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# The Beacon, October 21, 2013

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## Career Services combats unfair internships

**MARISOL MEDINA**  
*Staff Writer*

Earlier this year, a series of lawsuits by interns against their employers shone light on the issue of unpaid internships.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, an internship is defined as a learning experience integrating knowledge learned in class with practical skills learned in a professional setting. They add that an internship should “give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields.”

NACE advises service professionals to monitor internships offered

through the career center to ensure that they follow NACE guidelines. They discourage career centers from posting any internships that do not meet their criteria.

Matthew Tanner, associate director of Career Services, says his office screens every internship, whether paid or unpaid, to ensure that it is an environment where students will develop professionally and not be taken advantage of.

“We have individuals who will do research on the organization, the legality of the intended internship and make sure our employers know what

**SEE INTERNSHIPS, PAGE 2**

## OFFICIALLY OPEN



JAHREL FRANCIS/THE BEACON

Dean of Libraries Anne Prestamo (center) along with President Rosenberg (center) assemble to cut the ribbon in order to officially announce The Hub of FIU at the Green Library.

## Nursing professors’ research gains national attention

**KIERON WILLIAMS**  
*Staff Writer*

Joanne Youngblut, Ph.D., and Dorothy Brooten, Ph.D. – nursing professors at the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Sciences – published an article detailing their 5-year research study in the scientific magazine “Pediatrics.” The study focused on the impact that the death of a child has on the health of the parents. Their research got the nursing community talking and Student Media spoke to Youngblut, one of the leading professors in this research.

*Student Media: Why have you pursued your research at the University?*

*Youngblut:* I came to the University in 2001 [and] what attracted me to FIU were the pediatric intensive care units and neonatal intensive care units within driving distance, since they were the focus of my studies. Also, the diversity of professionals in my field was refreshing.

*Student Media: Was the idea for your research brought to you, did you come up with it yourself or was there a need for this research to be done?*

*Youngblut:* All of the above. The government needed more research done in this area because there was so little information on it. My background includes nursing and pediatric intensive care, so I always study families where the child

survived and went home to see how the family adapts and deals with this child who was critically ill back in the house. This study was a good opportunity to see how those families reacted when the child did not survive.

*Student Media: What eye-opening discoveries did you make during the 5-year study? Anything that changed your ideas of newborn mothers?*

*Youngblut:* I expected that parents would have such a hard time after their children had died. People give them all sorts of bad advice, like “You need to move on, you can have another one, or you’ve got more at home” – which is very hurtful. Others shy away from them, not knowing

what to say, so they don’t say anything. Because of this lack of support, I wasn’t surprised at the amount of depression and post-traumatic stress that we found at all.

I was surprised, however, at the physical effects that we found. These were young parents in their 20s and 30s, and after the death of their child, this more than doubled the amount of chronic conditions they had. Fifty-six of the mothers reported 98 hospitalizations in a year. That’s phenomenal. Some mothers were pregnant when their child died, and struggled to stay healthy in order to keep their unborn baby healthy. Some parents would even cope by

**SEE INTERVIEW, PAGE 2**

## Musicologist discusses African music in Cuban culture

**NICOLE MONTERO**  
*Contributing Writer*

Music is everywhere. We listen to it in the car, at home, on our way to class and even when it’s time to relax. Have you ever stopped to think about where that music’s rhythm comes from?

The Cuban Research Institute and the African and African Diaspora Studies are working together to bring Eurydice Losada, a Cuban musicologist, to the University. Losada has a bachelor’s degree in musicology from the Instituto Superior de Arte in Cuba. Her work on music has received multiple awards and she has lectured throughout Europe and the Americas.

The lecture will focus mainly on African musical thought in Cuba.

“The issue of African contribution to Cuban culture, in general, is something that should be of interest to students in different departments, like in art, music, religion, anthropology and sociology,” said Jorge Duany, director for the Cuban Research Institute and a researcher on Cuban, Dominican, and Puerto-Rican migrations.

The lecture will be touching up on the fact that music is born in each country according to the elements of its culture.

“Before, it was thought that Cuban music had its roots in African music with respect to rhythm. Now, we have researched that the African influence goes above this,” said

Losada.

Losada will present the results of a historical research project, designed to identify the structural and organizational components of African thought. She will also focus on the rhythmic schemes that have been incorporated into the musical language of the American continent.

“Before, it was thought that Cuban music had its roots in African music with respect to rhythm. Now, we have researched that the African influence goes above this.”

Eurydice Losada  
Musicologist

“It’s well-known that there is a strong component in Afro-Cuban music which comes from Africa. The question of what that component is will be what this lecture will focus on,” Duany said.

The Cuban Research Institute promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching, as well as public events related to Cuba. They work with departments to coordinate course offerings on Cuba and Cuban-Americans.

The institute also offers an undergraduate certificate program with over 70 different courses and over 45 faculty members that are affiliated with the institute.

The CRI prides itself in doing everything possible to promote the creation of knowledge and the dissemination of information about Cuba.

“As a Cuban-American, this lecture seems very interesting to me,” said Melissa Buzzi, a freshman majoring in nursing. “I would really like to see how Losada will make the correlation between Cuba’s culture and African music.”

The lecture will be taking place on Oct. 29 at Modesto A. Maidique Campus in Deuxieme Maison, room 353 at 12 p.m. It is free and open to the public. The lecture will be in Spanish.

“Now, we see things in the African culture that we didn’t see in the 20th century. We are seeing various phenomena that have to do with the renewal of musical language. So, basically, the culture of the place is what establishes the language and all the musical elements. That’s why this is important to us,” Losada said.

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## WORLD NEWS

### UN sees mercury use phase-out within 3 decades

A new global treaty could eliminate within three decades the commercial use of mercury in everything from batteries, paints and skin-lightening creams to utility plants and small-scale gold mining, the head of the U.N.’s environment agency said. Achim Steiner, the executive director of the U.N. Environment Program, describes the Minamata Convention on Mercury as a major game-changer for a naturally occurring element that tends to accumulate in fish and work up the food chain. The agreement still needs ratification by dozens of countries and includes a concession to countries with small-scale gold mining.

### Iraq: wave of car, suicide blasts kill at least 61

A barrage of car bomb and suicide bomb blasts rocked Baghdad and two northern Iraqi communities Thursday, killing at least 61 people during a major holiday period and extending a relentless wave of bloodshed gripping the country. The bulk of the blasts struck in mainly Shiite Muslim parts of the Iraqi capital shortly after nightfall, sending ambulances racing through the streets with sirens blaring. Authorities reported nine car bomb explosions across Baghdad, including one near a playground that killed two children. It was the deadliest day in Iraq since Oct. 5, when a suicide bombing targeting Shiite pilgrims and other attacks left at least 75 dead.

