

9-26-2012

The Beacon, September 26, 2012

Florida International University

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Florida International University, "The Beacon, September 26, 2012" (2012). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 459.
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Candidates' take on future of financial aid

DIEGO SALDAÑA
Staff Writer

Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama have different takes on the topic of higher education, specifically on the issue of financial aid.

Romney's education plan calls for the Pell Grant to allocate funds to the students who need it the most. Paul Ryan, Romney's running mate, calls for \$115 billion to be cut from the Department of Education which, in turn, would cost millions of students their Pell Grants.

Ryan's plan would not be in effect until after next year and would not reduce the amount for those students who need it the most.

According to the White House website, the president has raised the amount for the federal Pell Grant for 2013- 2014 aid year to \$5,635. The website also says the number of Pell Grant recipients has increased by 50 percent since 2008.

In contrast, Romney's running mate, Paul Ryan, would reduce funding for Pell grants in his budget, increase eligibility requirements and freeze the maximum grant at \$5,550.

With over 21,000 undergraduates at the University receiving Pell Grants, Financial Aid Director Francisco Valines noted that the issue of financial aid is an important one for students in this upcoming election.

"I would not be able to be here; it's essential," said Kieron Williams, a junior English major, when asked if Pell Grants and student loans were vital for him to attend the University.

A similar response was given by Diego

Posada, a freshman criminal justice major, who said the aid was important "because otherwise, I wouldn't be able to afford college."

In regards to student loans, the president has urged Congress to keep interest rates low for the millions of students who use federal subsidized loans, according to the White House website.

Also, Stafford loans remained at 3.4 percent this past summer, instead of doubling.

Romney's education plans disapprove of Obama's nationalization of the student loan market and encourages private sector involvement. His plan also does not support forgiving student loans if a student claims he or she cannot repay them.

"[Raising interest rates] would affect me tremendously," said Natasha Chirinos, a sophomore health services major. "I assume that it will put me in a lot of debt once I finish my degree here in FIU. I don't consider that to be a good thing at all."

When asked if they knew that either president would want to cut federal funding for either the Pell grant or loans and if it would sway their vote, all the students interviewed by Student Media responded that it would.

Posada said he would be voting for Obama because "... his agenda is to provide more funding for grants."

"I feel like there should be more private investors in federal aid," Williams said. "I also think there should be more eligibility.... We should make it more available as long as it doesn't create a bigger deficit."

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DONKEYS IN THE HOUSE



PHOTOS BY ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Congressman Joe Garcia, democratic candidate for re-election in Florida's 26th congressional district (above) speaks to FIU students at an event hosted by the FIU College Democrats on Sept. 24 in the Graham Center.

Diplomacy speaker to bring "vast global experience"

KRISTINA CORONEL
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 27, the University is hosting a lecture titled "The U.S. Foreign Service: Behind the Scenes of American Diplomacy," during which author and journalist Nicholas Kralev will go into detail about his book, "America's Other Army," which chronicled his visits to more than 50 U.S. embassies and his many interviews with over 600 career diplomats.

During the lecture, Kralev

will be sharing behind-the-scenes secrets about high-level foreign policy decision making, how the work of American diplomats affects daily lives and how it contributes directly to U.S. security and prosperity.

Kralev is a graduate of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and holds a master's in Public Policy. He is known as a writer, educator, speaker on global travel, diplomacy and international affairs.

Kralev was a former Finan-

cial Times and Washington Times correspondent who traveled the world with four different U.S. secretaries of state, which included Hillary Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell and Madeleine Albright.

The lecture was arranged by David Twigg, interim director of FIU's Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies, and co-sponsored by the Gordon Institute and also by the Department of Politics and International Relations.

In an interview with Student

Media, Twigg said that many of the University's students, faculty, and members of the community are interested in the subjects Kralev would be sharing in his lecture.

"It is important for us to tap into, when possible, the insights of people who have had vast global experience," Twigg said. "Taking advantage of the exciting opportunities helps maintain the edge that makes FIU, the School of International and Public Affairs and the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public

Policy and Citizenship Studies 'Worlds Ahead.'"

For those attending the event, Kralev's book will be available for purchase at \$24.99.

He will also be autographing books at the lecture.

The lecture will take place at the Management and Advanced Research Center (MARC) Pavilion at the Modesto Maidique Campus, beginning at 6:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

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RADIATE FM

FIU Foundation appoints new directors to board

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

The FIU Foundation welcomes 10 new additions to its Board of Directors.

The Foundation Board of Directors is a volunteer leadership board that supervises development efforts in the University.

New members are elected by current board members. The bylaws of the Foundation allow for a maximum of 50 elected members.

Ten new members were elected this year in meetings held in January and May. There are currently 48 members on the board and two vacancies.

Alongside the elected board of directors are the ex-officio members. These individuals, who have another position in the University, work together with the 50 board members.

Among the members are the Student Government Association President of Biscayne Bay Campus Pablo Haspel and the Alumni Association President.

All members give a \$15,000 donation; \$5,000 counts as a yearly membership gift and \$10,000 counts as an annual give or get.

This means members can donate the latter amount or petition others to make a gift, sponsor or donate to the University.

The election process goes through the Membership and Board Management Committee, who reviews the candidates. After reviewing each candidate, the committee makes recommendations to the full Board of Directors for membership approval.

According to Patricia Mauter, coordinator for the Board of Directors, most newly elected members are already involved within the University.

The new members include a diverse few whose backgrounds range from business to theater production experience.

