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DEVOS GOES PUBLIC

The secretary of education makes first visit to a public university



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA RELATIONS

United States Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, gets tour of Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences accompanied by students and President Mark B. Rosenberg.

MICHELLE MARCHANTE
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 6, faculty and students met with U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos and President Mark B. Rosenberg at the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences for a roundtable discussion on the current and future state of education while student protesters voiced their opposition outside.

After visiting CARE Elementary, a Christian school in Overtown, FIU was the second stop DeVos made Thursday and is the first public university she visited as the Secretary of Education for what Rosenberg called a “listening tour” to NBC6.

“I’m very honored to be here and very much interested in hearing from you about your experiences here, what things you are finding to be particularly strong and successful, what some of your challenges are, and what you see as your opportunities for your future,” DeVos said

during the panel.

DeVos, Republican billionaire, faced a difficult confirmation by the Senate over her lack of education administration experience with Vice President Mike Pence giving a historic tie breaking vote to get the required numbers of vote to be confirm.

During the roundtable discussion, faculty and students, such as Idaykis Rodriguez, a post-doctoral student, voiced concerns over the accessibility of education and federal funding, particularly for a commuter school that is minority-majority.

“FIU serves as a beacon of hope for a lot of our students in order to achieve that American dream,” Rodriguez said during the panel.

The future of undocumented student immigrants under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals was also brought up by Tarkiu Menberu, an Ethiopian doctor participating in the school’s foreign physician retraining program to become a nurse.

According to DeVos, besides pushing for more STEM and STEAM programs, the new administration is taking on a “bigger picture, larger look” approach and is looking to see what programs and initiatives are the most effective for students and instructors.

Once these programs are identified, the department will be able to target these resources more effectively to help them “flourish,” while defunding those that aren’t working, DeVos said.

DeVos also reiterated Secretary John F. Kelly’s words, saying that the new administration is “sensitive” to DACA students and that they have no intention of searching for students in the schools.

“We have an obligation to care for the students that are in the schools and in the system,” said DeVos.

But Francesca Riccio-Ackerman, a junior majoring in biomedical engineering and the newly elected senator for engineering, is worried that these are empty promises and doesn’t understand why FIU would accept her visit and only allow a select group of students to participate in the

SEE DEVOS, PAGE 2

BISCAYNE BAY

Laverne Cox to visit BBC

MARYBETH LORETTA
Contributing Writer

Transgender actress and activist Laverne Cox will speak about acceptance, inclusion, the LGBT community to University students in an event called ‘Ain’t I a Woman: My Journey Through Womanhood.’

“Before we even found out about Laverne Cox, we knew we wanted to get someone that spoke about the current political climate and current social issues that are happening so we were looking through people and Laverne Cox just really fit that mold of who we wanted,” said Jamie Adelson, director of lectures at the Student Government Council at BBC.

For the event, which will be on April 11, SGA sent out a survey to students with a list of potential speakers including Jesse Williams, Gina Rodriguez but with the current political climate,

Cox was a great person to reach out to the LGBT community, Adelson said.

“To have someone speak about the LGBT community, and not only... reach out to those people but she’s also speaking about acceptance and being who you are, being true to yourself and I think that can really resonate with all of FIU students,” he said.

Cox, whose lectures Adelson described as “topnotch,” feels students will greatly be impacted by her.

“...They’ll feel more confident in themselves because seeing this person that’s so confident and so sure in herself ... her energy and what she stands for will pass on to the students and they’ll feel more confident in themselves seeing what she’s gone through and seeing her journey,” said Adelson. “They’ll feel that and say ‘OK, I can get through this that’s going on in my life...’”

The impact of Cox’s message is one of hope and overcoming adversity, Adelson said. He further explained the relevance of transgender issues around the country referring to recent laws regarding transgender people using public bathrooms.

“...I don’t remember the exact statistic but they [transgender people] are actually being killing at an alarming rate so for her to speak on something like that ... people that are not a part of the LGBT community or people that don’t know much about it, having her speak on it ... will really get to a lot of ears and impact a lot more people,” said Adelson.

The event will be at 6:30 in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms and free for students.

For faculty, staff and alumni, tickets will cost \$5, and starts at \$15 for the general public. Visit: <https://go.fiu.edu/lavernecox> to purchase and RSVP.

