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FIU professors research treatment for prostate cancer

SUDYEN NAVARRETE

Staff Writer

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Prostate cancer has one of the highest death rates in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society one in seven men are diagnosed with prostate cancer.

University researchers are on a mission to find a way to battle the deadly disease.

“Mortality rates for the castrated mortality system are very high,” said Yuk-Ching Tse Dinh, director at the Biomolecular Science Institute at the University and professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She added that there was a real need for this kind of treatment that can be offered to patients in need of it.

Tse Dinh, biochemist Yuan Lui and cell biologist Irina Agoulnik, from the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, are working a scientific method to corrupt and terminate the cancer cells that cause prostate cancer.

“The research is a new approach to finding a noble therapy to treat prostate cancer,” Dinh said.

The research is focused on castration resistant prostate cancer meaning men who are castrated will benefit from the treatment.

According to Dinh, the team is working on developing an essay system which will allow them to determine which chemicals are the ones that can stop the cancer cell growth.

“We can identify chemical entities that will be effective

in preventing the cancer from repairing the action of the anti-cancer drugs,” Dinh said.

In other terms, a human’s DNA is the best place to experiment.

The teams of scientists have come up with strategies that are yet to be tested, but they seem optimistic.

“One of the [most] important strategies is to intentionally introduce the DNA damage in a massive amount,” Liu said. “That way, we kill [the cancer cells] by damaging their DNA so severely that they cannot survive.”

However, the cancer cells can build a stronger resistance to prevent their destruction.

“They won’t stand still, they will fight back,” Liu said.

Besides being a researcher, Liu is also a professor teaching biochemistry at FIU. She’s an expert in DNA damage repair.

“I’m responsible for creating and developing a method to measure the ability of a cancer cell and how to repair the DNA damage,” she said.

“One of the [most] important strategies is to intentionally introduce the DNA damage in a massive amount. That way, we kill [the cancer cells] by damaging their DNA so severely that they cannot survive.”

Yuan Lui
Biochemist

Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

Some of the procedures after developing a method for prostate cancer are to test out the method into cells.

“Once we develop a method,

at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine.

The examination process will begin with cells and will continue with animal testing. If all goes

JAZZ HANDS



JINETTE GARCIA/THE BEACON

Jim Hacker, director of the studio jazz big band, conducts the band on Wednesday, April 8 at the Jazz at the Wertheim Series: Swingin’ with the FIU Studio Jazz Big Band and the FIU Jazz Vocal Ensemble performance.

well, they hope to incorporate patient clinical trials.

According to Dinh, this treatment can also benefit other types of cancers such as “glioblastoma” which is a type of brain tumor.

“We think it will work for glioblastoma because that’s also a case where there’s not a lot of effective treatments,” she said.

Liu believes that it can benefit breast cancer, colon cancer and leukemia also.

Nevertheless, the highly developed research is not well known around the universities grounds. This judging from the fact that students around campus were not aware that this research was going on.

Despite this, students were surprised after finding out.

“It’s great to know they’re doing that research,” said Stefany Barzaga, a junior majoring in nutrition. “It’s important to find treatment or a prevention

for future men getting prostate cancer.”

Another student, Jouliana Belizaire, a junior majoring in health care administration, said that she feels the same way as Barzaga.

“I feel excited about this,” she said. “It won’t be easy to find a cure or treatment but it will be a great discovery if they get to find the treatment.”

The research received a \$50,000 grant from The Community Foundation of Broward.

“It has supported us,” Liu said. “That way, we can put effort from different groups of research societies that have students that would like to participate.”

The research is still at an early stage and can take up to two years to complete.

Until clinical trials bring accurate results, the research will come to a stop or continue for another approach.

University awaits appointment of new director of the Wolfsonian

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA

News Director

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Members of the University community await the appointment of the next director of the Wolfsonian-Florida International University, a museum located in Miami Beach.

The previous director, Cathy Leff, stepped down in January of last year, following a 17-year term with the museum, according to previous reporting from Student Media.

The search for the next director is led

by the Office of the Provost, with the ultimate decision of who becomes the next director falling into the hands of University Provost Kenneth G. Furton.

Among the members of the Search and Screen Committee are Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, the chair of the committee and senior vice president for External Relations, Michele Oka Doner, an advisory board member emerita, Regina Bailey, associate director of museum operations for the Wolfsonian, and Aurora Morcillo, a professor in the Department of History, according to the Office of the Provost’s website.

On Tuesday, March 31, the top three candidates for the position visited the University to explain their qualifications for the position and share their vision.

The three candidates that were up for evaluation were William R. Valerio, Min Jung Kim and Timothy Rodgers.

According to its website, the Wolfsonian-Florida International University is a multifaceted facility. A museum, library and research institution, the Wolfsonian houses art and other artifacts from the height of the Industrial Revolution to the conclusion of the Second World War.

It contains around 150,000 objects, and among these a variety of paintings, prints, furniture, ceramics, rare books and periodicals.

At present, it has an annual operating budget of \$6.1 million, according to its website.

Among the responsibilities of the director are to provide intellectual and artistic leadership to ensure the success of the Wolfsonian’s mission.

The director must also handle the fundraising initiatives of the museum,

SEE WOLFSONIAN, PAGE 2

Awaiting the reveal of new Wolfsonian director

WOLFSONIAN, PAGE 1

That's because he owes his career path, business interests and

The photos, published by an initiative of the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, focus on China's reclamation efforts in the Spratly Islands on Mischief

Cetinkaya said he hoped for a fair trial and had not lost faith that the rule of law governs Turkey.

He mentioned that one of the most important parts of the Wolfsonian's strategic plan deals with its real estate holdings.

Kim admitted that, unlike the Wolfsonian, which takes a strong approach to research in addition to serving as a museum, the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum serves as a museum for the

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Why FIU should be angry about sexual assault

MARILYN FIGUEROA
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“It’s on Us” hangs on a banner between Blue Garage and Gold Garage, on shirts and flyers throughout campus, and has initiated numerous sexual assault awareness events at our university. Just one day after the Slut Walk was held here at FIU, a 19-year-old freshman has come forward saying that she was raped on campus.

