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Florida International University

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FIYOU candidates elected president and vice president SGC-MMC

CAYLA BUSH
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Student government starts and ends with advocating for students, said Alian Collazo and Michelle Juarez, the newly elected SGC-MMC president and vice president.

Thursday, April 21, Larry Lunsford, vice president of Student Affairs, announced the winners of the 2016-2017 SGA Elections to an anxious group of students, faculty and staff.

"It was a lot of emotions. It was, first of all, just a sigh of relief," Collazo

said. "You don't know until they call your name if you won or not, and it's something that builds up hard work had paid off," she said. "We have high expectations for the new

"We have high expectations for the new SGA officers at both MMC and BBC. They represent their fellow students to the administration, and this is an important responsibility."

Larry Lunsford
Vice President
Student Affairs

anxiety within yourself up to that moment."

Juarez said she was happy, relieved and ecstatic for what's to come during the upcoming year. "I felt fulfilled, that our

SGA officers at both MMC and BBC. They represent their fellow students to the administration, and this is an important responsibility," Lunsford wrote in a statement to

Student Media. "They also have fiduciary oversight for over \$16 million in student fees. We have an excellent working relation with both groups, and I look forward to an active and productive year ahead."

After an extended elections cycle, both Collazo and Juarez say they're glad it's over.

"Whatever the outcome would have been, I would've been glad it was just done. Because it was one of the longest elections in the time that I've been here," Collazo said.

FIYOU was voted into office over Access FIU, a new party created under Jose Sirven and Devondra Shaw.

"What we were trying to accomplish, and what I hope the other party will attempt to do, is to involve more student voices, more diverse voices in that process, to make sure that the needs of only a select group of students aren't being advocated for," Shaw said.

"We opened people's minds. We shed light on and started conversations that hadn't been started. I think people woke up," Sirven said.

During the campaigns, Collazo and Juarez, members of the FIYOU political party at MMC, made an emphasis on being visible and transparent in an effort to



CAYLA BUSH/THE BEACON

Thursday, April 21 Michelle Juarez and Alian Collazo are elected vice president and president of SGC-MMC, respectively.

inform students of the role of student government.

"Right out of the gate, I think that it's important, and myself and Michelle are going to start meeting up with student organizations and student organization leadership as well, to let them know and explain to them the Student Government budget, and how it works, how it's allocated. For them to know exactly all the details about it," Collazo said.

The SGA budget, which is over \$18 million made of the Activity and

Service fees students pay in tuition, was the largest misconception during the elections cycle Collazo and Juarez said.

This, they said, will be the hardest challenge they face in the upcoming year, but it's not stopping them.

"The growing community doesn't really reflect on the budget," Juarez said. "That's always a challenge, but as for everything else, there are things we can change, tackle and overcome."

Read the full story at fiusm.com

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SGC-MMC OFFICERS

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MICHELLE JUAREZ
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CAYLA BUSH/THE BEACON

Hillel lecture educates students on Jewish identity

ERICA SANTIAGO
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Students were given an intersectional look into the Jewish diaspora Wednesday, April 20 when Hillel at FIU invited Rebecca Avera of Hillel at Stanford to lecture students about the Ethiopian Jewish community.

Michal Hertzmann, one of the coordinators for Avera's lecture and a Jewish Agency Israel Fellow to Hillel at FIU, says, "We wanted to expose the students to something they know little about - the story of the Jewish-Ethiopian community both in Africa and in Israel."

Avera, the daughter of

Ethiopian immigrants to Israel, says she spoke to students about "the origin of Ethiopian Jewry as descendants of the Queen of Sheba and the Dan tribe, one of the 10 missing tribes."

Avera also shared her experiences as an Ethiopian Jew and how her family was persecuted.

"I told the story of my mom's escape from Ethiopia in 1984," she said. "She walked all the way from her village to Sudan, where airplanes from Israel came to the refugee camps and airlifted everyone to a new life in Israel (Operation Moses)."

"[Her mother's story] showed me that it's better to focus on the positive outcome of situations rather than the negative things

we might encounter on the way," said Neti Shkori, a sophomore majoring in management and

faceted identity, as many students also occupy various identities, according to Hertzmann.

"Now I'm proud to say I'm Black, Jewish, Ethiopian and Israeli. It confuses people and I'm happy to tell them my story."

Rebecca Avera
Speaker
Hillel

human resources and board member of Hillel at FIU.

Students at the lecture connected with Avera's multi-

"That's actually one of the reasons we brought Rebecca - She also has many identities: Jewish, Black, Ethiopian, Israeli - all at

once," she said. "Her community is a minority in Ethiopia and a minority in Israel. I think it's the same for our students, and made them connect to her story and understand the complexities of having multiple identities."

Shkori says, "Rebecca also set a primary example of self acceptance."

"She spoke to us about how she didn't want to have anything to do with her culture growing up and then when she ended up being around other Ethiopian people her age she realized the beauty of her uniqueness and her background," said Shkori.

Avera says, "It took me time to embrace the different identities I

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Kansas State University is sued over alleged frat house rapes

Two Kansas State University students are suing the university claiming it failed to investigate after the women reported being raped at campus-recognized fraternity houses.

In separate lawsuits filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Kansas, the women accuse the university of violating Title IX, the federal gender-discrimination

law that protects students against sexual violence and harassment. The suits also accuse Kansas State of negligence in failing to warn and protect the women against a “foreseeably dangerous environment” at the university, and of falsely promoting Greek life on the Manhattan campus as “fun and safe.”