### UN elects 5 new security council members

Saudi Arabia and Chad easily won coveted seats on the U.N. Security Council Thursday, despite criticism from human rights groups that their rights records are abysmal. Nigeria, Lithuania and Chile also won seats. The five candidates endorsed by regional groups faced no opposition because there were no contested races for the first time in several years. In the first round of voting by the 193-member General Assembly, Lithuania was the top vote-getter with 187 votes followed by Nigeria and Chile with 186 votes, Chad with 184 votes and Saudi Arabia with 176 votes. A two-thirds majority of those voting was needed to win.

For more world news, check out  
**FIUSM.com.**

# Lawsuits reveal nature of paid, unpaid internships

## INTERNSHIPS, PAGE 1

are the standards set by the Department of Labor and the NACE,” said Tanner.

He recommended that students use the Career Services website to find a legitimate internship. Tanner also suggests students visit the Career Services office to participate in an internship workshop where one-on-one career advisement services are offered. Tanner said students can benefit from “having a conversation about putting together personal and career goals, before that process begins, so that the internships they target are a good experience for them to move forward in their career.”

Sammer Odeh, a senior double major in finance and management, has done three

internships since last spring with only one of them being paid.

Odeh found his first unpaid internship with Miami-Dade County through the College of Business’ Career Management website.

“That was my first experience working in general, aside from working with my family, and it was working for the government,” said Odeh, whose experience there led him to land a paid internship with Lowe’s Home Improvement over the summer.

“I was a store operations intern, but I was way more than that,” said Odeh, who was given the chance to visit Lowe’s corporate headquarters where he met executives and the chief executive officer of the company.

Odeh said during his time at Lowe’s he was paid a compet-

“We have individuals who will do research on the organization, the legality of the intended internship and make sure our employers know what are the standards set.”

Matthew Tanner  
Associate director  
Career Services

itive salary “in the high teens,” working 40 hours a week in addition to the company paying flights, food and gas.

“I don’t think the first internship a person gets in college has to be paid,” said Odeh.

He said that to get paid internships students need to have experience and that expe-

rience is the unpaid internship.

Odeh said that he never felt overworked or entertained with busy-work during his unpaid internships and added that those internships propelled him to a higher level of working experience.

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# Whistleblowers come to University

## WHISTLE, PAGE 8

Drake said he had been hoping over the years for more people to come out with further documentation about government surveillance programs. Although, he did not wish for anyone to go through the surveillance state he went through.

“It’s not pleasant at all,” said Drake. “When you’ve got two cars sitting at the end of the road watching your every move, and they told me later ‘Yeah we knew everywhere you went Mr. Drake- when you left home, what vehicle you drove out in, where you stopped, where you shopped, when you left work, when you arrived at work- we knew,’ like they were proud of the fact that they were tracking me. I don’t want to live in that kind of world.”

According to Drake, Snowden saw what happened to him and others, which is why he escaped the United States- “to have any hope of keeping his freedom.”

“You’d have to actually go to another country outside the U.S. and live there for polit-

ical asylum because you’re wanted as a criminal in your own country for having exposed government wrongdoing and criminality,” said Drake.

Sheldon Aristibe, a freshman in computer engineering, believes that the international diversity of the University’s students will play a vital role in the audience for the whistleblower talks.

“It’s going to give us varying opinions on it when they come here. So I’m very interested in seeing how that plays out,” said Aristibe.

Jesselyn Radack is the second panelist for this week’s discussion. She served as an ethics advisor to the Department of Justice when she learned that FBI agents unlawfully interrogated “American Taliban” John Walker Lindh. Radack is now Government Accountability Project’s National Security and Human Rights Director. GAP is a non-profit organization designed for U.S. whistleblower protection. She has worked on both the Drake and Snowden cases. “She came out of her whistleblowing

experience with a devotion to helping others who were going through the same thing,” said Blevens.

Blevens has been putting the event together since the summer. He said he enjoys this work because “the payoff is huge.”

“When the students experience these stories and they hear about these experiences- I’ve had a number of them over the past two years tell me that it really just altered their perspective on things,” said Blevens

Barbie Guebara, a sophomore theater major, has never attended one of the University’s whistleblower events. “Them coming would bring awareness to students about the issues that have been exposed by what they’ve done, which is very important because it’s people and their privacy,” she said.

The American Whistleblower Tour will take place Thursday, Oct. 24 from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in CBC 155 at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Louis Clark, Government Accountability Project’s pres-

ident and director of its corporate accountability program, will be moderating the panel discussion.

“Every time we go on campus we have these similar conversations and discussions,” said Drake. “And they are deeply resonating without fail because this stuff matters. It matters because it’s who we are as human beings. It affects our each and every day, and having lived that surveillance state, I don’t want anyone else to live what I’ve lived.”

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## AMERICAN WHISTLEBLOWER TOUR: ESSENTIAL VOICES FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Place: CBC 155

# Research says people just need to talk

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deciding to have another baby right away, while other parents couldn’t even bear the thought.

**Student Media: Have you started your research on the health of surviving siblings? Any findings?**

**Youngblut:** We’re in our fourth year of collecting data, two more years to go. Our experience of getting the sibling study up

and running was far more difficult than any other study I have taken part in. Everybody wants to protect these kids, even by denying that there’s something wrong. We have some physicians and nurses at four hospitals that are looking out for potential participants. Due to the difficulties, though, we’ve expanded into north Florida up into Jacksonville.

**Student Media: What do you think is the most important takeaway from your research study?**

**Youngblut:** I think the bottom line is this: don’t underestimate the impact that losing a child will have on someone, parent or sibling. They need to talk when they need to talk. You don’t want to push them, you don’t even have to have all the right answers. Sometimes all they need is someone who will listen.

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## Don't look for grown-ups in government

**SHELDON RICHMAN**  
*Contributing Writer*

With the government partially closed for over two weeks now and the debt-ceiling deadline upon us, the pundits are demanding that the “grown-ups in the room” finally put a stop to the childish goings-on in Washington.

That would be nice—except there are no grown-ups in the room. If you seek evidence, just look around. Politicians, from President Barack Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and House Speaker John Boehner on down, operate at a level of irresponsibility that we don't tolerate in children. It's the nature of government.

Let's start with the money politicians spend. Like children, they don't have to earn it. It comes to them without effort. But unlike children, they have others take it by force through taxation. If you don't believe me, tell the IRS “no, thank you” the next time it calls for donations.

If they aren't satisfied with the proceeds from taxation, politicians have unlimited power to borrow money, which makes government look less expensive than it is while sending the bill to future generations. Politicians make a show of imposing a limit on borrowing, but they can raise the limit at will, threatening dire consequences if they don't.

Behold the gross irresponsibility. The money keeps flowing to the politicians no matter what

they do or how big and costly their blunders. Even if people knew how badly the political class screwed up, they couldn't cut them off without risking lives of misery and perhaps prison at the hands of the government's armed henchmen.

