

6-29-2011

## The Beacon, June 29, 2011

Florida International University

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## STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

# Senate approves budget, more cabinet members

**PHILIPPE BUTEAU**  
News Director

The senate of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus approved the debate-stirring 2011-2012 MMC budget and unanimously confirmed a new batch of cabinet members in the executive branch during their meeting last week.

In addition to the budget approval and cabinet confirmations during the meeting, which took place on June 20, senators also confirmed Daniel Diaz as the new chair for the Operational Review Committee.

Donovan Dawson, senate speaker and a senator for the

College of Arts and Sciences, stressed it was important the MMC budget be approved as soon as possible so the various organizations, departments and centers receive their funding. The deadline for the budget to be approved is July 1, the beginning of the University's fiscal year.

"We can't postpone this vote," Dawson said. "We'll be here as long as we need to."

Despite the urgency, however, SGC-MMC's 39th senate does not have the power to change the 2011-2012 MMC budget but simply pass it, which the 38th

**SENATE, page 2**

## CANDIDATE ON CAMPUS



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADF CONSULTING, LLC

WPLG interviewed Julio Robaina, Miami-Dade mayoral candidate (center), during his visit to Modesto Maidique Campus on June 22. While on campus, Robaina toured the campus and met with Student Government Council at MMC President Patrick O'Keefe and Vice President Sanjeev Udhani. Visit [www.fiusm.com](http://www.fiusm.com) for election results.

# Students and professors weigh on technology usage

**ANALIA FIESTAS**  
Staff Writer

The days when paper and pencil were a necessity in the classroom are long gone. Nowadays, students have replaced old-school items for trendy laptops, simple recording devices, expensive iPads and the like.

"I find technology to be extremely useful in the classroom. Professors have a lot to cover in very little

time, and they try their best to make good use of their time. Because of this, their lectures are fast and loaded with information," said Vanessa Vicent, senior and meteorology major. "If students were to sit in class with paper and pencil, there is no way they could write all the information given. On the other hand, recording lectures on an iPhone or Blackberry is definitely the way to go."

Students at the Univer-

sity, as well as other universities, have welcomed technological academic programs that help them succeed in the classroom. This is why Nashini Khan, an algebra and trigonometry professor, believes technology is indeed useful to students.

"MyMathLab for example, is an online learning tool which serves as a web-based form of technological assistance in the classroom," said Khan.

According to Khan, the program is very successful in not only giving students the opportunity to practice core concepts taught in the classroom, but also in providing students with essential tools such as an electronic copy of the textbook, step by step assistance to problematic questions and an updated overall progress through the duration of the course.

Professor Maureen Kenny, who teaches at

the College of Education, believes technology is more than beneficial to students.

"Technology can be used to enhance learning," said Kenny. "Students who see a film clip about an important concept, may remember it more than a lecture. Also, I have had students look up facts on the net during class related to a topic that I am lecturing on and add to the discussion."

However, not everyone

at the University supports the use of technology in the classroom.

"Technology is a complete distraction," said Evelyn Carmen, a sophomore majoring in biology. "You can play games on your phone, shop online through your laptop, watch videos or listen to music on your iPod. [It is] too much fun and should be kept outside the classroom."

**TECHNOLOGY, page 2**

# University Police Department looks to a new boss

**MELISSA CACERES**  
Asst. News Director

University President Mark Rosenberg has recently announced that the FIU Police Department will now be reporting to Chief Finance Officer and Senior Vice President Kenneth Jessell.

"The safety and security of our entire university community is central to everything we do at FIU," said Rosenberg. "As we embark on a new era of growth, we look to the police and emer-

gency management teams to help us maintain a safe environment where we thrive intellectually and stay Worlds Ahead."

In a memo sent out to University members, President Rosenberg stated that he had previously asked Jessell to head the implementation of changes to the emergency response system.

Since Jessell became responsible for the Office of Emergency Management, which works closely with the Police Department, the president felt that "it

makes sense that this unit should also report to him."

"This is a very common model at other institutions," said Jessell in an interview with FIU Student Media. "You're going to see a lot better communication and improvements in services, with respect to public safety and emergency management."

The Police Department would be transitioning from the leadership of Rosa Jones, vice president of student affairs.

"When you look at all of the

challenges and opportunities that the University is facing with respect to direct student issues like the new housing developments, it was felt that the division of student affairs would be better served by focusing on those things and not having to deal with public safety and police," said Jessell.

The president also announced that Police Chief Bill King is retiring, after six years with the University and nearly 37 years in law enforcement.

King, who was once Chief of Police at Wayne State University and Deputy Chief at the Ypsilanti, Mich. Police Department, will assist the University in its national search for a new police chief. According to Rosenberg, Captain Alphonse Ianniello "has agreed to provide leadership for the department" until the replacement is chosen.

"As a university community, we thank Chief King for his dedication and commitment to FIU," said Rosenberg.

## COMING UP | Wednesday

Look for the return of the column "Food For Thought" by Jasmyn Elliott, for a review of the Miami Food Trucks.

## ONLINE | www.fiusm.com

Don't forget to visit FIUSM.com for video coverage of the recent Budget Town hall meeting held by President Mark Rosenberg.

## RADIO | Radiate FM

Tune in to Radiate FM for Panther Sports Talk Live on Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. for discussions on FIU, local and national sports.



NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Diaz-Balart seeks to limit family travel to Cuba

U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart wants to reverse the Obama administration’s efforts to allow more family travel and remittances to Cuba.

The House Committee on Appropriations approved Diaz-Balart’s amendment to repeal regulatory changes that loosened the severe limits on remittances and travel to the island that former President George W. Bush enacted.

The amendment is attached to a bill directing funding for the U.S. Department of Treasury and now heads to the House floor. If it passes, it would still have to be reconciled with the Senate version. The nonpartisan Cuba Study group condemned the move.

NATIONAL

New law clears the way for gay marriage in NY

New York becomes the sixth state where gay couples can wed, doubling the number of Americans living in a state with legal gay marriage. Pending any court challenges, legal gay marriages can begin in New York within 30 days.

