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SEXUAL AWARENESS

Student thoughts on recent sexual assault alert

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
News Director
adrian.suarezavila@fiusm.com

In light of a sexual assault case in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus that was reported over the weekend, University students shared their thoughts.

The email, sent by External Relations, reached the University community on Saturday, April 4.

According to the email, no arrest of the perpetrator was made and it is alleged that the two individuals involved in the case knew each other beforehand.

The University Police Department cautioned students to be aware of their surroundings, avoid areas that are poorly lit when alone and ensure that friends and family know about their whereabouts.

Camila Irrazabal, a freshman biology major, believes that the University needs to do more to ensure that incidents like the one that took place over the weekend don't happen again.

"It's simply ridiculous," Irrazabal said. "The police are

only around when no one needs them or at least when some idiot is driving over the speed limit."

Waving her hands in the air as she spoke, she went on.

"We have the It's On Us campaign and all this stuff, but people still don't get the message that these things are not right," she said. "We need stricter laws regarding sexual assault--that simple."

Jesus Pratt, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, also shared his sentiments on the recent assault case.

"To consider that the two people in the case knew each other just makes things so much more interesting and even worse, really," Pratt said. "They say that these assaults are usually done by people who know each other and this case just proves it."

Pratt went on to share Irrazabal's feelings that the University needs to do more in order to prevent these types of crimes from happening.

Last year, University police held the campus safety walk, which sought to identify various

areas in the MMC that could use extra lighting and added improvements to ensure student safety.

Student Government Association at the MMC President Alexis Calatayud and Vice President Tiffany Roman Biffa were present at the event and helped identify various areas that were poorly lit.

At the moment of publication, no information has been made available regarding the exact location of the assault.

Among the areas that were identified as being poorly lit at last year's event were the corridor near the Graham Center fountain in the MMC, the parking lot adjacent to the Graham Center Ballroom, and parking lot 9D, which is located behind the Management and New Growth Opportunities (MANGO) building.

According to the Annual Security & Fire Safety Report for 2014-2015 created by the University Police Department, there were three, four and two reported acts of forcible sexual offenses in the MMC in 2011,

2012 and 2013, respectively.

Within public property at the MMC, the amount of forcible sexual offenses were three, four and zero in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively.

Some students expressed that they were unaware of the resources available to them in the case that they are affected by an issue regarding sexual assault.

Among the resources available to students are the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services.

In the office students can ask for advice and take advantage of services that help them deal with emotional or mental health issues. The office also offers services that deal with stress counseling and services that allow students to simply talk to someone after a tough situation.

University students can visit the CAPS office during the day at any time that best fits their schedule. Appointments can be made, and walk-in counseling sessions are also provided so that a trained psychologist may meet with a student and refer him or

her to the correct department at the University for further help.

As part of CAPS, there exists the University's Victim Empowerment Program.

According to its website, the mission of the Victim Empowerment Program is to provide confidential services to University students, faculty, staff and visitors who may have been victimized through acts of violence and to help guide them through the healing process.

In addition to providing these services, the VEP also hosts a variety of events in the University to provide students with educational tools that help them protect themselves from acts of sexual harassment and other forms of violence.

According to Ralph Torres, who works with investigations in the University Police Department, the investigation to find the perpetrator is ongoing.

Those who know of any information that may aid in the investigative efforts are encouraged to call FIUPD at 305-348-2626.

Step on the Silence: University event to raise awareness

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
News Director
adrian.suarezavila@fiusm.com

Today men will take to the Graham Center Lawns. . . in heels.

In an effort to draw attention to sexual assault, the University's Women's Center, alongside the Interfraternity Council, will be hosting an event, titled, "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes."

Jonathan David Cedeño, a senior women and gender studies major, is the head of planning for the event.

"It's awesome that men are leading this effort, and with what happened over the weekend with the sexual assault case I believe it's perfect timing to have this event and bring to light these conversations that are usually [swept] under the rug."

Lisa Fermin
Junior
Chemistry

As the coordinator, Cedeño's duties included coordinating who will be speaking at the event, the general logistics of the walk, and the promotion of the event in order to ensure that a large amount of members within the University community attend the event.

According to Cedeño, the target audience is the general University community.

Although he encourages everyone to go, he admits that the event is ideally for men, and specifically to allow them to complete the message that the event's name communicates: walk a mile in a woman's shoes.

Although not a mandatory portion of the walk, men will be asked to wear heels as they complete the walk, which will start at the Graham Center Lawns in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, continue through the Green Library Breezeway, the Graham Center, and finish in the GC Lawns.

Cedeño admits that while women don't usually walk in the event, several nonetheless attend in order to see the walk and take part in the various activities that take place at the event.

He added that he intends the event to open people's eyes regarding sexual violence.

"Gender stigmas are still very...apparent in our society and I want people to know that it's not okay to sweep things under the table," Cedeño said.

Students shared their thoughts on the event.

"It's a fun way of drawing attention to an important issue," said Alessandra Duke, a junior health administration major. "I attended last year and I'm looking forward to seeing what the gentlemen have to put on this year."

Other students also commented.

"This is the first time I hear about the event and I'm taking time off of my day to attend," said Lisa Fermin, a junior chemistry major. "It's awesome that men are leading this effort, and with what happened over the weekend with the sexual assault case I believe

it's perfect timing to have this event and bring to light these conversations that are usually [swept] under the rug."

The event is just one out of a variety of events hosted throughout the month in order to provide information on sexual assault.

Titled, "Take Back the Night - Under the Same Moon," the series' intention is

to promote awareness of sexual assault prevention and safety. It also aims to unify women, men and children in an effort to draw attention to these issues.

According to its flyer, the Take Back the Night march and rally provide a forum in

SEE HEELS, PAGE 2

APOLLO'S GODDESS



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

Kaitlyn Woods, a sophomore studying hospitality management and member of Alpha Xi Delta, celebrates after she is crowned winner of the Apollo's Goddess Gala. Hosted by Tau Kappa Epsilon, contestants from different organizations raised money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital during the week. Woods will serve as the TKE philanthropic representative for the year.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Pause in bombardment urged in Yemen for evacuations, aid deliveries

As a Saudi Arabia-led air coalition continued to strike rebel targets across Yemen, Russia and the International Committee of the Red Cross on Saturday called for a pause in the bombardment to enable the evacuation of foreigners and the delivery of aid to people cut off for more than a week.

Underscoring the appeals, new reports emerged of civilian casualties and of al-Qaida-linked militants executing dozens of soldiers while consolidating their grip on a southeastern provincial capital.