SGA Election Results

Following the elections held on April 4 and 5, winners were announced on Thursday, April 6 at MMC and BBC. Check PantherNOW.com for full story this week.



NIA YOUNG/PANTHER PRESS

Krista Schmidt, elected president of SGC-MMC celebrates with her party by jumping in the fountain outside the Graham Center.



DANTE GONSALVES/PANTHER PRESS

Elected winners of the SGC-BBC winners are announced in the Wolfe University Center with Roary.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

China urges ‘restraint’ after U.S. airstrike on Syrian airfield

BEIJING – China on Friday warned against “the escalation of tension” in Syria after President Donald Trump launched an airstrike on a Syrian government air base, adding a surprise twist to his two-day summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The U.S. launched 59 Tomahawk cruise missiles at the base late Thursday in response to a chemical weapons attack in Syria earlier this week that killed dozens of people in a rebel-held area, many of them children.

Thursday’s airstrike marked the first direct U.S. military action against the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad since Syria’s civil war began in 2011.

Thousands march against South African President Zuma, but unity remains elusive

There was never going to be a march of a million people, but even before Friday’s protests in South Africa calling for President Jacob Zuma to resign, members of his party were deriding the demonstrations as the once-off roar of privileged white people.

The crowds that protested in the country’s main cities of Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town did transcend South Africa’s ever-present racial divide, but not in the numbers likely to worry Zuma and the governing African National Congress. At most 20,000 people of all racial groups rallied in the two main cities, Pretoria and Johannesburg.

Hamas hangs 3 Palestinians in Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip – Hamas, the Islamic militant group that controls the Gaza Strip, said it executed three Palestinians on Thursday for alleged collaboration with Israel, stoking tensions after the killing of one of its commanders nearly two weeks ago.

A statement from the Hamas Interior Ministry said the three had been convicted of treason and conspiracy with a hostile foreign power. The ministry said authorities hanged the convicts before a gathering of Palestinian dignitaries and Gaza “elites.”

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Students protest Betsy DeVos’ visit

DEVOS, PAGE 1

discussion.

“If she is against public education, why are we opening our arms and saying we are so honored that she came to visit?” Riccio-Ackerman said to Student Media.

DeVos has been a strong promoter of charter schools, school vouchers, the privatization of schools and school

learning assistant in the Chemistry Department, explained his role in bridging the communication gap between students and professors, and how the school has seen success with active learning. DeVos, he said, appeared to be engaged with the concept of guided independent learning prior to class.

“That is a new way of teaching and all the test grades have gone up,” Wood said to Student Media. “You can imagine that for chemistry, physics and all these guys that usually struggle in these classes, having a percentage of the class that is passing go up 20-40 percent is huge.”

According to Rosenberg, this idea of being active is part of FIU’s culture, and is not just promoted for the classroom, but for the community as well, as the recent Dance Marathon showed.

“Part of our effort is to encourage students and faculty to take responsibility,” Rosenberg said. “If we don’t take responsibility, who will? If we don’t get engaged, who will?”

Prior to the roundtable, DeVos met in private with Rosenberg to discuss important University issues such as pell grants, internships, tuition, the STEM Transformation Institute, and was also given a tour of the Simulation Teaching And Research Center, which hosts different nursing simulation rooms and is partially funded by the federal government.

During an exclusive interview with Student Media, DeVos said that besides FIU’s academic success, it was the school’s “great reputation” with the community that led to her visit.

Visiting these schools, she said, is like a learning experience for her, allowing her to see what makes a school work effectively.

DeVos also recognizes that student loans, scholarships and the cost of tuition is a main concern for students and that the administration is examining these areas to see what they can do to help alleviate these problems in the new budget, but that it’s difficult and will take time.

“A one size fits all package is the worst thing to do when it comes to education,” DeVos said.

During the discussion, Wood, a

school her whole life, and didn’t put her children in public school and isn’t a supporter of public school, she must think that public schools are not doing well, that they are failing,” Riccio-Ackerman said. “But as secretary of education, you would think that she would want to fix that but instead she’s saying ‘no, let’s take more money away from them.’”



RIYA MAGIYA/PANTHER PRESS

Students Kali-Ray Skinner, sophomore journalism major and Franchesca Riccio-Ackerman, junior biomedical engineering major, protest outside the AHC3 where Betsy DeVos met with University faculty and students.

choice. Beside her lack of educational background, Riccio-Ackerman also feels that DeVos’ anti-public school stance is going to have disastrous consequences for the students who depend on it, which is why she participated in the student protest held outside the Academic Health Center 3 building where the visit was held.