The big win for gay rights advocates is expected to galvanize the movement around the country and help it regain momentum after an almost identical bill was defeated here in 2009 and similar measures failed in 2010. Ultimately, gay couples will be able to marry because of two previously undecided Republicans from upstate regions far more conservative than the New York City base of the gay rights movement.

WORLD

International judges order arrest of Moammar Gadhafi

The International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants for Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, his son and his intelligence chief for crimes against humanity in the early days of their struggle to cling to power.

Judges announced Monday that Gadhafi is wanted for orchestrating the killing, injuring, arrest and imprisonment of hundreds of civilians during the first 12 days of an uprising to topple him from power after more than four decades, and for trying to cover up the alleged crimes.

The warrants turn Gadhafi, his son Seif al-Islam Gadhafi and intelligence chief Abdullah al-Sanoussi into internationally wanted suspects.

– Compiled by Melissa Caceres

New senate approves 2011-2012 budget, more cabinet staff members

SENATE, page 1

senate failed to do.

The student government council decides the University-wide budget but each campus’ budget committee and senate decide on and approve or deny, respectively, the budget for their respective campus.

The SGC-MMC budget committee - made up of the president, vice president, senate speaker and senate speaker pro tempore, with help from the comptroller and finance committee chair - submitted the 2011-2012 MMC budget to the senate for approval.

The senate rejected the budget which was sent back to the budget committee, but

instead of being sent back to the senate for approval it was sent to Rosa Jones, vice president of student affairs and the person with final say on SGA budget matters.

There were disagreements between the senate and the budget committee about the language of requirements for certain items on the budget and the amounts for those items, according to Dawson who used Greek Affairs’ \$15,000 increase as an example.

Senators asked “Why are other organizations getting cut but Greek Affairs is getting an increase?” Dawson said during the June 20 meeting.

Last year’s budget committee claimed they

received pressure from University administration and had no choice but to send the budget to Jones.

This never happened before, according to Hector Mujica, former senate speaker, in an article published on April 20.

With the year and the 38th senate’s session coming to a close, there was no time for the senate to approve the budget and the task fell to the current senate.

Jones updated the language in the budget but the numbers are the same, according to Dawson.

The budget passed 12 to 2.

The executive branch, much like the senate, recently came into power and is in

staff building mode. There were cabinet confirmations the last four senate meetings, excluding the June 6 meeting which did not take place because there weren’t enough senators to conduct a meeting.

In the cabinet, only the deputy comptroller is not a paid position. All other positions are paid at minimum \$200 for elections board members, \$400 for coordinators and \$500 for directors.

Since its May 9 meeting, the senate has confirmed more than 15 cabinet members including Alex Castro, chief of staff; Philip Colesanti, attorney general; Cristina Loreto, comptroller and Laura Pacchioni, press secretary.

CURRENT EXECUTIVE CABINET

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<u>Attorney General</u> <i>Philip Colesanti</i>	<u>Clerk of Council</u> <i>Natalie Vega</i>	<u>Chief of Staff</u> <i>Alex Castro</i>	<u>Coordinator</u> <i>Sarah Usman</i>
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Techonology can be both advantage, disadvantage

TECHNOLOGY, page 1

According to Kenny, the disadvantage of technology is when students are tempted to use it for recreational purposes rather than academic, with professors like herself left wondering if students are typing notes or surfing the web.

Others disagree, such as Fausto Pena, junior and management information systems major. He explained he has never been distracted by technology in the class mainly because he sees technology as an aid for academic purposes.

“However, I do admit other students may get distracted by their phones because they are checking Facebook or Twitter. That’s really sad because

they could be using technology to help them pass the class,” said Pena.

Although many people believe technology is beneficial, some professors refuse to allow students to use technology tools in the classroom.

“I hate to say this, but professors who don’t allow the use of any sort of technology in class are foolish. Technology can help a lot of students in understanding class material,” said Mario Lugo, a sophomore and computer engineering major.

“Phones can serve as recording devices or take pictures of Powerpoint slides and laptops allow for further research of topics discussed in class. Professors should allow

technology in the classroom and leave it up to the students to decide whether they’ll be smart and use it to their advantage, or be dumb and let it lower their GPA.”

Despite the continuous debate, the use of technological devices in college courses keeps growing as students become more knowledgeable about their uses in and out of the classroom.

“By being able to record lectures, students don’t have to worry about anything but listening to what the professor is saying,” said Kelly Mayorga, sophomore and biology major. “That’s the best way to make sure that you are really understanding what is happening in class.”



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*The Beacon* is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. *The Beacon* is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. *The Beacon* is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.



## GOLD CUP 2011

# GOLDEN SUMMER

## Jamaica, Honduras pick up wins in Gold Cup matches at FIU Stadium

**IGOR MELLO**  
Asst. Sports Director

For the second time, FIU Stadium played host to Gold Cup matches and saw near sell-out crowds witness victories for Jamaica and Honduras on June 10.

### JAMAICA 2, GUATEMALA 0

In a physical match that resulted in 29 fouls, five bookings and an expulsion, Jamaica survived to pick up a tough 2-0 victory against Guatemala (0-1-1, one point) to open off the CONCACAF Gold Cup festivities in front of 18,057 spectators at FIU Stadium.

With the victory, the “Reggae Boyz” (2-0-0, six points) clinched a spot in the Quarterfinal knockout stage.

Both teams started slow in the opening half, not being able to create many scoring opportunities. But it was in the second half when Jamaican forward Keammar Daley subbed in for Ryan Johnson in the 63rd minute, where the game began to change in Jamaica’s favor.

“We allowed the Guatemalans to do what they wanted to do in the game and dictate the game. For us, we had to make the adjustments in the second half,” said Jamaican Head Coach Theodore Whitmore.

In the 65th minute, immediately after the adjustment, Daley sent a lob near midfield to forward Demar Phillips. Phillips received the aerial pass in scoring range and with a Guatemalan defender on his shoulder, he struck a shot in to the lower right corner of the net to give Jamaica a 1-0 advantage.