Microsoft axes production of Xbox 360 consoles

Microsoft will stop producing the Xbox 360, the decade-old video-game console that cemented the company’s place in the living room. The Xbox 360, the second version of the device aimed at extending the company’s reach beyond personal computer gaming, debuted in 2005. “Xbox 360 means a lot to everyone in Microsoft,” Xbox chief Phil Spencer said in a blog post. “And while we’ve had an amazing run, the realities of manufacturing

a product over a decade old are starting to creep up on us.” The Xbox 360 sold neck and neck with Sony’s rival PlayStation 3, and eventually outsold the Japanese conglomerate’s device in the U.S. At the peak of that generation of consoles in 2012, consumers were using about 57 million Xbox 360s, compared with about 65 million for the PS3, according to a report from Barclays, citing NPD Group data and company reports.

Oakland drawing more tech startups

When Uber opens its massive new headquarters near downtown Oakland next year, flooding the area with as many as 3,000 workers, it will become part of an already thriving tech scene.

As the city makes an effort to become more tech friendly, dozens of other startups have joined longtime anchors Pandora and Ask.com in Oakland over the past few years. The growth provides an early sign that

the city may be on its way to becoming the next San Francisco or Palo Alto. “I think in general there is a realization across most tech companies right now that there is unrealized value over in Oakland,” said T3 Advisors managing director David Bergeron, who helps tech clients find office space. But just as Oakland’s startup culture is making a name for itself, costs in the city are skyrocketin

MUSLIM INITIATIVES



NICOLE MEZA/THE BEACON

Aslihan Akkay, instructor in the Department of Global and Sociocultural studies, speaks on the panel for the Initiative for Muslim World Studies.

Lecture discusses Jewish Ethiopian community

HILLEL, PAGE 1

have. Now I’m proud to say I’m Black, Jewish, Ethiopian and Israeli. It confuses people and I’m happy to tell them my story. Being a minority is complex - there are challenges and successes and I think it’s important to talk about it.”

The lecture also coincided with the Jewish holiday of Passover.

“Passover is upon us,” said Hertzmann, “That’s the night when Jews tell the biblical story of Exodus. The journey of the Jews from Ethiopia has a lot in common with the biblical story - so we wanted to emphasize that.”

“The reality is that the Jewish community is very diverse - and because I’m black that stands out even more,” she said. “My parents only ever knew black Jews until they came to Israel in the 80’s and saw Jews from European, Arabic and Asian origin countries. Then they understood the Jewish world is much larger than they thought.”

“Hearing Rebecca’s story can benefit the FIU community by opening their eyes to the diversity there is in Israel,” said Shkori. “A lot of people see Israel in a really negative light and don’t understand the level of acceptance and beauty that is there.”

FIU celebrates diversity

NICHOLAS OLIVERA
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first feature will be a vendor with signs featuring popular FIU mottos, traditions, and even names of students.

“Those are just signs that feature FIU quotes and facts,” Castillo said. “What it means to be a panther.”

The second feature is a photo project. Students will write down what diversity means to them on a white board. They will then have their picture taken in order to be posted onto FIU’s Facebook page for other students to see what’s going on that day.

“The photo project is our way to engage the community in what diversity means and prove that there’s a real sense of community here at FIU,” Castillo said.

Students on campus are looking forward to the event, which many of them believe could be an opportunity to expose themselves to someone who is from a completely different background than them.

“Diversity is important because it’s a chance to meet people that come from different backgrounds, which means exposure to different ideologies that you normally wouldn’t be exposed to,” said Ayesha Jeanbaptist, a freshman

who is majoring in biology. “A well-rounded person should have some knowledge about the world outside of their comfort zone.

University’s celebration of diversity could raise some valid questions from students that concerns the United States’ familiarity with other cultures. Some students who have come from other countries are somewhat surprised by the amount of emphasis on diversity in this country, which is something they are simply accustomed to.

“I lived in Peru for years so interacting with people from Europe, Asia, all over is something I’m just used to,” said Jeronimo Davalos, a sophomore who is majoring in finance. “Diversity is important because it brings ideas from different parts of the world that you wouldn’t know about without stepping outside your bubble.”

Whether students want to celebrate being an FIU panther or their own background, the University’s celebration of diversity and community will be held on Tuesday, April 22 at BBC on the first floor of AC1 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

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We should put the 'men' in menstruation

PANTHER HEALTH



MAYTINEE
KRAMER

Though every woman is different in her own way, there is one thing that many of us have in common: a visit from good, old Aunt Flo.

Almost every woman can recall at least one traumatic story that featured Aunt Flo's visit and sometimes those stories feature a feeling of shame or embarrassment.

For something that is completely natural, normal and healthy, a majority of men also still shy away from the subject. Along with women, men should take part in breaking the taboo that surrounds menstruation.

One way to start is to carry feminine hygiene products. Periods should be put squarely on the public agenda and everyone should take menstruation into consideration.

Many women, myself included, still hide their pads or tampons up their sleeves on their way to the restroom - even then, we try to be discreet about it, as though the girl in the stall beside you hasn't

experienced the same feeling.

For many women, it's embarrassing to ask another woman for a tampon or pad. What's worse is not getting one because no one else has one.

No matter how well a woman tracks Mother Nature's monthly visits, no single smartphone app or calendar check can guarantee that a period will be punctual. This leaves women feeling uncertain and worried about when their period will come and they are often caught off guard at the most inconvenient times.

Men, in turn, should stop avoiding the subject and stop treating periods like they're disgusting. Just because men don't go through menstruation on a monthly basis doesn't mean they should pretend it doesn't exist, or more importantly, not care about periods or avoid helping.

With the amount of women who menstruate in mind, men should develop a chivalrous habit of stashing a few lady products - perhaps in the glove compartment of their car or gym bag.

However, expecting men to carry or stash pads and tampons for their female friends still seems like a far reach, especially in consideration to how society still dominates the taboo that surrounds menstruation.

Periods still remain a taboo topic

due to the lack of discussion about menstruation during the early age of a girl's life. This consequently translates in the lack of comfortable discussion as adults.

Menstruation is still perceived as unclean or embarrassing and girls are taught not to speak about it publicly or in private because it's an inappropriate subject.

