

3-20-2017

## Panther Press, March 20, 2017

Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student\\_newspaper](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper)

---

### Recommended Citation

Florida International University, "Panther Press, March 20, 2017" (2017). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 917.  
[https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student\\_newspaper/917](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper/917)

This work is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections and University Archives at FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon) by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dcc@fiu.edu](mailto:dcc@fiu.edu).

## NEW CHAPTER IN TOWN

### Right-wing organization Turning Point USA brings chapter to FIU

**LIZANDRA PORTAL**  
*Contributing Writer*

Turning Point USA's job is to change the extremely liberal narrative present in high schools and college campuses and their mission continues at FIU, according to Driena Sixto, FIU alumna and Miami field director for the organization.

"Usually, students only get one side, one perspective, that's why we have seen an increase in the romanticizing of ideas like socialism and communism," she said. "Whereas there's very little faculty members, teachers or administrators promoting capitalism, free markets, individual liberties, individual rights and freedoms instead of a collective."

The non-profit organization, with a presence in over 1,000 college campuses and high schools nationwide, is known for its controversial right-wing ideals including a professor watch list that warns students of professors who have left-leaning ideologies. The website has been accused of inciting fear and promoting censorship but Sixto disagrees.

"The Professor Watchlist is not a tool to censor anyone, you do not get yourself on the Professor Watchlist for having a leftist ideology," she said. "If that were the case, more than 80 percent of all higher-learning faculty and staff would be there. You get yourself [on the list] by being an abusive, unprofessional or simply unhinged professor who is guilty of censorship or discriminating against others."

The website contains a collection of previously published news stories and accepts tips for new content, but says that they only publish the profiles for incidents that have been reported by a credible news outlet.

Sixto, who graduated from the University last summer,

was responsible for recruiting members while she was a student, and has continued her work for the FIU chapter since.

"Sometimes I go up to a table [on campus] to get them to sign up and find out they're already members and they flash me their pins," Sixto said. "We are changing the culture on campus. It was great to see what it has

“

You do not get yourself on the Professor Watchlist for having a leftist ideology. If that were the case, more than 80 percent of all higher-learning faculty and staff would be there. You get yourself [on the list] by being an abusive, unprofessional or simply unhinged professor who is guilty of censorship or discriminating against others,

Driena Sixto  
*Miami Field Director*  
Turning Point USA, FIU Chapter

”

blossomed into, and the enthusiasm that you see from so many diverse members."

The FIU chapter boasts about 2,000 members and is the largest club on campus, according to Sixto. Club President Anaise Hernandez, a junior studying international relations, liked the idea of bringing a more conservative, libertarian voice to campus and invites students who don't agree with the organization's views to sign up and see their side.

"It gives them another perspective to either question what they believe or to affirm their beliefs," Hernandez said. "You don't keep yourself in your own echo chamber where you're hearing the same thing over and over again."

Krishna McKay, a senior political science major who says he has vastly different views than the organization, regularly attends their events because he likes to "get an idea of how the opposition thinks."

He says while they do raise some good points, such as taxes getting too high, he disagrees with their views on government involvement. McKay believes that more federal mandated business regulations would help the lower and middle working classes.

As for the way the club handles debate, McKay also adds they can be condescending but likes "how they are getting our generation involved in the political process."

The organization has hosted a few events on campus in the spring semester. In February, the club held a debate watch party on campus to broadcast the healthcare debate between senators Bernie Sanders and Ted Cruz, which had a pretty big turnout, according to the club president.

On March 6, they held a movie night and showed "Atlas Shrugged," based on the Ayn Rand novel of the same name.

Future events planned for the organization include "2A Event" with the Law Cabinet Republicans to promote their ideals on Second Amendment rights. They also hope to collaborate with Pink Pistols, an LGBTQ group who teaches people about gun safety and how to properly handle firearms but the date has not yet been set.

The club doesn't hold weekly meetings however, interested students can sign up for their newsletter or contact them through their facebook page at FIU Turning Point USA.

#### BISCAYNE BAY

## Award ceremony serves as capstone to reading series

**MARTINA BRETOUS**  
*News Director*

The Lawrence Sanders Award was created to show where a life of literature can lead and this year, it will honor Pulitzer prize-winning author Jane Smiley.

"It's the best way, as a Creative Writing Program, of making what we do in our classrooms more visible ... So much of what you do [as a writer] happens alone," said Julie Wade, assistant professor at the program. "You're writing by yourself and then you come to classes, workshop, talk about other writers' work and use other writers' work as models to emulate, but even that happens in this cordoned off space that everyone outside of the class doesn't see."

The award, which Wade says is the only one of its kind, honors writers of fiction who have achieved market success in both commercial markets and literary contexts. This year, the program honors award-winning author Jane Smiley, who will participate in a book reading and a Q&A session with Les Standiford, the director of the program, on Thursday, March 30.

"Jane Smiley is someone who has been on our watchlist of writers for a while and we approached her ... and she was very gracious

and receptive," said Wade. "She's one of our people who we've wanted to honor for a while and this is the year that it works."

Part of the process in planning the event is finding someone who meets the criteria — which includes the writing genre and date of the event— and is willing to accept the award "within the limits of what the award can pay," Wade says. She adds that the program also encourages and requires students to work in multiple genres while getting their MSA so it's important to find writers who exemplify this.

"She [Smiley] has a brilliant academic satire called 'Moo' and she has a young adult series," said Wade. "She not only meets all of the criteria and graciously accepted the award, but on top of that, she's someone who represents more than one genre too."