WSVN 7 News released video of the victim and posted the subsequent report: “The alleged victim said she and a friend met an FIU football player and his friend at a cafe on campus. The women accepted an invitation to stop at an apartment, which is where, she said, she was raped. “I said no several times, and he continued on. After he was done, he told me I was useless, and that I should learn how to perform better sex.”

On April 4, 2015, students received a message from FIU’s External Relations containing a very different tone than outside news sources. The email of just 121 words included the following: “Although this alleged incident involves individuals who know each other, 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 or family know your whereabouts at all times.”

The language used is more than just questionable, it downplays the sexual assault entirely.

By using that verbiage to describe the assault is already taking power away from the victim. It’s called Victim Blaming and guess what? Two of three of rapes are committed by someone you know.

Sexual assault doesn’t just happen in poorly lit alley ways by a person in a dark hoodie. This is what we’re being taught in countless “It’s On Us” forums and panels where I’ve seen students snicker at statistics or barely paying attention.

TruLe’sia Newberry, an FIU student, talked of her personal experience. “My freshman year I had a friend who was sexually assaulted come to my room and confide in me, but was highly apprehensive to go to university officials because of the lack of openness and awareness reverberated across campus.”

The efforts that have been made towards sexual assault awareness is a positive approach, but we have to do more.

At the launch of the It’s On Us campaign, President Barack Obama spoke of the issue.

“For anybody whose once-normal, everyday life was suddenly shattered by an act of sexual violence, the trauma, the terror can shadow you long after one horrible attack. It lingers when you don’t know where to go or who to turn to. It’s there when you’re forced to sit in the same class or stay in the same dorm with the person who raped you; when people are more suspicious of what you were wearing or what you were drinking, as if it’s your fault, not the fault of the person who assaulted you.”

Political Science and Women and Gender Studies student Laura Hernandez, shared her opinion.

“It’s On Us is a great initiative and I’m glad that the school took it on. However, I think the administration needs to take it seriously. It’s as if the campaign is an end all be all for sexual assault on campus but it’s not. There is much underreporting because of how people joke about rape on campus. It makes women lose confidence in the administration and police. The language they used is normalizing violence and how we should avoid being raped rather than actually teaching men to not rape.”

It’s about the way we discuss sexual violence in everyday language like hearing “Bro, I just raped that test!” from a friend

after an exam.

A university environment is the last place women should feel unprotected. No matter the circumstance, sexual assault is not okay and is -never- the victim’s fault. FIU needs to promote a proactive agenda instead of telling students to stay out of poorly lit areas.

Where in that email was the mention that sexual violence is a serious matter? Why does it seem that FIU was more concerned with being politically correct than embracing the opportunity to educate students more on the It’s On Us initiative? Or provide students with resources like CAPS or the Victim Empowerment Center? It wasn’t included in that email because it isn’t prioritized in our everyday conversation.

Is our university’s commentary to students regarding sexual assault only worth an email blast of 121 words?

That 19 year-old-freshman, could be your classmate, best friend, sister or brother. Most of all, that person that was violated on our campus is an FIU Panther who deserves respect, recognition and protection from this entire university. We can’t sweep this under the rug.

Come on FIU, get with the program. It’s On Us.

Image and self-worth: not the same thing

MEGHAN MACLAREN
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If someone asked you to look back over the past year and pick out something you were proud of achieving, what would you say? Making a 3.5 GPA? Completing a marathon? Re-establishing some family relationships? Even just starting

something new? One thing that I don’t think should make the list is having good eyebrows, smooth skin or manicured nails. They’re great things to have don’t get me wrong, but is that really that thing that defines who you are?

Miami is a city where image is possibly more important than anywhere else. Spring break ready? Summer ready? In a place where females probably spend

more time in a bikini on South Beach or in a tight skirt at one of its adjacent clubs, the pressure to have a perfect body is almost inescapable.

If you’re not comparing yourself to your friends, you’re being forced to compare yourself to the impossibly flawless line of models being paraded through the television, music videos and magazines to name just a few.

Victoria’s Secret fashion show, anyone?

So what happens when you don’t look like that? The beauty industry is taking advantage of people’s insecurities to make them even more insecure, fix this, fix that. This will make you look younger, thinner, better. This will make men want you. Since when is being the object of someone’s desire a measure of your self worth?

In a 2010 study on the beauty industry and consumer self-esteem, it was found that “beauty-enhancing products in advertisements lowered consumers’ self-evaluations, in much the same way as exposure to thin and attractive models in advertisements has been found to lower self-evaluations”. So the more the beauty industry tells us how to fix our image, the more we believe we need to be fixed. The more we believe we’re broken.

But you have to ask yourself what means more to you. If you would rather be complimented on your image than your achievements, I think you need to re-evaluate your priorities. I do think having a good body - that you have worked hard for - is something to be proud of and something you have

every right to show off with confidence. It requires discipline and dedication. But it’s not everything.