“It was a good pass from my teammate, I think I caught their team



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Jamaica defeated Guatemala 2-0 on June 10 to clinch a spot in the Gold Cup quarterfinals.

flat-footed. They weren’t looking for a run from behind,” said Phillips, who paid homage to teammate and South Florida native Tyrone Marshall by wearing his jersey after the match.

Marshall played for the Golden Panthers in 1996-1997.

Just five minutes later in the 70th minute, Guatemalan defender Cristian Noriega was sent off after a rough challenge. It was Noriega’s second booking of the match. Noriega will be suspended for Guatemala’s June 13 match against Grenada. With Guatemala down a man, Phillips took advantage once again.

Phillips’ teammate and New York Red Bulls forward Dane Richards

weaved in and out of coverage inside the baseline of the box. It wasn’t until Richards beat three defenders when he dished it off to Phillips for the finish in the right corner of the net to seal a 2-0 score for Jamaica.

Phillips’ double earned him Man of the Match honors.

Phillips, who scored only five times in his first 41 national appearances, has now scored three times for Jamaica in the last two matches. He spent two years playing for Stoke City in the English Premier league where he only had two appearances.

He then transferred to his current club, Aalesunds in Norway.

Los Angeles Galaxy keeper, Donovan Ricketts also earned the

clean sheet for Jamaica.

According to Whitmore, his team’s nine-day expedition to Brazil is a major factor in their qualification to the second round.

“If I can recall, in the Gold Cup 2009 we went out in this stage.” We had a camp in Brazil for nine days to spur the team’s unity,” Whitmore said. “That has helped for the success that we’re having now.”

Visit our web site for the rest of this story and more content on the Gold Cup and other FIU sports.

www.FIUSM.com

*Gold Cup brought buzz and excitement on campus*

It had been two years since FIU Stadium has played host to any type of soccer event.

It was a year filled with rumors of a potential Major League Soccer franchise setting up shop that ended in disappointment, a second division soccer team playing in front of crowds that could be counted in one sitting and other promises of luring the beautiful game to FIU falling on deaf ears.

The one positive outcome for soccer prospects at FIU in 2009 had been one July night when the Gold Cup came to FIU’s campus for the first time, looking for a new home in Miami-Dade since the Orange Bowl was demolished.

It was this night that revealed the stadium’s potential as a rowdy and intimate environment. It wasn’t a college football game, but a near sell-out crowd composed of passionate fans from throughout North America to show that FIU Stadium could be an intimidating place to play if the crowd isn’t on your side.

Earlier this month, that magic returned in nearly an identical way when the Gold Cup made its return for the second time to FIU Stadium.

### GREAT ATMOSPHERE

It wasn’t the United States or Mexico, and Grenada is not exactly the most thrilling national team to go watch play, but the excitement was still there and the passion that comes with the game of soccer was still in effect.

When the first game started a few minutes after the slated 7 p.m. start time, the stadium was still less than half full and mostly filled with just Guatemalans and Jamaicans rooting for their team.

But by halftime, the stadium became a melting pot of over 18,000 fans from various countries rooting for their respective national teams, hoping for a chance to advance past the group stage of the Gold Cup.

The atmosphere was lively and constantly buzzing, much like it was

### COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO

### BASEBALL

## FIU falls in regional; Behar, Patton drafted

**RICO ALBARRACIN**  
Asst. Sports Director

After a 2010 season that saw the Golden Panthers win the Sun Belt Conference, FIU looked to repeat as SBC champions 2011. Off-field troubles at the beginning of the season did not make things easy, but the Golden Panthers achieved a great number of success this past season.

There were many questions leading up to the season, in particular what would happen with Garrett Wittels and his ongoing legal situation. Before the season started, the coaching staff, along with the university, made a decision to allow Wittels to play.

Once that was out of the way, FIU tore through its 13-game home stand, going 11-2, including a 10 game winning streak.

During the team’s winning streak, Kyle Fitzpatrick threw a no-hitter against Northeastern University, giving the program it’s fifth no-hitter, and it’s first complete game no-hitter since the Golden Panthers joined Division-I in 1983. Shortly after the game, Fitzpatrick sent his autographed baseball cap to the College Baseball Hall of Fame in Lubbock, Texas.

Another milestone achieved during the winning streak was Head Coach Turtle Thomas celebrating his 100th victory at FIU, becoming the second fastest coach to do so in the program’s 38-year history.

The Golden Panthers would go through a rough patch while going on their first road trip of the season, dropping seven out of 10 games. As conference play got under way, the Golden Panthers played at an average

level, not being able to establish a winning streak.

The mid-season arrived with FIU battling for position within the conference. A win against Louisiana on April 16 kicked off a 17-1-1 streak to end the season, including a 15 game winning streak. The winning streak brought some promise to the team, earning a national ranking as high as 20. FIU went into the SBC tournament as the favorite to win the title and repeat as conference champions.

Unfortunately, the Golden Panthers would fall in the championship game to UALR 7-6. Although FIU would not earn the automatic qualification for the NCAA tournament, national ranking helped its cause to be



## SOFTBALL

# Torina departs for Louisiana State coaching job

**MALCOLM SHIELDS**  
Staff Writer

After four seasons at the helm of the FIU softball program, Coach Beth Torina has accepted the vacant softball head coaching position at Louisiana State University, according to LSUsports.net on June 20. Torina leaves the program with an overall 129-111 mark and a 57-41 Sun Belt Conference record with the Golden Panthers. Torina and LSU had an introductory press conference to announce her as the new head coach on June 22 in Baton Rouge.

The Golden Panthers made some of its greatest strides during her four year tenure. In 2010, the Golden Panthers reached the NCAA tournament for the second time in program history by posting a 38-21 record and the No. 2 seed in the Sun Belt Conference tournament. In the past three seasons, the Golden Panthers collected three consecutive seasons with

over 30 wins and recorded over 13 plus wins in conference play in all four of her seasons at FIU.

“The opportunity that was presented in front of me was just one you could not pass up in your coaching career,” Torina said of joining LSU. “I think LSU does it on a bigger stage and their funding is different... Completely different conference... with all of those things I feel that there is more opportunity [with LSU].”