One of the newly elected directors, Lilly Bernal Pino, has traveled the country and performed in numerous short films and theater productions seen internationally.

Other additions include David Adler, Agustin Arellano, Sr., John Bussel, Candice Gidney, Neisen Kasdin, Juan Martinez, Jonathan Perlman, Daniel Pino and Jorge Rossell.

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FLOOD AND FOOD



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Students continue to tailgate despite flooding at Tamiami Park prior to FIU's home game against Louisville Cardinals on Sept. 22, 2012.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Sept. 24, 2012, the column titled "Tune In" was written by Antonella Morales not Ashley Solange.

In the issue dated Sept. 24, 2012 the photo titled "Green Politics" should have been credited to Stephanie Mason, not Andres Bedoya.

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

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ahmadinejad speaks at U.N.

JOHN DANISZEWSKI
AP Staff

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Monday

dismissed threats of military action against Iran's nuclear program, asserting that his country's project to enrich uranium is only for peaceful purposes and disputing that the country worries at all about an Israeli attack to destroy Iran's nuclear capacity.

Speaking to a group of editorial leaders, the first full day of his visit to New York for the annual U.N. General Assembly, Ahmadinejad said it was not too late for dialogue with the United States to resolve differences.

He also said that Iran is neutral in the Syrian civil war, and denied that Tehran is providing weapons or training to the government of President Bashar Assad. "We like and love both sides, and we see both sides as brothers," he said. He referred to the conflict in Syria as "tribal" fighting and said that international "meddling from the outside has made the situation even harder." He refused to say whether Iran would accept a government not led by the Assad regime, which for years has been Iran's closest ally in the Middle East.

He said this would be his last trip to New York as president of Iran, because his term is ending and he is barred from seeking a third consecutive term. But he did not rule out staying active in Iranian politics and said he might return as part of future Iranian delegations to New York.

He also sought to delegitimize Israel's historic ties to the Middle

East and their political and military power in the region and the world, saying that Israelis "do not even enter the equation for Iran."

On the other hand, he said the argument over Iran's nuclear program was a political rather than a legal matter and needs to be resolved politically.

"We are not expecting that a 33-year-old problem between America and Iran to be resolved in speedy discussions, but we do believe in dialogue."

White House press secretary Jay Carney responded to Ahmadinejad's remarks, telling a midday news briefing, "Well, President Ahmadinejad says foolish, offensive and sometimes unintelligible things with great regularity. What he should focus on is the failure of his government of Iran to abide by its international obligations, to abide by United Nations Security Council resolutions."

Ahmadinejad later took aim at the United States and Israel while addressing a high-level U.N. meeting promoting the rule of law, accusing Washington of shielding what he called a nuclear-armed "fake regime."

He also alluded to the amateur anti-Islam video made in the U.S. that has caused protests across the Muslim world, accusing the United States and others of misusing freedom of speech and failing to speak out against the defamation of people's beliefs and "divine prophets."

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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.

Only babies should fuss about feeding time

LOURDES GINART
Staff Writer

Public breastfeeding can be an unsettling sight for some or something beautiful for others.

So when Adrienne Pine, a professor at American University, breastfed her child in the middle of a lecture, controversy followed.

Pine is a single mother and, at the time, had a sick infant and no babysitter. So she took her child to work and, shortly after the lecture began, the baby began to fuss and cry. It was feeding time.

Pine believed it would be easier to continue one of the first lectures of the semester rather than end it, so she breastfed her child amidst gawking students.

Although it would have been easy for Pine to end class early

and tend to her child, it was something she was reluctant to do when there was an easy solution, just one breast away.

Pine has been criticized for an act that is both publicly and professionally unaccepted by society. Ironically, Pine teaches a “Sex, Gender, and Culture” class: a feminist anthropology course about breaking societal norms.

Essentially, Pine did what any mother would have to do; she took care of her sick infant.

Beyond that, the lecture was filled with young adults (and the keyword here is “adults”) who all understand the biological need an infant has for breast milk.

While a bit unprofessional, Pine saw herself in a situation that had no other resolution. To dismiss class would have

set her back, excusing herself would have taken too long, and, according to Forbes, “she had a new teaching assistant who most likely couldn’t take over even while [she] observed.”

All in all, the incident should not have stirred such controversy. Maybe the greater question at hand should be what is American University, and other universities alike, doing to help their single-parent staff members when such occasions occur.

However, there are a few things to criticize about Pine’s attitude towards public breastfeeding.

In a Huffington Post article, Pine states, “If I considered feeding my child to be a “delicate” or sensitive act, I would not have done it in front of my students. Nor would I have spent

the previous year doing it on buses, trains and airplanes; on busy sidewalks and nice restaurants; in television studios and while giving plenary lectures to large conferences.”

I feel that Pine has become too comfortable with the idea of public breastfeeding.

The child being a year old already, Pine should have an established feeding schedule, and if it interferes with her time at a nice restaurant, she could easily excuse herself and go to the restroom. If she knows she will be giving a lecture at a conference, there is enough time to hire a caretaker.

Breastfeeding may be an act of nature, and in many situations I understand the need to do it in public; but please, be decent.

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THE BEACON | Editorial

Election reform: good job, good effort

Beginning on the Sept. 17 Senate meeting, the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus has begun passing a series of bills aimed at reforming the SGC-MMC elections code from how it stood during the highly scrutinized 2012 SGC-MMC elections.

The Beacon can’t help but say, it’s about damn time.