Wade recalls only reading books from authors who were deceased in high school and says it's exciting to highlight current writers who are able to connect with students by coming to universities and answering questions about their work.

"It makes the whole thing seem so much more real, not something that's happening

**SEE AWARD, PAGE 2**

## Students to 'promote integrity' in committee

**CEYLIN ARIAS**  
*Staff Writer*

The Student Conduct Committee is currently in need of students who can become part of FIU's hearing body to "promote integrity, ethics, and be able to make decisions that promote education, accountability, and community well-being," said Amanda Torres, assistant director at the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

The SCC is a group of students, faculty, and staff who have applied for and have been selected to join the committee as part of the formal student process of the University in charge of hearing and determining

final resolution on behavioral misconduct cases.

Any student from any discipline, year, or program may apply to the committee.

"Although we do not hold any firm qualifications, besides needing a 2.5 GPA in order to be accepted into the committee, we are looking for individuals that can promote a lot of good qualities such as integrity and open-mindedness," said Torres. "On campus, it's important for students to hold each other accountable as it tends to be more powerful when a peer holds a student accountable for a violation than when an administrator does the same thing."

The code, Torres says, follows students

wherever they go and should encourage students to "represent the University in a positive way."

When a student is charged with a violation of behavioral misconduct, they are given three options: an informal hearing or two formal hearings — with the SCC serving as one of those formal hearings. In that time, the committee convenes two students and one faculty or staff member to hear the student's case.

"The student will then have the opportunity to give their own side of the story. The committee will ask them questions, they will take into consideration all the

**SEE SCC, PAGE 2**

# NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

## Unearthing atrocities in Iraq's newest mass graves

AL HOUD, Iraq — The skull still had a thatch of brown hair attached. The lower jaw was missing, and the forehead had a hole in it.

“Many of the bodies, the hands were tied. They were blindfolded and shot in the forehead,” said Omar Hasan as he surveyed remains scattered beside a sinkhole the Islamic State had turned into a mass grave.

A captain in a local Sunni tribal militia that polices the area around the village of Al Houd since it was freed in November, Hasan helped excavate the mass grave, where locals found 25 sets of remains. But land mines planted by the Islamic State have already killed some volunteers.

## China cautions US against a trade war

BEIJING — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang cautioned the U.S. against starting a trade war and positioned Beijing as a leading proponent of globalization at a news conference Wednesday, underscoring the extent to which Donald Trump's presidency has pushed China into a global leadership role.

“We don't want to see a trade war breaking out,” Li said at the news conference, a highly scripted annual ritual in a gold-bedecked meeting room at Beijing's Great Hall of the People. American companies, he said, would suffer the most in a trade battle between the world's two largest economies.

## Far-right populism falters with Dutch vote, but remains a powerful force

LONDON — First came the sighs of relief — and now come hard questions. Has the march of far-right populism in Europe been halted? Or is it still a force to be reckoned with?

Congratulations poured in Thursday from leaders across Europe after Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte's center-right party garnered the largest share of parliamentary seats, blunting a challenge from firebrand Geert Wilders, who's been called the Netherlands' Donald Trump.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

# Congressman urges administration to help keep loan payments affordable

CAYLA BUSH  
Editor in Chief

Members of the House of Representatives have called upon the Department of Education and the Department of the Treasury to implement a plan to assist student loan borrowers.

On Tuesday, March 7, 40 members of the House, including Florida Congressman Carlos Curbelo, sent a letter to the two departments urging them to quickly put in place a plan, outlined in January, that would automatically certify the income of borrowers enrolled in income-driven repayment plans.

The bureaucracy, Curbelo said to Student Media, should always be looking for ways to modernize their systems and make it easier to navigate the programs and resources available to them.

“This new automatic income certification program does just that, and borrowers will be protected from unnecessary payment increases that make it even harder for young people to pay down their debt and manage their finances,” Curbelo said. “My colleagues and I are urging the Treasury and Education Departments to move forward as quickly as possible.”

Student loan borrowers who are enrolled in income-driven repayment plans must submit updated income information each year; however, according to a press release from Curbelo's office, many borrowers do not update their income information by the annual deadline.

“The Departments' Memorandum

of Understanding outlining a multi-year consent system that uses tax data to automatically recertify student loan

their Social Security benefits and tax refunds withheld, and have their wages garnished.”

Credit scores may also be affected by defaulting on student loans, which can prevent borrowers from receiving financing for a car, business or home. The House is hoping the system proposed by the DOE and DOT could help avoid these outcomes, according to the letter.

In 2016, Curbelo's campaign platform included working toward finding a solution similar to the one outlined in the Memorandum. The process needs to be simplified, Curbelo said in a 2016 interview with Student Media and Young Invincibles, a national non-profit organization working to engage young adults in political issues.

“We have legislation in Congress, Republicans and Democrats working together, to create a dashboard, that everyone who wants to apply to an institution of higher education can access and there would be key information on default rates, on graduation rates,” Curbelo said.

This legislation, introduced by Democratic Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici of Oregon and Republican Congressman Ryan Costello of Philadelphia in 2016, would automatically connect borrowers with income-driven repayment plans before default.

Called the SIMPLE Act, which stands for Streamlining Income-driven Manageable Payments on Loans for Education, would also automate the annual process of updating income information.

“This new automatic income certification program does just that, and borrowers will be protected from unnecessary payment increases that make it even harder for young people to pay down their debt and manage their finances,

Carlos Curbelo  
Congressman  
Florida District 26

borrowers' income information will help millions of borrowers access affordable payments and avoid delinquencies and defaults,” the letter stated.

According to the letter, more than 8 million borrowers are in default with more behind on their payments.