Torina now takes the reigns of a program that was 40-18 last season in the very competitive Southeastern Conference. The Tigers have reached the NCAA Regional’s the past five seasons but have failed to advance out of the NCAA Super Regional’s the last four seasons. Coach Torina spoke about the emotions of informing her team of her decision.

“It’s extremely difficult,” Torina said. “If I had any reservations at all, it

was definitely with those girls. I’m really close to my players and I care about each and every one of them as people; not just softball player... Today was a very hard day.”

According to Torina, the players were emotional when she informed them of her decision to leave FIU. “They were definitely upset. Its very bitter sweet,” Torina said. “They [were] proud of me and excited for me to do this, but we are very close. They took it hard but I know that they will bounce back.”

Players were unavailable for comment by the Athletic Department. Torina has not made a decision about who on her staff will join her at LSU.

“The next few days... we will know there. I think a lot of that will develop over the next few days,” Torina said.

According to Torina, the softball program will continue to succeed after her departure. “I think the program is set up to be



FILE PHOTO/THE BEACON

Beth Torina [right] was the head coach for the Golden Panthers for four years and compiled a 129-111 record at the helm of the program.

successful for so many years to come,” Torina said. “I think they are extremely talented players already here and there’s more coming in and more coming in after that. I told them this program is about them. They were the ones who built this program. This program will go on and succeed without me.”

## Behar goes to Marlins, Patton to Cardinals in MLB Draft

**BASEBALL, page 3**

including as an at-large bid.

For a second consecutive season, the Golden Panthers failed to win a game in the NCAA Regionals. In the first game, FIU was matched up against James Madison University.

Both teams put together an offensive clinic, 10 runs in the first two innings. FIU had 11 hits, with five home runs, while James Madison only hit one home run, but had 14 hits. A six-run seventh inning gave James Madison the lead that they never surrendered, handing FIU an 11-7 loss.

The second game of the tournament did not go any better for the Golden Panthers. FIU, entering the game as the nation’s leader in hits, was limited to two hits against Maine Black Bears. The Golden Panthers helped their own on the defensive side, holding Maine to two runs in the first five innings. Unfortunately, the Golden Panthers could not provide any offense, falling to Maine 4-1.

Although the season ended on a sour note, the Golden Panthers were proudly represented in the Major League Baseball draft.

First Team All-Conference player Jeremy Patton was drafted by his hometown St. Louis Cardinals in the 30th round. Along with Patton, catcher Jose Behar was drafted by the Florida Marlins also in the 30th round.



FILE PHOTO/THE BEACON

Jeremy Patton [above] hit .359 this past season with seven homer runs and 53 RBIs before being drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals.

Along with the news of the draft, another fellow teammate received great news. Wittels, who had been involved in legal situation in the Bahamas had the case dropped against him June 20. Wittels was accused of sexual assault while traveling in

the Bahamas in December.

With the majority of the team coming back, it is reasonable to expect that the Golden Panthers will not only be the favorites to win the conference, but also make a run in the NCAA tournament in 2012.

## FIU needs to build on success of Gold Cup in near future

**GOLD CUP, page 3**

in 2009 when The Cage first hosted the event.

And, ironically enough, while FIU Stadium’s main tenant is the Golden Panthers football team, the only event at this point that truly could be counted on to nearly fill the stadium to capacity is the Gold Cup.

The fervor and excitement of these fans, proudly donning the national colors from their respective countries, was invigorating and infectious.

Something that the FIU student body could learn from when football season comes around.

The stadium once again showed how FIU Stadium can be a wonderful venue for international soccer on a regular basis as a host site. It provides an intimate setting where fans can be close to the action and feel every close play, every corner kick, and every goal.

All in all the Gold Cup games at the stadium brought back memories of great soccer moments in South Florida and maybe serve as a

preview for how big the game can be down here.

### WHAT NOW

But the question is “what now?”

Now that the Gold Cup won’t come back until at least 2013, there is yet another two-year gap that FIU needs to fill up in terms of soccer.

Whether that means bringing more international friendlies to FIU or perhaps looking for another MLS bid to get behind, FIU should be active in putting the stadium to use during the long months between college football seasons.

As we have seen, there is a massive soccer community dwelling in South Florida that is just waiting to be tapped into. FIU has a chance to truly capitalize on this and also to galvanize soccer, to grow the game not only in Miami, but nationally as well.

Miami natives deserve to see some live quality soccer and FIU has the ability to provide that

Let’s hope that the next time soccer returns to FIU won’t be the next Gold Cup.



**studentmedia**  
at florida international university



## CREATIVE CAMPERS



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA POWERS

[Above] Young campers work on collaborative art collage outdoors during their days at the Frost summer camp. [Right] Kids demonstrate their art skills under the watchful eye of volunteer.

## Frost Art Museum hosts annual camp for community children

**VANESSA PAREDES**  
Staff Writer

The Patricia & Philip Frost Art Museum is hosting a summer camp that gives young kids ages 6-12 the opportunity to experience art in an interactive and educational way.

Monday through Friday those enrolled in the Youth Cultural Arts & Community Service Summer Camp can partake in activities such as painting, drawing, murals, clay and guided tours.

The day-by-day schedule is carefully constructed to keep the campers busy from nine am all the way to 12 p.m.

Opening its doors in 2009, this will be the third year The Frost summer camp is in session. The camp initiated with local

parents requesting that FIU's Art museum provide an "enriching and creative educational arts program" for the community's children, according to Linda Powers, curator of education at the Frost Art Museum.

"We initially began running the summer camp after the Frost Art Museum relocated to its beautiful new building on the FIU campus," Powers said.

Since the camp has been in operation, the community's youth has been exposed to multicultural art exhibitions, international artworks, as well as hands on art activities. Many summer camps offer participants field trips to the local water park, and arcade.

In contrast, The Frost

summer camp prides itself in uncovering a cultural world to its young campers.

"The children get to meet other young creative children, they get to create their own art, they learn from fine art including masterpieces, and they learn in a small environment where they get guidance and support.

Through this year's camp they will also learn about community service," explained Powers.