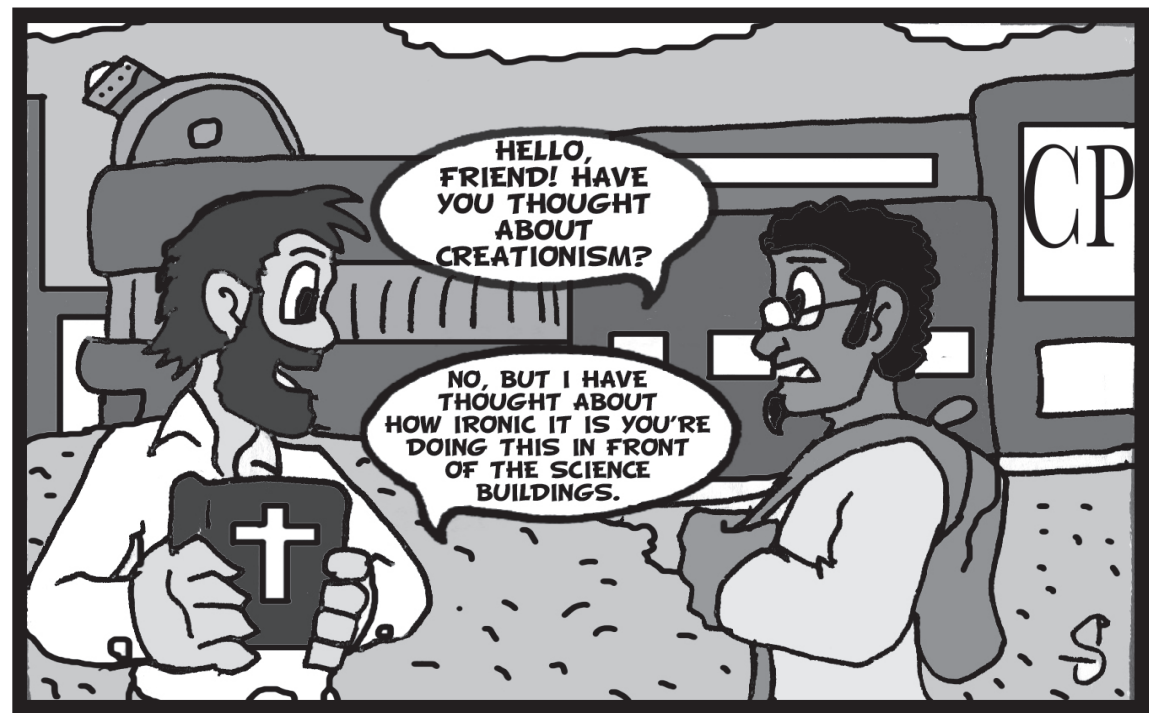
If you’re funny, be confident about that. If you’re smart, be confident about that. If you’re loyal, be confident about that. How far is a relationship going to go if you have nothing more than physical attraction? It might initiate things, but will it sustain them?

The beauty industry teaches us that once you’ve got the interest of the people at the table, you don’t have any more work to do. But make those people at the table remember you; not just your face. I’m betting you have a lot more to offer than that.

The more people achieve things that have actual significance, the more society will be forced to recognize those people. We need more role models who get to where they are because of determination, hard work, kindness and humility rather than role models who get to where they are because of some implants and plastic surgery.

I’ll leave you with one more thing to think about. “If the whole world was blind, how many people would you impress?”

FRANK AND IRENE: Explain it, Science



SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

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The future of solar power is the present

KRYSTAL PUGH
Staff Writer
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On Monday night April 6 at 8:15 p.m. on MMC campus in the Ryder Business Building student organization G.L.A.D.E.S together an event in order to bring awareness to the benefits of solar power and propose including solar panels into future FIU constructions. The event brought focus on the technical aspects of solar power along with the challenges to solar energy in South Florida.

City of South Miami’s Mayor and FIU professor of biology, Dr. Philip Stoddard prepared an informative lecture regarding solar power and its significance. There was also a special guest speaker, Daren Goldin founder of Goldin Solar, LLC.

Solar power is the process of sunlight converting into electricity directly using photovoltaics and indirectly using concentrated solar power systems.

The event began promptly. Stoddard was

first to speak and he jokingly said he had papers to grade and briefings to prepare so he was not waiting.

“I put my money where my mouth is last summer, I put solar ram on my house,” said Stoddard. Stoddard explained how he and his family installed a 7500 watts solar ram with grid tie system and each panel has its own inverter. As a result the family cut their electric bill in half. Solar power is cost efficient and one can receive six percent return on investment. If one considers putting solar panels on the roof it is tax free and protected against inflation. With solar power one does not pay taxes.

“If the power company decides to raises cost of electricity, your protected you’ve already paid for your power for next 30 years,” said Stoddard.

Solar is the only good ecological thing to do but in suburbs. Suburbs are good for farming solar energy on roof tops. Cities can’t make enough solar power to run themselves but the suburbs can make enough energy to run not only themselves but also cities.

Goldin then explained to the audience how solar power is not as taboo as people assume. Solar power has been around since 1883.

“

I put my money where my mouth is last summer, I put solar ram on my house.

”

Philip Stoddard
Professor
Biology

Today its becoming more mainstream. Solar power is the best technology for environment protection, expansion of renewable energies and sanction of future energy supply.

Goldin used a software to create a hypothetical image of the solar power here at

the University.

“Solar power would be a student driven process,” said Goldin.

Finally Goldin offered his card and told students, “It would be an honor to come work on FIU campus and bring solar power, I just don’t know who to speak to regarding it.”

The event was an insightful lecture for student and local community residents. Students had comments to follow.

“I came for the free food, however I did learn a lot this evening it concerns me that more people are not involved and working to be more solar like,” said Amanda Gonzales, sophomore undecided major.

“I am not a science person but this makes me want to learn more to save our country and prevent any more damage,” said Jessica Salisix, junior and business administration major.

When there’s a huge solar energy spill, its just called a great day. Goldin is hopeful to build a closer work relationship with FIU and bring more “great days” to the campus.

Kendrick Lamar reaches into the African American experience with third album ‘To Pimp A Butterfly’

COLUMNIST



JEFF PIERRE

To ears accustomed to witty and, at times empty, wordplay over the sounds of a hand-thumping beat, Kendrick Lamar’s third studio album, “To Pimp A Butterfly,” might appear incomplete. The album is far from a trendy, reserved or an easy listen.

Instead, Lamar, brandishing both his African and Compton roots, delivers an album on his terms. Doing so, he departs from his contemporaries and reaches back to old-school boom-bap beats and jazz-infused instrumentation.

The album, at times, is nostalgic, ultimately ending in a conversation between Lamar and his martyred West Coast predecessor, Tupac Amaru Shakur. The two men indulge in a conversation about race, politics and the longevity of black people.