Making matters even more difficult, feminine hygiene products are largely inaccessible in the United States and even hold an imposed luxury tax, despite access to such products being a basic human right.

The National Conference of State Legislatures reported that only 22 states and Washington D.C. require public schools to teach sex-education. However, there is no mandated curriculum, which means lessons vary from school to school without clear indication of how thoroughly menstruation is taught to both boys and girls, let alone if it's being taught at all.

Efforts from a growing number of advocates, entrepreneurs and female lawmakers to destigmatize periods have been especially heavy in the past year, with Cosmopolitan magazine calling 2015 "The Year The Period Went Public." after conversations about periods reached never before seen levels.

Yet men haven't stopped shying

away from the topic of menstruation or have even stopped period-shaming. There are a few, though, that understand a woman's situation.

One local Miami teenager, José Garcia, believes men should stand by women and carry extra tampons and pads in their bags just in case a woman needs them.

Last year, Garcia started the hashtag #realmensupportwomen after garnering attention for posting a photo of himself holding pads and urging all guys to carry sanitary products to help women. Even feminine hygiene product brand, Kotex, took notice and created an advertising campaign for #realmensupportwomen.

Fellow Panther, Soo Min Lee, a junior majoring in chemistry, doesn't mind carrying feminine hygiene products for his girlfriend.

"[B]ecause it's better to have them in case of an emergency than to be sorry," Soo Min-Lee said to Student Media. "I'm not embarrassed at all. I think it's more embarrassing to walk around with your girlfriend showing blood marks, so why not carry a few to prevent it?"

However, while he feels comfortable about carrying feminine hygiene products himself, he understands that men in general may not feel the same way.

"For general friends, I don't think

they will feel comfortable carrying such products for no reason, but if it's for their girlfriend, it shouldn't be something to be embarrassed about. I mean, what is embarrassing about carrying it for your significant other?" Soo said.

FIU, a university committed to keeping its students safe and healthy, should encourage discussion that emphasizes that a woman's period is nothing to be ashamed or uncomfortable of.

Apart from providing free tampon and pad dispensers in the university bathrooms, male Panthers should be encouraged to support their female friends. Doing so is an appropriate step towards destigmatizing periods.

If men develop the new habit of stashing sanitary products for their friends, perhaps they, along with women, will become less embarrassed about walking through the tampon aisle or talking about the subject. Even though it's about as womanly as possible, guys should be a part of the incredible section of nature that is the reproductive system.

Panther Health is a commentary on college health and nutrition. Maytinee Kramer is a staff writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, please contact Maytinee at maytinee.kramer@fiusm.com.

The media is raising our children

IN TRUTH



DAMIAN GORDON

Kids may be the least important things in the world with the 18 years worth of work their parents do to try to prevent their children from falling victims to Darwinism. What is important are the adults that those kids turn into and this is the primary concern of the older generation.

The public is always wondering what the media's effect on children is; a prominent concern because children are the indicators of changing times. What we influence them with can foretell how a certain future era or generation is going to play out.

The information age is already seeing this

effect with an alarming amount of kids that don't believe in Santa Claus. This is partly due to how many kids are just able to search it on the web and get instant results.

The illusion of many childhood figures that were once easy to keep alive is gone - look at wrestling, the outrageous Hulk Hogan can have his dark life outed in a couple of clicks.

Media has a powerful effect - if the World War I campaign is any indication - and the most moldable people out there are the youth.

Obviously, it was effective as the U.S. army ads still play today, showing convincing dreams, like promises of how good life could be, a portrayal comparable to an Axe ad.

Children's advertising has many regulations such as the time and place it can be shown or even the content of it.

Advertisement targeted towards children receives heavier scrutiny than any other advertisement meant for an older audience, for good reason.

Look no further than the '80s where most cartoon shows couldn't get green lit unless they had a positive message for kids, like G.I. Joe's famous "the more you know" slogan.

Now, there is no filter content on what the youth can consume. While watching "Worldstar" Vines, I start searching up nice areas in Canada to live in because one of these kids might have kids of their own one day and I don't want to be anywhere near that future.

A deranged person with a knife is less terrifying than a teen with a camera phone, simply because these teens are doing crazy life-threatening acts like

setting themselves on fire "for the Vine."

Kids can be our future and that scares people as they get older because the younger generation will control how their country is run.

We, as a society, hope to instill the values we see as virtuous in our kids and in the things they see on their monitor.

This is not entirely about how youth are getting stupider, as they're probably more knowledgeable than their parents were at this age. It's about how the product of the media can be the producer of our future.

In Truth is a commentary on issues that everyone has thoughts about, but doesn't discuss. Damian Gordon is a staff writer for FIU student media. For suggestions, email Damian at damian.gordon@fiusm.com

ALWAYS A WINNER



SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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WHEN DOVES CRY

Prince 'finally punched it to a higher floor'

ADRIAN HERRERA
Staff Writer
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Dearly beloved, what does one say about the passing of time? About the emptying and filling of space? How does one talk about death? About a ladder to heaven? Is God a man, a woman, or both? Is death a cacophony, or is it gentle and silent? And what does silence look like?

Purple. Today, silence looks purple. Prince is dead. We live in a world where that can happen – where Prince and Bowie can both die in the same year only months apart. Where it snows in April just as hard as it did in January.

Maybe it's climate change driving the aliens away – those people that conquered humanity to such a degree that we can't help but look at them as other-worldly.

People die all around the world all

the time but not these people. These people are as close to super heroes as we've ever come. And they're gone. Nothing will compare to them.

Prince said a great many things in his almost 40 year career. Many of them are too funky to print here, but here's one that resonates, "Life is a party, and parties weren't meant to last."

Parties are internal chaos and disorder unified in external joy fantastic.