Sunni-Muslim Saudi Arabia is leading efforts to crush the Iran-allied Shiite Muslim insurgents known as Houthis who toppled the country’s internationally recognized president, Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi. Airstrikes and intense ground fighting has raged for days in and near the southern port of Aden, Yemen’s second city and its main commercial hub.

Some in Israel question Netanyahu’s strategy on rejecting Iran accord

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned again on Friday that Israel would not accept the terms of a framework agreement reached with Iran to curb its nuclear program.

But Netanyahu’s defiance on a deal that was generally getting good marks from nuclear experts around the world was also raising concerns in Israel that his unremitting rejection of any accommodation with Iran had left him with no way to influence the agreement’s final form.

At the State Department in Washington, spokeswoman Marie Harf made clear that Netanyahu’s insistence that the accord include Iran’s recognition of Israel wasn’t a position that the United States would take when negotiations resume to hammer out the agreement’s final form.

“This is an agreement that is only about the nuclear issue,” Harf said at her daily briefing, adding that the framework didn’t deal with other regional issues, “nor should it.”

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Sexual Health talk comes to the University

IORELLA CANTERO
Contributing Writer
news@fiusm.com

This week, the National Public Health Week begins. In preparation for it, the University’s Student Health Services is planning five themed days to educate the community on different aspects of their health.

On Thursday, the theme will be sexual health -- which will include two sexual health presentations on the human papilloma virus, a group of viruses that affect your skin and the moist membranes lining your body, and the human immunodeficiency virus, an infection found in the body fluids of an infected person.

While HPV causes minor problems, like skin warts, HIV attacks the infection-fighting cells of the human immune system, which, overtime, can lead to AIDS -- where the immune system becomes unable to defend the body against viruses and bacteria.

Stephanie Caceres, coordinator for the event and senior health education at University Health Services, thinks it’s important for students and the general population to be educated on how to prevent these diseases.

“We feel that if students are more informed about HIV/AIDS and other STDs and how to prevent getting them, then students can stay healthy,” she said. “We also feel that it’s important for students to know about HIV and HPV because Miami-Dade ranks number one for most prevalence of HIV and AIDS in Florida and HPV is the

most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States.”

The event will be primarily based around HPV, which can cause genital warts, itchy sores and wounds.

“HPV can also cause abnormal changes to the cervix which could eventually lead to cancer if not treated,” said Caceres. “Cancers of the mouth and throat have also increased recently -- especially in males.”

She added that the important thing to note about these conditions is that they can be transmitted by both males and females.

According to her, HPV does not only affect women.

The condition can affect anyone who has had a sexual encounter. The most common transmission is through skin-to-skin contact with another person’s genitals.

Juan Oves, a graduate of the master’s of public health program at the University, and Sharice Preston, a doctoral student in health promotion at the University’s School of Public Health, will speaking at Thursday’s event.

Oves currently works for Latino Salud, which was founded in 2008 to create a safe space for Latino gay men and their partners to find support and resources.

“Juan has a passion for public health and for promoting HIV awareness,” Caceres said.

Preston’s dedication for public health and promoting awareness of the HPV vaccine for both men and women

will be displayed at her presentation titled, “Get The Facts, Not HPV!”

Caceres thinks this is great news for all enrolled University students because it means that Student Health Services have many resources for everyone on campus, like the HPV vaccine for men and women-- Gardasil -- as well as protective barrier methods like male and female condoms and dental dams.

Romina Angelelli, a junior majoring in digital media, thinks this is a necessary event to have.

“All students, especially those who are sexually active should be aware of one of the possible diseases and consequences,” Angelelli said.

Others also shared their sentiments.

Stephanie Gonzalez, a sophomore majoring in hospitality and tourism, believes she can get a lot out of attending.

“I don’t know much about HPV,” she said. “This is a great opportunity for me to find out more.”

Caceres also feels that a lot can come of the event.

“These resources all significantly reduce your chances of contracting HPV,” Caceres said. “We also provide free HIV Testing and STI testing at a discounted price at Student Health Services.”

The event will be held on Thursday, April 9, at the Graham Center in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Room 140 from 1p.m. to 2 p.m.

It will be free and open to the public, with complimentary food provided.

Event to shed light on sexual awareness

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which to speak out against the silence that normally isolates survivors and hinders the healing process.

Cedeño mentioned that when dealing with topics such as sexual assault and other forms of violence, people are oftentimes uncomfortable with the discussion and just stay quiet about the issues.

When dealing with men, particularly those who have large egos, it’s sometimes evident that they don’t feel comfortable with stepping out of their comfort zones and examining issues through a new perspective, said Cedeño.

He added that men need to know what it’s like to face the issues that women normally face on a day-to-day basis.

According to him, the University’s Interfraternity Council will require that 25 percent of the members in each respective social fraternity overseen by the IFC be present at the event.

The fraternities that do not meet the 25 percent attendance rate will be fined.

Regarding the fact that the IFC is one of the sponsors of the event, Cedeño commented that he believes the council wants to demonstrate to the University community that men do care about the issues concerning women.

“Men do want to shed light on this,” Cedeño said.

The event will take place today, in the Graham Center Lawns in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus from 2 to 4 p.m.

THE BEACON

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CONTACT INFORMATION

The Beacon – MMC
11200 SW 8th St, GC-210
Miami, FL 33199
Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(305) 348-2709
news@fiusm.com

The Beacon - BBC
3000 NE 151st St, WUC-124
North Miami Beach, FL 33181
Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fiusm.com

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
junette.reyes@fiusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6994
advertising@fiusm.com

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Missing life by looking for love

JESSICA SOLER
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Love is a powerful force that many people dream about finding. However, the periods in between should be seen as me-time, not exile.

From Prince Charming and Cinderella to Jay Z and Beyoncé, relationships have been treated like limited edition items: rare and valuable. The mentality persist that, if the opportunity to get into a relationship arises, take it, because who knows if another will come your way? While aspiring to have a great relationship is commendable, many young people put too much pressure on themselves to find “the one.”

Today, love has been marketed as a commodity necessary to a functioning lifestyle. Kids are getting into and ending their first relationships at younger and younger ages while twenty-somethings are jumping to get married. Today, if you’re single at 30, there is a good chance you will probably be alone forever and should look into adopting pets.

Of course, there are cases where young love is true love. High school sweethearts grow old together and the girl-next-door

marries the boy-next-door. If it is real, there is nothing more to be said. However, young love is not the norm, which makes people want it even more.