Given the dramatics over minutiae – unnecessary calamity caused over pre-established debate moderators, unethical coercion of votes through undesignated, yet still legal, polling stations, and let us not forget attempts at purging candidates associated with unofficial political parties – it’s about time proper legislation is put into writing outlining what is, and isn’t the proper conduct of not only candidates, but the elections commission as well.

It’s about time a code of ethics was incorporated into the elections code, especially one that specifically denounces candidates from “committing or attempting to commit extortion or blackmail.”

Hopefully this will prevent members associated with any future tickets from shoving iPads into unaffiliated students’ faces and pressuring them to vote for a specific candidate.

However, The Beacon can’t help but lament over two provisions of the elections code reforms and one major neglected aspect.

Appeals made regarding the decisions of the elections commission’s decisions can only be made to the Elections Commissions, and disqualification of any candidate can only be made based on a unanimous vote of the Elections Commission, instead of a specified majority.

Both of these points pave the way for an inherent conflict of interest.

Not only do we think the elections commission wouldn’t change their original decision, but they wouldn’t give an appeal the time of day.

Smells a bit redundant.

Then to make it so that the disqualification is based on the unanimous vote of the elections commission instead of a specified majority - lets say a 2/3 vote - makes it so a single member of the elections commission that supports the candidate in question can vote nay in terms of disqualification and thus negating the disqualifications process.

What is the major point that is being neglected, you may ask: the fact that you are only enacting Election reforms for MMC when in reality election code reforms should be taken at the University-wide level including the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus delegation in order to have one cross-University Election Code that regulates all elections.

Don’t forget, the Modesto Maidique Campus is not Florida International University.

SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

The ability to inspire a Shared Vision: What FIU Student Leaders are missing

DEAN GABRIEL WILLIAMS

Soon, it will be 50 years since the establishment of what we have affectionately come to know as the “Finest Institution in the Universe.” And if you really stop to think about it, our beloved university has come quite a ways from that barren airstrip with only a tower to be recognized by.

Miami’s one and only public research university earned its stripes in the realm of higher education because, simply put, this university’s leaders have made it a priority to “inspire a shared vision.”

And unless our student leaders commit themselves to doing the same, we will miss our opportunity to shape the next 50 years of history at FIU.

“‘Inspiring a Shared Vision’ is one of the five practices of exemplary leadership” as outlined in Kouzes and Posner’s Leadership Challenge. In order to inspire a shared vision, one must be able to envision the future by imagining exciting and ennobling possibilities, and then enlist others in that shared vision by appealing to shared aspirations.

Inspiring that shared vision can only begin if all student leaders understand first, what is meant by “The Student Trust,” and second, that they all play an integral role in ensuring the health, safety, welfare and morals of “The Student Trust.” And to be certain, the student trust is more than simply the allocation and management of the Activity and Services Fee; it’s about student advocacy and the general welfare of the future student bodies of FIU.

Whether you are the secretary of a campus student organization, a member of Student Government, or anywhere in-between, you play an integral role in protecting, developing and advancing the student trust. And the way we can do this, as student leaders, is to create and inspire one cohesive vision.

Inspiring a shared vision has nothing to do with a person or an organization and everything to do with service to your community; if we are to ensure that this great nation will return to its full glory, it starts with us, right here and right now, at this great University, engaging others in the common objective of making the

student experience for current and future students enjoyable and fruitful.

Anything is possible at FIU. 17 varsity sports teams have worked tirelessly to move us from the Sunbelt Conference to Conference USA. In a little over 10 years, the College of Law went from little known to being amongst the highest bar passage rates in the state.

We are the youngest university to be granted a Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s most prestigious national honor society. And most importantly, FIU is a key player in the region’s economy, with a contribution of about \$2 billion per year.

If the leaders of this student body—whether within student organizations, student government, and in-between—fail to share in and work towards one unified vision, we could lose our opportunity to make a significant impact on the next 50 years of greatness that this University is about to experience.

This is the first in a two part series about Student Leadership at Florida International University.



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Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to jonathan.szydlo@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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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com.

GLOBAL ORPHAN PROJECT

A WALK TO REMEMBER

Barrett Keene walks across America to raise awareness

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

Through dirt roads and mountains; through small towns and big cities; through rain, hail, snow and heat, one man is making a nine month, 3, 475 mile trek from Miami to San Francisco in -order to raise awareness on the realities facing impoverished communities and orphaned youths.

Barrett Keene, a PhD student at Cornell University, first became aware of the extreme realities facing underprivileged communities when he went down to the Panamanian boarder as an undergrad at the University of Florida to teach English and sustainable farming practices to the community.

"There were some areas in extreme poverty and meeting and teaching children that were in completely different conditions, running around in rags or less and without clean water, getting sick and dying of preventable illnesses. I felt as though God was watering my cold, dry, selfish heart," described Keene.

"We often get into this busy mindset and become human doings instead of human beings."

Keene realization led him on trips to Central America to Guatemala, Haiti, and Brazil during spring and Christmas breaks in which he continued to see what poverty was doing, not only to the adults, but also to the children in these communities.

"My trip to Guatemala was the first time I visited an orphanage and meet with kids that were suffering and it's not their fault. Children cannot do much for themselves. It is our opportunity to serve and help them," said Keene.

"This continuous volunteering made me realize that I need to do something."

Partnering with the Global Orphan Project and Legacy Champ, who sponsored his trip supplies when they found out what he was doing, Keene decided to walk across America in an effort to expose others to the reality of orphaned children and helping them see that it's the small decisions that can make a big impact on others, like donating a school uniform for a child in Uganda or Haiti, who is not allowed to go to school unless they have a school uniform but because of their conditions cannot afford to buy it.