Prince is much the same - within him we see the sexed-up dude leaning on the bar talking to a girl about his new guitar and how he'd like to show it to her, the activist enlightening some party-goers on how broken-window policing perpetuates gang-violence, the fashionista slung across a couch, too cool to comment, the boy that feels more like a girl and the girl that feels more like a boy, the spiritualist trying to help a sad drunk find his center, the business men discussing contract obligations and intellectual property ownership – all of these individuals gathered at this party, engaged in very serious conversation with each other and with the world, yet having a ball, dancing – they are all Prince, or rather Prince is all of them.

An unlikely combo of social and sexual commentary blended with virtuoso artistry, pop sensibility, strict business ideals, and a passion for fun/k. He made consciousness sexy. He made activism

bounce. He made music into love, and love into music. He had hits (my god, did he have hits), but he had misses as well. He kept moving. He made a statement and pushed forward.

He had a tremendous amount of compassion, but he was also kind of a prick. He was sweet, but not always nice. He made pop, but he made art.

He was Prince. Chaos and order. Yin and Yang. He and she. Prince. Singer, guitarist, pianist, drummer, producer, writer, actor. Prince. 39 albums and seven Grammys. He crystalized chaos into flawless amethyst and made it look easy.

Prince was a party that lasted as long as a party possibly could: a lifetime.

Here's something else Prince said, in an interview with Notorious magazine, "Music is real. It affects people, it's real. ... The other night I went to a club and I

watched a DJ control an entire room. Even politicians can't do that."

This is a tremendous truth. Prince and Bowie are gone but these politicians are still around making everybody miserable and telling us what we can't do or what is wrong to do. Prince showed us what we can do, what is okay to do; it's okay to speak your mind, even when your thoughts are freaky; it's okay to dance; it's okay to be androgynous, to be gay, to be straight, to be black, to be U.

Yes he is gone, but this knowledge remains. The music remains. The movies and TV skits remain. The party is over but the memory of the party reigns on, and the prince that was more a king reigns on, and the purple rains and reigns on ad perpetuum rei memoriam.

Perhaps a metaphor about doves crying would be appropriate here. But there's something else Prince said that may serve us better on this dark maroon day, "always cry for love, never cry for pain."

The doves might mourn how we scream at each other, but they're also celebrating the fact that despite our screaming, there is hope; there is life. It's an ugly world but life is beautiful. Prince had life, and life is an electric word. It means forever and that's a mighty long time.

What else is there to say? The details surrounding his death are still scarce, but his body was found at his Paisley Park Studio, collapsed on the elevator. It seems he finally punched it to a higher floor. He was 57. May he rest in purple.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

WHAT PRINCE MEANT TO ME

[Thursday], we lost a prolific artist and one of the most innovative musical minds of our time. The unexpected death of Prince at such a young age is a loss not just for musicians but for all generations of his listeners, past, present and future. His presence in the music landscape will be greatly missed.

Jim Hacker
Professor and Studio Musician
FIU School of Music



It was unexpected, he was one of those people that pushed pop music in the direction it needed to be. There are very few people out there who can do that in their craft.

Chris Baos
Senior
Music Major



Prince was to young black men what Bowie was to young white men in the sense that he advocated for being a carefree black man in a world that constantly forces hyper-masculinity upon them. His reach was just as cultural as it was musical.

Erica Santiago
News Director and WRGP General Manager
FIU Student Media



Millennial Islamic leaders discuss diversity

KATHERINE DEL RIO
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Students, faculty and community members filled every seat and even sat on the floor to participate in a panel discussion about Islamic women at the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs on Thursday, April 21.

The Role of Women in Islam panel discussion featured five community leaders and experts from Florida International University; and were aimed at debunking common misconceptions about typical Muslim women, along with showing the diversity of the female Islamic community.

“It’s really important to clarify what we really think of women,” said Youssef Bouzoubaa, a Muslim senior studying management and marketing. “People think that Muslim women are undervalued.”

Panelist included: Karen Shah, vice president of the Broward

groups.

The idea for the panel discussion was brought up to Dan Alvarez by Khan when she asked what initiatives were going to be taken for Muslim women in the FIU community.

“We can solve problems by having forums like this and talking,” said Khan.

The women stressed that what is shown by media does not represent the larger picture of the 1.6 billion Muslims and is often taken out of context. Islam is the fastest-growing religion in the world and the majority of Muslims live in Indonesia, not the Middle East.

“No one wants to hear the moderate voices,” said Pissaris.

While headlines of the extreme terror group, Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, are constantly displayed in the media, the panelists said nothing justifies what the group is doing. Adding that the group has killed more Muslims than non-Muslims.

“

It’s really important to clarify what we really think of women. People think that Muslim women are undervalued.

Youssef Bouzoubaa
Senior
Management and Marketing

Interfaith Council, Rabia Khan, resident scholar at the Islamic Foundation of South Florida and principle of an Islamic School, Isra Yahya Amin Ibrahim, student and secretary of the Muslim Student Association, Seema Pissaris, clinical management professor at Florida International University and Aslihan Akkaya, a visiting instructor in the department of global and sociocultural studies at Florida International University.

Each panelist gave a brief introduction on their family life, career and faith. Each woman’s story tied together only by their beliefs.

Shah was born and raised in Indiana and became a Muslim when she married her husband.

Khan, a single mother of five children, has memorized the entire Quran.

Ibrahim was the youngest woman on the panel and an active member in the Muslim community at Florida International University.

Pissaris was born in Pakistan and is a member of the Shia Ismaili, a minority branch of Islamic faith. Akkaya was born in Turkey and pursued architecture before studying anthropology.

The event proceeded with a question and answer session where attendees were able to direct questions to a specific panelist or all of the women. Questions varied from the media’s portrayal of Muslims today to marriage, education and radical Muslim

The panelists emphasized that problems arise in media when scripture is separated from its context and only one piece of text is looked at.

“Any religious text can be abused by humans for their own manipulated reasons,” said Khan.