“We are so invested in reading another person’s story, they neglect writing their own.”

The problem with this concept, aside from causing unnecessary stress, is that people lose sight of themselves in the glow of love. We are so invested in reading another person’s story we neglect writing our own. It has become a romanticized notion that we can only find ourselves in another person and until then we are incomplete. However, in the words of RuPaul, “If you can’t love yourself, how in the hell are you going to love somebody else?”

Falling in love with yourself is sadly underrated. Society has conditioned people

only to see flaws to be fixed in themselves, and the ones they can’t fixed can be solved by another person. This might be true, but until that person makes their grand entrance into one’s life it is important to figure out how to live with, and love, one’s shortcomings. Those who rock themselves, flaws and all, are the most beautiful people.

What happened to trusting in the magic of the universe? Where has the faith in the unknown gone? Timing is important, but stressing over it will not make the wheels turn any faster. If we are so focused on searching for our perfect match, chances are they will pass right by. It is important to slow down and take comfort that love will come when the time is right, so until then, enjoy what life brings.

Adolescence is the age of stupidity. It is when we are able to have fun and not take life so seriously; there will be plenty of time for that. Instead, individuals should try dating life itself - exploring the good and the bad in it. Now is the time to be free and self-invested. In the future, between a career and a family, when will you ever again have the time to paint yourself a million different colors?

THE BEACON | Editorial Now it actually is on us

Over the weekend, students received an email informing them of a sexual assault that took place on Saturday. As part of the Clery Act, all public universities must inform the student body of sexual assaults on campus, much like the University did about the infamous “booty bandit.”

However, the email sent out to students has questionable verbiage. Although the victim and alleged perpetrator knew each other, the email reads:

“FIUPD is asking the FIU community, to as always, please be aware of your surroundings, avoid poorly lit areas while alone, and make sure friends and family know your whereabouts at all times.”

According to FIU’s own victim empowerment program, 8 in 10 victims know their attacker. Yet, instead of warning students of the consequences of committing sexual assault on campus, or reminding students that these crimes are unacceptable, the email makes the victims responsible for their own assault.

The timing of the assault is uncanny, as FIU’s annual Slut Walk took place on Friday, April 3.

Hosted by the National Organization of Women, the walk addresses issues of victim blaming and sexism in sexual assault allegations.

This week, the Women’s Center is hosting Take Back the Night, a program designed to promote sexual assault awareness, prevention and safety. The university has indeed given some students the resources to prevent them from becoming a victim but has done little to teach others on how to not be a criminal.

We look back to the It’s On Us campaign and question why it has remained silent or why it was not referenced within the email. This would have been the ideal opportunity to show the student body how severe this matter is and to remind everyone that FIU does not condone this kind of sexually violent behavior.

All eyes are on the FIU police department and university leadership to see how this sexual assault is handled. Hopefully, FIU will not go down the same path as other universities that mishandled cases and empowered criminals instead of victims.

If the alleged perpetrator is found guilty, the university should prosecute them to the full extent of the law, and not sweep it under the rug like Columbia University, University of Carolina at Santa Barbara, the University of Michigan, the University of Toledo and Valparaiso University Law School.

The editorial board promises to follow the case as it develops, and update the university as we get more information.

Politics: What are third parties?

RACHEL YOUNG
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Campaign season is upon us once again. All this talk of platforms and potential candidates is starting to become more and more relevant as I can now exercise my right to vote, having only turned 18 last summer.

I have always been interested in politics and voted for the first

time in the midterm elections in November last year.

Being exposed to more and more government-related topics has made me realize how bipartisan our political system is, and to an extent this worries me.

During the 2012 presidential election, I was a junior in high school taking AP U.S. History. Among the plethora of concerns a 16- or 17-year-old is burdened with, one of the dominant concerns in my classroom was

who Mr. Andrews, our teacher, was going to vote for in the election.

He must have had some party affiliation, so was he a Republican or a Democrat?

He refused to tell us which candidate he was going to vote for until after the election; a classic high school teacher move. For some reason, the majority of my classmates expected him to vote Democrat, but he surprised all of us when he revealed that he voted for Governor Gary Johnson, the libertarian candidate in the election.

As we turned in our color-coded Electoral College map, we wondered who Governor Gary Johnson even was.

This was when I realized that third parties don’t receive nearly as much attention as the primary parties.

After looking into the platforms of these third parties, I found that their lack of coverage wasn’t because they are obsolete. As a matter of fact, according to a Gallup poll taken in January of this year, 43 percent of Americans identified as political independents.

An even more recent Gallup poll revealed that only 13 percent of Americans don’t favor the Democratic or Republican Party, meaning 87 percent hold up the bipartisan system.

How can almost half of American voters consider themselves independent without it being reflected in election results?

These statistics really say something about the voter population. I think the majority of the American public is used to and comfortable with bipartisanship.

As a result, people don’t tend to seek any information regarding other existing parties, since they’re either going to vote Democrat or Republican for the most part.

This lack of knowledge is something we should address, but it doesn’t currently seem like a priority.

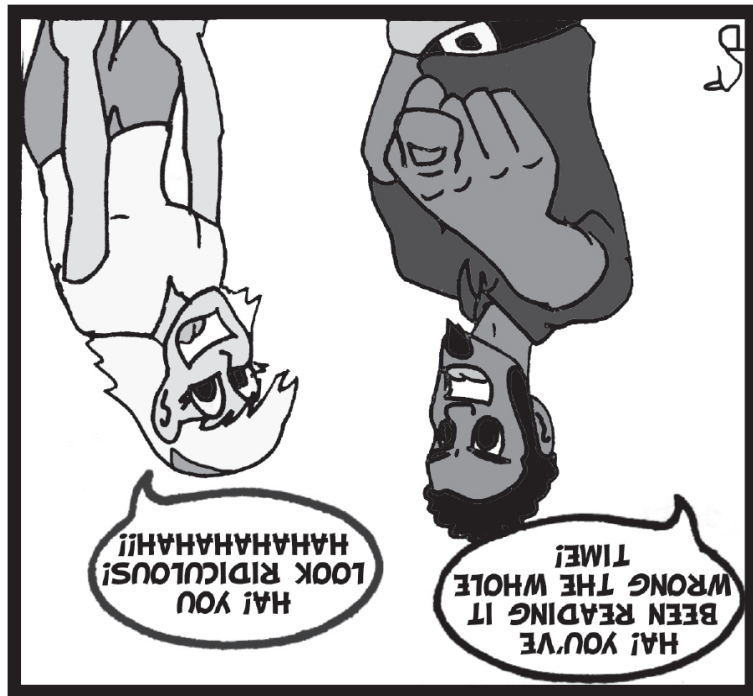
Even I find it extremely difficult to keep up with the fast-paced political world. Approaching the information provided by the media with a skeptical attitude gets exhausting after a while.