But it's even worse, because people untrained in the economic way of thinking will have difficulty tracing bad consequences to the politicians' bad decisions. If you're an unemployed

they blame rising consumer prices on greed rather than on their central bank's inflationary policies. They have a thousand ways to cover their tracks.

Again, behold the irresponsibility this engenders. If you knew you had a guaranteed flow of income no matter what you did, you might conduct yourself very differently from how you conduct yourself now. As Lord Acton famously said, power tends to corrupt. It also attracts

from disrupting people's lives.

Some readers will want to contest my claim that politicians are essentially unaccountable. Don't they face the voters regularly, and doesn't that keep them on the straight and narrow? To see the answer, we must get beyond naive civics-book analysis.

We've already seen how the obscure path from political cause to economic effect helps to shield politicians from accountability. But that isn't all. Even though politicians' decisions can cost people their jobs, their freedom, and, in the aggregate, billions of dollars—think of the housing and financial debacle, which resulted from bad political decisions—what's the worst that can happen to the office holders responsible for a disaster? At most they might lose the next election. Oh the horror! On the other hand, incumbents have great advantages in elections and don't often lose. Can you sue politicians for damages? Can you prosecute them for theft? Of course not. So where is the real accountability? There is none.

The upshot is that politicians are more irresponsible than children—children don't have credit cards. So if you're looking for grown-ups, look anywhere but government.

Sheldon Richman is vice president and editor at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va. ([www.fff.org](http://www.fff.org)).

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“Politicians fail to operate at a responsible adult level to the extent they believe society can be molded according to their whims.”

and unskilled worker, you may not realize that politicians who passed the minimum wage are responsible for pricing you out of a job. Similarly, if you'd like to escape wage employment and work for yourself, you might not realize that politicians have placed a dozen tollgates on the road to self-employment as a favor to special interests.

Tracing economic effects to their public-policy causes is no easy matter. It requires economic understanding, which most people lack. Politicians take advantage of this, such as when

the corrupt.

Politicians also fail to operate at a responsible adult level to the extent they believe society can be molded according to their whims. Societies aren't made of clay. They are complex networks of interaction among individuals using their particular knowledge in pursuit of their personal goals. Social engineering is people manipulation backed by force, which requires a level of hubris that no mature person would possess. Yet politicians engage in it every day, free of responsibility for the consequences that come

## Break the chain: anti-feminist college life

**ASHLEY VIERA**  
*Contributing Writer*

Our college years can be an exciting and fun experience. However, for some (specifically women), it can be hastily ruined when ugly, disgusting sexism intervenes.

It has been reported that during this year and onwards, women are being encouraged to compete in heinously sexist endeavors for various reasons, such as to earn the title of “Mrs.” of their halls.

Some of these include acts such as lap dancing and eating bananas from other women's cleavages. So, ladies, here are some helpful tips to survive your seemingly everlasting college years:

1. It is OK to say “no.” This might just be the most arduous one of them all but arguably the most necessary as well. There will be a lot of men during your college years trying to degrade your very essence. Don't give them the power and, as Demi Lovato says, “Stay strong!”

2. Don't break under the pressure. There will be many times throughout your time in college where you will be pressured to participate in degrading activities. Don't do it! It's easier to become a victim of sexism if you are presented as one. Think of it this way: first impressions last a lifetime and you only get this one chance during college, so make it a good one.

3. Don't drink to the point of passing out. Many parties will take place during your time in college, and if you choose to be a part of it, drink with caution. Know your limits when drinking; when you begin to feel tipsy, stop drinking immediately. It is easier to be taken advantage of when you're unconscious and incapable of making a rational decision.

4. Actions speak louder than words. If you see others falling victim to sexism, don't just stand by and watch it occur. Instead, take the initiative and stop it. Let those participating in it know that it is not OK. That it is not only embarrassing for women but low in character of men.

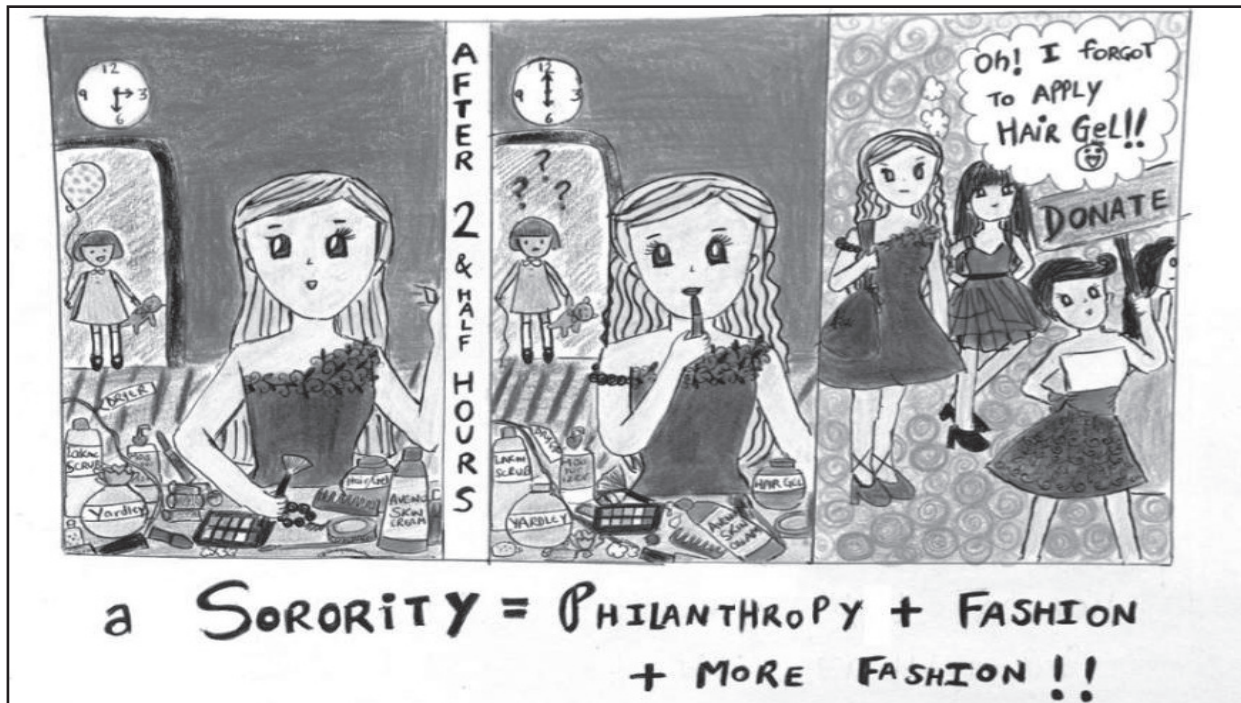
5. Embrace feminism. As women, it is not only important to preach feminism but practice it as well. It provides a sense of unity which strengthens the power women have to fight sexism and fire back strongly when encountered by it.