To break stereotypes about women in the Islamic community education is key.

“As millennials it’s our responsibility to unpack difficult content and have these difficult conversations,” said Ibrahim.

Pissaris encouraged those in attendance to go out and befriend a Muslim person, listen to their diverse story and keep the conversation going.

The panelists explained their rights to marriage, to divorce, to property and to education adding that there is a fight for all human rights.

“The millennial Muslims right now who are growing up here are American and they become the fabric of America,” said Ibrahim. After the event concluded many attendees stayed to speak to panelists and ask more questions.

“Dr. Alvarez encouraged us to come and it was pretty interesting,” said Felipe Gomez, a freshman studying physics who hopes the event is bought back in the future.

The event was hosted for free by The Initiative for Muslim World Studies and the Middle East Studies Program along with the Center for Women’s Gender Studies.

DEAR EARTH



GUETHSHINA ALTEÑA/THE BEACON

From left to right: Honors college students, Samantha Barnett senior liberal studies, Jennifer Baker senior asian studies and management of information systems, Naser Hamad biology junior and a volunteer cleaning the street of SW 109th avenue on Friday, April 22, 2016.

Undergrad students present research on women in communication

SAM SMITH
Staff Writer
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Thursday, April 21, the Lillian Lodge Kopenhagen Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication and the Public Relations Student Society of America co-hosted “Equity and Equality of the Sexes in Communication,” a conference to discuss the status of women in communication fields.

Lillian Lodge Kopenhagen, the executive director of the center and dean emerita of FIU’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication and Brian Schriener, the current dean of SJMC and the College of Architecture and the Arts welcomed students, faculty, staff and guest speakers at 1 p.m., introducing keynote speaker Susan Goldberg, the Editor-In-Chief of National Geographic Magazine and Editorial Director of National Geographic Partners.

Among a list of professors and university directors from across the country, undergraduate students presented their research, “What Women Tell Women About Working in Communication.”

Samiyyah Black, a junior digital media major, presented

her team’s findings alongside SJMC professor Ted Gutsche.

Black said her team analyzed 15 hours of recorded webinars and seminars at the Kopenhagen center, and extracted four overarching themes women in communication spoke about. Empowerment, identity and purpose and leaning in.

“Our speakers encourage women to collaborate with one another because we’ll be able to share skills and progress further as opposed to doing it on our own - they said this is something that’s lacking.”

Because of social norms, Black said women still face stereotyping as homemakers which can affect their career. Even though emotions were often discussed in talks, there was also a need to show more nurturing attitudes between women in communication fields.

Also at the panel were Austriauna Brooks and Rachel Rogers, both students at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington, who collaborated with them to create a website which allows users to interact with the data they found.

“We wanted a more readable platform so people could share it

with their friends,” said Rogers. “It also allows people to share their own story on there.”

Ashley Orozco, a digital media studies senior at FIU who collaborated on the research Black presented, noted the importance of doing research in college.

“To not have the experience for the future really limits you in what you do,” said Orozco. “That’s why doing a research program is so helpful.”

Sofia de la Vega, another team member and digital media studies senior, agreed.

“What I liked about this project was the exposure. I’ve never done anything like this before, and working with them has been awesome.”

Black said she had conflicting feelings about their findings, and of the findings of other panelists at the conference.

“I’m a minority and I’m a female and I want to go into media,” said Black. “Hearing all this [research] has been discouraging, but at the same time it’s empowering to see women speakers speaking about how we can change these things.”

Andrew Trabazo was the only male student working on

the research, and said although he knew about the disproportion before, the extent of it was “mind-blowing.”

“Everybody has women in their life, and that’s where the salience and the resonance comes in - everyone can relate to this,” he said. “That way we can bring males into the field who understand what’s happening. The only way to push past this is to collaborate together.”

Each of the team members were adamant that students should involve themselves more in undergraduate research in communications.

“Research shouldn’t just be required for science majors,” said Black. “There should definitely be way more with us [in communications].”

Judy VanSlyke Turk, a research fellow at the Kopenhagen Center, presented the results of a survey entitled “Are Communication Professionals Achieving Their Potential?”

This was the first survey of its kind from the Kopenhagen Center. Turk said that, every two years, the center plans to re-conduct the survey to track trends and progress in the field of communication.

For the full story, visit FIUSM.com.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Tough spot for Panthers' new head coach

RIDING SOLA



ALEJANDRO SOLANA

What a difference a year makes in sports, especially for the women's basketball program at FIU.

Only a little less than 365 days ago, the athletics department was announcing the new hire that was going to replace the great Cindy Russo. Just a year ago, it seemed like all was well for the Panthers.

A new young coach coming from a respected program in Maryland to take the Panthers back into contention in women's basketball, where this team once shined thanks to three decades of Russo.

Fast-forward now to the present day, apply a bit of hindsight bias and you now have what seems like an impossible situation for Tiara Malcom, the new head coach for

FIU's women's basketball team.

To be fair, nobody could have foreseen the Marlin Chinn firing. Chinn had everyone at FIU sold. Players seemed to love him. The coaching staff marveled in his ability to connect with the players.

After three decades of a peevish leader that ended poorly, the new blood seemed to excite everyone, especially amongst Student Media, myself included.

The Chinn firing came at no surprise once the truth was brought to light. Without question, he deserved to be fired and will hopefully never be allowed to return to a sideline ever again.

The firing, however, did not stem from the sexual-harassment case, officially.

According to Pete Garcia, everyone's favorite athletic director, "The decision comes after Mr. Chinn admitted to University officials that he knowingly violated NCAA bylaws regarding impermissible benefits provided to a student-athlete."

As far as the sexual harassment case, which from the beginning seemed as though attempts were

made to keep it a secret and sweep it under the rug by the FIU athletics department, "The University's Title IX investigation into other serious allegations made against Mr. Chinn by a student-athlete will continue."