The camp has had a successful turn out thus far. Some campers have even registered all three years and plan to continue due to their satisfaction. The camp rates are average in comparison to most summer camps. Still, The Frost offers needs-based scholar-

ships to local students from Miami's Districts 10 & 11. In addition, if the attendees are affiliated with FIU they will receive a discount.

After learning more about The Frost summer camp, Vanessa Rodriguez, communications major, thinks it would be a great experience for her younger brother.

"My little brother has been a part of a lot of summer camps, but none really focus on art and cultural enrichment like The Frost camp does. As an FIU student, I can get him a discount. It would definitely be something different."

Aside from a different aspect, The Frost summer camp is becoming more centralized around community service art projects.

Powers elaborated on their progression to become more community oriented and provide a learning experience for its campers.

"The camps curriculum is structured to not only integrate the Visual Arts Big Ideas of Florida Sunshine State Standards, but also to incorporate creative arts community service projects that are developed in collaboration with local schools, community-based organizations and local & international cultural organizations," Powers said.

As a student, the time for enjoying a summer camp may be over, but one can still become involved with The Frost summer camp. By contacting Powers, students can contribute to the art camp.

Some students have already become involved. Currently, the camp has two interns and one volunteer with them this year. They are students from the Art and Art History Department.

Overall, The Frost has been very busy in making the summer camp a different and cultural experience for those who decide to attend.

With hands on art projects, tours and even community service projects, many local parents have taken interest in having their children become a part of the camp.

"We plan on operating the camp for future years because, quite simply, our campers and their parents love the experience," Powers concluded.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA POWERS

## Students band together to take a stand against bullying

**MORGAN REISINGER**  
Contributing writer

Jessica Saiontz is full of words. She's emphatic and more than slightly animated, coming across at full force with a lot of information.

Of course, this tendency comes naturally to the 32-year-old law student who is a founding board member of the nonprofit, anti-bullying organization, National Voices for Equality, Education and Enlightenment (NVEEE). After all, she is a symbol of expression herself – a "voice".

Anyone close to her, in compar-

ison, would feel as if they have accomplished minimal tasks with their lives, a sort of container of DNA going about their daily routines.

It isn't often that a person charges into the world feeling they have the ability to build something out of nothing. It makes the observer wonder: how did they do this?

It's simple enough for Saiontz.

"When I was an undergrad at UM, I met a girl, Jowharah Sanders, and a few others [at] sorority rush," recounts Saiontz. "We've always known that she wanted to be an educator, however, she was the victim of a very

brutal attack when she was about fifteen years old and [...] as she grew older she decided that she wanted to deal with victims of hate crimes and violence, which slowly evolved into bullying."

Saiontz always knew Sanders would want to create a nonprofit organization which would help deal with violence. Knowing what she wanted to create, Sanders got in touch with Saiontz and asked for her help.

"Tell me what you want and we're there," said Saiontz of the conversation that started it all. "We started from scratch."

Saiontz runs through an entire outline of NVEEE's progression: they started by filing the articles of incorporation, coming up with their mission and filing the IRS paperwork to become nonprofit – all within three months.

From there on out, fundraising began with small spurts such as car washes, establishing partnerships and forming mentor memberships. It has since grown and has reached out to people not only in Miami Dade and Broward but all over the world.

NVEEE's first major fundraiser, "Strike Out Bullying," got the atten-

tion of NBC News. Their involvement in the nationally publicized story of Josie Lou Ratley, a young teenage girl nearly beaten to death, put them in the headlines.

Just last May, NVEEE did a segment with CNN, reaching over 100 million US households. Despite the publicity, the organization's message stays the same.

"We are here to do whatever we can to help bring light to bullying, to help kids that are going through it," Saiontz says. "We don't just help the



REEL TO REEL

# “Super 8” film reminiscent of Spielberg tradition

Sometimes it seems that all of the generation-defining movies have already happened. “Star Wars,” “Jurassic Park” and “Forrest Gump” are all unforgettable, generation-defining movies.



RICO ALBARRACIN

No matter how outdated the special effects or hair-styles, we can still easily relate to them today. “Super 8” has definitely earned the timeless label and brings all you want out of a movie, and more.

J.J. Abrams, creator of the hit show “Lost,” and Steven Spielberg bring us the story of a group of teenagers who are trying to make their own short film for a competition. One night, while shooting a scene at a train station without their parents’ permission, the teens witness a devastating train crash.

But the crash was no accident, there was something on the train that the rest of the world should have been ignorant of. Don’t worry, I won’t spoil the movie for you.

It is easy to talk about the plot of the movie. The kids discover something they are not allowed to see, leading to a great climactic scene involving a sequence of explosions and enough chaotic action to rival any summer blockbuster. The explosions were what put my butt in the seat in the first place. But what really makes this movie special is how genuinely the characters are portrayed.

The plot line of the movie feels like a rite of passage for the characters, each of them dealing with their own personal crisis. Whether it is the timing of the story, which is set in 1980



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

and explores the change of an era, or the characters dealing with death, each story contains a moment where the characters are “moving on” in their own ways.

Joe Lamb, a young teen dealing with the passing of his mother in a tragic accident, has the toughest time of them all.

Yet no matter what Joe goes through, whether it’s dealing with his bossy friend Charles or enjoying his “forbidden-by-his-father” puppy love story with Alice Dainard, you never feel that he loses his youthful hope and enthusiasm.

The group of teens are fun to watch. Each with their own quirks, no matter who you are you can relate to at least one of them. The most fun I had was watching the dialogue between the teens. With words like “hell,” “shit,” and

“bitch” being tossed around so freely, I felt as though I was watching a miniature version of my friends. Each one busting each other’s chops, but in the end sticking together through the gravest dangers.

The final act of the movie gives the audience all of the action scenes in the span of 20 minutes, which did not affect the way I saw this film.

I enjoyed the character development that slowly grows through “Super 8.” For thrill-seeking movie buffs, it is a slow payoff, but the ending is worth the wait. A very good use of special effects, along with Abrams’ smartly placed easter eggs throughout the movie, will keep you focused on the story instead of any less-than-perfect effects.