“Public schools are a source of safe haven for the poorest of the poor children that really need it,” Riccio-Ackerman said.

Riccio-Ackerman tutors children in low-income communities with her mother and said that she’s seen how important public education is. The free lunch provided in public schools for low-income students, she said, will many times be the only thing those students will eat in the entire day.

“If this woman didn’t attend public

however, according to DeVos, will be to give states and locales the most power possible when it comes to education because she believes the best decisions are done locally.

“FIU is a great example of that,” DeVos said. “The partnership that has been formed with the Miami-Dade schools and the system here and the mutually symbiotic relationship there is, is one that has to be encouraged and further fostered.”

Robert Wood, a graduating senior with a dual-degree in psychology and chemistry, spoke at the roundtable and while he felt that the issues discussed were legitimate, he wished they would have had more time to discuss the successful initiatives FIU was doing that could be implemented in the rest of the country.

During the discussion, Wood, a

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College of Nursing & Health Sciences discusses progress in mirror therapy

MEYER GRUNBERG
Contributing Writer

The University’s College of Nursing and Health Sciences is pioneering the future of occupational therapy development for stroke and brain injury patients.

The faculty and graduate students have been at the forefront through implementation and research of techniques such as mirror therapy and the Inmotion 2 Robot.

“Mirror therapy [was] originally used to help individuals who had an amputation deal with phantom pain — where they will feel that their hand is cramping up, but

look down to see that there is no hand,” said Hector Huerta, a clinical assistant professor in the occupational therapy department and the leader in mirror therapy research at the University.

A few years ago, they put a mirror that would obscure the amputated hand; the individual would look at the reflection of the sound hand and would begin to move their body, pretending the reflection is in the phantom hand.

Thanks to a continuing investment in research for this type of therapy, the treatment has begun to help not just amputees, but people with stroke and partial paralysis as well.

“As a therapist, I get more excited than the patient because I know what [the success] means for the research... when you help [stroke patients] recover and regain, it is so rewarding,

Hector Huerta
Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

“In addition, mirror therapy is easier, cost-effective, and patient directed for improving

function, according to Alexa Valdes, a graduate student at the college who works hands on with various types of occupational therapies at the University.

“Research is finding that [mirror therapy] works to regain movement of motor impairment after a stroke,” said Huerta.

On March 25, Huerta presented the findings to leading physicians and researchers from across the country at FIU’s Brain Injury Conference. The event, meant to increase awareness on their progress with mirror after

SEE MIRROR, PAGE 6

Porn furthers the degradation of women

SERIOUSLY,
FOLKS



CAROLINE
LOZANO

With the abundance of websites available on the web, it's not very hard to come across a pornographic site at some point, whether you were searching for it or not.

While many think pornography empowers women, there's also the argument that these women give consent to be in these videos and therefore, it's okay.

But I don't think so. Not one bit.

The advent of the Internet has aided in the expansion of pornography, granting access to millions of users across the world.

According to an infographic on The Huffington Post, all websites with pornographic content receive an estimated 450 million visitors each month, much more than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter.

In fact, online pornography has gotten so big that it has transformed into a multi-billion dollar industry.

Just last month, Pornhub, the largest pornography website, took advantage of its influence and launched a "wellness center" portal that revolves around sexual education.

According to The Next Web, "the website will offer tips from experts on a variety of sex-related topics like basic sexual anatomy, STIs and STDs, as well as relationship advice."

It would've been more admirable if it weren't for the appalling depiction and treatment of women in pornography, both on-camera and behind-the-scenes.

To be fair, I can see why many people believe pornography empowers women. The women in these videos are often shown as being in control of their bodies and sexuality. These actresses also receive large sums of money that I'm sure anyone would envy.

The 2015 documentary, "Hot Girls Wanted," highlights these kinds of advantages in the adult film industry, especially freedom, money and sexual empowerment.

As Rachel, one of the porn actresses presented in the film, said, "Are you kidding me? I made \$900 in five hours. I'm going to go home and make \$8.25 an hour? No."

“

What constitutes as consent is blurred significantly in pornography.