“Sh*t, I think that n****s is tired-a grabbin’ sh*t out the stores and next time it’s a riot there’s gonna be bloodshed for real,” Tupac says to Lamar in the album’s closing track, “Mortal Man.” “I think Americans think we was just playing and it’s gonna be some more playing, but it ain’t gonna be no playing. It’s gonna be murder, you know what I’m saying, it’s gonna be like Nat Turner, 1831, up in this muthaf*cka.”

The conversation, although fictitious, aggressively scrutinizes the plight of the black archetype, a theme Lamar explores throughout the album. With black America on one side, Lamar refers to an “enemy” figure who ultimately controls the rapper’s fate.

At times, the enemy appears to be the exploitation of blacks through American capitalism (personified by Uncle Sam); at other times, Lamar

refers to Lucy, a female representation of the devil and the world’s evils. Lamar’s greatest moment of reflection happens in songs like “u” where he steps away from external dangers and comes to terms with his personal demons.

“Loving you is complicated,” he repeats to himself throughout the songs, departing from the feel-good and self-love theme of “i,” the album’s first single.

The song takes an even darker turn after a short skit depicting a Spanish-speaking housekeeper knocking on his hotel door. He doesn’t answer, instead we’re taken to a plastered Kendrick questioning his own credibility, loyalty and purpose.

“

The poor and disenfranchised are institutionalized by prison, racism, classism and the rich. And the powerful are institutionalized by fear, dogma and the almighty dollar.

”

“Shoulda killed yo ass a long time ago / You shoulda filled that black revolver blast a long time ago / And if those mirrors could talk it would say ‘you gotta go’ / And if I told your secrets / The world’ll know money can’t stop a suicidal weakness,” Lamar says, slurring his words over the sounds of a alcohol flowing into his mouth.

Track one: The song is an extended metaphor describing how successful black artists are “pimped” by the entertainment industry.

The first verse is from the perspective of any black entertainer, while the second verse is from the perspective of capitalist America,

personified by Uncle Sam.

Track Two: an interlude, uses jazz poetry, a rhythmic form of spoken word, to show the other side of urban male aggression, a product of the denigration some males receive from women who see male success as a means to their own livelihood.

“Oh America, you bad b****, I picked cotton that made you rich / Now my ***** ain’t free”

Track Three: A song that refers to Kunta Kinte, an archetypal rebellious slave; he kept his own name, rejecting the slave name imposed on him by his plantation owner, and refused to integrate into slave society.

Kendrick presents Kunta Kinte’s name as a “King Kunta” to contrast

the lowest and highest levels of society, and provide a feeling of empowerment

Track Four: The poor and disenfranchised are institutionalized by prison, racism, classism and the rich and the powerful are institutionalized by fear, dogma and the almighty dollar.

Everyone is a loser in this game, perspective is the only answer. The song refers to the negative side of capitalism and institutionalism.

Track Five: One of Kendrick’s most complex songs. “These Walls” shows the good and evil of the human mind. If walls could talk, what would they say? In this song,

Kendrick discusses the vaginal walls of a woman that he is having relations with before juxtaposing it with a man (discovered to be the baby daddy of the woman) who is behind prison cell walls, the subject of the third and final verse.

He also talks about the walls of our inner conscience in the third verse as well.

Kendrick uses this premise to explore the contrasts of sex, emotions, abuse, his own career, that of his enemies and the human psyche.

Track Six: A contrast to “i”. Probably the darkest and most reflective album on the album. Go back and make this the other side to the albums political statement.

Track Seven: An answer, or better yet a moment of solace, can be found in “Alright,” the track following “u”

Track Eight: an interlude that refers to Lucy, the devil, and the deal he offers when we choose the lavish. Lucy is the female personification of the world’s evils.

“Lucy gone fill your pockets// Lucy gone move your mama out of Compton// Inside the gi-gantic mansion like I promised// Lucy just want your trust and loyalty”

Track Nine: After bouts of depression and turmoil, Kendrick returns home— to Africa, the motherland, to Compton or back to his former self. The name suggest returning back to the comfort of a mother.

Track Ten: “Momma,” the last song was about how he forgot how it was to be in the hood. This is him transporting himself to a time when the hood was all he knew.

Kendrick’s delivery on this track is at a higher pitch than normal to signify his younger self, his past and his roots.

Track Eleven: Up until this point in the album, Kendrick’s been plagued by Lucy and Uncle Sam. On his road

to recovery, he runs into a homeless man at a gas station in South Africa.

He tells the story of a man - who he thinks is a crack addict- asking for 10 Rand (approx \$1). Initially Kendrick says no and feels resentment as the man who continues to berate him.

After asking if he’d read Exodus 14, Kendrick begins to feel guiltily and sympathetic towards the man.

His selfishness, to which he attributes his success, eventually comes out most in his interactions with the homeless man.

At that point, the man reveals himself to be God — his selfishness and unwillingness to give the homeless man a dollar has cost him his place in Heaven.

Kendrick then repents in the outro, asking God for forgiveness. It’s only now he’s free of Lucy and Uncle Sam — he had to be humbled to be humble.

Pointing out that the figurative value of a dollar is far higher than the literal value of a dollar.

Track Twelve: Skin complexion.

Track Thirteen: This song deals with racialized self-hatred. Taken together the two songs contradict each other, though this kind of double-consciousness has always been part of African American experience.

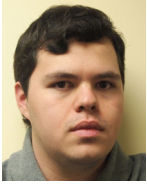
Jeffrey Pierre is the host of garage rock show, *Distorted Dreams*, Tuesdays 8-9 pm on WRGP: FIU Student Radio.

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ALBUM:
To Pimp A Butterfly
RATING:
5/5

Action packed film ‘Furious 7’ lives up to hype

REEL TO REEL



RAFAEL ABREU

Alot has changed in the past fourteen years since “The Fast and the Furious” was released. What started as a crime film with cars has now turned into a full-on action film series (still with cars).