“Super 8” has the right mixture of science

fiction, comedy and drama for any film lover. I love how this movie hearkens back to the days of the early 1980s, not only in plot and setting, but also in style. The clothes are 1970s hip, the music is groovy and our modern technologies, such as cell phones, are not in the way of the character’s interactions.

I could not stop thinking about how much “Super 8” reminded me of “E.T.,” “The Goonies” and “Jurassic Park” all balled into one. The funny thing about those movies is that Spielberg had his hand in all of them. It just goes to show you how well Spielberg can connect with an audience. If you enjoyed any one of those movies, you’ll love “Super 8.”

*Reel to Reel is a weekly column. Look for it every Wednesday this summer.*

FREQUENT FLYER

# Study abroad offers students cultural diversity, new sights

There are only a few more days until my life changes.

I know that studying abroad in France will alter my perspective on the world. Reading about France could never have as much impact.



ABBY ARAYA

I found out about Studying Abroad to France en plein air through a simple hand-out in the Graham Center.

Personally, going to a different country to be stuck in a classroom isn’t the most ideal picture for travel; therefore, I immediately applied to Art in Plein Air when I found out Dr. David Chang was the professor leading it.

When I learned it would be a small, intimate group of primarily art students being taught how to paint outdoors, I was completely sold.

Now, I’m no travel savant; be aware that I’m a psychology student

at FIU going to France for completely selfish reasons-- I want to dive into a different culture, get lost in the romantic language and breathe air that is anti-“Miamian.”

I want to learn how to paint en plein air (outside) alongside the master paintings in the Louvre. I want to smell the oil “Sennelier” oil paints that Van Gogh and Monet actually used when they were alive. Nothing can substitute the experience of learning art in a country almost defined by it.

Mind you, I don’t know how to paint, but I swear I’ll make the best stick-figure anyone has ever seen.

The first week of my trip will be spent exploring Paris.

We will be getting special topic lectures of the famed Ecole des Beaux Arts where the standards of art and excellence have been the core since the time of Louis XIV. I am lucky enough to listen special lectures at the historical Louvre museum, get lectures on Impressionism at the

Musee D’Orangerie, take lunch in the beautiful Garden of the Tuileries and so much more. We are going to be asked to sketch and paint in the Louvre.

The Louvre is enormous--it would take a lifetime to see and study it all, but the significance is about being surrounded by this art, by the unchanging human need to express.

I can’t imagine how it will be to sit in front of a Bernini sculpture or a Jacques Louise David masterpiece and just marvel at it, let alone attempt a shaky drawing. Again, that’s where my amazing stick-figure skills will come into play.

I will be able to visit Monet’s famous lily pond, to see where Van Gogh got his inspiration and maybe give him a high five at his tomb.

Most importantly, our fabulous group of 13 students are lucky enough to be able to spend a NIGHT in the legendary Mont St. Michel monastery.

*I can proudly say I’m glad I took the plunge to explore outside of my Miami comfort-zone.*

Abby Araya, senior  
Art Education En Plein Air France

As the tide rises we will have the whole place to ourselves under the stars. So, in essence? This trip rocks. I can’t imagine going to sleep and waking up the same old Abby.

Most people tell me, “why not travel after you graduate?”

I have a simple answer: no one ever has an extra \$5,000 lying around to spend on travel especially after graduating—so if not now, when?

I can proudly say I’m glad I took the plunge to explore outside of my Miami comfort-zone. Five days from now, I will be standing right by the Eiffel Tower and I couldn’t be more

excited.

I will be documenting my experience to share the taste of travel for those who yearn, and I look forward to being exposed to the countless sculptures, architecture, paintings and divine food France has to offer.

Hopefully, I will be able to practice the little French I know, and if it’s true that French citizens “hate Americans,” I have no problem pretending to be Canadian! Until then, au revoir!

*Frequent flyer is a bi-weekly column. Look for it every other Wednesday this summer.*

# Organization combats bullying one step at a time

ANTI-BULLYING, page 5

victims – we also help the bullies. Bullies are victims, too. You never know what they’ve gone through [ . . . ] some of our mentees are former bullies that didn’t even realize they were bullying people. They thought that, you know, making fun of people was just fun. They didn’t realize it was actually bullying behavior.”

The issue of bullying has never been more

relevant than it is today. To help combat bullying others have started to do their part as well. Dan Savage’s “It Gets Better” project has helped bullied homosexuals deal with bullying. Pop star sensation, Lady Gaga has also devoted her career to motivating gay teens to accept themselves how they are. FOX’s hit show, “Glee,” has also contributed many of their episodes to dealing with the issue of homosexual victims being subjected to bullying.

Saiontz, however, makes a point not to exclude anyone. “Homosexuals are at the same risk as heterosexuals. Everyone’s had their own personal experience with bullying.”

NVEEE is here to help with a bright and busy future ahead of them. Although NVEEE is strengthening their home base throughout South Florida, on June 5, 2011, in Washington D.C., with the help of celebrities and Congresswoman Frederica Wilson, who has officially recog-

nized NVEEE’s efforts in the Congressional Records, the “Not On My Watch” Anti-Bullying Campaign has launched on a nationwide scale.

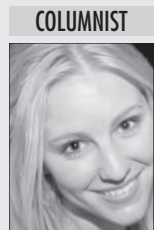
Although they are proud of these accomplishments, they are eager to continue the fight for equality and education for all students. For more information, to volunteer for community service and internship opportunities, or to make a donation please visit NVEEE’s website at [www.nveee.org](http://www.nveee.org).



## BORDERLESS WITH BROOKLYN

### *Global issues in need of exposure*

The tectonic plates of the international infrastructure are shifting, its tremors felt worldwide. As the world becomes more interconnected, we need commentary on what this means for our generation.



BROOKLYN MIDDLETON

This column will discuss these issues, not only incorporating economics and politics, but also the effects on human rights and the often gross divide in modernity and overall well-being.

In 2008, a study conducted by the United Nations University, an institution of scholars that serves as a liaison to the United Nations, reported that India had more cell phones than toilets. This fact is representative of a global phenomenon: as the world becomes more modernized, basic human needs, such as access to proper sanitation, are not being met.