”

The adult film industry likes to give off the illusion that everything is wonderful, that their actresses are treated like princesses, and that there's always consent. The reality, however, isn't all what it's cracked up to be.

For one, women aren't exactly given the princess treatment. On camera, they are often portrayed as naive or moronic and willing to do anything for money.

In some videos, they are also abused, either physically or verbally. The titles of such

videos usually refer to these women as animals too, such as "cows" or "dogs."

What constitutes as consent is blurred significantly in pornography. In "Hot Girls Wanted," there's a scene while filming a pornographic video where the director tells the male actor, "You kinda never get that yes," suggesting rape as an acceptable forbidden act to arouse viewers.

It's not so different behind-the-scenes either.

In "Hot Girls Wanted," the actresses initially praise crew members for their kindness during shoots.

As the film continues forward, some of the actresses complain of being lied to or feeling like they lack the choice to walk away from filming porn.

In one instance, Rachel, the actress previously mentioned, felt forced to do a rough scene after certain details were omitted so that she would accept the job.

According to Verily, "it's an experience that amateur porn actresses face on a regular basis — signing on for one thing (a porn scene as it was described to you, for a certain amount of money), but then being forced to do something else while the

cameras roll. It's not uncommon for women to get physically beaten or forced to do a sexual act they weren't informed of beforehand."

It's a disturbing reality that isn't given much attention due to fear that pornography will be regulated or taken away altogether.

Unlike some critics of pornography, my purpose doesn't involve the eradication of explicit content. I'm not interested in what people do in the privacy of their own homes or rooms.

My concern lies with how women are portrayed and treated because it can transcend from screen into real life, especially since viewing pornography is common today.

Fortunately, more former porn actresses are coming out to talk about their negative experiences in the industry, which I hope will open the eyes of the adult film industry.

Caroline Lozano is a contributing writer for Panther Press. Her column, Seriously, Folks, is a commentary on the arts and entertainment industry and how it relates to society today.

Rape and sexual assault should not be cultural obscurity

AFTER WORDS



CAROLINA
SANCHEZ

"Rape Culture" can be described as an environment that normalizes and understates sexual harassment and assault.

In major news outlets, rape cases are hardly broadcasted or shown. Most of what "violent news" we receive comes in the way of murders, mass shootings, police on citizen brutality, or terrorist attacks.

Such is the case of the recent Rockville Rape which took place in the city of Rockville, Maryland.

Two students, Jose Montano, 17, and Henry Sanchez, 18, were charged

with the planned rape of a 14-year-old girl, which took place in the bathroom at Rockville High School. In the case of the Rockville Rape, however, Fox was one of the few news channels to televise the account.

Unfortunately, this is an occurrence that often happens in rape cases. Currently, recent developments in the investigation have revealed that the alleged sexual assault might have been consensual.

Nevertheless, the age differences between that of Sanchez and the victim would still constitute statutory rape.

The minimal amount of awareness that the Rockville Rape received, however, catalyzed the question: does the media give sexual and rape related assaults the importance they deserve?

The insufficient action taken by the media

perpetuates the view in society that sexual assault and rape are not as heinous as other crimes

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The insufficient action taken by the media perpetuates the view in society that sexual assault and rape are not as heinous as are other crimes and felonies.

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and felonies. In turn, this perception belittles the policies and legislations in place to protect human rights, such as the right to say "no."

When crime is not given the awareness it deserves, it undermines the consequences put in place to prevent them.

As a result, society inevitably adopts the view that such occurrences do not warrant concern. Little

media coverage of such instances encourage the notion that they are trivial matters.

has intergenerationally normalized rape and the effects it has on the victim.

Usually, rape cases seek to place the blame on the victim, and focus on how the victim might have "provoked" the attack instead. This shift in blame usually results in the victim being described through derogatory words, and perhaps even critiquing what she wore to allegedly welcome or invite the assault.

Current feminist movements following the presidential debates, such as the 2017 Women's March, have been aimed specifically at raising awareness for the objectification of women against their wishes as well as sexual assault.

Many of these conversations and movements seek to define what "consensual sex," really means in today's world, and how it can be reinstated and implemented

in our community.

In order to bring rape and sexual related assault out of cultural obscurity, society and the media need to raise awareness and concern for such crimes. Additionally, the justice system needs stricter reform in trying cases of rape and sexual assault.