As an eligible voter, I wish I were given more valuable information regarding the platforms instead of the slanderous commercials that are aired.

The political world is a battlefield, especially when it’s election season.

I just hope there is still time and willpower for the American population to shift gears toward a more informed public.

FRANK AND IRENE: Wrong Way



SAMUEL PRITCHARD/THE BEACON

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RAGS TO RICHES

Students prove that one man's trash is another man's treasure



PHOTOS BY KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

TOP LEFT: Carolina Fiol (left) is awarded the People's Choice Award for her design with 90 percent of the vote. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The runway show highlighted diverse designs using recycled goods in order to promote an eco-friendly lifestyle. **RIGHT:** Adrienne Kanter and designer Susana Alonso named their dress, Por-e`pic meaning "porcupine" in French.

The Paul Cejas School of Architecture transformed into a runway on Thursday, April 2 for the Eco-Couture fashion show. Students created outfits using only recycled materials to educate and inspire the community about good recycling habits and a sustainable lifestyle. The first place winner Susan Alonso (pictured) received a \$1000 university scholarship.

KRYSTAL PUGH
Staff Writer
Krystal.pugh@fiusm.com

Before you decide to throw a piece of trash away consider these facts: If every American recycled just one tenth of their newspapers we could save 25 million trees each year and recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on an iPod. Over 75 percent of waste is recyclable, but we only recycle 30 percent.

The Canvas Eco-Culture Recycled Fashion Show took place on April 2, 2015 in the Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture building courtyard on the Modesto A. Maidique campus.

28 contestants hit the runway and strutted their individual creations of fashion from recycled materials. The contestants were competing for scholarship prizes. First place was \$1000, second place was \$500.00 and third place was \$250. There was also an additional \$100 for a people's choice award.

The judge panel included Rene Ruiz, designer of Rene Ruiz couture; Jennifer Luis, architecture student; and last but not least Brian Schriener, the dean of the College of Architecture. The judges will determined a winner based on four categories:

innovation, beauty, craftsmanship and recycled material.

Amira Ajlouni, the director and FIU alumna created this fashion show last year in respect to her final thesis assignment, the topic was sustainability of recycled material.

"I have a passion for recycling" said Ajlouni.

Ajlouni explained that in the beginning she never expected this to turn out into an annual event. This was a school assignment that reflected Ajlouni's passion of promoting sustainability through fashion.

The event has also become an educational platform to encourage and educate the community to recycle and maintain a sustainable lifestyle. Although this is just the 2nd year she hopes to continue for many years to come.

"I'm anxious to see what the students come up with, students always exceed my expectations and I think it's amazing," said Ajlouni.

The event was filled with architecture students, graduates and many of the contestants friends and family. There was an array of complimentary drinks such as beer, red and white wine as well as lemon water and finger foods with assorted dipping sauces. Classical music and embellished decor to look

at while waiting for the show to start.

Off to a very late start the show began with several non-competing recycled designs.

They immediately hit the runway some were young children that Ajlouni had hired as models and some were teens. They modeled different recycled fashion designs.

Then there was a music change to more upbeat tone - the competition began. The music had contestant number no. 1, Shari Gayle, walking to the beat as she came out in her dress made out of recycled plastic umbrella bags. Twenty-eight unique recycled designs later Ajlouni encouraged the audience to go online and vote for their favorite pick for the people's choice award. Then she welcomed all 28 contestants and their designers back on stage for the judges to see one last time while audience voted for people's choice.

Finally it was time to announce the winners. 90 percent of the vote for the People's Choice contestant went to no. 28 Carolina Fiol.

Third place was contestant no. 5 Monica Cordera. Cordera was in shock once her name was called a friend of hers had to remind her to go on stage to retrieve her prize. Her design was

named "Timeless Coffee".

Timeless Coffee was made out of a large 3ftx5ft 2012 calendar and the red belt was made out of espresso coffee capsules.

"I even used the coffee grounds as fertilizer, I really didn't waste any of the materials I used," said Cordera.

Diligently working everyday three hours or more for several weeks Cordera said she wanted to come up with something that had meaning. For example, a calendar "once a year goes by you can't use it again" said Cordera. This is Cordera's fourth year of her five-year program, and she hopes to work at a prominent architecture firm upon graduation.

Second place was contestant no. 2 Priscilla Cuadra. Cuadra's dress was designed by Ana Reyes and Grecia Estrada. This dress did not have a name. The designers used dryer sheets and water bottle caps to create a chic look for the contestant to strut on the runway.

"My favorite part was waiting for the show to start the music was playing, it was exhilarating, everything was becoming real," said Cuadra.

First place was contestant no. 17 Adrienne Kanter and designer Susana Alonso both shared joy of taking first place home. Alonso made the whole dress that the

duo-named Por-e`pic meaning "porcupine" in french.

Alonso is a graduate student in school of architecture at FIU. She hopes to open her own firm following graduation. Alonso will accept the scholarship for future endeavors here at FIU.

Kanter is a senior marketing major who is set to graduate this semester. Her dress design was inspired from an Alexander McQueen collection, where the designer used many feathers and created a 3-D look. The top half of the dress was made of 1,500 soda tops and bottom half of the dress was made out of zip ties.

"Everyday I spent about three hours, a total of 40 hours on top half and that includes resizing because, Kanter kept dropping weight," said Alonso.

The soda tops came from a life-long collection that Alonso's grandmother had been keeping for years.

Alonso said, "My favorite part was watching Adrienne Walk down the runway, it was so surreal." The show concluded with Ajlouni joining the winners on stage for photos.

During this show FIU students were able to think outside the box and collectively create fashionable designs for the runway from an average person's waste.

University hosts third annual SlutWalk

AMANDA RABINES
Entertainment Director
amanda.rabines@fiusm.com

The sun beamed on top of a crowd of over 200 participants, at Florida International University on Friday, April 3, as they yelled and marched their way around Modesto A. Maidique campus, fed up with the social construction of the word “slut.”

The crowd, organized by the National Organization for Women chapter at FIU or FIUNOW, protested in its third annual rendition of SlutWalk, an international feminist movement.