6. Spread the word. It's not enough to believe in feminism and equality for women. In order for progress and change to ever occur, one must inform others of the wrongfulness of sexism. You can do this by sharing your thoughts about it on social networking clubs and joining local college feminist clubs or groups.

For women, starting college can be a frightening experience for more reasons than one—sexism being one of them. So, men, before you grope a woman's chest or harass her by yelling obscene comments that will forever remain in the mind, think twice about whether it is the morally right thing to do. Because I got news for you: it's not.

-[opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

## SORORITIES AND THEIR FASHION SENSE



VAISHALI SHARMA/THE BEACON

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## Alumni's work garners national attention

**KIERON WILLIAMS**  
*Staff Writer*

University Alumni Rochelle Oliver, owner of Rochelle Oliver Publications and Productions, has been driven since the start of her career. Starting her company in 2011, she has already created a voice for black women, worked to promote integrity in black men and caught the attention of the nation with her Halloween Hoodie Campaign late last year.

A Palm Beach native, Rochelle made her home town the focus of her projects.

Current TV, a national cable and satellite channel available in more than 70 million houses worldwide according to their website, chose Rochelle and her company over massive competition to film a Viewer Created Ad

Message (VCAM) for Hershey's Air Delights.

Keeping true to her brand identity of "bringing truth and integrity to the table while making it entertaining through storytelling," she filmed a 45-second segment called "Mom Knows Best" right in Downtown Miami starring an African-American mother and daughter, both bearing natural hair.

By broadcasting such an uplifting look on African-American women on a national scale, Rochelle hopes to change the nation's perspective of black women for the better.

Oliver's company does not just focus on women, however. The companies target audience is women from 18 to 45 years old, but being a native of South Florida, promoting diversity

comes naturally.

In her PSA "I'm a Better Man," she brings her vision to a grassroots movement that is challenging 1 million men to step up and end domestic violence. Every man in the video wears a black shirt that says "I Am a Better Man." Each man is different in height, race, ethnicity and cultural background, but come together through their one definitive statement: "I am a better man. Are you?"

Although her work has previously reached a national scale, Oliver is most known for her polarizing reaction to the Trayvon Martin case last year. While most people were talking about the racial issues that the case brought to the surface, Rochelle chose to make an attempt at confronting them.

In her Halloween Hoodie Campaign, she urged America to put down their usual costumes for Halloween, and instead wear a simple hoodie. The message is clear: a hoodie is enough to scare America.

Using her signature style, she creates a universal message by having men and women of all races and ethnicities, united only by the donning of a hoodie, repeat the same statement: "I am a black man. Are you afraid of me now?" The campaign took off and went viral, bringing in more than 500 thousand viewers in less than two weeks, according to Oliver's website.

Despite the backlash and outrage of her message, Rochelle plans to take her campaign further this year.

On October 15, she launched a

Kickstarter campaign in order to turn the 60-second clip into a full documentary, exploring stereotypes and the fear they carry. "People keep asking me if it's possible to eliminate negative stereotypes," Oliver said on her website. "The answer is surprisingly simple. Yes. However, the truth is a scary thing to face. Halloween Hoodie: The Documentary is straight up and honest," said Oliver.

The Kickstarter page rewards people for contributing to the fundraiser, with everything from sneak peeks from behind the scenes and exclusive t-shirts, to personalized video shout outs and assistant producer rights. more info is available at rochelleoliver.com.

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## WikiLeaks film "The Fifth Estate" is WikiWeak

COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

It's hard to take a step into a politically-charged thriller these days without hearing someone or other spout out George Orwell quotes more than once as part of some anti-government motivation. When watching "The Fifth Estate," you can feel this desperate longing to rally against Big Brother, but frankly, it's a film Big Brother would switch off for someone whose secrets are a little more interesting.

"The Fifth Estate" is a film entirely focused on the lives of Julian Assange and Daniel Berg, two men intimately involved with the well-known site WikiLeaks. A story like this clearly lends itself to a digitally modern

presentation, but for some reason, Bill Condon doesn't find himself adapting to the tech-savvy universe he hopes to showcase.

Condon, who did marvels with the last two installments of "The Twilight Saga" by working with his writer to inject some much comedy to the series, struggles to find any real tone to stick with throughout the film. It leaps for comedy that's too far out of reach, slithers in and out of romantic subplots and only accomplishes its aspirations to be a thriller in certain segments of its last act.

The blame can't be placed on Condon, who really does try his hardest to be as hip as "The Social Network," but rather on Josh Singer's incredibly weak adaptation of two WikiLeaks books. For a man whose contributions to television have been inoffensive, Singer finds ways to

stumble constantly through his screenplay.

He drags the film on for two hours, rehashing everything the news has presented about WikiLeaks while

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For a man whose contributions to television have been inoffensive, Singer finds ways to stumble constantly through his screenplay.

”

adding a narrative where two buds just happen to have everything they worked hard to achieve go wrong.

Worse than that is just how muddled his portrayal of Julian Assange really is, not at all complemented by the way Benedict Cumberbatch plays him like a light-hearted and watered-down version of his very own Sherlock character.

"The Fifth Estate" never quite makes up its mind on whether it wants to defend or lambaste Assange, creating a man who is equal parts socially inept, genius, light-

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For a man whose contributions to television have been inoffensive, Singer finds ways to stumble constantly through his screenplay.

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hearted buddy, emotionally unstable, paranoid and commanding asshole.

Audiences in the know will likely enter with their own bias, of course, but it shouldn't be a stretch to expect the film to decide whether to shove him in the role of villain like they shamelessly did with Chelsea Manning or present him as a hero for the digital age.

And present him as a hero for the digital age they do, casually allowing its other main character to fall into the cracks.

However much screen

picture.

By no means is "The Fifth Estate" a big picture though, feeling much like a TV movie in more ways than not.

There's a certain amount of tact necessary for a political thriller based on reality to work.

By the time the informative text of the events following the film kicks in and Cumberbatch as Assange embarrassingly attempts to break the fourth wall by addressing said informative facts, it's painfully clear that Condon and Singer didn't have an ounce of tact when approaching this genuine disappointment of a film.

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## Album review: "Everybody Wins" wins

**ROBERTO LOPEZ-TRIGO**  
*Contributing Writer*

Cobalt & the Hired Guns has three core members; Tomlinson Fort, Jesse Alexander, and Mike Roth. These guys have been together since they were little guys running around the playground, but now they have made a band that plays all over Chicago. Their album Everybody Wins, which was released spring of 2012, is all about each man's individual troubles and adventures with women, places, and life. Despite everything, they had each other and their music to lighten their spirits. Each song uses a different mix of instruments in addition to the

usual drum, bass, guitar, and voice combo; this includes, but is not limited to horns, a synth, a tack piano, a harmonica, cello, violin, and organ. The different arrangement of instruments in each song gives the album a unique flair and style.