By continuing to advertise the rights of women and sexual assault victims, the intergenerational view that currently normalizes rape and rape culture can be altered. These crimes need to be taken more seriously, and that begins by implementing the view into society.

Carolina Sanchez is a contributing writer for Panther Press. Her column, After Words, is a commentary on current events and controversial issues.

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Have something on your mind? Send an email to opinion@fism.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.

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AT THE BAY

BAYFEST BRINGS MUSIC TO BBC



PHOTOS BY JOSEPH GOMEZ/PANTHER PRESS

Above: Vic3, a local artist, performs at Bayfest, FIU's annual music festival at the Biscayne Bay Campus. Vic3 performed among artists like DJ Luke Nasty, A Boogie wit da Hoodie and Jeffrey Warner, a student at FIU.

Left: Joshua Harvey, a student studying public relations, and Tonie Brown, a student studying psychology, show off arm painting they had done at Bayfest on April 1, 2017.

Mike Posner to headline 'UPROAR' concert

MICHELLE CHAVEZ
Contributing Writer

Modesto Madique Campus' Student Programming Council has students in an UPROAR after announcing the artists that will be headlining their yearly concert.

Juan Munoz, VP of Marketing for SPC is excited to announce the performers who will be featured at this year's event.

“

When you're a student, you pay fees through your tuition, so with these fees we're able to ... have events for students to come and enjoy, like having this concert which is totally free.

Emily Ervolino
Sophomore
Management Information Systems

”

“Mike Posner is the headliner, and then Niykee Heaton is the [other] artist,” said Munoz.

Mike Posner is known for hits such as “I Took A Pill in Ibiza” and “Cooler Than Me.”

Niykee Heaton is a singer-songwriter who is known for showcasing her covers of popular songs on Youtube.

The UPROAR Concert is one of SPC's biggest events during the Spring Semester, alongside other events like their Valentine's Day Build-A-Bear event, and their weekly movie nights.

Featured artists from past UPROAR concerts include Jessie J, MKTO, T-Pain, Timeflies, Trey Songz, and 3oh!3.

FIU's students are somewhat divided when it comes to their opinion on the artists performing at SPC's UPROAR concert, particularly senior psychology major Anthony Nunez and sophomore nutrition major Jocelyne Mendez.

Nunez feels that the featured artists this year are a little under the radar, and not well known enough.

“I honestly don't know who Mike Posner is,” said Nunez via email.

Mendez however, is looking forward to the event, as she is familiar with both artists who will be playing.

“I like both of the artists playing, although I've listened to more songs from Niykee Heaton,” said said Mendez.

The UPROAR Concert will be held on Wednesday, April 12 at the FIU Arena. Doors will be opening at 7 p.m.

Guest Tickets for non-FIU students are now being sold online for \$20, while entrance is free for FIU students, according to Munoz.

Students will have to bring their FIU one card to enter free, according SPC's facebook event page, and tickets for non-students can be bought online via a link on the SPC social media page.

Emily Ervolino, sophomore management information systems major and a member of SPC, feels that it is important for FIU to put on different events for its students.

“So we put these events on for students so they can have something else to do while they're on campus. When you're a student, you pay fees through your tuition, so with these fees we're able to go ahead and have events for students to come and enjoy, like having this concert which is totally free,” said Ervolino.

Plan to avoid move-out madness

OH MY GOSH, JOSH



JOSHUA
CEBALLOS

Housing halls close April 29, and I don't know about you, but I already feel like the fire alarms are going off and I need to pick the five things that are most important to me and jump out. Luckily, moving out doesn't have to be as drastic as evacuating a burning building. With proper planning and enough know-how, residential students can rest easy.

Colton Goodman, graduate higher education administration student and assistant residential life coordinator for Panther Hall, says that it's extremely important for students to know their dates.

“The move-out day specifically for students that are not graduating is April 29, but it depends on your schedule when it comes to your finals. What we ask is that as your final final comes around, we want you to move-out 24 hours after that time,” said Goodman.

The best plan for any occasion is to start the process early. Don't

get hung up about hanging up your shirts; leaving them all over the floor is a mistake. Start getting all of your clothes together and organized in your closet in advance to make it easier when it comes time to pack.