Unlike doomsday predictions that the world will end, the notion that we are on the precipice of drastic changes and developments is undeniable.

In addition to human rights issues abroad, many countries in the Middle East continue to emerge as powerful international players creating a much needed impetus for the United States to begin to reexamine their relationship. As citizens demand accountability from their governments, there needs to be a monitoring of progress.

*“Borderless with Brooklyn” is a biweekly column examining world events.*

## Homework ban hinders progress in education

NEDA GHOMESHI  
Opinion Editor

During this time of crucial global competition, I do not see the benefits of limiting or banning homework. On June 15, 2011, The New York Times published an article stating: “The school board [Galloway School District in New Jersey] will vote this summer on a proposal to limit weeknight homework... and ban assignments on weekends, holidays and school vacations.”

**It seems as if the U.S. is going backwards at a time when progression is critically needed.**

In this desperate time when education is most necessary, educators need to be relentless by assigning more homework. Students should be spending more time inundating themselves with mathematics, science and other imperative subjects.

The Galloway School District attempted to justify the move by saying that students in the U.S. need downtime. The thought of providing more downtime for children is pathetic. Children in the U.S. should be spending their energetic, curious and limited youth on educating themselves on the information that students on the other side of the world have been learning on a daily basis.

During his State of the Union speech earlier

this year, President Barack Obama explained the direct correlation between education and the economic future of a nation, expressing his concerns with the international educational system that is resulting in outsourcing of high paying jobs.

Obama said, “Nations like China and India realized that...they could compete in this new world. And so they started educating their children earlier and longer, with greater emphasis on math and science.” The U.S. needs to grasp this phenomenon, too; with greater vigilance on education, students will learn and the U.S. will excel.

The quality of America’s math and science education lags behind many other nations. According to The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study, U.S. students rank 11th in science and 9th in math.

I cannot fathom why any school district would find it beneficial to limit the time a student spends on education. Students need to be constantly challenged and eliminating more time from homework is the opposite of challenging.

Back in 2006, during former President George W. Bush’s State of the Union speech, he expressed his concern with the lack of focus on critical subjects, too. Bush supported and encouraged spending more federal funds to improve math and science programs.

Since then, improvement has not been made and now school districts are considering limiting education. It seems as if the U.S. is going backwards at a time when progression is critically needed.

Change in the current public education system in the U.S. is essential. Limiting or eliminating homework is change in the wrong direction and not the reform that is going to lead this country to success.

## THE BEACON | Editorial

### Student growth inspires need for service upgrade

As the student population increases, the quality of student services must keep apace.

Part of the University’s Strategic Plan for 2011 is to enroll an additional 2,000 students, with the ultimate goal of reaching a population of 52,000 by 2015. We believe the University’s current customer service will not be able to accommodate this year’s influx of students.

As the new school year approaches, state appropriations and student enrollment continue their inverse relationship: less state money, more students.

The Florida Board of Governors recently approved a 15 percent tuition increase. As more students enroll, the University accumulates more money. As a result, students are paying more tuition for the same level of services.

Even with these limited financial resources, the University must find a way to adequately grow with the expanding student population.

As students, *The Beacon* believes the following are imperative concerns:

#### ACADEMIC ADVISING

To improve upon the University’s current graduation rate, there must be an increase in the number of advisers available to students. According to the Strategic Plan, only 44 percent of students graduate in six years.

According to data reports by the U.S. Department of Education, the national average of students who graduate in six years is 53 percent. Clearly, the University needs to improve the student-advisor ratio.

#### HOUSING

Some housing facilities, such as Panther Hall at Modesto Maidique Campus, already have reached maximum capacity. With the incoming increase of students, FIU needs to provide more housing options and reasonable rates. Student residents complain that FIU’s current rates are too high and unreasonable.

A three bedroom single at the University of Florida only costs \$2,315. At FIU, students pay \$3,506 for a three bedroom single. That means that the cost of living at FIU is 34 percent higher than the cost of living at UF. This large disparity is unfair to FIU students.

#### STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Students get tossed from department to department such as financial aid. The University needs to develop and properly implement an efficient system to accommodate existing and future students.

In the upcoming semesters, we will monitor these critical issues that affect the student body. If there is a problem we did not address but heavily affects the University and its progress, please let us know.

As an editorial board, we want to accurately represent students and address the issues that affect our future.

## CLASS DISMISSED

### *Education: a fusion of issues and victories*

The education system in America is a chaotic mix of highs and lows, accomplishments and setbacks.



JASMYN ELLIOTT

Due to the volatile economy, our education system has taken a deep financial blow, with essential programs being cut. The state of Florida alone has sustained massive budget cuts, causing hundreds of teachers to be laid off and programs to be eliminated. Nationwide, students and teachers alike are bearing the strain of a shoestring budget with losses affecting jobs and programs. Despite the odds, however, there are some students, teachers, profes-

sors and campuses beating the odds and making great strides to improve the quality of education in their community.

Our higher education system is not immune to these changes. As a state university, we too see the effects of a dwindling budget: disappearing fields of studies, cuts in scholarships and financial aid, rising tuition costs and a host of other issues. We also see how difficult it is for our graduates to enter the job market in a rough economy. Naturally, other colleges and universities are also under increased pressure to perform with limited resources. Yet again, somehow, they still manage to make amazing accomplishments in the face of adversity, making leaps and bounds even when the future of higher education seems

bleak.

Education is a precious commodity, especially in today’s world of innovation and advancement. Without it, the world would be at an intellectual and technological stand-still. With it, people around the world continue to move proverbial mountains in various industries, thus benefiting us all.

Education is something that I am passionate about. In my eyes, everyone should have access to it. We should be aware of its advancements so we may support them, as well as its flaws so that we may change them. Only then will we improve the state of education in America and the world.

This is what “Class Dismissed” is all about. Every other week, this column will bring to light the issues

our nation’s education system face, from pre-kindergarten all the way to post-graduate life.

Schools are also a breeding ground for bringing social issues to life that also affects our educational system. My commentary will also include perspectives on incidents affecting students such as campus violence, victimization and prejudice.