“Failure to meet annual recertification deadlines can increase the risk of default and lead to long-term financial hardship for borrowers,” the letter stated. “[Those in default or behind on payments] — roughly one quarter of student loan borrowers— face serious long-term consequences. Borrowers in default can lose access to federal student aid, see

## Committee invites students to join

SCC, PAGE 1

witnesses, will review all the evidence and reports what has been submitted ....” said Torres.

They will then determine whether the student is responsible for each of the individual charges.

The SCC reviews cases include drug use on and off campus, underage drinking, allegations of physical violence, harassment toward other students, staff, or faculty, verbal abuse, threats, sexual misconduct, rape and stalking among others.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, March 24 and interviews will be held a week before finals week, though the exact date has not yet been set.

“We hold interviews so that we can better project to students the importance of the Student Conduct Committee as we deal with a lot of confidential information,” said Torres. “[We look for] a student who is able to have

access to all this information and keep them(sic) to themselves and not go around telling highly confidential information. The student must be trustworthy and capable of handling a high level of responsibility.”

Torres adds that students who currently have minimal or no prior involvement within or outside the University can gain to more involvement within the community. On the other hand, extracurricular activities will not hinder students from being accepted into the program.

Prospective students must be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours for undergraduate students and three credit hours for graduate students. They must also be in good academic and conduct standing with the University, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, and be available to serve on at least three hearings — three hours each — a month to remain an active member.

## Program honors author at BBC

AWARD, PAGE 1

in a vacuum but something that's immediate and has often a social justice component, representing different subject positions in the world and literature,” she said. “It just makes it more meaningful for everyone, readers and writers.”

The event acts as a capstone to the ‘Writers on the Bay’ reading series, Wade says, which includes two alumni book readings in the fall, student literary awards in the spring and book readings with three outside writers who've achieved literary success.

“Our students can see ‘I can submit for student literary award [and] if I go through the graduate program, I can come back as an alum[nus] and have a reading. If I continue in the writing life ... I can be a part of ‘Writers On the Bay’ or something like it and then, at the culmination of my career, I can end up in a reading context like the Lawrence Sanders Award’ ... it shows every stage of a writing career,” she said.

The event will take at the Biscayne Bay Campus in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms from 8 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 30. It's free and open to the public but tickets are required.

For more information, visit english.fiu.edu or their offices in Deuxieme Maison, room 453 at MMC and Academic Center I, room 335 at the BBC.

# PANTHER PRESS

### EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR IN CHIEF

CAYLA BUSH

NEWS DIRECTOR

MARTINA BRETOUS

SPORTS DIRECTOR

JAYDA HALL

ENTERTAINMENT

DIRECTOR

NIA YOUNG

OPINION DIRECTOR

MICHELLE MARCHANTE

MULTIMEDIA DIRECTOR

CORNELL WHITEHEAD

COPY CHIEF

CAYLA BUSH

PRODUCTION MANAGER

NIA YOUNG

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA

ROBERT JAROSS

ASST. DIRECTOR OF

STUDENT MEDIA

ALFRED SOTO

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:  
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.  
(305) 348-2709  
news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus:  
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.  
(305) 919-4722  
bbc@fiusm.com

Fax:  
(305) 348-2712

Editor-in-Chief:  
(305) 348-1580  
cayla.bush@fiusm.com

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

Panther Press is published on Mondays and Thursdays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. Panther Press is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. Panther Press is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by Student Government.

## “I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO”

*James Baldwin's thoughts still 'shine light' on today's racial problems*

RIGHT TURN



CHRISTIAN GONZALEZ

James Baldwin's forlorn disposition said it all: he was one of those unlucky people who had been compelled, by forces much outside themselves, to reconcile their love for mankind with their knowledge of history.

It is to Raoul Peck's credit that he managed to capture this part of Baldwin's essence so well in his documentary, "I Am Not Your Negro."

In the film, Samuel L. Jackson's deep voice narrates Baldwin's critiques about racial subjugation in America. While this happens, viewers are shown images from America's historic crimes against blacks: grotesquely racist television commercials and movies, segregated buses and restaurants and photos of flagellated slaves.

And then, there is footage from modern-day protests in Ferguson and elsewhere.

Like the thoughts of many

great writers before him, Baldwin's intellectual contributions continue to shine light on the world's present troubles. However, I must quarrel with Peck's interpretation of Baldwin's ongoing relevance.

Ventriloquizing the words of dead writers is always a troublesome endeavor: no one knows exactly what Baldwin would have said about the events in Missouri or the Black Lives Matter movement.

Baldwin's thought was nuanced. He was against the monstrous racism of his time, of course, but his position was different from that of the two great civil rights leaders: Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. King was too soft on whites; X was too harsh on them.

Baldwin's views lay somewhere in the middle.

Alfredo Garcia, an adjunct lecturer at the Honors College and specialist in sociology, describes Baldwin as always being an "in-between person."

"Whenever you live in that interstitial place, you never feel comfortable taking a side," Garcia said.

Garcia also pointed out that Baldwin's style would not have fit in well in today's mass media.

"Today, we're always asking

“

Today, we're always asking people to take sides. Is it Blue Lives Matter? All Lives Matter? Or BLM? Baldwin would have hated that.

Alfredo Garcia  
Adjunct faculty  
Sociology

”

people to take sides. Is it Blue Lives Matter? All Lives Matter? Or Black Lives Matter? Baldwin would have hated that."

In addition to this issue of style, I believe some problems arise when one tries to superimpose Baldwin's critiques of 1960s America with the present state of affairs.