"A uniform can be the dividing line between

a child being allowed to earn an education and a future or being locked out of school. This is horrible for all children, and this tragic reality has particular importance for girls," Keene said. "One uniform can provide students with an opportunity and option for the future."

Keene waited till he went home to Florida to start training for the walk, where he spent a month walking and running and even participated in IronMan 70.3 Miami.

"I try to stay in good shape," said Keene, "and I've always has a passion for pushing myself physically, but it's been tough. There was a stretch of about 45 days where it 105 degrees everyday and I was walking for 17 miles. I am about to finish walking across the Rocky Mountains and it's challenging. Your whole body hurts, but it's good because we've been able to raise awareness in almost 800,000 people through social media, newspapers, radio, television, and speeches throughout the country. Now I'm preparing to cross the Nevada desert and the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which could be very well be covered in snow."

On his walk, Keene has been able to speak at

churches, schools and universities while trying to understand and help middle and high school teachers be more effective and exceptional leaders as part of his dissertation and research.

"It's been incredible to see how willing people are across the country to help," Keene said. "I think deep down, below the hardness and distrust that prevent and damage our relationships, there's a desire to be involved in and used for a better and higher purpose."

As he finishes his final 1000 miles, Keene urges people to get involved, not just with his cause, but in general. "First, if you're interested, get involved. Get down and dirty and learn about the challenges others face so you can help; and if you don't have that passion, get yourself in action and let the action of doing drive your passions."

To get involved, visit gowalkamerica.org and sign up to donate pennies for each of the final 1,000 miles Keene will walk or a school uniform, which allows a child to go to school, creates jobs in impoverished communities and helps in the care of orphaned children. All proceeds go to the Global Orphan Project.

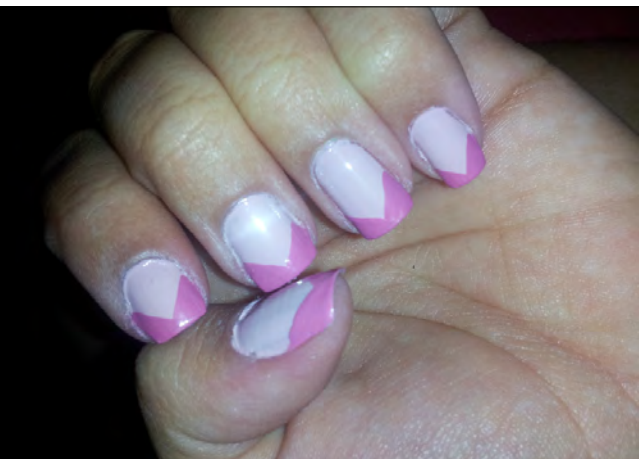
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PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA LINDAH



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACOB BARRETH



DUFFY DUFRESNE
Contributing Writer

Today's nail industry has come a long way. From the simple polished and shaped styles to unique and elaborate nail designs and colors, nail styles have evolved with society.

It wasn't until the 20th century that people began to use colored nail polish, and only in the '60s did nail salons become popular. Today, students, like junior Sarah Isma, make trips to the nail salon on a regular basis. "I try to get [my nails] done at least every two to three weeks," said Isma, whose personal favorite nail style are gel nails.

Gel nails — similar to acrylic nails — are a type of artificial nail made of oligomers which make the nail more flexible

and durable. Gel can be applied straight onto the natural nail to reinforce them, or applied with a tip.

Another popular style is Shellac nails. Much like gel nails, Shellac nails are a combination of nail polish and gel. They are applied to the natural nail and cured using UV light.

It is stronger than regular nail polish and can last up to two weeks without chipping or fading.

The nail does not need to be shaved down for Shellac to be applied, which prevents the nail breaking when it is removed.

The shapes of nail tips have also been upgraded. Many are opting out on the regular square tips and are going for rounded tips, almond nails — or more recently, stiletto nails, which

feature a pointier tip.

In addition to nail tips, nail designs have become more creative. At Santi Hair and Nail

pick and then dipping the finger in the water. The result is a very unique marbled look.

Two-toned nails, where the

painting the tip a different color. Some even like to mix it up by painting the nail one color and then bordering it with another.

Also a popular do-it-yourself style is crackle nail polish, where the nail is painted one color and then painted over with crackle polish giving the nail a cracked look.

"3D nails, where they put objects on it to make it pop [are in style]," said Isme. Tiny rhinestones, fur, hearts and numerous other ornaments can be stuck on the nail using nail glue or even nail polish itself, secured with a top coat.

One of the most up-and-coming nail trends is intricate designs. Students are getting their nails done with a variety of different designs, ranging from simple shapes to more detailed

designs of fruits, space, animals and more. Junior biology major Nathalie Lopez enjoys visiting the salon and occasionally getting unique design.

"I love having my nails painted in strange designs. It's fun and different," said Lopez.

However, if you're too busy to get your nails done, nail polish strips or nail decals are a popular way of having a nail style without actually painting the nails. Nail polish strips can be applied to the nail like an adhesive and the excess is filed off. They come in a variety of designs and colors.

"Those are great when you have too much to do and not enough time to get your nails done," added Lopez.