Each core member is the vocalist for their own respective songs in which they provide a story from their own personal life which often involves a previous relationship. To compliment this each singer has a unique style of writing and singing. For instance, Alexander has a dolce tone when he sings and interjects most of the pop-punk element. This can be seen in the song "Of Summer".

“

"Everybody Wins!" is a piece of work that stretches over multiple genres.

”

Jesse Alexander visits portrays nostalgic city in midwinter. While in the midst of the cold city he reminisces of the time he had with a special woman in the summer prior. Alexander is very good at painting a scene with his writing. For example, in this tune the drums create a rhythm similar

to that of a train rolling in and the lead guitar is on point in creating a nostalgic and dark ambience.

In a similar manner, Fort and Roth put a lot of detail in their work and each song is stocked with meaning and emotion. Fort is very upbeat and strong in both his songwriting and singing and contributes the ska component to the band, Roth has a poppy and flashy sound and adds the pop factor to the band.

However, the only track that didn't really stand out as much was the song "Oregon I know". It does not satisfy the listener and does not function adequately as an ending track. It is not a bad song and uses the fade out at the end

effectively, but really is a down grade from the other songs.

Cobalt and the Hired Guns' album "Everybody Wins!" is a piece of work that stretches over multiple genres, displaying very clear influences from ska, pop-punk, classic rock and roll and folk. Their songs display a sense of personal development and growing maturity while still maintaining a fun, almost rambunctious mood. If you're looking for a unique sounding album with an air of familiarity that anyone can relate to then "Everybody Wins!" will not disappoint.

-life@fiusm.com



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# 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS DIVERSITY DAY

Tuesday,  
**OCTOBER 22, 2013**

9:30 a.m - 3:30 p.m  
 WOLFE UNIVERSITY CENTER (WUC) | FIU-BBC  
 7:30 p.m - 9:30 p.m  
 BAY VISTA HOUSING (BVH) | FIU-BBC

09:30 a.m - 10:45 a.m | **JULIE FLYGARE** DEBUNKING THE NARCOLEPSY MYTH **WUC THEATRE**  
 11:00 a.m - 11:45 a.m | **NANCY GOODMAN** EMOTIONAL EATING + BODY IMAGE **WUC THEATRE**  
 12:00 p.m - 12:45 p.m | LUNCH **WUC BALLROOMS**  
 12:45 p.m - 01:45 p.m | **THE ASIA PROJECT** SPOKEN WORD POETRY PERFORMANCE **WUC BALLROOMS**  
 02:00 p.m - 03:15 p.m | **DOC HENDLEY** "WINE TO WATER" AUTHOR **WUC 221/223**  
 03:15 p.m - 03:30 p.m | DESSERT **WUC 221/223 HALLWAY**  
 07:30 p.m - 09:30 p.m | **COOKING DEMO & GLOBAL LEADERSHIP BRIGADE** **BAY VISTA HOUSING (BVH)**



## DEBUNKING THE NARCOLEPSY MYTH | [julieflygare.com](http://julieflygare.com)

**JULIE FLYGARE** is a leading spokesperson, published author, blogger, and runner diagnosed with narcolepsy and cataplexy in 2007. Julie has spoken about narcolepsy to scientific researchers, doctors, medical students, government officials, and the general public. Her story has been featured by Marie Claire Magazine, ABC News, NBC, Sirius XM Radio, and the Discovery Channel. In December 2012, she published "Wide Awake and Dreaming: A Memoir of Narcolepsy," which won the San Francisco Book Festival Award for Biography/Autobiography.



## EMOTIONAL EATING | [authornancygoodman.com](http://authornancygoodman.com)

**NANCY GOODMAN** is the author of "It Was Food vs Me... and I Won" and the novel, "Surprise Me!". Both books deal with the subject of emotional eating. Nancy teaches people to use food moments as a GPS for their feelings. Small situations and decisions can trigger an emotional response that immediately turns into a craving. Once we become aware of these reactions, we gain more control over food. This translates to permanent weight loss and a better understanding of ourselves, where our comfort lies, and what happens when we go against it.



## SPOKEN WORD POETRY | [theasiaproject.com](http://theasiaproject.com)

As an aspiring novelist/astronaut/oil painter/brain surgeon, **ASIA** never thought spoken word poetry would be his calling. But as with everything else we encounter in life while dealing with the illusive would be his calling. But as with everything else we encounter in life while dealing with the illusive astrological joke we've come to know as "destiny", here Asia stands: a cancer survivor who has won audiences throughout the country with a spoken word show that has been nothing less than an honest and genuine testimony of his life. He is now touring with his brother-in-law Jollan who adds a dramatic guitar to make the poems come alive on stage.



## WINE TO WATER | [dochendley.com](http://dochendley.com)

**DOC HENDLEY** is the founder and current president of Wine to Water, a non-profit aid organization focused on providing clean water to needy people around the world. Wine to Water has worked in Sudan, India, Cambodia, Uganda, Ethiopia, Peru, South Africa, Haiti, and Kenya. In October 2009, a panel of judges — including Whoopi Goldberg, Ted Turner, and Elton John— announced that Hendley was a "Top 10 Finalist for CNN's Hero of Year." As of 2009, Wine to Water has implemented sustainable drinking water initiatives for over 25,000 individuals.

**THE STUDENT PROGRAMMING COUNCIL AT FIU - BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS PRESENTS**

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# Football season at halfway point with expected record



RHYS WILLIAMS

No one, myself included, expected much out of the Panthers football team this season. They have met that expectation, if not exceeded it, with only one win this season. That win, which came at the last second in a game saving play by defensive tackle Isame Faciane, against a team that hasn't won since I was in high school in 2011 – the Golden Eagles of the University of Southern Mississippi – doesn't show much in my opinion.

## Slowly but surely the offense is improving

The Panthers offense has shown some signs of life recently. For a group of individuals who only scored a measly 23 points through the first four games of the season, a sign of life is better than nothing.

Not long ago the team was shutout by both the University of Louisville and the University of Central Florida. They managed just 10 points against the University of Maryland Terrapins in the first week of the season and when the team hosted the Wildcats of Bethune-Cookman University they put up 13.

A player who has severely improved – and played his first entire game of the season against the Blazers of the University of Alabama at Birmingham for the homecoming game – is quarter-

back Jake Medlock. Medlock had season high numbers with 302 passing yards and a pair of touchdowns in the 27-24 loss. Those 302 yards are 153 more than his previous single-game high this season which came against the Wildcats.

The breakout star over the past few weeks, and a key player in the team's only win this season against the Golden Eagles was running back Silas Spearman III. Spearman III has 234 all purpose yards at this point of the season including 214 rushing yards and three rushing touchdowns on 71 touches.

## Defense shows need for improvement

237 is the number of points that have been scored on the Panthers this season. A large amount of that from the game against the Cardinals of UL in a disgusting 72-0 loss up in Louisville.