As it is often said, “When we know better, we do better.” My goal for “Class Dismissed” is to give you all the information we need in order to call for change when it is necessary and give credit where credit is due. As students, we have the ultimate power over our future. This power begins in the classroom.

*“Class Dismissed” is a biweekly education column.*

#### SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (550 words maximum) to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto: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 and year. The Beacon reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

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# Hubert Library and bookstore get a new look

**JESSICA PEREZ**  
Contributing Writer

The Glenn Hubert Library and Biscayne Bay Campus Bookstore are set to sport fresh new looks with the start of the academic school year.

Renovations are underway to provide students with a sleek and modern study area and new food options.

One of the major changes that will take place at the Hubert Library is the removal of the government documents, which are currently on the second floor.

The section that once housed the government documents will now function as a laptop lounge equipped with new movable furniture.

Consuella Askew, Associate Dean for Public Services, is aiming to create more study space for students

while using design choices that will create “happy or lively” areas.

Some of the desks will have lamps attached to them to provide better lighting, built in outlets so the desks are laptop friendly, and movable table tops to transform a large table into a group of connected individual tables based on the students’ preference. The furniture is expected to be in place by mid-July.

According to Askew, the south end of the second floor is a little chatty compared to what it used to be, but the north end and the third floor of the library will remain Quiet Floor areas.

These along with other changes were decided after 18 months of planning and asking students, library staff, and faculty their opinion through focus groups and displaying poster boards with possible ideas.

One of the campus food options, the Provisions On Demand has been removed from the library as well. It will be replaced with vending machines that will serve snacks, coffee, and fresh food. The vending machines allow students to have access to food with no limited hours.

In addition to the library renovations, the Bookstore at BBC is adding hot food options to their selection. Some choices include coffee, hot dogs, empanadas, nachos, and frozen foods such as hot pockets and slushies.

The changes are expected to be complete a few weeks into Summer B. There are also plans to sell FIU-themed baby clothes at bookstore.

The first floor of the Hubert Library is also undergoing reconstruction to prepare the new Geographic Information Systems and Remote

Sensing research room and teaching lab. The Modesto Maidique Campus already has a GIS-RS Center.

According to Jennifer Fu, head of the GIS-RS, the success of the GIS-RS center at MMC sparked the initiative to make GIS-RS available on BBC. The center is being funded by the 2011 Technology Fee grant.

The new center will provide a high tech teaching space with a photogrammetry workstation for 3D imagery analysis, new computers with up to date software, a plotter, a 42-inch large format scanner, among other things.

Fu also noted that the equipment will allow students to visually see the data they are researching, and the concept is similar to the way in which information is searched and stored on Google Maps and Google Earth.

GIS workshops, classes, and certificate programs will be offered, which are valuable on a resume according to Fu. A few of these resources will require a fee.

The center is anticipated to open by Fall.

Due to the new GIS Center, the first floor’s northern computer area will be made into a lounge area that will be “visually pleasing and relaxing,” said Fu. There will be more seating to create a social atmosphere and a gaming system.

There are other projects being planned, such as having a system where students can check out Kindles to read e-books that FIU subscribes to, and placing flat screen monitors on different floors of the library that will show the Golden Panther Express schedule, weather reports, and library news.

## JOIN THE CLUB



CARMELA ZUMBADO/THE BEACON

Biscayne Bay Campus Student Government Council College of Arts and Sciences Senator, Farrah Yamini [Left] contributed to a collaborative art piece for the “Better Art Club” during BBC’s Summer B Welcome Back event. Student clubs and organizations [Right] gathered at Panther Square to encourage student involvement in University activities.

# Golden Panther Express goes green with Panther IDs

**JONATHAN SZYDLO**  
BBC Managing Editor

The Department of Parking and Transportation is doing away with tickets for the Golden Panther Express. As of June 27, the GPE will be going ticketless, switching to a paperless system which charges the bus fare directly to students’ Panther ID and will stop accepting paper tickets after Aug. 22.

Students must now add money to their cards at the Panther ID Office located in the Graham Center on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, as well as kiosks located on both the Biscayne Bay Campus and MMC.

With the first day of the Summer B semester being the first day the

Department of Parking and Transportation stopped the sale of paper tickets, students at the BBC have mixed reactions to the paperless ticketing system.

“I think that it’s better,” said Jonevette Aimes, a freshman journalism major. “I don’t want to have to go back and forth buying tickets all the time.”

According to Ana Teresa Deliz, a senior advertising major, the paperless system streamlines the overall GPE experience.

“It’s a step less. At the [MMC] they stopped letting you use cash a while ago. Before you had to swipe your card and then they would give you the ticket. So now that they got rid of the tickets, it’s a step less.”

Not all students are in favor

of the switch, as Juan Martinez, a GPE driver employed by American Coaches, admitted. “They are not happy when the system is not online. It isn’t a problem for the students, but a problem for me, a problem for the drivers because we have to do it by hand and it takes time. You have to take down their ID numbers, their names, and the signatures of over 50 students.”

Donna Duggins, a junior public relations student, is opposed to the new system, due to a lack of information from the Department of Parking and Transportation in regards to students being left with residual tickets. “I don’t like it. I mean, I like it because I’m eco-friendly, but I have tickets to get rid of.”

At time of print, the Department of Parking and Transportation was unavailable for comment.

Another issue students have is the convenience of Panther ID kiosks locations, in relation to the GPE bus stops.

“At [MMC] it wasn’t easy to charge the panther card, until they put in the machines. At [BBC] they have them, but they’re very far away from the bus so it’s usually very hard to charge the card before you get onto the bus because there aren’t any that are easily accessible from the bus stop,” said Deliz. “I think that if they could help us out by putting the machines closer to the bus stops, it would be better.”

With the new paperless system being in its infancy, it is bound to

face certain obstacles. Although Tasha Scruggs, a criminal justice senior, has her reservations about the new system, she remains optimistic.

“I hope that it works, and if the transition is seamless, then I’ll be happy.”

## PANTHER ID KIOSK LOCATIONS

- WUC - BBC
- Green Library - MMC
- Graham Center - MMC
- Law Library - MMC