The first problem with drawing a direct parallel between the 60s and today is that Baldwin never really offered much in the way of a solution to what was then called the "Negro question." Baldwin mainly critiqued, and it is nearly impossible to find fault with his analyses. But he did not provide a program for "solving" racism.

In contrast, today's activists for racial justice advance a set of

specific demands, starting with criminal justice reform and a revocation of the War on Drugs. My aim here is not to adjudicate between the approaches but to highlight an important distinction.

Also of note is that Baldwin showed a certain kind of consideration, if not compassion, for whites. In his famous debate with William F. Buckley in 1965, Baldwin said that segregation was not merely a crime against American blacks, though an appalling crime it was.

"It is a terrible thing," said Baldwin, "for an entire people to surrender to the notion that one-ninth of its population is beneath them."

Segregation, like all systems of

oppression, necessitated the moral destruction of those willing to be accomplices to the abuse.

Baldwin would almost surely have sympathized, if not endorsed, the criticisms against mass incarceration and against the ways discrimination persists in American society. But to ignore his idiosyncrasies and complexities is unfair to his writing.

"I Am Not Your Negro," despite all this, is nonetheless an outstanding and a deeply profound movie.

As I watched it, people around me emoted their feelings — when Peck showed racism, the disgust in the theater was palpable; when progress was displayed — as with the election of a black president — people smiled and clapped. This general disposition shows the progress that has been made.

Yet the fact that the film's message remains relevant and thought provoking demonstrates we still have tribulations to overcome.

*Christian Gonzalez is a staff writer for Panther Press. His column, Right Turn, is a commentary on foreign affairs, culture, and social sciences.*

## Students: Make sure you have time to sleep

LIFEWINKS



ALECIA ALLEN

Most students have sacrificed homework for sports, student organizations or a social life. Other times, it's the exact opposite; simple pleasures like family time and exercising are sacrificed for academic success. But, what time do students have to unwind and take care of themselves?

It can be difficult to complete priorities, and the workload put on students can be unfair sometimes. On certain days or even weeks, it appears that

students are forced indirectly to sit at a desk for hours at a time; this includes in and out of class.

But there is what professors and teachers call "a better way to be successful in college." For every hour spent in class, it's expected that you spend two to three hours studying outside of class.

A typical full-time student will take four classes nearly five days a week, which totals to about 40 hours a week. Factor in part time jobs, leisure time, eating, sleeping and any other activities, that's a little over 200 hours a week. There are only 168 hours in a week.

This elevated demand for energy throughout the day has led to a high number of sleep deprived people. According to the Huffington Post, "about

83.6 million people in America were suffering from sleep deprivation in 2014."

“

What time do students have to unwind and take care of themselves?

”

Sacrificing our sleep for daily activities, no matter how important they may be, does not come without its consequences.

Another Huffington Post article talks about the side effects of sleep deprivation. These include, "memory loss, decreased creativity, symptoms similar to ADHD, tremors, higher risk of stroke, impaired moral judgement, cognitive impairment, and

irritability."

The good news is that the article mentioned a few tips that may improve health and productivity throughout the day. Of the various tips, I find two to be the most important.

The first is "No binge sleeping in on the weekends. When you sleep late on the weekends it messes with your circadian rhythm making your wakeup time inconsistent, which results in a groggy and tired feeling in the beginning of the day, resulting in a less productive day."

The second tip is to "Learn how much sleep you really need." According to the article, it's not true that everyone needs eight hours of sleep, but not knowing how much your body needs can harm you.

According to the Huffington Post,

their founder Arianna Huffington "was a woman who underslept and overworked until her body finally collapsed from exhaustion one afternoon." Thankfully, she survived, but as you can see, getting the right amount of sleep is essential to counter these negative effects and maintain a healthy life.

So, I encourage all of you who are reading this to make the proper changes to your life as soon as possible to deter any health risks. I'm sure there are still questions of what to do about all the demands life may be putting on you, however, there is a way you can take advantage of the resources FIU has for its students.

You are always welcome to seek assistance from the Counseling and Psychological Services,

which is dedicated to providing quality services to FIU's student body. CAPS is located in the MMC Student Health Center and in the Wolfe University Center at BBC.

The staff there are available to help you improve your time management skills, decision making skills, goal setting, stress management, and more so you can excel in your everyday life. The program also offers podcasts, online assessments or schedule workshops so you can receive the help you need.

*Alecia Allen is a contributing writer for Panther Press. Her column, LifeWinks, discusses how to improve your life while making a positive influence in the community.*

### SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send an email to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com). Be sure to include your name, major and year and a photo of yourself. Letters must be less than 400 words and may be edited for clarity and length. Panther Press will only run two letters a semester from any individual.

### DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Panther Press Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the four sections. Panther Press welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

## PASTELITOS AND PERFORMANCES

Vicky Cafe hosts weekly Open Mic Night on campus



CORNELL WHITEHEAD/PANTHER PRESS

Christopher Bines, a sophomore music major, performs at Open Mic Night, Thursday March 9 hosted by Vicky Cafe, located at the lower level of the Frost Art Museum.

### CHRISTOPHER DOWNS Contributing Writer

With pastELITOS, pan con bistec, cuban coffee and open mics, Vicky Cafe, located in the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum, has carved its place on campus.

Among the many events hosted weekly at the cafe, “Open Mic Night” has become the most popular among students. Vicky Cafe features a variety of student acts such as comedians, poets, local singers and artists.

David Pina, general manager of Vicky Cafe, says he is very satisfied with the involvement of students.

“The first Open Mic Night that we had, people showed up and said that they didn’t even know we were having one, they just heard the music and came,” said Pina.