Audrey Aradanas, FIUNOW’s current

president, said despite the controversy of the word, SlutWalk is about empowerment and owning one’s body.

“Many women that came out here today felt so confident in their bodies, they did things which I don’t think they’ll do everyday,” Aradanas said. “It’s one thing to do this today, but it’s another to carry out the message tomorrow and that’s what this whole thing is about. I stand here wanting to end the rape culture, not just today but for everyday after.”

So did everyone else who joined the protest.

Men and women came holding signs that read: “No means no,” and “Ni Putas. Ni Santas. Solo Mujeres,” which is Spanish for “Not sluts.

Not Saints. Only women.” As well as, “We will not change the way we dress because its more convenient for your lack of self control.”

The SlutWalk movement first sparked in 2011 in Canada, after a Toronto police officer told students at York University that if women wanted to avoid rape they should not dress like sluts.

Ms. Bronwen, Bares-Palaez, associate director of the women’s center, first did a presentation about the walk in 2011, in part of FIU’s Tuesday Times Roundtable, a weekly series of moderated conversations about The New York Times articles from the multiple viewpoints of students, faculty, and staff.

Two years later, FIUNOW wanted to host the movement on campus. Their first SlutWalk was 2013.

This year, organizers of SlutWalk held megaphones yelling: “Two, four, six, eight my clothes are not an excuse for rape!” and “Join together, free our lives. No one will be victimized!”

Protesters wore everything from shirts with Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, to wearing nothing at all except for pasties.

Krishna McKay, a junior studying politics, said he wanted to join the movement because he felt men should also participate in civil rights issues.

“I think about the women in my life, my mother, my aunts, my cousins and my little sister, she’s 8 and I’m thinking I want to make sure she grows up in a safe world,” McKay said.

The protest started at the Betty Chapman Plaza at 3:30 p.m. and coiled it’s way through the Chemistry and Physics building, the Jennifer M. Mwaisela building, the Wertheim Conservatory Biological Greenhouse, the Engineering and Computer Science building, all the way to



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Ysabella Munoz a junior studying political science, walks in Slutwalk with “The beautiful woman is the one that fights” written in Spanish on her back.

University Towers in the FIU Housing Quad in front of Panther Hall.

There, participants gathered and listened to WRGP, student media’s radio station, who DJ’d the event while other FIU services and organizations set out booths for students to inquire about women health provided by House and Residence, and FIU’s women’s center.

“Sexual assault doesn’t have one face, it’s not just girls in short dresses, sexual assault can happen to anyone,” Aradanas said. “We all know the statistics but we don’t talk about it and that’s what we need to address.”

Samiyyah Black contributed to this article.



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Participants walk around the GC Fountain as part of Slutwalk. The event began at the Betty Chapman Plaza and ended at the housing quad on April 3. Organized by National Organization for Women chapter at FIU, the walk is a movement to end rape culture, victim blaming, misogynist attitudes and slut shaming.

Carrie & Lowell is stunningly beautiful

KINDRED SPIRITS



JEAN MARQUES

Nearly a decade ago Sufjan Stevens released “Illinois” to massive critical and public acclaim. The album made its way to various year-end lists and was considered one of the best albums of 2005. It is heralded by many as Sufjans’ magnum opus. The album was instrumentally vibrant with themes of Christianity, Chicago/Illinois history and other more abstract concepts.

Ten years and several releases later we have “Carrie & Lowell” Steven’s first full studio release since 2010s “Age of Adz.” In many ways “Carrie & Lowell” is the polar opposite of what “Illinois” was. It is instrumentally stripped to the bone with lyrics that confront the harsh realities of life in a very direct manner.

At its core, the album revolves around the death of Steven’s mother Carrie. While Steven was still young his mother abandoned him.

He has few memories of her outside of the couple of summers that he spent with her and her husband Lowell in Eugene, Ore.

Her death took a huge toll

on Stevens which is apparent in his music.

The sparse use of instrumentation acts as a catalyst for the intense emotions portrayed in the lyrics. There is no percussion, almost no orchestral arrangement and very little to be found outside of Steven’s quiet voice, gentle guitars, and occasional piano.

The opening guitar line on the song “Drawn to the Blood” is reminiscent of Elliott Smith’s “Needle in The Hay” and when taken out of context the guitar alone has a rather soothing quality. However, just like Elliott Smith or Conor Oberst Stevens possesses the talent to use a sweet melody as a way crafting an extremely dark and harrowing song.

The empty feeling that is felt after the loss of a loved one hangs over the album like a dark gloom. The lines “There’s only a shadow of me; in a manner of speaking, I am dead” and “There’s blood on that blade / f***! me, I’m falling apart” are easily Steven’s most hopeless.

The process of grief and acceptance is one that can take a long time and the recording process for this album mirrors that. The tracks were recorded across several studios, some of which were originally recorded on his phone in a hotel room in Oregon. It shows that the album was slowly pieced together as his emotional journey progressed.

As deep as this album sinks into misery, it shows signs of acceptance and hope. The very act of releasing an album as intimate and revealing as this is a step toward overcoming his loss. In the song “Death with Dignity” Stevens utters one of the most powerful lines he has ever written: “I forgive you, mother”.

“Carrie & Lowell” is an album that interweaves haunting sadness with beauty in a way that captivates from beginning to end. It is one of Steven’s greatest artistic accomplishments and serves as the ultimate tribute to his late mother.

STANDOUT TRACKS: “Death with Dignity,” “Should have known better,” “Drawn to the Blood,” “Fourth of July,” and “No Shade in the Shadow of the Cross”

OVERALL RATING: 4/5



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TRACK & FIELD

Ishmar, Eliphar lead at Pepsi Florida Relays

PETER HOLLAND
Contributing Writer
sports@fiusm.com

This past weekend, the track and field team was one of 280 schools participating in the 76th annual Pepsi Florida Relays, hosted by the number two ranked University of Florida Gators in Gainesville.

The Panthers began last Friday, April 3, competing against the top schools in the nation.

On the women's side, after finishing in first place twice the UCF invitational, Senior Raqurra Ishmar scored a career-mark of 54.57 meters in the women's hammer throw.

During the long jump, Phillicia Fluellen led the team with a mark of 5.94 meters.

On the 100 meter dash, Cam'ree Jackson has beaten her team's best by two seconds with the time of 11.69 seconds.

The Panthers' top performer was Jaylaan



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

Junior Jaylaan Slaughter competes in hurdles at Hurricane Invitational on March 21. The Panthers competed in the Pepsi Florida Relays from Thursday, April 2 until Saturday, April 4, where Slaughter ran a 1:00.27 hurdle race. The Panthers will travel to Tampa this coming weekend for a meet held by the University of South Florida.