The Panthers lost key defensive players early on in the season as defensive end Paul Crawford – who was put on the Senior Bowl Watch List prior to the start of the season – was lost to a shoulder injury; cornerback Richard Leonard was lost to academic issues. These players were thought to be two of the four projected leaders on the defense along with Faciane and defensive lineman Greg Hickman. Hickman was the other Panther selected for the Senior Bowl Watch List.

One aspect that needs to be improved overall is the number

of defensive penalties. In the last quarter of the homecoming game, cornerback Randy Harvey had his last of three pass interference calls from that night to give the Blazers a first down after fourth-and-10 play. The Blazers then took advantage of the newfound momentum and kicked a 44-yard field goal that was good to win the game.

The Panthers, both offensive and defensively, have 33 penalties for 267 yards to date on the season.

## Kicking game in dire need of revamp

Kevin Wolthausen, special teams coordinator, has definitely had a handful this season. With the ground kicking game being a joint effort between Sergio Sroka and Austin Taylor, as well as punter Chris Ayers having to share a few punts with both Taylor and Medlock, the kicking game has tried to go by the old saying – “strength in numbers.” If that will work for the remainder of the season has yet to be seen, but my thought is that finding a set starter for each position would be the best.

Both Sroka and Taylor have made half of their field goal attempts, with Taylor making two of his four attempts and Sroka is one for two during his attempts. Ayers is currently tied in sixth place for being used the most in the country with 42 punts for 1,471 yards.

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# Halfway done:

Panthers Football stats throughout the 1-5 start

\*All stats up to date as of Oct. 18, 2013

RUSHING	Att	Net	Avg	TD
Spearman, Silas	71	214	3.0	3
Caldwell, Lamarq	65	193	3.0	1
Randolph, Alfonso	26	53	2.0	0
Medlock, Jake	31	44	1.4	0
Jasper, DeAndre	1	5	5.0	0
Satterfield-Rowe, T.	1	3	3.0	0
TEAM	2	-42	-21.0	0
Hilliard, E.J.	14	-55	-3.9	0
Total.....	222	705	2.0	4
Opponents.....	226	1369	1225	16

PASSING	Effic	Cmp	Att	Int	Pct	Yds	TD
Medlock, Jake	113.2	52	99	4	52.7	693	3
Hilliard, E.J.	122.8	22	35	1	62.9	195	2
Total.....	115.7	74	134	5	55.2	888	5
Opponents.....	157.0	112	163	3	68.7	1273	13

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	TD
Lowder, T.J.	15	209	13.9	2
Smith, Jonnu	14	107	7.6	1
Taylor, Clinton	10	97	9.7	0
Griner, Ya'Keem	8	123	15.4	1
Porter, Fred	7	81	11.6	0
Caldwell, Lamarq	6	74	12.3	1
Jasper, DeAndre	4	4	7.0	0
Vann, Rockey	3	112	37.3	0
Oyegunle, Shug	2	8	4.0	0
Spearman, Silas	1	20	20.0	0
White, Cory	1	15	15.0	0
Williams, Jarius	1	7	7.0	0
Burrows, Richard	1	6	6.0	0
Rhymes, Dominique	1	1	1.0	0
Total.....	74	888	12.0	5
Opponents.....	112	1273	11.4	13

# Panthers start swimming season off strong



PHOTO CREDIT/THE BEACON

The FIU women's swimming and diving team looks for a successful season after a 175-102 win against Florida Atlantic University on Oct. 5.

## RUBEN PALACIOS Staff Writer

The women's swimming and diving team got their season off to a great start with a 175-102 win against rival Florida Atlantic University on Oct. 5.

The win was the largest win by the Panthers over the Owls ever.

"I'm very pleased with the meet," said head coach Randy Horner. "For our first meet of the season we competed very well."

During the meet, the Panthers' showed they had talent on both sides of the age spectrum. Senior Sabrina Beaupre and freshman Lily Kaufman each qualified for NCAA Zone diving.

Beaupre was the top scorer in the one-meter

diving with a mark of 295.2 while Kaufman earned a score of 265.2. Beaupre also led the way in the three-meter dives with a 294.45 while Kaufman earned a 258.67.

"We had a good mix of freshmen and upper-classmen step up," Horner said. "Both of our winning relays today had three freshmen on them."

The Panthers dominated diving, in large part to Beaupre and Kaufman, but they also held their own in the swimming events.

Senior Sonia Perez got it all started for the Panthers, winning three individual events on the day.

She started off by scoring a time of 10:29.78 in the 1000 Freestyle en route to earning nine points for her squad. Perez also won the 500 Freestyle

in 5:00.89 and the 200 IM with a 2:04.91.

Junior Klara Andersson, a first-team all-conference selection from last season, stepped up for the Panthers as well.

She won two individual events in addition to contributing in two relay wins. Andersson won the 50 Freestyle in 24.25, earning nine points for her team, and won the 100 Freestyle in 53.21.

The Panthers' performance in the relays was exceptional as well. Andersson joined freshmen Jennifer Alfani, Therese Nord and Jennifer Deist in the 200 medley relay, where they combined to post a 1:47.45.

The same group won the 400 Freestyle relay in 3:32.95.

The freshmen for the

Panthers continued to step up as Hannah Vandersluis won two events on the day. She took top honors in the 100 Breaststroke with a time of 1:07.52 and the 200 Breaststroke in 2:24.42.

Junior Johana Gustafsdottir also took home top honors in the 200 Freestyle as she posted a mark of 1:54.59.

The Panthers are now preparing for a matchup against the University of North Florida on Oct. 19.

"We have many things we can do better," Horner said. "Next we will be tested on our first road trip when we swim at UNF."

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# Freshman defender continues strong play

German native and freshman defender Marvin Hezel is used to being a main aspect of a team, as he was in Germany

PLAYER

**ALEX SOLANA**  
*Contributing Writer*



MARVIN HEZEL

After getting their first conference win of the season on the 6th men's soccer team improved their overall record to 5-5-0, and 1-1-0 in conference play.

The 4-0 win over the Thundering Herd of Marshall University in FIU's conference home opener marked the first Conference-USA win in over two seasons for the Panthers. The win also marked head coach Ken Arenas first conference win at FIU.

Since the win over Marshall, FIU has fallen to an overall record of 5-7-0 and a conference record of 1-3-0, losing back-to-back games to conference opponents. The losses to New Mexico and UAB in the past week have been major set backs for FIU, as they were looking to use the momentum from their blowout win over Marshall in their two game conference road trip.

As the Panthers get ready to finish out their season with five straight Conference-USA games, they hope to keep getting strong production from their young players who have made immediate impacts throughout the season.

In the impressive win over the Thundering Herd, one young player who stood out was freshmen Marvin Hezel. Hezel recorded three total points in the win over Marshall, scoring a goal and assisting on another. His goal came just a minute into the second half, giving FIU a 3-0 lead. It was just Hezel's second goal of the season, a player who does not find the net often playing center defensive back, but a goal none the less that would push FIU's lead and secure their best win of the season.