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ESSY DE LA MONEDA/THE BEACON

CALENDAR

FALL 2012 EVENTS

KEEP UP WITH THE CALENDAR FOR A FRESH UPDATE OF EVENTS HAPPENING AROUND FIU.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

FIU ORGANIC FARMERS MARKET
WHEN: 12-3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC Green Library Breezeway

CHANGE, MY CONSTANT FRIEND
WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC AHC2-160

FIU THEATRE PRESENTS: SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: 10910 SW 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

JLSA - LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI FRIEDMAN
WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC RDB 1004

LOVE YOUR MAJOR FAIR
WHEN: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC 243

CAREER FAIR MMC FALL 2012
WHEN: 3-7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: US Century Bank Arena

LATIN LATE DAY LATTE
WHEN: 3-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC Panther Square

EXCEL: FORMULAS
WHEN: 2-3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC PC-414

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27



WRITE TO CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM TO HAVE YOU EVENT FEATURED!



PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Student travels abroad to Japan on scholarship

When people asked me how my summer was this year, I could honestly tell them that it was the best summer I ever had without stretching the truth.

I didn't spend my summer at the beach, at nightclubs or visiting relatives up north. I spent it across the Pacific in the beautiful country of Japan. Two years ago, as a sophomore, my academic advisor told me that I needed to take at least two introductory courses in a foreign language.

"But I already took Spanish in high school," I protested. As it turns out, my international relations major belongs to the College of Arts & Sciences, which requires a foreign language. Right then and there I had decided that I wanted to learn a language completely different from English.

After days of indecision, the only language class that fit perfectly with my schedule was Japanese 1. I was so enthralled by the language. The intricate culture and dialect intrigued me. I made the decision to study abroad late October of 2011 after much consideration and research.

I knew two things: First, I really wanted to go, and second, I didn't have any money. I spoke with the coordinator and the advisors at the Office of Education Abroad and they walked me through my applications for various scholarships and loans.

A workshop and a hundred papers later, I received the life-changing news that I had received the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for the summer. There I was, with \$4000 in my bank account and boarding a flight to Dallas that would connect directly to Tokyo. The moment where I handed my boarding pass to the gate

attendant was surreal. It wasn't just that I was leaving to Japan for seven weeks, it was the fact that I had set my mind on something; I had set a goal, and I had achieved it.

Of course, I probably wouldn't have been able to achieve it without the financial assistance of the Gilman Scholarship, but the point is when you really want something, there's little that the universe can do to stop you. This is not some inspirational non-sense, but rather something I have learned through personal experience and through interaction with hard-working people both here and on the other side of the world.

I visited famous temples and shrines in Kyoto, saw the allure of the city of Tokyo and the modest and subtle beauty of the west-coast city of Fukuoka. I partied with the best and realest people I have ever met in Osaka. I ate sushi and ramen with Austin from Dallas, Daniel from Portland, Joanna from Canada and Yi from China. I did more than I could ever have imagined with people, who, like me, set their mind on going to Japan and made it possible.

So what about you? If you're a freshman or sophomore, don't let money stop you from embarking on what will most likely become one of your most treasured and unforgettable memories. Junior? I was one when I went. Senior? Volunteer, work, or even go to graduate school for a bit in your country of choice. If you really want to go abroad, the resources and scholarships are all at your fingertips.

There are people out there who want to help you and want to see you succeed. So find your Japan, find your Gilman Scholarship, book your flight, and get out there!

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CROSS COUNTRY

Team finishes fourth at FGCU Invite, eighth at USF

RUBEN PALACIOS
Contributing Writer

The FIU cross-country team is off and running.

The cross-country team started off the new campaign with a trip to Fort Myers, Fla. to participate in the Florida Gulf Coast University Invitational on Aug. 31.

Hosted by FGCU, the invitational also included Florida Atlantic University, Stetson University and Lipscomb University.

The FIU women's cross country team kicked off the event in the 5000-meter version of the invitational. Freshman Lauren Gonzalez ran in 19 minutes, 28 seconds. The 11th best time and best time for the Panthers.

Senior Samia Adan ran a time of 20:04, placing her right under her teammate in 11th place. Catherine Ventura, sophomore, ran a time of 20:47, earning a 19th

overall finish. Freshman Caroline Straugh, placed 26th overall with a time of 21:31. Krystel Francis, junior, placed 27th overall with a time of 21:36. Desmika White, sophomore, also participated but did not place in the event.

Overall, the women's team placed 4th out of the five teams. Lipscomb took the 1st place honors, host FGCU followed in second, FAU came in 3rd and Stetson came in 5th place.

The FIU men's cross country team also participated in the men's half of the FGCU invite.

The Panthers sent six participants to try and conquer the 8000-meter course. Daniel Puentes, freshman, ran a time of 28:14, placing him 13th overall, the best time by any Panther. Manuel Garcia, freshman, ran a time of 30:04, earning him a 20th place finish. Brandon Ballard, freshman, placed 24th with a time of 31:26. Charlie William-Harris, placed

25th with a time of 31:42. Miguel Delgadillo, senior, placed 26th with a time of 31:43. Brandon Perriman, freshman, participated but did not place in the event.

Like the women, the men placed 4th out of the five teams. Host FGCU placed first, Lipscomb placed 2nd, FAU placed 3rd and Stetson placed last.

The Panthers then set their sights on Tampa, Fla., to participate in the University of South Florida Cross Country Invitational.

The invitational, hosted by USF, included Florida A&M University which only participated on the men's side, Embry Riddle University, FAU, Nova Southeastern University, University of Central Florida, University of Miami, University of Tampa, Saint Leo University and participating only on the women's side was Pasco-Hernando Community College.