Slaughter, who clocked in at 1:00.27 at the 400-meter hurdles.

This season during the women's 400-meter relay the team was clocked in at

3:47.30.

The men's side was led by Alton Eliphar, who ran

a season best in the 100 meter dash with a mark of 10.71 seconds.

In the men's 400-meter relay, the Panthers finished the day with a time of 3:14.36.

The next day was more active as the Panthers finished strong at the invitational.

On the women's side, Ishmar once again didn't disappoint, standing out against several athletes from power conferences like the ACC and SEC programs as she finished third in women's shot put with a mark of 15.89 meters.

Ishmar also set a new team-best during the hammer throw with the score of 54.57 meters.

Tikiera Relaford represented in the women's long jump as she finished with a jump of 1.68 meters.

The javelin competition was led by Tiffani Hernandez as she finished with the mark of 40.98 meters.

Desmika White, Symone Lindsay, Shaquita

Smith and Isolda Montiel represented during the 1600-meter sprint with an early season bench-mark of 4:16.40.

On the men's side, Pablo Espitia, Jamal Dorvilier, Daniel Neptune and Eric Knott participated in the 110-meter shuttle hurdle as a team. They finished with a flashy time of 1:04.29 even with Knott tripping up during his leg of the race.

Debuting in the 1600-meter sprint medley, Manuel Gonzalez, Tyler Seaton, Todd Jackson and Brandon Ballard finished with a time of 3:25.02.

Luka Mustafic finished the day in the shot put with a 16.60-meter mark, making it his third best toss of the season.

FIU hopes to keep the momentum going as they compete in Tampa at a meet hosted by the University of South Florida Bulls this coming Saturday, April 11.

FOOTBALL

Open practices held as the annual spring game nears

JACOB SPIWAK
Staff Writer
jacob.spiwak@fiusm.com

It was the return of "Friday Night Lights" here at FIU last week, as the football team held their first open practice of the spring Friday evening. There was a decent showing of Panthers fans who made their way out to the FIU stadium to show their support and watch the team practice and scrimmage.

Upon completing the usual drills to open practice, the team broke into teams and began scrimmaging. Alex McGough took all of the first team reps at quarterback, and made a lot of very nice throws. He looks a lot more comfortable in his second year in Head Coach Ron Turner's system, which is something he touched on after practice concluded.

"The comfortability is definitely improving," McGough said. "Just feeling like I know what I'm doing back there and it's feeling normal. Sometimes this past season, I was rushed and I didn't really know what to do, but now I feel like every time I go in and watch film, I'm getting better."

McGough also touched on how Coach Turner has helped him get better, and Turner spoke very highly of him when practice concluded.

"[McGough] is having a really good spring," Turner said. "He's getting better every day, and is so much more comfortable and relaxed."

When asked if it was too early to name a starting quarterback, Turner quickly responded that they already have their starter.

"Alex McGough is our starter," Turner said. "That's not to say other guys aren't going to come in and compete but Alex is our starter."

Both McGough and Turner also praised incoming freshman Anthony Jones for his production so far this spring.

Jones is FIU's highest rated recruit from this year's class, and is expected to make an immediate impact to an FIU offense that greatly needs a consistent playmaker at the wide receiver position.

The Panthers looked very good on the defensive side of the ball as well, as the front seven clogged up running lanes and defensive backs were quick to jump routes.

New Defensive Coordinator Matt House will be entering his first season at FIU with very high expectations given how successful this defense was a season ago. He spoke about how easy the transition has been with the talented roster he inherited.

"The kids have been great and they work very hard," House said. "Coach Turner has developed a culture here where guys want to win a championship, and they're working their tail off to reach that goal."

He said some of the older players that have experience at FIU including Michael Wakefield, Richard Leonard, and Jeremiah McKinnon have been some of the many guys playing well and impressing so far this spring.

The aforementioned Leonard is set to begin his final season here at FIU after his decision to postpone a potential NFL career and come back to school for one more year. Leonard said he still feels great about his decision, and spoke about how he feels his leadership has impacted some of the other players.

"I believe I impact a lot of people by just talking and communicating," Leonard said. "I'm just happy to be here and be a leader."

FIU will continue to hold closed practices over the next few weeks, leading up to their Spring Game on Friday, April 17.

The annual game will begin at 7 p.m. and fans are encouraged to come out and get a first-hand look at a Panthers team poised for improvement in 2015.

TENNIS

Tennis wins final match-up before C-USA tournament

DAVID DRUCKER
Staff Writer
david.drucker@fiusm.com

The women's tennis team (11-7, 5-0 in Conference USA) defeated the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers 4-0 on Saturday.

Now that the 2015 regular season complete, the Panthers will travel to Houston to compete in the C-USA Tennis Championships on April 16.

Carlotta Orlando and Valentina Briceno kicked off the action for the Panthers by defeating the Blazers duo of Amy Lowther and Catherine Ragon 6-1.

FIU captured the doubles competition when Yana Koroleva and

Nina Nagode took down Caroline Faught and Paula Castro 6-2.

The Panthers headed into singles competition up by a point.

The Panthers also dominated the singles competition to complete the sweep of the Blazers. Yana Koroleva defeated Rachiel Daniell of UAB 6-2 and 6-0.

Nina Nagode claimed FIU's third win when she took down Elaine Simon 6-2, 6-0.

To wrap up the FIU sweep, Nerma Caluk defeated Paula Castro 6-3 and 6-0.

The other three games did not need to be played as FIU took the match 4-0.

Next up for the Panthers are the C-USA Tennis Championships.