Pina believes that the success of Vicky Cafe’s open mic is due primarily to the involvement of students on campus.

“It seemed to make sense to give students the power to make the space what they want...you remember that people are people and that there are layers to everyone,” said Pina.

One of the performers, Helen Blondel, performed Mariah Carey’s 1993 song, “Hero.” She says she has been singing her whole life and the key to a good performance is connecting with the audience.

“Singing is something that’s natural to me,” Blondel said. “When it comes to [being] on stage, I just make a connection with [the] audience...it is my heart and soul and it’s my way of expressing my feelings coherently.”

Sophomore broadcast journalism major Laniah Harris felt pleasantly surprised by the talent that performed at her first visit to open mic night.

“I thought that Open Mic Night was very interesting, being able to see students be brave and step out of their shell and perform,” said Harris.

Harris said she was so moved by the performers that she’ll be attending open mic nights at Vicky’s more often and encourages other students to do the same.

Students can check out Vicky Cafe’s Open Mic Night every Thursdays from 6 p.m. to closing. The performer sign up sheet is available to students at 6 p.m. as well.

# University’s Mind and Melody Chapter looking to grow, recruit volunteers

### MICHELLE SILVA Contributing Writer

Mind and Melody at FIU is fine-tuning its pitch to attract new members.

The newly founded chapter of the non-profit organization is expanding its services which already uses music to aid those with neurological impairments.

Carolina Formoso, the chapter’s president, says Mind and Melody uses the music as interactive therapy, and the impairments serviced by the club vary in nature.

“Right now, we work with individuals that are older that experience Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, strokes [or] different forms of dementia,” Formoso said.

As the organization grows, the e-board envisions an expansion of its sessions and a broadening of its audience.

“We want to make it to the national level and we also want to incorporate different age groups...and different types of neurological impairments,” Formoso said.

Mind and Melody, INC. was created in 2014, said Formoso. The young non-profit relies exclusively on volunteers to keep the programs growing.

“Participating in Mind and Melody is actually a really rewarding opportunity [to] be among an older community,” said Elizabeth Medina, the organization’s public relations coordinator.

Formoso explains that senior citizens who attend music sessions by Mind and Melody find as much solace in their weekly reprieve from conventional therapy as their session leaders do. Members of the group Formoso led last semester reminded her of the importance they

placed on the sessions.

“They would remember that I would come on a specific day to teach them music [and] it was very rewarding to hear that. They would say to their families ‘please don’t pick me up on this day because I’m going to learn a little bit about music,’” Formoso said.

While Mind and Melody’s public relations team is

“

They would remember that I would come on a specific day to teach them music [and] it was very rewarding to hear that comment. They would say to their families ‘please don’t pick me up on this day because I’m going to learn a little bit about music.’

Carolina Formoso  
Chapter President  
Mind and Melody [FIU chapter]

”

looking to add to the list of facilities they collaborate with, they are also looking to strengthen the organization’s membership numbers. Joining FIU’s chapter of Mind and Melody is a two-step process, Formoso says. The process includes a background check and interview that excludes questions about musical ability.

“We’re always looking for volunteers and we’re always

looking for musicians,” said Formoso. “We welcome all types of students despite their music background.”

Volunteering with the organization accounts for part of the operation, but part time paid opportunities exist within Mind and Melody as well, according to Medina.

“That’s our [current] goal, to see if we can target some musicians so they can be hired,” Medina tells student media.

Formoso says volunteer opportunities with Mind and Melody are available to all members of the FIU community. Volunteers help senior citizens play user-friendly instruments, like maracas and xylophones.

“The focus of volunteers is to help the [participants], to make sure that the individual is ...getting all that they can get from the session,” said Formoso.

Mind and Melody also provides multi-lingual sessions. Catering to individuals, Medina and Formoso emphasize, is the key to helping the mind through melodies.

According to Formoso, facilities currently partnering with Mind and Melody are home to Spanish-speaking, Creole-speaking, and English-speaking individuals. As such, the organization makes sure to provide translations in all three languages. The organization welcomes new volunteers fluent in any language.

Students interested in joining the non-profit organization can find more information at mindandmelody.org.

FIU’s chapter meets every other Monday in GC 286.

## Service group helps students travel abroad

**KALI-RAY SKINNER**  
Staff Writer

Students interested in traveling the world while giving back to the communities they visit will be able to get more information through the Global Exchange Fair at MMC on March 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in GC 243.

The fair will be hosted by AIESEC, a non profit that focuses on providing students and recent graduates opportunities to improve their leadership skills through service work around the world.

At the fair, AIESEC will offer on-site interviews with

“

It was one of the best experiences in my life. I now have a Colombian family and they might even come to my graduation,

Tarek Abdel Raouf  
Senior  
Psychology, philosophy  
and political science

”

representatives from the programs abroad who would be hosting the students. Students will be able to find which programs interest them while exploring the various tables for each program, interview, and find out on the spot if they are accepted.

The current AIESEC president, Tarek Abdel Raouf, is a senior triple majoring in psychology, philosophy and political science who hopes to start a non-profit.

Originally from Egypt, Raouf joined AIESEC after coming to Miami to pursue his education. He worked his way through the departments of AIESEC before deciding to do his own exchange.

“I am very passionate about making the world a better place,” said Raouf.

From May to June of 2016, Raouf volunteered in Colombia to teach children about sustainable development goals. While in Colombia, Raouf saw other international AIESEC members, traveled and learned Spanish.

“It was one of the best experiences in my life. I now have a Colombian family and they might even come to my graduation,” said Raouf.