Malcom was brought to FIU by Chinn last season, along with most of the women's coaching staff, which is customary for new hires at programs. The First State native had only known University of Delaware basketball until last year.

It was Malcom who overtook the FIU team as Interim Head Coach after Chinn was fired and it only took a few weeks after the season concluded for her to be elevated to Head Coach of the program.

Considering Malcom's coaching experience, one must ask if she is ready to be a head coach for a Division I program, let alone the disaster that is FIU at this moment.

According to FIUSports.com, "Malcom primarily worked with the post players as well as handling recruiting, equipment

and scouting opponents," at her previous job with Delaware over the span of nine seasons.

It is fair for Panther fans who question whether a life long assistant coach who specialized only with post players and spent most of her time scouting has what it takes to revive a program.

What Malcom takes over now is an FIU program that has reached its lowest depths possible.

The team went 8-52 the last two seasons, including a 2-34 Conference-USA record over that stretch. The Panthers will lose four seniors including two starters and their leading scorer, Taylor Shade.

Only three starters will return to the team, two of which are only starting because of injuries to other players. With all this being said, it still may not be the biggest challenge that awaits Malcom.

The players who are not graduating all understand what transpired with Chinn. They are friends with Destini Feagin and have heard her side.

They realize this coaching staff was brought to the school by

Chinn himself and the University chose one of Chinn's hires to lead the program. That may not sit well with most of the players and even fans who thought hiring from within is unfair, considering these were Chinn's people.

Recruiting, which already was a tough spot having to compete with University of Miami and the other Florida schools, will only get tougher now that it is a new head coach with no experience.

The sexual harassment case hanging over the program which will also increase its difficulty to sway players to come to Miami.

Malcom was once a dominant post player at the University of Delaware, that will never be disputed. It must be noted, however, that she will definitely need much more than a sky hook to figure out how to save this FIU program from its total collapse.

Riding Sola is a monthly column about FIU Women's Basketball. For commentary and suggestions, email Alejandro Solana at alejandro.solana@fiusm.com.

VICTORY!



PHOTO COURTESY OF AL DIAZ / TNS STAFF

Miami Marlins right fielder Ichiro Suzuki (51) singles in the first inning as the Miami Marlins host the Washington Nationals at Marlins Park on Thursday, April 21, 2016 in Miami, Fla. The Marlins won 5-1.

BASEBALL

Curt Schilling and gender enforcement in America

T-TIME



GIANCARLO NAVAS

"A man is a man no matter what they call themselves. I don't care what they are, who they sleep with, men's room was designed for the penis, women's not so much. Now you need laws telling us differently? Pathetic."

Those were the words that recently fired ESPN baseball analyst and former World Series Champion Curt Schilling attached to a shared Facebook post. The post showed a picture of an overweight person wearing a wig and had tears in their shirt to expose breasts and the stomach.

The text on the side of the picture reads "LET HIM IN! to the restroom with your daughter or else you're a narrow-minded, judgmental, unloving racist bigot who needs to die."

It's sad how little America understands about the transgender community and the construction of gender. America sees the person in that photo as a representation of the transgender community.

Transgender is a broad term that encompasses many things. The American Psychological Organization defines it as, "an umbrella term for persons whose gender identity, gender expression or behavior does not conform to that typically associated with the sex to which they were assigned at birth."

The question then becomes what is gender? The American Psychological Organization defined this as, "the socially constructed roles,

behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for boys and men or girls and women. These influence the ways that people act, interact, and feel about themselves."

The key word there is "socially constructed roles" and that there is where Schilling's understanding of the trans community is probably most lacking.

The concept of gender construction is simple really, the idea of man and woman as a gender has been constructed for centuries. It's a product of society, not something hardwired into our DNA.

This then delves into questions of what is the essence of a man and woman and even further is the concept of "masquerade" developed by post-structuralist feminist Judith Butler.

These are all nuanced and very specific topics that it would be unreasonable to expect a 49-year-old former major leaguer to understand, let alone know of. In fairness to Schilling I think most of America doesn't truly understand what the LGBT community is like, especially the "T."

They haven't been to drag shows, gay bars, pride parades or even socialize in gay and trans circles. There is a lack of exposure and education so naturally people on the outside look at it as weird or strange.

Sports communities are even less equipped to deal with such things. Their construction of the male gender is so clearly defined and often

SEE GENDER, PAGE 7

BASEBALL

The gender binary in sports

GENDER,
PAGE 6

believed to be correlated with success.

The more “manly” you are, the better. Professional sports is an ecosystem that chews up people not fitting and conforming to its culture.

It’s result driven and unrelenting, it is Darwinism at it’s finest: survive. It’s a cliché used in sports a lot and survival doesn’t have empathy to those on the outside.

It is in the culture of sports that makes it difficult for sports figures to understand the plight and pain of trying to discover your gender identity.

In a place where gender is so clearly defined it is difficult to comprehend the grays.

Schilling and the picture he re-posted alleged that if they aren’t comfortable with letting the person in the picture go into the restroom with their daughter, then people felt the

needed to die. Which isn’t true, but what they can stand for more of is an understanding of those that don’t fit into their neat little constructed gender binary.

T-Time is a biweekly column about gender issues within sports. For commentary and suggestions, email Giancarlo Navas at giancarlo.navas@fiusm.com

NFL

Dolphin draft could bring change

DRUCKER'S DIGEST



DAVID
DRUCKER

Lost in the rare frenzy of South Florida playoff games is the upcoming NFL Draft. The Miami Dolphins will either draft for need and miss out on some of the best players available or vice versa.

Why is it that the Dolphins are playing catch-up at the NFL draft every year? Can they do something different in 2016 to change their fortune?

Part of the circus that is the Dolphins’ roster is that they are consistently over-aggressive in the offseason. As every Dolphins fans should know, “winning free agency” can mean a lot of things. Sometimes, it translates to reeling in a prize like defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh at a tremendous cost. Although one huge free agent signing probably won’t lift up your entire team.