NCAA

Details surface of Donovan contract extension with Florida amid rumors of jump to NBA

EDGAR THOMPSON
Orlando Sentinel
TNS

The Florida Gators’ run to the 2014 Final Four paid off nicely for coach Billy Donovan. Donovan parlayed UF’s fourth Final Four appearance and sixth SEC title with him as coach into a one-year contract extension through the 2020 season that will push his average annual salary to \$4 million. UF athletic director Jeremy Foley and Donovan agreed to the deal last summer, and Donovan signed it in December, according to UF. The Gainesville Sun reported the extension late Wednesday. Donovan received a \$250,000 signing bonus to push his salary to \$4,208,334 this past season, when the Gators finished 16-17

to miss the postseason for the first time since 1998 _ Donovan’s second season in Gainesville. Donovan’s total compensation will remain \$3,958,334 the next four seasons before reaching \$4,000,334 in 2019-2020. Donovan’s average annual compensation was around \$3.7 million prior to the new deal. Among college basketball coaches, only Kentucky’s John Calapari, Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski, Louisville’s Rick Pitino and Kansas’ Bill Self earn \$4 million or more annually, according to USA Today. Donovan, who turns 50 on May 30, will earn an annual base salary of \$220,000, \$2,870,934 from television, radio and public relations, and \$400,000 from the school’s deal with Nike. He also has a longevity incentive

of \$341,000, which swells to \$383,000 during the contract’s final year, 2019-2020. Donovan also has an annual expense account of \$100,000. Of that, \$60,000 is personal expense account payment, plus up to \$40,000 travel allowance, with unused travel remaining with the University Athletic Association. Donovan also has an annual pension of \$26,400. Donovan’s deal can grow based on how the Gators perform during the postseason. The Sun reported Donovan’s bonus structure remains unchanged; he will receive \$25,000 for winning the SEC Tournament, \$50,000 for winning the SEC regular-season title and \$37,500 for reaching the NCAA Tournament. Donovan’s NCAA Tournament bonus would increase to \$75,000 for reaching the Sweet

16, \$100,000 for reaching the Final Four and \$150,000 for winning a national title. The news of Donovan’s extension comes while the 49-year-old coach’s interest in the NBA becomes a hot offseason topic. ESPN’s Marc Stein wrote two weeks ago that some people in NBA circles believe Donovan will give “renewed consideration” this offseason to coaching in the NBA. On Thursday, Pitino, Donovan’s former college coach and longtime mentor, fanned the rumors during an appearances on ESPN’s Mike & Mike. The Sun reported Pitino said Donovan “has an urge to coach in the NBA, a strong desire to coach in the NBA, would like to try it.” Donovan’s buyout remains \$500,000.

Kentucky’s John Calipari makes Hall of Fame

JERRY TIPTON
Lexington Herald-Leader
TNS

INDIANAPOLIS - When the call came telling him he had been voted into the Hall of Fame, Kentucky coach John Calipari had an immediate reaction. He steered his car to the curb, and let the reality of basketball’s greatest honor soak in. “To be honest, got emotional,” Calipari said Monday. “My dad always said, it’s OK to feel phony. Just don’t be phony.” Following that advice, Calipari acknowledged his surprise at making the Hall of Fame. Processing this news seemed ongoing as he met with the media Monday after the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame officially announced inductees into his Class of 2015. Other inductees include

Spencer Haywood, Dikembe Mutombo, Jo Jo White, Dick Bavetta, Tom Heinsohn and Louie Dampier.

Throughout his life, Calipari

the bat boy for the high school baseball team, the ball boy for the basketball team. “All I ever wanted (was) to be a coach and a teacher,” he said.

“If I’m not at Kentucky, I’m not sure it happens. Maybe it does, I don’t know.”

John Calipari
Head Coach
University of Kentucky Men’s Basketball

has been the underdog, the over-achiever who once made refuse-to-lose his signature catchphrase. He grew up next to the high school in Moon Township, Pa. Because his father knew the high school coaches, Calipari was

No player of particular renown, Calipari first went to UNC Wilmington. When that level proved too daunting, he transferred to Clarion State. “I did not play for one of the great coaches in the history of the

game,” he said. “I was a Division II basketball player.” His first college head coaching job came at Massachusetts, which could claim Dr. Julius Erving as a former player and little else in terms of basketball history. “I was lucky to get the Massachusetts job,” he said. “No one else wanted it. Which is the only reason I got it. “Now, I’m sitting at this table. What? What just happened?” What happened was an astounding transformation at UMass, a nondescript program that Calipari turned into a Final Four team in 1996. After an ill-fated fling as coach of the New Jersey, he breathed new life into the Memphis basketball program, guiding the Tigers to the 2008 Final Four. In 2009, Kentucky came calling. Calipari credited having Kentucky on his resume as making the Hall of Fame possible. Perhaps, UK made it happen, but UK also greatly benefited. The Cats have been to four Final Fours in the last five years, a pattern of success unprecedented even by Kentucky’s exacting standards. “If I’m not at Kentucky, I’m not sure it happens,” Calipari said of becoming a Hall of Famer. “Maybe it does. I don’t know.” “I always wanted to have a job like the other guys.” Calipari spoke with affection of UMass, his first love as a head coach. He noted how ESPN’s come-one-come-all approach to televising college basketball helped put the Minutemen on the college basketball map. NIT bids also helped give UMass credibility, he said. Memphis eased the sting of being fired by the New Jersey Nets early in Calipari’s third season as an NBA coach. “I loved those jobs,” he said. “But you were at the little table. You weren’t at the big table. You never got to carve the turkey. You had the plastic forks and plates.

“I always said, ‘I wonder what would happen if I got one of those jobs.’” Now, we know. Calipari achieved what sounded outlandish at his first Big Blue Madness: Make Kentucky a dynasty feared by others, desired by every prospect. Not moving the needle. “We are needle,” he said. Now, Calipari carves up the turkeys as his Kentucky teams carve up opponents. Continuing the Thanksgiving dinner analogy, Calipari said, “Now, I know one of the ones fighting for the knife,” Speculation resurfaced again this spring that Calipari might leave Kentucky for the NBA. Calipari did not sound like somebody with something to prove about being a NBA coach. He talked about the satisfaction that comes with impacting the lives of college players, an impact amplified and expanded to the community and beyond by being Kentucky’s coach. Earlier in his 30-minute session with reporters, Calipari noted how he was originally drawn to coaching after watching those Moon Township high school basketball and baseball coaches influence players. The impact of an NBA coach? “Where do I get the satisfaction from?” Calipari said of a return to the NBA. “What do we do that has the impact on the community? How can we have an impact on people? “Or am I just coaching to try to help you make more money and win a (NBA) championship?” Calipari described himself as better suited to be a college coach. “Because I’m at the stage of my life, that’s not what moves me,” he said of how a NBA coach can influence players. “... I’m older.” The enshrinement ceremonies for the Class of 2015 will be Sept. 10-11 in Springfield, Mass.

SHE SWINGS, SHE HITS



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Senior infielder Krystal Garcia hits a run against University of Massachusetts Lowell on March 17. The Panthers play their next home game on Saturday, April 18 at 4 p.m.

SALSA TIME



MARCIA AKSU/THE BEACON

Students Abigail Morales (right), a political science freshman and Raiesa Ali (left), a junior studying International Relations, practice Salsa moves with Salsa instructor Yoli Gonzalez.