The women started off the competition. Gonzalez matched her team best finish at the FGCU invite with another team best. She ran a time of 20:14, placing 14th. Ventura ran a time of 21:38, earning her a 41st place finish. Francis ran a time of 22:06, she placed 60th. Adan ran a time of 22:33, she placed 74th. White ran a time of 22:37, she placed 75th. Straugh ran a time of 23:13, she placed 89th.

The women as a team, placed eighth out of 10 teams. Tampa placed first, UCF placed second, host USF placed third, Embry Riddle placed fourth, FAU placed fifth, UM placed sixth, Nova placed seventh, Saint Leo placed ninth and Pasco-Hernando Community College placed last.

The stage was clear for the men to try and improve on their second to last place finish at FGCU.

Garcia ran the best team time for the panthers. Garcia ran a time

of 29:01, he placed 36th. Puentes ran a time of 29:46, he placed 44th. William-Harris ran a time of 33:04, he placed 64th. Ballard ran a time of 33:25, he placed 65th. Perriman ran a time of 39:51, he placed 71st. Delgadillo participated but did not place in this event.

The FIU men's cross country team did not improve on their second to last place finish at FGCU, instead the men finished last in the field of nine. FAMU took the first place crown, Nova placed in second, Embry Riddle placed in third, UM placed in fourth, Tampa placed in fifth, host USF placed in sixth, FAU placed in seventh and Saint Leo placed in eighth.

Student Media attempted contacting head coach Eric Campbell, but were unable to receive comment.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Thanksgiving Classic highlights 2012-2013 schedule

LUIS D. GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

It's time to circle your calendars.

Louisiana State, West Virginia, and Iowa: three of the NCAA tournament's participants from last season highlight the 2012-2013 women's basketball schedule as they visit FIU for the annual Thanksgiving classic from November 23 to 25.

"We're excited to get going," said Cindy Russo, head coach, in a press release as she officially announced the schedule last Wednesday. "This schedule features tough non-conference teams and we'll be prepared for a competitive conference season. We have higher expectations this year. The players are back. They have improved and they're working hard. We're ready to go."

Russo will look to build upon last year's relative success, where the Panthers won 23 games, going 10-6 in conference play. They earned a bid to the women's National Invitation Tournament, before losing to South Florida 77-61.

However, the slate definitely looks to be challenging as FIU faces nine programs fresh off competition in postseason tournaments, NCAA and NIT alike. Among those is Florida Gulf Coast, who the Panthers face on Nov. 14 in Fort Myers, during their first road game of the season.

Last season, the Eagles finished 29-3, running a clean 18-0 slate in the Atlantic Sun Conference before losing to St. Bonaventure 72-65 in the NCAA tournament.

FIU will face Middle Tennessee, which finished 16-0 in the Sun Belt Conference during the regular season and eliminated the Panthers from the conference semifinals for the first time on Dec. 20 in Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raiders will make their way to the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Jan. 31 to complete the two-game conference set. The University of Arkansas at Little Rock,

which shocked many around the college basketball circles by defeating Middle Tennessee 71-70 in overtime to win the conference championship, faces FIU on Jan. 12 in Little Rock and on Feb. 21 in Miami.

Despite a healthy conference record, the Panthers went a combined 0-4 against both conference stalwarts last season. However, a silver lining indicates FIU won 12 games, in the regular season and conference tournament against the rest of its other Sun Belt foes.

The Panthers open up conference play on Nov. 19 against Western Kentucky on the road, in which both teams split their regular season meetings last year. FIU plays its main rival Florida Atlantic on Feb. 6 in Miami and on Mar. 2 in Boca Raton.

The Panthers lost both meetings against the Owls last year, by a mere three points combined, losing 50-49 at home and 51-49, just two weeks later at FAU.

All eyes will be on the FIU's annual Thanksgiving classic as Jerica Coley, who finished sixth in the country last season in scoring with 23.4 points per game, leads FIU in a four-team gauntlet against the three NCAA participants. Ranked as eighth seeds entering the tournament, LSU and West Virginia advanced past the first round defeating San Diego State and Texas respectively, with Iowa losing to California 84-74. The Panthers inaugurate the tournament by playing Iowa and will face either the winner or loser of the contest between the Tigers and Mountaineers the following day.

FIU opens its 2012 campaign with two exhibition games against the University of Quebec on Oct. 25 and at Barry on Nov. 11. The Panthers also play state rival Central Florida on Dec. 13 in Miami and compete for the conference championship from March 8 to 11, in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

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BEACON FILE PHOTO

Jerica Coley and the Panthers return to action starting on Oct. 25 against the University of Quebec.

FOOTBALL

Medlock out at least four weeks, Hilton shines



BEACON FILE PHOTO



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

(Above) T.Y. Hilton had 113 yards and a touchdown on Sept. 23 in a losing effort. (Below) Jake Medlock getting his foot checked out by FIU trainers. It was later discovered that he fractured his left foot.

BRANDON WISE *Sports Director*

This past weekend, FIU starting quarterback Jake Medlock suffered a fractured left foot, which, according to the Miami Herald, will keep him out of action for at least four weeks. Prior to the injury, Medlock was 10-16 for 116 yards, along with a rushing touchdown.

In his first three games under center for the Panthers, Medlock had thrown for 711 yards and four touchdown passes. He also ran for 241 yards and a touchdown.

Head coach Mario Cristobal said after the game that it was enough that Medlock was not able to return to game action. An MRI later revealed the severity of the injury.

