

"Any time the University increases capacity, they increase student efficiency and recruitment," said B.J. Chiszar, a grad student studying public administration. "The new center is just one piece in a comprehensive strategy to take this school to the next level."

# University forming global citizens through celebration of National Coming Out Day

CARLA TRIVIÑO

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Edwin Serrano, graduate assistant for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer and Allies initiative, said the gay community is making history

To celebrate the community's achievements, the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services will host a National Coming Out Day event today, Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.at the Biscayne Bay Campus in Panther Square.

Likewise, the day will be celebrated at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus in the Graham Center Pit from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will encourage and praise people openly declaring their sexual orientation, as well as LGBTQA legal victories.

"We want people to come see what the hype is

all about," said Serrano.

Last year, the Federal Supreme Court removed a section of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which denied federal benefits to same-sex couples.

This year, the Florida's gay community and civil rights activists fought for transgender rights in the workplace, and judges are ruling the marriage ban unconstitutional.

Kathleen Hernandez, a public relations freshman and student ambassador for LGBTQA, is surprised by the level of support and activism in Miami.

"It's cool -- there's so much going on that I didn't know about in my backyard," Hernandez

Serrano said he expects people to be more open about their sexual orientation now that it's legally accepted. However, he doesn't want to

focus on politics on this day. One of the highlights this year is a surprise lip-sync performance, according to Serrano, who hopes will attract a larger crowd.

Serrano said he wants the event to be centered on the lives of LGBTQA students and hopes that more international students participate.

According to FIU student population data from fall 2013, Hispanic, Black, Asian and minority students made up 87 percent of the University's student population.

Serrano said due to their conservative background, international students don't come to these events much.

"It's really rare to receive international students coming and asking for support," said Serrano, who said that if they end up attending an event, they think its only for gays.

He said the day is for everyone to come

together and accept each other's differences.

Testimonials from different LGTBQA members will be shared as a way to help educate those in the gay community.

There is a darker tone to this day according to Serrano. Some attendees have been bullied into admitting their sexual orientation, while others experienced rejection and neglect from close relatives and the public.

Yet, Serrano said lessons can be learned from these negative stories. He said the event will benefit both straight and LGTBQA students, as it will help them become more aware of their surroundings.

"LGBTQA is also open to straight folks who are our allies and supporting their friends," Serrano said. "By exposing them to progressive thinking and an open society, it does let them learn a little about being a global citizen."

# Man died on Carnival cruise trying to see sunrise

**MCT STAFF** 

Police identified the man who fell to his death from a cruise ship mast earlier this week and are continuing the investigation into his death, which appears so far to be accidental.

Miami-Dade police named Kendall Wernet, 20, as the man who climbed the forward mast of the Carnival Ecstasy at PortMiami and fell about 20 feet onto the deck. No foul play is suspected, according to police.

"Everything points to it being an accident," said Miami-Dade police Detective Alvaro Zabaleta.

The mast area is restricted and has signs warning passengers not to enter, said Carnival spokeswoman Jennifer de la Cruz.

Wernet, a Clemson University student, was on the cruise, along with 130 of his colleagues, as a reward for being among the top achievers of the painting company he worked for, Steve Acorn, the owner of Student Painters, told WYFF.

Acorn told the news station that Wernet, who he has known for three years, was not drinking at the time of the fall. According to Acorn, Wernet and four others wanted to climb the mast. While everyone was lying down on the platform atop the mast, Wernet was standing or sitting up when a radar dish suddenly started to rotate, knocking him off.

Wernet suffered a severe head injury and lost consciousness after falling onto the running track on the deck, Acorn told WYFF.

"He was the kind of guy, that if you had a daughter, you'd want him to marry her," Acorn told the news station.

The Ecstasy had just returned to Miami from a voyage to the Caribbean on Monday morning when Wernet plunged to his death. The ship left port again Monday

afternoon on its next trip, which is a normal turnaround time for Carnival ships, de la Cruz said.

"We are deeply saddened to learn of the tragic death of Clemson student Kendall Wernet, a junior management major from Arden, N.C.," said Shannon Finning, Clemson University dean of students, in a statement. "Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends, and we stand ready to help them through this difficult time.