FIU sent over fifty students on these programs last year

**SEE AIESEC, PAGE 6**

## BAYFEST RETURNS SPC to host festival with local artists

**JULIANE SUNSHINE**  
Staff Writer

Student Programming Council will celebrate their annual Bayfest music festival with performances from Mr. Vegas, Kiddo Marv, Gabel Pix and DJ Luke Nast, to name a few.

Bayfest was created for not just students, but faculty, family and anyone else who wants to enjoy a musical festival.

The event has had major headliners in the past such as Trick Daddy, Kes, Jbeatz, Alan Cave and Migos, drawing crowds of 800-1000 of people and there is to be an increase of at least 200 more this year.

“There will be a mixture of reggae, hip hop, Haitian and local artists this year,” said SPC President Fabiola Jean-Baptise.

The final lineup for the Bayfest has been revealed. It first started with Mr. Vegas, Kiddo Marv, Gabel Pix and DJ Luke Nasty. The last two artists for Bayfest, are A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie and Sweet Micky.

A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie, whose real name is Artist Dubose is a rising rapper from Bronx, New York. Dubose spent most of his teenage years between New York and Florida, before finally moving back to New York. Dubose is currently co-signed with Meek Mill and DJ Khaled and his two songs “Timeless” and “My Sh\*t” have both had spots on the Billboard 100.

Sweet Micky, whose real name is Michel Martelly was the president of Haiti from the years 2011 to 2016. The Haitian performing and recording artist, is also a businessman,

composer and musical sociopolitical activist. His recognition with type of music known as compas or Kompa is a dance style music with Creole lyrics. Sweet Micky’s “Kite Yo Pale” is one of the singer’s newer songs released in 2016.

Bayfest will be held on April 1 from 3

“

There will be a mixture of reggae, hip hop, Haitian and local artists this year

Fabiola Jean-Baptise  
President  
Student Programming Council

”

p.m. to 12 a.m. behind the swimming pool at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

“There will be food trucks, games and different activities. I look forward for students to attend the event,” said Jean-Baptise.

Early bird tickets are on sale right now. FIU students can buy tickets for five dollars. Otherwise, tickets are 15 dollars. Tickets are currently being sold online through Eventbrite.



## WE GIVE YOU DIRECTION. YOU LEAD THE WAY.

**JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL GRADUATE INFO SESSION  
MARCH 28 AT 12 P.M.**

The University of Tampa’s graduate programs in business, education, instructional design and technology, criminology, cybersecurity, exercise and nutrition science, entrepreneurship, nursing and creative writing prepare students with the skills and career connections needed for success in today’s rapidly evolving economy.

**RSVP AT [UT.EDU/GRADVISIT](http://UT.EDU/GRADVISIT) OR CALL (813) 258-7409.**

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF TAMPA

MBA | Professional MBA | Executive MBA | M.S. in Accounting | M.S. in Cybersecurity  
M.S. in Entrepreneurship | M.S. in Finance | M.S. in Marketing | Certificate in Nonprofit Management  
M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction | M.Ed. in Educational Leadership | M.S. in Instructional Design and Technology  
M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice | M.S. in Nursing | M.S. in Exercise and Nutrition Science | MFA in Creative Writing

# Fleet Foxes return in 'triumphant' fashion

## FRESH BAKE



CHRISTOPHER RODRIGUEZ

This past week gave us the triumphant and long-awaited return to form for indie folk artists Fleet Foxes, an all-star R&B connection helmed by 2 Chainz and a bubbly new single from Little Dragon.

Here are the new releases waiting to be included on your playlists.

### ① Fleet Foxes- "Third of May/Odaighara"

The Seattle-based indie folk outfit were among the most critically acclaimed bands to emerge from the late 00s, releasing two albums before fading into a hiatus due to tensions within the group.

Six years later, frontman Robin Pecknold and a slightly-changed lineup released their new single, a sprawling eight-minute ride that begins with the familiar intertwined voices, acoustic guitars and stomping beat reminiscent of their 2011 album *Helplessness Blues*.

Things descend into a sea of reverb following the third verse before arriving at the outro, a nearly chaotic arrangement of twinkling guitars, harps and electronic beeps.

The end result is a song meant to unravel for the listener over time, revealing new

surprises and nuances both in structure and lyrical content.

According to annotations written by Pecknold on the lyric site Genius, the song traces the history of the band from their creative peak to their ultimate undoing at the end of the last tour.

It focuses particularly on the friendship between Pecknold and band member Skye Skelset, whose birthday inspired the song title. The band's third album *Crack Up* is set for release in June.

### ② Little Dragon- "Sweet"

Little Dragon is a band that excels at finding intersections of seemingly disparate influences and marrying their common elements.

On their previous single "High", the group sounded like neo-soul reinterpreted via chillwave and on their most recent "Sweet", they go for something else entirely.

It opens with a beat reminiscent of early 90s Eurodance act Snap! or even house revivalists Azari & III except with slightly slower tempo.

Then, incessantly bubbly electronic effects are added on in a manner that recall contemporary electro acts such as Hot Chip or Art Angels Grimes.

Most impressive is the playful call-and-response interaction between frontwoman Yukimi Nagano and a backing chorus who respond with "Sweet!" following each line.

The end result is a "sugar rush" of a dance pop song that bounces along with an undeniable carefree energy.

### ③ Do Make Say Think- "Bound"

Despite forming in the mid-90s, the experimental Toronto group Do Make Say Think are more associated with the mid-00s reinterpretation and creative peak of the endlessly debatable sub-genre known as post-rock.