The team announced today that true freshman E.J. Hilliard will take over the reins of the offense, which outgained Louisville last weekend 326-323. Cristobal says it's going to be a tall order for the 19-year-old, but he believes Hilliard can handle the situation.

"It's a lot to ask of a guy to go right in there and play right away in his first year," Cristobal said, following the loss to Louisville. "Once [Hilliard] settled down he did some things that are certainly going to have to help us win football games going forward."

Hilliard went 9-10 for 82 yards and one touchdown in his short amount of game action this past weekend.

In the same game, Darian Mallary was also forced to leave early due to a concussion. He did not return and it is feared he will be out of action for the next game.

"[It's] probably a concussion," Cristobal said after the game. "It was an extremely physical play where he got dinged up pretty good where doctors felt we had to hold him out."

The Panthers will take on the Louisiana Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns this Saturday in Louisiana.

PANTHERS IN THE PROS

On Sunday, T.Y. Hilton became the first ever Panther player to score a touchdown in the NFL when he received a 40-yard scoring strike from rookie quarterback Andrew Luck.

Hilton downplayed his first career touchdown after the game.

"It means nothing, we lost," Hilton said in an interview with Colts.com postgame. "It's kind of frustrating, but we can learn from it and build from it."

The former Panther finished the game with four catches for 113 yards and the touchdown, but the Colts fell to the Jaguars 22-17 after Blaine Gabbert connected with Cecil Shorts for an 80 yard touchdown.

Antwan Barnes also recorded his 21st career sack against the Atlanta Falcons when he brought down Matt Ryan in the Chargers 27-3 loss in San Diego.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL weekend full of injuries including Miami's Bush

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three AFC East stars were forced out of Sunday's games because of injuries.

Buffalo running back C.J. Spiller left Sunday's 24-14 victory over Cleveland because of an injured left shoulder.

He was hurt as he was tackled after catching a short pass and picking up 25 yards in the first quarter. Spiller stayed on the ground for several minutes before he was helped to his feet by trainers. He grasped his left arm as he walked off the field before being carted to the locker room.

Bills coach Chan Gailey does not expect Spiller to be back for next week's home game against New England — and possibly longer.

"I don't believe it's long, long-term," Gailey said. "If he missed a week that's long for me. He's going to be out for sure this week and then we'll see."

Spiller will undergo further testing Monday.

At Miami, Reggie Bush limped off the field. Darrelle Revis was driven away.

They were both gone with apparent left knee injuries long before a four-hour overtime marathon between the Jets and Dolphins ended — but their absences could clearly mean plenty for both clubs going forward.

Bush departed just before halftime. He stayed down after being tackled on a play where the Dolphins were apparently trying to run out the clock but chose not to simply take a knee, giving their best offensive player the ball on a handoff instead. Revis left in the third quarter, falling awkwardly and grabbing at his knee even before he hit the grass, a non-contact injury where he wound up covering his face with gloved hands in obvious pain.

"No news yet," Jets coach Rex Ryan said

after the game when asked about Revis. "He'll have an MRI when we get home tomorrow."

There was no update on Bush's status from the Dolphins, either.

Oakland Raiders receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey was taken to the hospital with a neck injury after a helmet-to-helmet hit from Steelers safety Ryan Mundy that was not penalized.

Heyward-Bey was running across the end zone early in the fourth quarter to catch a pass from Carson Palmer when Mundy launched his body and lowered his helmet into Heyward-Bey's facemask. Heyward-Bey's neck jerked violently and his head also crashed into the ground. The pass was incomplete.

Heyward-Bey's eyes were shut for the 10 minutes trainers attended to him as he lay motionless. He was strapped to a table and placed on a cart. As the cart started to leave the field, he raised his right hand to roaring cheers.

The Raiders said he was in stable condition and would stay in the hospital overnight for observation.

Detroit quarterback Matthew Stafford was replaced by Shaun Hill late in the fourth quarter after coming up limping trying to chase down a Tennessee defender on a 72-yard fumble return for a touchdown.

Alterraun Verner took the ball out of Brandon Pettigrew's hands after a 6-yard catch and ran it back for the touchdown with 1:16 left. Stafford tried to run down Verner before pulling up after hurting his right leg. He limped back to the sideline, and Hill replaced Stafford for the next series. Team officials said Stafford strained a leg muscle.

The Titans played the second half without tight end Jared Cook after he hurt his left shoulder late in the first half. Detroit punter Ben Graham hurt his left calf in the first quarter, forcing the Lions to turn to kicker Jason Hanson

to pull double duty on special teams.

Dallas Cowboys safety Barry Church is done for the season after suffering a ruptured Achilles tendon. Coach Jason Garrett said after the Cowboys' 16-10 victory over Tampa Bay that Church will have surgery Monday.

Also in that game, Buccaneers DE Adrian Clayborn left with a knee injury. Tampa Bay coach Greg Schiano said he would have tests Monday.

Redskins starting left tackle Trent Williams was going to have an MRI exam on the injured

right knee that kept him out for most of Washington's loss to the Cincinnati Bengals.

Williams said he did not fear that the injury was serious. He was hurt on Washington's second play from scrimmage, then did briefly return before leaving again.

Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said cornerbacks Cedric Griffin and Crezdon Butler had hurt hamstrings.

Colts receiver Austin Collie has left the Jacksonville game with what a right knee injury early in the third quarter.

PRSA POWER



JASEN DELGADO/ THE BEACON

Marija Prsa (middle) leads her team with 174 kills through 49 sets of play. A 3.55 kill per set average so far through 14 matches.