"The first loss against FAU was a bad game for us," Hezel said, and continued,

"it was very important going into Sunday's game against Marshall to be focused and get

our first conference win before having to leave Miami for our next two conference games coming up."

As a freshmen coming over seas from Germany, Hezel has started all 12 games so far for the Panthers this season, as of 10/17/13. Before getting to FIU, Hezel played soccer in Germany where he was born and raised. The freshman was born in Stühlingen, a small German town just near the Swiss border. Hezel was exposed to a large background of soccer growing up and began playing "Fußball" at a very young age.

While in Germany, Hezel played his soccer at SC Freiburg, a club that has been apart of the German professional soccer league, the Bundesliga. Although Hezel never played for SC Freiburg's first division team, he did make his way up the club's developmental teams before coming to Miami and starting his collegiate career at FIU. Throughout Hezel's time at SC Freiburg, he made appearances for the clubs U17, U19, and second division team.

Hezel scored a total of 10 goals throughout his career with SC Freiburg, appearing in over 50 games for the German club. His favorite memory playing in Germany was when he played the German cup final with his club, scoring the winning goal for his

team in front of 3,000 people.

"Scoring that goal was the best moment of my life," Hezel said. "The game was on television and it was a feeling that I will never forget. I am working hard everyday with this FIU team to be able to accomplish something like that with them."

For many players coming over seas, the transition from the European style of soccer

to the American style of soccer can be



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Freshman defender Marvin Hezel (above) has been a focal point for the Panthers this season having scored two goals on the season as of Oct. 18.

difficult. Hezel believes that for the most part this is true, but he has experienced it differently playing at FIU under Arenas.

"The style of play is very different in Germany. Here, the teams we play against love to play kickball and adjusting to defending that style was not easy," Hezel said.

"Our team," he added, "likes to play a more European style of soccer where we connect passes and touch the ball around as a team. I enjoy the way coach wants to play and it is the way I know and was taught in Germany."

Being comfortable with coach Arenas' system has shown so far this season as the freshman has started all 12 games for FIU scoring two goals, while also recording two assists, as of 10/17/13. He is tied for the most goals by an FIU defender and also leads the team in assists for defenders.

As the season moves forward, Hezel

believes that the young players on this FIU team can continue to make a big impact on their success in the five remaining C-USA games.

"We all work very hard and that is good for the team. Everyone knows that we have to fight for our spots because of all of the talent we have in every position. As long as we keep working hard, it will show on the field during games", said the young German native.

For Hezel and the rest of the Panthers, they continue their season back in Miami on October 19th (5-3-1). The Panthers, who have a 2-1 record at home, will look to improve their conference record to 2-3-0 on the season. Including when they will take on the Monarchs of Old Dominion University.

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## MRSA: a silent danger lurking in NFL locker rooms

**EDDIE PELLIS**  
*AP Writer*

At the first sign a potentially deadly strain of staph infection was coursing through the Washington Redskins' locker room, owner Daniel Snyder told his trainer to spare no expense.

So, Bubba Tyler embarked on a renovation that ran nearly \$80,000.

"A major, major project," Tyler said, referring to the 2006 remodeling of the team's headquarters. "But it was something that had to be done."

As the recent cases of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection in Tampa Bay have reminded players, owners and trainers across the league, the NFL has safety issues not only on the playing fields, but lurking in the corner of its locker rooms as well. Scrapes and cuts can be every bit as dangerous as the hard hits and concussions that have grabbed so many headlines lately.

In Washington, five players

were afflicted with MRSA in 2006. The most notable case was that of defensive lineman Brandon Noble, who nearly lost his leg because of complications related to the infection.

"A tiny little thing that I cannot see," Noble called the infection in a blog on the Infectious Diseases Society of America website. "It has hurt me more than any of the others combined and had a hand in ending my career."

By the time the infection had reached the Redskins, it wasn't a complete mystery in the NFL.

The St. Louis Rams had encountered a widespread outbreak three years earlier and used bleach to disinfect their entire facility.

Snyder wanted a more high-tech approach.

Benches in the locker room were ripped out, replaced by stools in front of each player's locker, so no infection could spread across the surfaces where the players sat. A new ventilation system was installed to dry the sweat-

drenched pads. Ultraviolet lights were put in to kill infection. The hot tub was torn out and replaced, and the entire building — meeting rooms, weight rooms, locker room — was sprayed to eradicate any lingering infection on surfaces.

"And education was a key factor," Tyler said. "It's important that guys look for it and are very aware of it."

Signs went up around the team facility, reminding players to shower before entering hot tubs and not to share razors. Large containers of antibacterial soap were installed on the walls.

Lessons learned in St. Louis, Washington and elsewhere were shared across the league and are every bit as relevant today.

"I constantly talk to the players not only about hydration and nutrition, but also cleaning up in the locker room, making sure it's clean, making sure that we're wiping down our helmets and things like that," Bills coach Doug Marrone said.

MRSA germs are staph bacteria that are resistant to many antibiotics. MRSA can live on the skin or in the nose without causing symptoms. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says about 2 percent of Americans are carriers.

The germs typically spread by skin-to-skin contact or by touching items used by a carrier or someone who's infected. Infection can occur when the germs enter a cut or scrape. The result may be a red pus-filled pimple or skin boil, often mistaken as a spider bite. The surrounding skin can be red, swollen and painful.

Left untreated, MRSA infections can become dangerous and potentially life-threatening if they spread into muscle, blood, bones or the lungs.

In 2003 in St. Louis, the MRSA outbreak began with players who had turf burns on their elbows, knees and forearms. They developed large infected skin abscesses that had to be surgically drained.

MRSA was found in team whirlpools and taping gel, and from nose swabs of 42 percent of the players and Rams staff.

"They're often working out together, in close physical proximity, they often have skin abrasions and wounds, they often share towels, sometimes to wipe off their sweat, and some have a "lucky" towel or jersey that they don't wash, which may become contaminated with MRSA," said Dr. Victoria Fraser, chair of the department of medicine at Washington University in St. Louis, who helped the CDC investigate the Rams' outbreak.

In Cleveland, a number of staph infections, including MRSA, dogged the club through much of the last decade and led to two lawsuits against the team, contending the Browns failed to sanitize equipment. The Browns, who settled lawsuits filed by former receiver Joe Jurevicius and offensive lineman LeCharles Bentley, said their hygiene practices are state of the art.

An NFL physicians' survey determined there were 33

MRSA infections across the league from 2006-08. Two occurred in San Francisco, where receiver Josh Morgan reportedly lost about 15 pounds at the start of the 2008 season.

This year in Tampa, guard Carl Nicks, kicker Lawrence Tynes and cornerback Johnathan Banks have been diagnosed with MRSA. After initially treating his infection with antibiotics, Nicks had a recurrence and needed surgery. Tynes is on the non-football injury list; Banks has not been sidelined.