At the time, the movement led by bands such as Explosions in the Sky, Mogwai and Caspian, were primarily defined by their instrumental and crescendo-laden dramatic pieces featuring numerous electric guitars and pummeling drums.

Then just as quickly, the scene disintegrated as the bands restlessly experimented with other sounds such as ambient electronica and even (gasp) including vocal.

On their succinct new release, their first since 2009, the band return to the distinctive mid-00s post-rock sound, utilizing playful guitars that complement each other with alternating melodies and moving seamlessly through transitions that rise before falling back into a driving rhythm that reveals surprisingly strong focus.

Is this the beginning of the second (or third? Or fourth?) post-rock revival?

### ④ 2 Chainz (ft. Ty Dolla \$ign, Trey Songz and Jhene Aiko)- "It's A Vibe"

2 Chainz released two songs to be featured on his upcoming *Pretty Girls Like Trap Music*, and while the rapper's charm seems to have worn off in recent years, the most noteworthy of the two serves as a posse cut among contemporary radio R&B stars.

Despite being a 2 Chainz project, he still seems like a guest, tossing out cheesy lines "Make an Asian want hibachi/Make an Italian want Versace" over an otherwise decent flow.

This one belongs to the featured players, all comfortable in their element and playfully riding the slick Murda-produced beat.

Jhene Aiko in particular, not a stranger to scene-stealing features, sounds like a breath of fresh air as she comes through with her relaxed semi-improvised performance, not really even saying much aside from the repeated affirmation "It's a vibe."

It makes one realize it would've been most effective if Aiko had the lead. The end result is a song that perhaps won't stand the test of time, but nonetheless effectively delivered a consistently smooth vibe.

*Fresh Bake is a weekly column that reviews new music releases in various genres. Christopher Rodriguez also hosts a weekly radio show on The Roar, where he plays latest releases.*

## Student leaders promote world 'development'

### AIESEC, PAGE 5

alone. AIESEC offers volunteer and internship opportunities. Internships can either be paid (3-8 months) or unpaid (2-3 months).

Volunteering can range from 6-8 weeks, and all programs are based off of the seventeen sustainable development goals from the Youth for Global Goals Initiative that AIESEC is working hard to complete by 2030. These sustainable development goals include such topics as climate action, quality of education, and gender equality.

Danielle Lyn, a senior communication arts major with a global media minor, recently chose to get involved with AIESEC. She says she was browsing through the AIESEC website one day with no intention of applying, and came across a program that was a perfect fit: a global entrepreneurship as a digital media producer in Egypt.

She applied and heard back soon after.

"Digital media and cultural exploration are

two of my passions. I really feel like without AIESEC I wouldn't have found a way to put the two together. It's such a no-hassle process and there [are] so many opportunities to choose from that are all financially affordable. I'm so glad I found them. I graduate this semester so I almost missed out," said Lyn.

AIESEC is doing onsite interviews in an effort to make the process easier and they hope it will keep people focused on what it is they really care about and on the programs that will match those passions.

If you are unable to afford the programs, AIESEC will provide the tools to help fundraise.

Having a resume ready to email is required for internship applications.

AIESEC can be reached at their instagram: @aiesecinmiami and [vpogt-miami@aiesecus.org](mailto:vpogt-miami@aiesecus.org).

Those interested around the year can book a meeting at: <http://ogx.youcanbook.me>. Students do not need to book a meeting to participate in the Global Exchange Fair.

**Make Your Passion Your Profession.**

Serve as a full or part time musician in the Army or Army Reserve.

Learn more at: [goarmy.com/band](http://goarmy.com/band)

## CLUB SPORTS

# Triathlon club hosts first practice at BBC



PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS POBLETE/ PANTHER PRESS

**Top Left:** Participants cheer on other runners as they push to the finish line.

**Bottom Left:** Triathlon club meets up to prepare for its first cycling portion of practice.

**Top Right:** Participants cycle through BBC on trail near Biscayne Bay.

**NICHOLAS POBLETE**  
Contributing Writer

The Triathlon Club partnered up with TriDi Multisport Training to hold its first triathlon practice of the season at Biscayne Bay Campus on Saturday, March 4.

Athletes of all levels were welcomed to come out and participate and go at their own pace.

The practice began with a group stretching session, followed by a 30-minute swim in BBC's Aquatic Center and a bike ride through the campus. It concluding with a mile-time-trial. At the end of the practice, members enjoyed a nutritious brunch.

Christina Reddick, assistant director at the Wellness and Recreation center at BBC, is an advisor for the Triathlon Club, and said no one is left behind.

"We do everything as a group," Reddick said. "Our practices really give our students the triathlon experience."

Almost 90 participants showed up for the first practice of the semester, which was led by three TriDi coaches and two FIU coaches.

Vivek Somani, a hospitality junior, returned to practice with the club.

"I love the fact that they provide coaches that are willing to teach and push you," Somani said. "It's challenging, and I like that."

Diego Zambrano, an information technology senior,

is a common face at the practices held by the club. Zambrano said the practices have become something he looks forward to every week.

"It's a chance to prove to yourself that you can do something you thought you could never do," he said.

The club's purpose of holding practices is to also assist athletes who wish to participate in FIU's triathlon, held later in 2017.

Students can participate in these practices for free, while non-FIU students pay a fee of \$80 per semester. Practices are held at BBC every Saturday at 8 a.m.

For more information on the Triathlon Club, visit FIU's student affairs website.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Senior guard looks forward to 'entering real world'



**PETER HOLLAND, JR.**  
Staff Writer

Nikolina "Nina" Todorovic, along with her fellow teammate

Janka Hegedus played their final home game of the season against University of Alabama-Birmingham.