If majority of fans and critics are to be believed, this has been a change in the right direction for a series many thought was about racing.

The element of crime and family aside, the latest installment barely resembles the first few films, especially when it comes to races. However, if there’s anything these later sequels have made clear, it was never just about racing.

“Furious 7” reunites us with Dom (Vin Diesel), Brian (Paul Walker), Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), Mia (Jordana Brewster), Roman (Tyrese Gibson), Tej (Ludacris), and Hobbs (Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson), as they are hunted down by Deckard Shaw (Jason Statham), older brother of the sixth film’s villain.

Deckard is out for revenge, and it’s up to Dom and his crew to take care of business, whether it’s in Abu Dhabi or Los Angeles.

New-to-the-franchise director James Wan does a great job with the action scenes, sometimes tracking the characters movements without edits, while also using plenty of cuts (the scene in the bus comes to mind).

I found it strange that the film would show fight scenes that could be easily followed (not too many cuts) while also having fight scenes that were cutting every two seconds.

It could be a case of the modern style sometimes taking precedence, but at least it’s never up close and disorienting.

As expected, cars are a big part of this film, and their showcasing is top notch. From an L.A. chase to a building-to-building jump, cars play

expected vital roles in the film’s most key scenes.

The stories in this series tend to stay relatively simple, but “7” actually gets complicated.

Without spoiling too much, the story has more than one plot thread to deal with, but thankfully it all melds together well by the end.

It’s a generally stronger story due to the characters, some of which are dealing with life changing issues (Letty and her amnesia, Brian and his family).

While not every aspect of the plot hits the right marks, the overall product has it where it counts in terms of action, character and emotion.

This now leads me to what is easily the most sensitive of all topics regarding this film: Paul Walker.

There are those that grew up with these films or have seen them since the start, and for them, the untimely death of the star was a major tragedy.

While one’s feelings about the subject might vary as a result, there’s no denying that the film’s tribute to Paul is absolutely beautiful.

It caps things off better than I could have imagined and is a perfect send off for him.

To be completely honest, I have trouble putting in words how excellent this tribute is, and as I have already mentioned, one’s feelings and reactions to the tribute will vary depending on their connection with the character, actor and franchise.

However, it speaks volumes that a series that began how it did is able to stir up such genuine emotions.

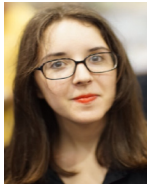
“Furious 7” is not only a great movie but an excellent final tribute to one of the franchise’s brightest stars.

rafael.abreu@fiusm.com

MOVIE:
Furious 7
RATING:
3/5

How society erases the bisexual identity

PRIDE GUIDE



MADARI PENDAS

When a person identifies as bisexual a lot of people assume there is an element of choice, or of self-deception. The bisexual will be seen as someone who hasn’t “made up their mind yet” or is “confused” about their orientation—this seems to stem from the human proclivity towards binaries, to be able to easily compartmentalize and define people.

A lot of people view bisexuality as the antecedent to homosexuality, which perpetuates the “bi now, gay later fallacy.”

Bisexual erasure is the tendency towards dismissing, ignoring or falsifying bisexuality; an extreme example of erasure would be the denial of the existence of bisexuality. This biphobic sentiment is also present within the LGBT community, a community that advocates for acceptance and tolerance. And there are many gay and lesbian individuals who will refuse to date a bisexual.

On the dating website OkCupid there is an option to only view profiles of gay individuals, which allows a person to exclude the profiles of bisexuals.

The media is also guilty of bisexual erasure. In 2014, the New York Times ran an article that questioned the legitimacy of bisexuality, asking whether

it even exist. Slate’s Dear Prudence advice column advised a bisexual woman to refrain from coming out.

The Gay and Lesbian Task Force has erased bisexual people from its own name, and published “Bye, Bye, Bi, Hello Queer,” which dismissed bisexuality. However, due to complaints it has recently changed to the National LGBTQ Task Force.

According to scholar Kenji Yoshino there are three main motivations for bisexual erasure. The first is sexual orientation stabilization. Orientation is simplified and dichotomized. Second, bisexuality threatens the importance that is placed on gender—it shifts sexual attraction away from gender. Third, the maintenance of monogamy; bisexuals are perceived to be less monogamous and “greedy.” This argument presupposes that all bisexuals are disloyal mates and have incorrigible sexual appetites.

Erasure is also treated differently among men and women. A man that identifies as bisexual will often be treated as a gay man who isn’t fully out of the closet; while a bisexual woman will be told her acts of intimacy with other women are “just a phase.”

Language also reflects the trend of erasure. If a bisexual person is in a relationship with a person of the opposite sex they are said to be in heterosexual relationship; if a bisexual is in a relationship with a person of

the same sex they are said to be in a homosexual relationship. And while these terms have certain level of accuracy, these definitions undermine a person’s sexuality, and ignore the complexity of sexual orientation. You can be in a homosexual relationship and not identify as homosexual.

An op-ed in the Advocate discussed the discrimination bisexuals face.

“This discrimination is pervasive on the face of marriage statutes, which define marriage in terms of sex; moreover, sex discrimination is the most acute form of discrimination suffered by bisexuals because they are denied marriage rights only when they have fallen in love with someone whom their state views as the wrong person.”

One solution to the problem of erasure is using the Kinsey scale to define sexual orientation. Whenever I am asked about my sexual preferences, I say one of the numbers on the spectrum, and it has differed at different periods in my life.

The benefit of using the Kinsey scale is that it shows the gradation of sexuality while avoiding binaries. It forces people to view sexuality on a continuum, rather than discrete identities.

“Males do not represent two discrete populations, heterosexual and homosexual. The world is not to be divided into sheep and goats. It is a fundamental of taxonomy that nature rarely deals with

discrete categories... The living world is a continuum in each and every one of its aspects,” wrote Alfred Kinsey.