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## Blowing the whistle, former prosecuted NSA official speaks

JESSICA MESZAROS  
*Staff Writer*

The American Whistleblower Tour is returning to the University this week for the third consecutive year.

With a focus on National Security leaks, this year's event will be the first to discuss blowing the whistle on government activity.

It is extremely timely due to former National Security Agency contractor, Edward Snowden's leaks of United States surveillance programs this past June. He is the seventh person

charged under the Espionage Act by the Obama administration.

In July, Bradley Manning, a U.S. Army soldier, was convicted for espionage after releasing classified documents to WikiLeaks. He was sentenced to 35 years in confinement and was dishonorably discharged from the Army.

"What this does is sort of turns the focus to government and government accountability and what transparency and government means to democracy," said Frederick Blevens, professor of journalism and mass commu-

nications. "So there's a pretty big difference in this year's as opposed to last year and the year before."

Speaking at the University will be Thomas Drake, a former NSA senior official who was prosecuted under the Espionage Act for retaining documents about a data collection program that threatened Americans' privacy rights.

Drake was charged with 10 felony counts, including five counts of espionage.

He was the first to be charged with espionage under the Obama administration. All charges were dropped after he agreed to a plea bargain arrange-

### GOODIES FOR KIDDIES



JOHN ATIS/THE BEACON

Precious B. Reid, student reservation assistant of division of student affairs (left), helps Leah Santos, senior in hospitality and social work (right), in her fundraiser to help children in Nicaragua by buying some delicious baked goods.

ment in June of 2011. He also was one of four whistleblowers to present Edward Snowden with the Sam Adams award in Russia two weeks ago.

"I've relived the last 12 years," said Drake about the Snowden case. "I was reliving all that I had been through, reflecting on what had happened to me

in terms of my own whistle blowing and clearly recognizing that he was standing on my shoulders."

**SEE WHISTLE, PAGE 1**

## Society of Professional Journalists challenges students to give up free speech for pizza

ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA  
NETZKARSCH  
*Contributing Writer*

Food will come at a price—your right to speak—on Oct. 23 at the Society of Professional Journalists' First Amendment Rights Event in Academic II's courtyard.

The organizers will provide free food in exchange for students' freedom of speech with the risk of having their pizza swiped away by a student cop if they speak.

Brittney Valdes, senior journalism major and president of SPJ, said the event is to educate students about free speech.

"With this event we want to give a twist to the First Amendment," Valdes said. "In exchange for free food, the students give up their right and freedom to express themselves. Students can expect to enter a place governed by a totalitarian dictatorship."

This idea was created by Michael Koretzky, director of SPJ's region

three. Koretzky presented the idea of the First Amendment Free Food Festival to the University's SPJ in fall 2012 and how this type of event can encourage students to think more about the importance of free speech. The student group has been planning since.

SPJ's Florida Atlantic University chapter has made the free speech event an annual happening. The University chapter hopes for the same tradition.

"This event is very important

because being an immigrant, coming from a different culture, and having lived in a different country, reminds students that freedom of speech is different from the United States," Valdes said. "Events like these remind the people that were born here and grew up here sometimes seem to forget the importance of the First Amendment."

When asked about the importance of free speech, Allan Richards, associate professor and associate dean in the School of Jour-

nalism and Mass Communication, said, "You wouldn't be able to ask me this question if it wasn't for freedom of speech."

"The United States is a country of immigrants, they think about the economic benefits but not about their freedom of speech when they come here," Richards said. "They don't consider the power it has, but we all have to treat it as a privilege, not a right."

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## Campus celebrates 12th diversity day, hopes to inspire

JUAN ENDARA  
*Contributing Writer*

It is that time of year again to celebrate the mix of cultures that make up Miami with the 12th annual Diversity Day hosted by Campus Life-BBC.

The event aims to bring people together to celebrate and embrace humanity by putting aside any preconceptions of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, age, nationality or disability. Guest speakers will come to talk about a variety of topics based on their own experiences, two of the speakers focus on disabilities.

"These events help society to overcome social prejudice," said Andres Bermeo, marketing coordinator for Campus Life. "Diversity

Day is a tradition at FIU, particularly at this campus. We are trying to promote global issues and diversity by bringing speakers that have global perspectives attachable to global problems."

Bermeo said that by having guest speakers like Julie Flygare, who will educate people about narcolepsy, and Nancy Goodman, who will speak about emotional eating, will make this event one students will never forget.

Julie Flygare, who suffers from narcolepsy, explains that this is a neurological autoimmune sleep disorder in which the brain loses the ability to maintain normal sleep and wake states.

Flygare is a leading narcolepsy spokesperson, published author, blogger and runner diagnosed with narco-

lepsy and cataplexy in 2007. She received her bachelors of arts degree from Brown University in 2005 and her juris doctor from Boston College Law School in 2009.

While Flygare is one victim of this neurological disorder, according to research narcolepsy affects one in every 2,000 Americans. Flygare said she is honored to come to the University this year to celebrate the Diversity Day.

"I'm so excited to visit FIU to speak for the Diversity Day [and] to share my experience living with narcolepsy, a serious disease that is invisible and misunderstood in our culture," Flygare said.

"For me, narcolepsy has been the worst and the best thing that has happened to me. I turned my adversity on

its head and decided to speak up about it, writing a memoir and becoming a national spokesperson."

Flygare said her goal is to inspire others who have experienced adversity. "I hope to change students' perspectives by proving that courage is contagious."

Nancy Goodman who suffered from emotional eating disorders, is now a coach in the field by helping people throughout her blogs, author of two books "Surprise Me" and "It Was Food Vs. Me And I Won."

"My goal is that every person in the room, at some point says to themselves, 'Oh my Gosh, she's me,'" Goodman said

Goodman promises to not only help people who has eating disorders, but to help

anyone who is dealing with an obsession on a daily basis.

"What I've learned is that we all have something we obsess about and it doesn't have to be food. Once we really look behind that obsession, and pull it at the root, we find a piece of truth."

"It might be painful, so avoiding it is certainly understandable, but that truth is a bursting source of energy and passion. It's where all creativity gets its turn," Goodman concluded.

"We are definitely trying to give to students a broad perspective about global issues and to help them become more sensitive about those types of issues," said Diann Newman, co-director of Diversity Day.

According to Newman, one of the major purposes of

this type of event is to help people to overcome the sensation of being rejected because they feel that they don't belong to society.

"All students belong here and it's important for us with so much diversity on campus to get greater awareness about our differences in spirit of having people included rather than excluded," Newman said.

Newman said that if people don't feel welcome, if they feel stereotyped or there is prejudice against them, they might feel like they don't belong.

"My hope in this event, is to build in opportunities where students start talking more with each other," Newman said.

-bbc@fiusm.com