Student investigates effects of Everglades restoration

COLUMNIST



NICOLE ZUMMAR

University senior Valeria Paz often goes on trips to the Everglades. She heads to Florida Bay and takes off the shore to delve deep into nature. However, her purpose is not necessarily to observe Florida's natural wonders. She is a student researcher who's analyzing the effects of the restoration of the Everglades on wildlife.

According to her mentor the Interim Dean at the College of Arts and Sciences, Michael Heithaus, she is taking the lead on a part of Everglades research that has yet to be fully explored.

Paz deals with how the Everglades restoration is affecting the water flow and the predators that inhabit the areas. During the past century, the Everglades was subject to a series of projects that deteriorated the natural habitat for much of Florida's wildlife. The combination of growing agriculture and canals and levees that were built throughout the national park caused a dramatic change and drainage of many areas of the park.

In the past few years, there has been a collective effort to restore its sustainability. However, while this has helped stop the deterioration of the Everglades, it has also created new problems with its flora and fauna.

Paz has worked with dolphins in the Everglades, given that their high metabolism as mammals give a better insight to the ecology surrounding them. She works on the field and in the lab, studying biopsies samples taken by biologist Jeremy Kiszka whom she also works closely with.

According to Heithaus, Paz has achieved much during the few years of her undergraduate career.

"She has done work that is going to be able to be in a paper that will be in a peer reviewed scientific journal. And that is something we aim for in master's students," Heithaus said.

Before working with Heithaus, she had looked through different labs until she became interested in his work. She approached him, seeking an opportunity to work in a project with him and was surprised when he gave her the lead in an important topic of study.

"He has helped [me] out with the writing and putting together part of the research. He set me in the right track and has helped mold my way of thinking," Paz said.

Depending on the season, she heads out to Florida Bay between two to five times a month, where she and Kiszka take out a boat and observe the dolphins and their behavior and do biopsy samplings. They begin their trips at 4 a.m., the time at which they meet up in order to arrive to the Everglades by 8 a.m., and doesn't end until sundown.

"I work with Jeremy everyday. He is my go-to man for basic questions," Paz said. They tend to travel through Shark River, Whitewater Bay, Joe River and Florida Bay.

"[We want our researchers] to be passionate, curious and be willing to work long hours. [Valeria] has shown the passion [and] she was really interested in the dolphins. We wanted to give her something to be a leader in," Heithaus said.

However, studying marine biology wasn't her first choice when she came to FIU.

She began as a biology major her freshman year aiming to study medicine; however, that changed soon after her sophomore year when she volunteered through alternative breaks in Costa Rica for a biological station.

"I saw how ecologists would work with sea turtles, whales, [and in] forests. It kind of just opened up my mind to a new field," Paz said. "After that shift, I was set to do something other than medicine and [I just wanted] to be more towards ecology. I love the ocean."

Paz also took the Ecology of South Florida class, which allowed her to connect with the Everglades and South Florida's natural environment in general. As part of the Honors College, Paz also took part in the Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors program, where she sought after a research project to present at the yearly conference.

According to Paz, being able to lead the research project has been a unique and rewarding experience. "[It is] the most eye-opening and the core of why I'm going to pursue this career. It's such an experience you wouldn't get in the classroom."

In the field, things can go wrong at any moment, such as the weather, Paz said. And you need to do the toilsome work with the proper skills. She's confident she has earned a lot of experience she wouldn't have gotten elsewhere.

Paz doesn't interact as much with Heithaus given his full schedule; nonetheless, they still have time to talk about her project, work on the paper and do data analysis. He is very enthusiastic to help provide students with research opportunities and is glad with Paz's work and her opportunity to get two different perspectives, from himself and Kiszka.

"I'm most excited about seeing her writing really improve, and that takes up most of the work for all of us [researchers]. She's made great strides and that's what's going to get the paper in the journal," Heithaus said.

nicole.zummar@fiusm.com

University presents film on gay pride

CARLA TRIVINO

Staff Writer

carla.trivino@fiusm.com

Edwin Serrano, a graduate assistant for the Multicultural Programs at the Biscayne Bay Campus, said that people around the world are persecuted for being gay.

As part of FIU Pride Month 2015, the University will host a screening of the award-winning documentary "Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride" to understand the relevance of gay pride in different countries.

The event continues the University's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Ally Program 3D Series where students and faculty discuss issues in the gay community.

"We want people to think about equality, this will be neat because we're watching a documentary," Serrano said.

The film leads to the Miami Pride Parade & Festivities at South Beach Sunday, April 12.

"We have over 300 students marching for us that Sunday," Serrano said.

According to the Miami & Beaches website, more than 80,000 people have attended the South Beach event.

"We want people to think about equality, this will be neat because we're watching a documentary."

Edwin Serrano
Graduate Assistant
Multicultural Programs at BBC

According to the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, the film presents over 70 countries where homosexuality is illegal. It also says that countries like Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Iran, LGBTQA communities are punished with a death penalty.

"In Russia, gay clubs have ultimate security for shoot outs," said Rolando Cobo, a junior pre-pharmacy

major student.

In 2012, Moscow courts enacted a hundred-year ban on gay pride parades.

"I love parades. I won't feel uncomfortable for being myself. I can kiss who I want to and no one will look at me weird," Cobo said.

The film argues that the gay pride parades in the United States have become popular and is even commercialized by attracting tourists and entertainment.

Ken Coolen, the president for the Pride Society in Vancouver, Canada, reveals how marchers are arrested and often beaten by police in countries like Sri Lanka and Poland. Coolen says pride is a vehicle to promote human rights around the world.

Student like Laidelyn Mendoza, a senior biology major, said it is important to recognize diversity in society.

"It is good to show people how diverse our society is. I believe that variety and respect is a good mixture in need in today's society," Mendoza said.

Mendoza also said that she enjoys watching gay-themed movies from time to time.

"Personally, I'd like to know a little bit about everything. I have watched great gay movies that of course as heterosexual stories, have love stories in. They are respectful to all sexual orientations," she said.

Lunch and screening will be held on Thursday, April 9 at BBC from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Wolfe University Center in room 155. The film will also be presented Wednesday, April 8 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. It will take place in the Graham Center room 314 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

"We bring students together. Gay, straight, whatever," Serrano said.

Serrano said he wants people to begin thinking about equality, which is what the films tries to do.

"We're not just here to party and have fun, but to celebrate the accomplishments," Serrano said.