The scale recognizes and allows for change, a person who fell at a three out of six on the Kinsey scale can move to a four or to a two easily because there isn’t a change in label. They don’t have to start referring to themselves with a different epithet—there’s no stigma of going from bisexual to gay, or the other way around. The scale recognizes shifts in sexual preference throughout a person’s life. Since it avoids labels it does not limit or attempt to define an individual.

Not everyone will feel comfortable using the Kinsey scale, there will situations that require definitions, and people who feel their sexual identity is fixed and not fluid, therefore there needs to be more inclusion and discussion of bisexuality, especially from LGBT organizations. Everyone has to start treating bisexuality with the same legitimacy as the other orientations in order to erase erasure.

Pride Guide will take a deeper look into the LGBT community at FIU and produce a column that will consist of keen analysis within the daily lives of LGBT students and faculty. Make sure to read more and fiusm.com.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

C-USA scoring champ reflects on collegiate career

DAVID DRUCKER

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For senior guard Dennis Mavin, leading all Conference USA players in scoring wasn't the goal - it just came with the territory of being a leader.

The Gainesville native entered the 2014-2015 men's basketball season with high expectations. He would have to score often enough to replace players like Tymell Murphy, but the pace he set ended up becoming a C-USA best mark of 17.2 points per game.

"[Being a leader] is something that me and Head Coach Anthony Evans talked about at the beginning of the season. My role was going to be bigger this year and I embraced that," Mavin said.

Mavin's team finished the season with a record of 16-17. After a dramatic victory over the University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunners, the Panthers were eliminated in the second round of the C-USA Tournament by the University of Texas at El Paso Miners.

In addition to scoring, Mavin led FIU players in assists with an average of 3.1 per game.

The senior guard wasn't the Panthers'



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Senior guard Dennis Mavin attempts a behind-the-back pass to senior forward Kris Gulley. Mavin was awarded the Conference-USA scoring title.

only impact player this season. Mavin attributes some of his success to the play of junior forward Adrian Diaz (13.0 points per game, 6.9 rebounds per game).

"When you have a high-level player like Diaz, it automatically draws a lot of attention to him. It made teams double Diaz, which opened up the floor for me"

said Mavin.

What may be the biggest moment of Mavin's career so far came in the final seconds against UTSA in the first round of the C-USA tournament. After the Roadrunners tied it up at 54-54, Mavin had less than three seconds to throw up a shot and avoid overtime.

"I know I only had time to get one or two more dribbles. I just wanted to have the ball in my hands because I knew I could get it to half court. It was a crazy shot - I can't really put it into words," Mavin said.

Coach Evans hardly seemed surprised that Mavin pulled off the shot after the game. He stated that he's seen shots from that distance made in practice before. Mavin, however, told FIU Student Media that those attempts are usually just taken for fun.

"Me and some of the guys mess around a lot going through different scenarios. We'll throw up a lot of half court shots, messing around with a countdown like '5, 4, 3, 2, 1,'" said Mavin.

Now that his career at the University is complete, Mavin is ready for his next venture - professional basketball.

"I'm talking to different agents and should be signing with one in the next week or so. I'm getting ready to pursue my professional career," Mavin said.

"It's been an amazing year. I'm grateful for all of the achievements I accomplished in a short amount of time. I appreciate all of the coaches that worked with me and definitely [Head Coach] Evans, who trusted me enough to lead the team," he said.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New leadership coming to the Lime Court

REBECCA CHARUR

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FIU did something on Wednesday, March 8 that they had not done in 35 years - hired a women's basketball head coach.

Former University of Maryland Assistant Coach, Marlin Chinn will be the program's sixth basketball head coach, while FIU is his first tenure as a head coach.

Despite this lack of head coaching experience, his résumé shows no signs of a lack of talent.

In his six year career with Maryland, Chinn helped lead the Terrapins to a 34-3 record last year and a compiled record of 164-41.

In this time, Maryland also notched a Big Ten Championship Title, a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament and a Final Four appearance.

There, Maryland fell to the toughest of opponents in the University of Connecticut, who eventually went on to win their third consecutive National Championship.

Prior to his stint with Maryland, Coach Chinn was sought out by Mount St. Mary's and Seton Hall, where he served as an assistant coach for both

organizations.

There he spent a combined 11 seasons.

At Mount St. Mary's, Chinn helped lead the Mountaineers to two Northeast Conference regular season championships and was instrumental in the recruitment of five NEC All-Rookie Team selections, including the 2005 NEC Rookie of the Year. Chinn continued this winning pattern and top-notch recruiting techniques in his next assistant coaching job at Seton Hall.

In four seasons with Seton Hall, he displayed his abilities as a top assistant coach, and further showcased his talents as a recruiter.

Chinn recruited a pair of Big East All-Rookie Team selections, and recruited and coached two Big East All-Conference performers.

Overall he helped achieve a nationally ranked top-30 recruiting class in his second year with the program.

Now he joins an FIU program which focuses on the rebuilding process after a tumultuous season.

Although the Panthers hardly encountered any wins this season, the school got a glimpse of the rising talent surrounding the team.

"It's an exciting time to



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Senior forward Marita Davydova gets fouled as she drives in for a layup against University of Alabama at Birmingham earlier in the season. After a 3-26 season, the women's basketball team will be led by Marlin Chinn as he replaces Cindy Russo who retired during last season.

be here at FIU," Chinn said. "Just to see the potential here and growth that is waiting to explode. I think South Florida and the surrounding areas are huge as far as rich in recruiting. It's a hot bed for talent here in Florida, and we are going to attack it and be very aggressive with it. I'm looking forward to it. I'm very excited."

There is no doubt that the Panther community will have something to look forward to

in the upcoming seasons of women's basketball from a talent perspective.

Not only will there be a wave of fresh new talent to come but there will also be a pool of young talent returning next season.

Headlining the talent is the Conference USA Freshman of the Year, Kiandre'a Pound.

"This is so exciting," said Pound. "He has come from such a successful program at Maryland. I think he is going to

take this team to the next level. He's been to the Final Four two years in a row, and he has worked with some top talent. He knows what it takes to get to the next level and he is going to take us there."