A large contract can hinder a roster, however, like Suh’s did before the Dolphins restructured his astounding \$28.6 million against the salary cap this season.

If you’ve followed the Dolphins for a few years now, you are probably familiar with how one big-name free agent affects everyone else.

Miami cannot hand out quality contracts to reliable starters because they don’t have the cap flexibility. Instead, they must rely on rookies and stopgap options to hold down important positions.

Many of these NFL newcomers struggle through their transitions and are the weakest links on the roster. Whose fault is it though, the rookies for performing poorly or the Dolphins for not giving them a fair chance to succeed?

Miami may draft a couple busts every year, but every team takes chances on high-risk, high-rewards players in the NFL draft.

After a few of these projects blossom into starters, however, most teams like to

retain them because they can trust them.

The Dolphins aren’t terrible at drafting, but at retaining their talent. Since the 2010 draft, Miami has landed defensive end Olivier Vernon, strong safety Reshad Jones, tight end Charles Clay and halfback Lamar Miller all in the third round or later.

Jones is the only one who will be reporting to practice in Davie this offseason. In fact, Rishard Matthews, a productive wide receiver drafted in the seventh round, is already trying to devise a way out of Miami.

I believe Miami lets this happen because of inconsistency in management and coaching. This year’s regime is always here to correct the mistakes of last year’s and install their own football philosophy.

Therefore, the Dolphins clear house of their own talent - players they might be able to get at a discount if they were on good terms with them - and become a farm for the rest of the NFL.

Before talent gets fixed, continuity in general manager

and head coach will need to exist first. Ross believes that Head Coach Adam Gase will be the man to usher in a new era of stability in Miami.

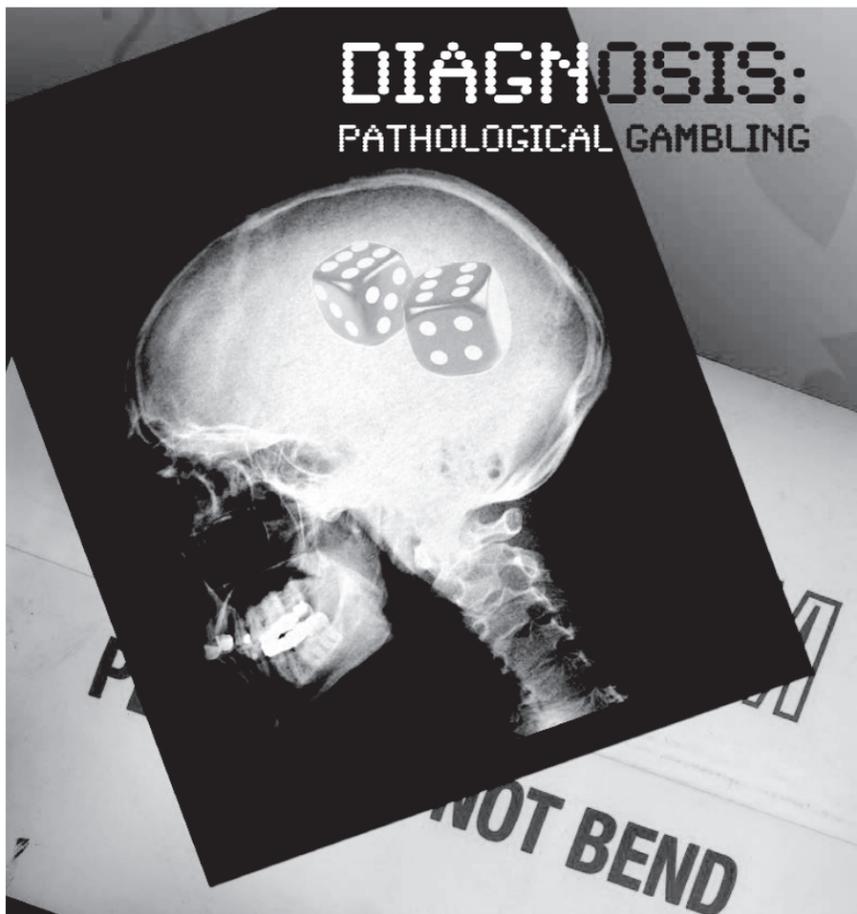
As Miami takes players off the board this year, I ask fans to not over-analyze them based on their past experience. Instead, pay more attention to how this upcoming draft class is coached under Gase.

See how much Tannenbaum invests in them and how they are treated as they approach their contract years.

The Dolphins need to start treating rookies like investments. If I have learned anything from spring after spring of “winning” free agency, it’s that the Dolphins are not.

If they can win the draft, however, and then continue to invest in these players, maybe I’ll be able to write a different story next year.

Drucker’s Digest is a monthly column about the Miami Dolphins. For commentary and suggestions, email David Drucker at david.drucker@fiusm.com.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing the activity, participants will be able to:

- Describe ways problem gambling presents as a public health issue.
- Describe appropriate ways to treat those seeking help with problem gambling.
- Assess ways patients present in doctors’ offices, emergency rooms, urgent care centers, and elsewhere with symptoms associated with Gambling Disorder.
- Integrate appropriate screening and treatment practices into current approach to enhance patients’ physical and emotional well-being.
- Generate appropriate referral and medication prescription based on presenting conditions.

Everyday compulsive gamblers and those they adversely affect present in doctors offices, emergency rooms and elsewhere with symptoms never attributed to gambling. Despite research associating pathological gambling with alcoholism and substance abuse, rarely is the association between poor health and pathological gambling made. Chronic stress, a sedentary lifestyle and heavy exposure to secondhand smoke are also contributing factors to illness within the pathological gambling population. This program features important information designed for medical and other students in healthcare fields to recognize and effectively treat patients with pathological gambling disorder.