And for Todorovic, she said she's going to miss every minute as a student athlete.

"Just being a part of a competitive sport like after college, I can still play on my own and not feel that I am not officially part of a competitive team," she said. "You know, just competing every day, practicing every day is something I'm going to miss. Even though I'm still going to continue to work out. But it still won't be the same

when you're not in a competitive environment."

Todorovic believes that she has left a legacy at FIU on and off the court. In her career, she recorded .331 from the three-point line, averaged 2.0 points a game and 1.5 rebounds a game. As a two-year starter and role player coming off the bench, she averages 16.9 minutes per game. In the classroom, she is working on business projects for different companies, all while maintaining a high GPA.

"After speaking to my coaches, they told me that my legacy here

is simply my leadership," she said. The way I approached to leading my team, and the way I took over the captain role this last year way before I was a leader will be my legacy. Just using my voice out there, the way I communicate and the way I lead the team. As for the classroom, containing a high GPA despite all the basketball obligation."

Senior guard Todorovic was one of the six players in Conference USA named 2017 In-Touch Credit Union Conference USA Women's Basketball All-Academic Team. The selection was voted by the

conference's media relations coordinators. Not only has the senior out of Bosnia and Herzegovina started all 28 games this season, but she also kept herself busy in the classroom, working on her post-graduate degree in marketing right after double majoring in political science and international relations.

"I'm actually excited to spend my time entering to the real world and to dedicate myself to something that I am passionate about," she said. "Just how I apply myself to basketball, I will apply myself looking for a job."

spellbound.



tuesdays 5-6pm.  
only on the roar.



## PITCHIN' PANTHERS

Freshman pitchers showcase talents as starters on field

**BRETT SHWEKY**  
Staff Writer

Freshman pitcher Nick MacDonald earned Conference USA Pitcher of the Week honors, following his dominating performance in the 5-1 victory against the Manhattan College Jaspers on Sunday, March 5.

The right-hander retired the first 11 of 12 opposing batters he faced before Manhattan secured its first hit in the top of the fourth. MacDonald pitched a career-high 7 2/3, where he restricted the Jaspers to one earned run off just two hits. The freshman struck out nine Manhattan batters to record his first collegiate win, in only his second career start.



NICK  
MACDONALD

MacDonald said that with it being one of his first starts in his career, the award had some greater meaning.

"Of course it's special, it was special because it really was my second start in my collegiate career," said MacDonald. "It doesn't happen; however, if my team doesn't play at the high-level they've been playing at."

Currently leading the Panthers' pitching staff with a staggering 1.42 ERA, MacDonald has been able to limit opposing batters to a .143 batting average. MacDonald in 12.2 innings pitched this season has only given up two-earned runs and has collected 16 strikeouts.

Prior to attending FIU, the freshman played for West Broward High School and Charles W. Flanagan High School.

During his tenure at Flanagan, MacDonald earned team MVP honors in his senior season and was also named Pitcher of the Year in 2015 and 2016. The right-hander was highly sought after by Alabama State, Tennessee, Kentucky and the crosstown rival Miami Hurricanes.

When asked about his decision to attend FIU, MacDonald said that head coach Mervyl Melendez was the deciding factor in him becoming a Panther.

"To be honest with you Mervyl Melendez was really my deciding factor in my decision to attend FIU" said MacDonald. "I wasn't directly recruited by him, but his assistant was the one that recruited me and once we finally met I fell in love with the way he coached almost immediately."

With the game being tied going into the top of the eighth, pitcher Shannon Saile returned to the mound preparing to lead the Panthers out of the inning against the University of Notre Dame Saturday, March 4.

The freshman hurler struck out an additional two Notre Dame batters in the inning, to bring her strikeout total to 12 on the day.

Saturday's game against the Fighting Irish, was the fourth time this season that Saile recorded 10-or-more strikeouts in a game. Having played in nine games so far, the freshman has been able to accumulate 71 strikeouts in just 51 innings pitched.



SHANNON SAILE

Having played in nine collegiate games, the freshman hurler says the faster pace of the game was one of the differences that stood out going from high school to college.

"The faster pace, the bigger hitters, relying on my team as much as I can are some differences I've noticed so far," said Saile. "In high school, you don't really have the outstanding outfielder that you would in college, my fielders have really been backing me up and that always makes a difference throughout any game."

Prior to attending FIU, Saile went to Land O'Lakes High School where she was a four-year softball player and a three-year volleyball

standout. As a senior for the Gators, she finished with 18 wins, a remarkable 0.78 ERA and 269 strikeouts. In 2016, she was named All-Tampa Player of the year and was a finalist for the 6A FACA Player of the year.

Saile, who said it was always her dream to play division-one softball, decided to attend FIU because she felt the Panthers provided her with the best opportunity.

"I always wanted to play division-one softball in Florida," said the freshman ace. "FIU presented themselves at the correct time, when I went on my unofficial visit I instantly fell in love with the university."

**WHEN YOU PLAY TO YOUR STRENGTHS YOU ONLY GET STRONGER**

You're driven, ambitious, and focused. Shouldn't your college be, too? With research and internship opportunities, small classes, and personalized career guidance, Nova Southeastern University is designed to help you realize the power of your potential.

Learn more at [nova.edu/miami](http://nova.edu/miami)

**NSU** NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY  
Miami Campus

Business | Education | Educational Leadership | Mental Health Counseling | Nursing | Pharmaceutical Affairs | School Counseling | Speech-Language and Communications Disorders | Speech-Language Pathology

f i t y