Clearly, the general consensus is one of excitement surrounding the FIU community and it should be with all the potential that Coach Chinn can offers the team.

SWIMMING

Panther swimmer does it all

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Among all the great things that the University swimming team has done this season, they aren’t limited to just in-the-pool accomplishments. Freshman swimmer Ally Mayhew has been named the Conference USA Spirit of Service Award winner.

The Former National Honor Society Member and Spanish National Honor Society member has had many other accolades that accompany her name.

Back in Dayton, Ohio, she was her high school’s swim team captain, and currently holds her high school’s records for 50 and 100 freestyle, 100 backstroke, 400 freestyle relay and 200 medley relay.

Along with having a top 100 meter Freestyle time of 53.88 seconds, and a top 100 meter backstroke time of 59.72 seconds, she holds a 3.73 GPA in biology pre-vet.

Mayhew won the award for the C-USA Spirit of Service Award with her outstanding community service efforts, and good academic standing and participation in her sport. She’s mentored 20 girls in the Embrace Girl Power program with activities including various team-building exercises. She’s also volunteered for the Relay for Life and the Miami Marathon.

Looking forward, Ally Mayhew and the rest of her team look to repeat their historic 2014-2015 season by winning FIU’s first ever C-USA Swimming Championship. The freshman chose FIU over Cornell University, Dartmouth College and Arizona State University. You’d imagine head swimming coach Randy Horner is glad she did.

NCAA

The debate on paying student athletes continues

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The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) seems to always be under national scrutiny for their various rules and regulations against their student-athletes. Amid all of the infractions and players getting in trouble for receiving improper benefits, the question has been raised of whether or not collegiate athletes should be paid.

I personally go back-and-forth on the issue, and can never come to a complete decision. Both parties bring up great arguments, and while players certainly

NFL

Former Kansas State QB making NFL push after surgery

KELLIS ROBINETT
The Wichita Eagle
TNS

Jake Waters cannot currently throw a football.

Give him a Nerf toy and he will toss it around. Ask to see his throwing motion and he will oblige. But passing a full-size, regulation pigskin is off limits.

“Doctor’s orders,” Waters says. “I’m still

moving up to the real thing.”

This, of course, is a problem. The former Kansas State quarterback is trying to impress professional scouts before the NFL draft begins later this month, and he has not attempted a single pass since participating in a college all-star game shortly after the Alamo Bowl. Waters underwent surgery to repair a torn

acromioclavicular joint four months ago _ caused by two physical tackles during a victory at Oklahoma on Oct. 18 _ and the rehabilitation process has been slow.

Agonizingly slow. “It’s tough when you show up for your pro day and all you can do is weigh in,” Waters says. “I am going twice a day to therapy, anything I can do to speed it

their likeness, yet the student-athletes are unable to capitalize due to NCAA regulations.

While the NCAA is supposedly “non-profit”, the organization benefits greatly on the back of player’s hard work. They work for hours on end and put their bodies on the line, yet the only ones profiting are the universities and NCAA.

The other side of the argument states that players shouldn’t be paid, mainly because the vast majority of student-athletes receive a full scholarship. This allows them to receive an education and live on campus without paying rising tuition prices. Most normal students do not receive this sort of financial aid, showing

Racial restrictions in college sports were loosening slowly in the 1950s, but not in the South. The region’s three largest conferences _ the Atlantic Coast, Southeastern and Southwest _ remained segregated and would be for another decade.

The 1956 Sugar Bowl field was comprised of three Catholic schools _ Dayton, St. Louis and Notre Dame _ and the most dominant team in college basketball, Adolph Rupp’s Kentucky.

When action to invalidate or weaken the Louisiana law failed, Notre Dame and St. Louis, each of whom had black players, withdrew. Dayton, though it had no blacks at the time, did the same.

“If we went to the tournament as it now stands,” said Dayton athletic director Harry Baujan, “we’d be condoning the law.”

Kentucky Gov. Happy Chandler, assuming the event would be canceled, hastily made plans for a new Christmas tournament in Louisville, the Blue Grass Classic, that would feature the Wildcats.

Rupp’s Kentucky team was all-white. He wouldn’t add his first black player, Tom Payne, until the 1970-71 season, well after most SEC teams had integrated.

Some Kentucky alumni saw the Sugar Bowl controversy as a chance for the border-state school with national ambitions to make a positive statement on race. They

urged UK to join the other schools in withdrawing.

“Here is a situation where the University of Kentucky could courageously show that principle is more important to it than the ‘sugar’ in the Sugar Bowl,” Herschel Weil, a 1922 grad, wrote to UK president Frank Dickey.

But as Rupp himself had done so often when questioned about racial issues, Dickey used contractual obligations as an excuse. The school had promised the organizers it would appear, Dickey said, and it intended to honor that commitment.

“I agree with you that the problem of the religious and moral implications in this situation is a difficult one,” wrote Dickey in response to Weil. “However [I] feel that the moral values of integrity and honesty are also involved.”

Rupp’s influence on the decision can’t be determined but he and Kentucky helped round up three southern schools _ Houston, Virginia Tech and Alabama _ as replacements and the 1956 Sugar Bowl, which the Wildcats won easily, went on.

Asked for his reaction to Act 579’s impact on what had been one of the nation’s premier holiday tournaments, MWSA president Paul DeBlanc said: “That’s the law and we will try to live under it.”

Three years later, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that law unconstitutional.

the advantage athletes receive.

A major grey area that plays a key role in why athletes haven’t gotten paid is the fact that certain sports don’t generate the same amount of revenue as other sports. Football is the most profitable sport at almost every Division-1 school, so problems would arise when paying football players compared to those who play less profitable sports.

Regardless of your stance on the issue, it is a real problem, and needs to be addressed by the NCAA one way or the other. Teams like Northwestern football are attempting to unionize, and as time goes on, the question will continue to arise.

Hopefully, that will give me a chance.”