KONICHIWA!

Asian students adapt to language, culture and school work

SHANNON COPELAND
Contributing Writer

Annyonghasaeyo! This is how you say hello in Korean.

Some students may not know there are Korean students here, let alone how to greet them.

Although China's population is larger than 1 billion, not all Asian students at the University are from there.

For Wen Da Xu, a senior mathematics major from China, learning the language was only one of the challenges Da Xu met. Da Xu also had to get used to some of the manners.

"When I first came, I didn't have money or cell phone, I asked to borrow phone and people lent it to me, in China if you do that, people will wonder why you want to borrow their phone," Da Xu said.

As soon as she stepped off the plane, one of Da

Xu's main problems was to choose something from the menu.

"Because I couldn't understand the menu, I ordered everything. The cashier look at me and said, 'What?'" Da Xu said.

Lui Song, a senior hospitality transfer student from China, felt like an outsider on the public transportation in Miami.

"When I get on the bus, everybody look at me like, 'why is Asian on bus', that made me feel like minority. In China I'm a majority. I felt very uncomfortable. And because I don't have a car, I stay at home and surf Internet."

The relationship between friends, classmates and acquaintances can also be a challenge. In the Asian culture, addressing someone by their first name is only done between families and loved ones.

"The communication style

in Japan is very different. It's like bowling, you wait your turn to talk. But here it's like tennis. Most people think I don't have a lot to say, but that's not the reason," said Japanese student Yoshihiro Kanno, a graduate in the hospitality program.

"I felt very uncomfortable with hugging and kissing on the cheek. And being called by my first name took some time to get used to," Kanno said.

Asian students also miss basic ingredients found only in their country. It's easy to find sushi in Miami, but that is not the same sushi Kanno used to eat in Japan.

"I really like sushi, but it taste different here, so I cook mostly western style," Kanno said.

Yung Joon Ji, hospitality undergraduate student from Korea, also misses the spices from his country.

"I'm used to American food, but authentic Korean

restaurants are hard to find," said Joon Ji.

For Zhi Wei Lin it is difficult to make friends with those not of the same culture.

"Since there are a lot of Chinese students in the hospitality program, I don't really know how to make friends with foreign students," Wei Lin said. "But I want to make American friends."

Classroom etiquette in Asian countries is very strict, as only teachers speak during lectures while students listen.

Michelle Yoo, a visiting assistant professor in CSHTM understands Asian students as she was raised in the Asian culture.

"In the Asian culture, we are taught to be submissive, that's just our culture. Because most Asian students don't speak up, students will think they don't understand, which makes them feel

SOME ASIAN GREETINGS

Chinese

Hi or How are you: Ni Hao

Korean

Hi: Annyonghasaeyo

Nice to meet you: Mannaseo bangapseumnida

I'm Jody: Jodi imnida

Japanese

Hi: Konichiwa

How are you: Ogenki desuka?

intimidated. But I focus on the end results," she said.

Paolo Ramirez, an English tutor at the Center for Excellence in Writing, is used to helping Asian students with their frustration while writing their papers.

"The students have the idea in their minds, it's just

putting it into words," he said. "One student in particular had difficulty in a class because the professor would take off points for grammar, but didn't give any feedback. I advise students to make friends and practice their English."

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Homecoming week nearing – run for tickets

MANUEL CEDEÑO
Contributing Writer

More than a month into the semester, when it seems that professors have conspired to assign their exams all within the same week, it's difficult not to get overwhelmed by the stress of university life. But some students keep Homecoming Week in their minds.

Sunday, Oct. 7 marks the beginning of Homecoming Week. Full of activities, both at the Modesto Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus, this year's Homecoming is expecting its highest number in attendance yet.

It begins at Tamiami Park. The first event, Panthermonium, is broken down into two parts, Panthermonium Village and Panthermonium Concert. The village opens its gates at 1 p.m.

The village will host the final four groups competing in Battle of the Bands, where the winner will enjoy the grand prize: Opening for the Panthermonium concert, which starts shortly after the closing of the village.

Performing on stage will be Kat Lane, Cobra Starship, hip-hop artist B.O.B. and DJ Kaskade. Concert doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Homecoming will arrive to Biscayne Bay Campus on Tuesday and Wednesday with Kick-Off by the Bay and the dance, LXV Lounge.

In collaboration with the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Kick-Off by the Bay will run on Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Students can expect games, giveaways, a barbecue and kayaking.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, the Kovens Center will host the LXV Lounge.

"LXV Lounge will have some DJs, food and 'mocktails,' while the outside will be more of a lounge setting with couches and bands playing softer music. It's going to be like an actual club," said Rafael Brazon-Di Fatta, Homecoming assistant director of communications.

For the events taking place at BBC, there will be free shuttle service for students between campuses.

Ticket prices are \$30 for the Panthermonium concert and \$15 for LXV Lounge and the step show. All the other events are free. Tickets can be purchased online at hc.fiu.edu.

The Panthermonium Concert is expecting a crowd of about 20,000 people, students, alumni and the community alike.

"I cannot wait for the concert. B.O.B. and Kaskade are gonna kill it for sure," said Jorge Enseñat, senior and biology major. "Maurica is going to be hilarious. Definitely going to the comedy show 'Dassss it!!'"

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SHAKE THOSE TAIL FEATHERS



PHOTOS BY SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Romina Buenos and Jennifer Campos danced the Brazilian samba at Panther Square as they hyped the students for the Viva SPC Kick-off event for the Hispanic Heritage Celebration.