THE FLORIDA COUNCIL ON COMPULSIVE GAMBLING

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KEEPING IT REAL

An evening with Tia Mowry



CHAROLLETTE ALBA/THE BEACON



Top: Tia Mowry talks twins, growing up and Hollywood at BBC lecture series.
Middle: Tia Mowry share a laugh on stage at BBC lecture series
Bottom: FIUSM staff, Fabienne Fleurantin (left) and Kayleen Padron (right), interview Mowry.

Tia Mowry says to students ‘Embrace who you are’

POLITICOBIZZ



FABIENNE FLEURANTIN

Tia Mowry kept it real as she made an appearance at BBC.

S G A - B B C hosted its Lecture Series featuring Tia Mowry, who spoke about topics

ranging from her childhood career, to struggles in Hollywood and her current pursuits.

Walking in to the view of an eager crowd, Mowry did not disappoint. She captured the crowd with her wit as well as her humble air and disclosed secrets to how she kept herself honest throughout her time in Hollywood with all the criticisms along the way.

Mowry has been involved with so many projects in the past twenty

years and never ceases to create a new momentum for her drive and overall success.

From when she got her start on the hit comedy series “Sister Sister,” where she appeared alongside her twin sister, Tamera, to hosting her own cooking show, “Tia Mowry at Home,” she exceeded the bounds of expectation and refused any labels anyone or anything may have assigned her.

One of her current projects, “Mostly Mom,” which is a podcast that airs weekly on podcastone.com, has become quite controversial. Kerry Washington had a photo taken in the magazine, Ad Weekly, where she was Photoshopped to the extent of being virtually unrecognizable.

This topic came up on her show and when Mowry heard this, she vowed to never Photoshop any of her pictures

ever again. To her, this was a noble thing but not everyone held the same sentiment.

She received a lot of backlash for it and during the event, she spoke about how the ideals of beauty are subjective, yet society seems to make it a singular object that needs to be adopted by every individual.

“Embrace who you are. I think women come in all shapes and sizes, but I think a lot of the time, what happens is, you will see an actress or whoever, you know, on the cover of a magazine and what they do is, they morph and Photoshop the person to what they think society, what those standards are,” Mowry said. “I just feel like that opens up a can of worms with one narrow minded thought of what beauty is. Why do we have to be one look? Why do we have to be one size?”

Mowry also touched on how social media has brought bullying into a new light and how this awful phenomenon has affected the lives of so many people.

“Bullying on social media is a whole other level than it is—you know, we’ve all been bullied before. But when you have millions and millions of people coming at you, saying mean things—why? What is the point?”

As for us college students, she shed some light on her experience at Pepperdine University and that it’s okay to be lost sometimes.

“Follow your passion. I think that’s the most important thing. It’s okay to change your major. If you find that you’re not enjoying it, if this isn’t speaking to you, if this [isn’t] calling you, it’s okay,” Mowry said.

She brought forth an in-depth

perspective on her life by sharing it with many in the audience. She inspired me, as well as many others, as she spoke about embracing yourself, fighting for dreams and how important it is to nurture and maintain them. For people who may be going into the business of acting, she had a couple of words of encouragement.

“Don’t let the business define who you are. Do not let success define who you are. What defines you is your integrity, and your character and who you are as a person,” Mowry said.

PoliticoBuzz is a commentary that raises awareness about political issues in the US and worldwide. Fabienne Fleurantin is a staff writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, contact her at fabienne.fleurantin@fiusm.com

Actress shares ‘twintuition’ during lecture series

KAYLEEN PADRON

Staff Writer
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Wednesday, April 20, Tia Mowry visited FIU’s Biscayne Bay campus. She sat with student government member, Jamie Adelson and talked about family, her roots in Miami and her past experiences in Hollywood dating back to the 90s.

One thing students were interested in seeing was their childhood idol, grown up, with a successful career as well as a

loving and supporting family.

Her roots in Miami started back when her parents met in high school. After moving away together and joining the army, they had Mowry and twin sister, Tamera Mowry, along with two younger brothers.

After realizing the twins had artistic talent, their mother boldly decided to leave the army and move to LA so her children could pursue their dreams.

In an interview with FIU Student Media, Mowry admitted that “life was hard” and that “kids would pick on

us because our pants were like high water, because we couldn’t afford new clothes.”

However, their luck would soon change when they coincidentally ran into Suzanne De Passe who previously discovered The Jackson 5.

“She brought us into a room with an exec at paramount studios and all we did was talk,” Mowry said. That meeting provided for their entry into Hollywood.

Fast forward fifteen years and Mowry married her current husband Cory Hardrict. They have a son named Cree Taylor. Mowry said that “being a mom

is amazing. It’s wonderful. I think being a mom is the best thing that has ever happened to me.”

In her new podcast, “Mostly Mom,” Tia promotes a safe haven and positive environment for mothers and women alike.

With a judgement free zone, Mowry talks to her various guests about topics beyond motherhood or everyday experiences. She even talks about politics and different points of view with no judgement and open mindedness.

However, “Mostly Mom”

isn’t the only project she has worked for over the years. Mowry mentioned her time in the Fox TV show “The Game.”

She even acknowledged that it was the hardest thing she had ever auditioned for, mentioning that the transition from girl next door from her previous experience with “Sister Sister” to a more mature role took a lot of practice.

“I literally had to work so hard. I remember auditioning with my husband, and going over the words and he would work with me. And I remember when I did the scene in front of him he was like ‘Tia that was

terrible’. And I remember I was crying because he was like ‘that’s not it.’ And I think a part of me was insecure,” said Mowry.

Tia landed her role as Melanie Barnett. Her character was later cut from the show, but she would still appear as a guest star on later episodes.

Students sat around and listened to Mowry’s past and present experiences with Hollywood as well as her new life as a mother and wife.

Mowry prides herself in separating family from work, to which she attributed her success in show business.