One thing is for sure: Any NFL team looking for a tough quarterback will be impressed by Waters.

His recovering shoulder illustrates the severity of injuries he played through as a senior.

Waters had to fight through agonizing pain in order to start the Wildcats’

final seven games. The first sign of the injury came on a long run at the start of the second half against Oklahoma, but he stayed on the field in minor pain after brief medical attention. Then, on a fourth-quarter run that helped clinch the victory, he got hit again. This time, he felt major pain.

WUC and SGA partner up, revamping game room

CAMILA FERNANDEZ

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A hub for gamers and social gatherings, the Wolfe University Center Game Room is scheduled for a makeover.

After a time of students and staff advocating for new gaming systems and a more casual outlook to the room, the Wolfe University Center and the Student Government Association agreed to revamp the area.

According to Jazmin Felix, student government president at the Biscayne Bay Campus, new additions to the game room located in WUC 222 include a pool table and a third television screen. There will also be new furniture such as bean bag chairs and new gaming systems like the Xbox One, the PlayStation 4 and the Nintendo Wii U.

Currently, there are two high definition televisions, a Xbox 360 Kinect and a Nintendo Wii. There is also a variety of video games and board games, four chess tables and a ping pong table.

According to Felix, the game room closes this summer for



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

Karnkamol Intarasuwan, a senior studying broadcast media, plays ping pong in the game room. The game room will be getting new additions, including a pool table, adding another T.V. screen, the newest gaming systems and furniture.

renovations and is expected to reopen during the University's fall Week of Welcome.

"There's a huge population of students that use the game room and they're in there like day and night," Felix said. "Here are students who use the game room to its fullest capacity. It's a center for communion so we just want to make it as comfortable and as inviting as possible," she said.

Scott Jones, director of the

WUC, said an estimate price for the renovation is between \$50,000 to \$80,000. Less than half will be used for furniture while the rest of the funds will go to the gaming systems and the table games.

There will be no changes to the carpet floor nor the lighting of the room.

"Two years ago, the game room was the front burner of the conversation. [Now,]

in collaboration with SGA, [we want] to get the highest utilization for students in the game room," Jones said.

Jones also said that due to renovations of the WUC Panther Plaza and Panther Square, the game room was later further addressed.

According to FIU Student Media archives, the game room opened during the fall of 2011 as part of the complete architectural design for the renovation of the WUC. Felix said a survey will be sent out by e-mail at the end of the semester for student suggestions on what they would like to see in the game room.

Felix also said that the WUC and the SGA are looking to bring in hammocks around campus. However, due to risk management issues, a decision has not been finalized yet.

"I'm sitting down with the director of facilities to see how we can work that out -- if there's an alternative to hammocks," she said.

Assistant Operations Manager at the WUC, Kwan Wallace, has been advocating for the new game room space. He said students are constantly asking for a pool table

and new, more casual furniture.

"We're looking forward to it being a more of a game room space because right now, it's like a space that [just] has games," Wallace said.

"I see [the game room] as a great meeting space for the students to kind of come and interact with each other and I think its been a great addition to the Wolfe Center," he said.

Students like Thierry Escarment, student assistant at the WUC and a junior computer engineering major, say they are excited to see a newly furnished game room.

"I think it'll be like something new when you walk into the room. I'm tired of seeing the same old carpet, same old chairs," said Escarment.

Escarment also said he enjoys the game room. He always looks forward to small tournament games like ping pong and chess competitions.

"There's never not an interesting moment. [I] get into pretty heated chess fights," Escarment said. "[The room] gives students a place to just hang out and blow off some steam from all the studying."

Women's Center to host forum on gender roles

JUSTIN HILL

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As its final event of the semester, the Women's Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus will host "Lunch, Learn and Lean-In," a forum on the changing dynamics of gender roles in society.

The event will include a two-hour roundtable that will discuss different topics both men and women can relate to, according to Meredith Morgan, coordinator of the Women's Center at the BBC.

These topics include issues such as male disempowerment within male and female relationships and the switching of gender roles.

"I want to display an event that we all can relate to," Morgan said. A panel will also talk about the overall direction of the third-wave feminism which persists on changes in stereotypes and media portrayals.

"What feminism is trying to do is that they're trying to talk everyone out of these boxes that society has placed us in," said Morgan.

Morgan also said that to build healthy relationships between both genders men shouldn't feel less important than women in society. She

said boys are taught at a young age to avoid display of affection and emotion to upbring a masculine image.

"Men are not supposed to express emotion, or they'll be labeled weak," she said. In effect, results have altered the number of men suicide and prison rates.

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide among men have been four times higher than among women the past years. In 2013, men had a suicide rate of 20.2 compared to a rate of 5.5 for women. However, it does not specify if it is due to their emotional restraint.

Bethuel Pierre, a junior economics major, feels that men are being threatened in today's society.

"Since there are more opportunities for a woman, the role for the male race has also decreased. We see that in most of today's careers that used to be mainly dominated by men," Pierre said.

"The male should be dominate, the breadwinner and the provider for a household and also any relationship they're engaged in," said Pierre.

Despite Pierre's concerns, he said the world has changed for the better, especially with

the possibility of the country's first female president.

This spring, the Center has hosted other events such as the "Women Who Lead" conference at both the BBC and the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Shannon Miller, an Olympic medalist, spoke about leadership as the keynote speaker of the event.

Phalanica Louisy, a senior english major, said she enjoyed participating at the conference and she looks forward to the Center's final forum.

"I try to attend every event that Meredith puts on for the campus. The Lunch, Learn and Lean-In events are very informative, creative and it gives not only women, but also men, a route to take with every topic," Louisy said.

"I also love how open-minded the guests who attend [are] -- It makes the experience worth it," said Louisy.

Morgan believes that the progression of both male and female genders is all based on creating a society where everyone is comfortable with being themselves.

The event will take place Tuesday, April 14 at the Wolfe University Center room 155 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. It is free of charge and lunch is included.



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