Goodman suggests that students start the packing process a week before their move-out date to give themselves ample time to get ready, and not make the classic mistake

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So here's the plan of action: go to Walmart or any of the local stores around campus and ask for boxes

”

of signing up with their Resident Assistants (RAs) and having the room completely unprepared.

Speaking of packing, where does all this stuff go? You know that you were able to get your belongings into the rooms somehow... but now it

seems like every article of clothing and each piece of junk has somehow multiplied, and the old suitcase seems to have shrunk.

Worry not! There's a five letter solution to all of your packing needs: boxes. If you don't have enough baggage space, there are plenty of cardboard boxes that you can find in and around campus, but just be careful what kinds of boxes you get.

“If [students] are getting boxes, it's usually Walmart because they want those sturdy boxes. A lot of times the boxes that are tossed around the university, they get wet, they get soggy, they break; and I've seen a lot of students where they're holding it and it just falls right through. It's terrible,” said Goodman.

So here's the plan of action: go to Walmart or any of the local stores around campus and ask for boxes, or ask your friends if they have any spares, and have them in your room a week in advance. Every day, set out to put away a good portion of your belongings beginning with the nonessentials.

If you don't want your room to look barren for your last week, keep

SEE MOVE-OUT, PAGE 5

Program educates students

The Dean of Students' Office has implemented mandatory training to address sexual assault and harassment.

The office uses Haven, an online sexual assault awareness program, to teach students about the University's codes concerning sexual assault, as well as related terminology and state laws. The topics covered in the hour-long session include stalking, harassment, rape and other topics under the same umbrella.

Khatkhate, the administrative coordinator for the Dean of Students' Office, says the program was implemented online to get more students to be able to take the training at once and to allow online students to take it when out of the state.

"This spring, we made it a requirement for all incoming students from now on. So, any incoming student will have it as a requirement on their to-do list and if they don't complete it by a certain date they'll have a hold on their account and not be able to register for classes," Khatkhate told Student Media.

Khatkhate says that though there are no plans to make it mandatory for previously admitted students, there are still opportunities for students to get educated.

"We have ongoing educational things, like the Women's Center has month-long programming for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Depending on what they're involved with, athletes are required to do the program from the start, as well as residents, Peer Advisors and Panther Camp facilitators."

Students who were not involved in an extracurricular activity that required the training can go to programming for education, but there is no backlogging to make it a

requirement. The Haven training program is also available through my.fiu.edu.

The implementation of the mandatory training is part of what Khatkhate says is the education and prevention plan from the Dean of Students Office.

"We do more of a prevention and teaching students what sexual assault is, the state laws, [University] policies, whereas CAPS does more advocacy and empowerment so it's very different structures," she says.

Part of the training includes bystander intervention techniques, which inform students of ways to step in and help out when necessary.

"[Bystander intervention] creates a community with students who kind of look out for each other and help out. So, if they see something at a party or anything like that, how to step in and stop a situation that could get more rough down the line," Khatkhate says.

According to the Student Affairs website, Haven seeks to educate about these issues "during college and beyond." This, Khatkhate says, is because the training can be utilized at any point in life.

"The average age of the one in five statistic is 18 to 24, so sometimes those women may be out of college. These situations can happen outside of college. In most cases, the perpetrator is someone that you know, so you can be in many different situations where someone you know can have that kind of affect on you."

Khatkhate says that students who wish to get involved in educating about sexual harassment, relationship violence or stalking should seek to get involved with Counseling and Psychological Services, located in SHC 270.

Move-out guide helps students prepare for university 'eviction'

MOVE-OUT, PAGE 4

up your decorations and flare until the last day, but make sure not to forget them. Although I'm sure your RA wouldn't mind getting a free band poster or bobble head.

By the last few days leading up to your assigned move-out date (which should be scheduled with your RA or at the front desk of your building), the only things not in boxes should be your last essential outfits, toiletries and sleeping essentials. These things probably won't matter though, because with finals going on we're all likely not sleeping or changing clothes very much.

Once your finals are done and the clock has struck, it's time to actually move-out of your room. Your RA will come to your

dorm to inspect it to make sure that everything is prepared for you to leave and for the building to get ready for the next round of students.

Each building has a set of carts that resident students can rent out to transport their boxes and bags to their cars, Zack and Cody style. During the move-out period, each building will have ten carts color coded for the building, and students can rent them out at their respective front desks for 30 minutes, according to Goodman.

For students who are moving to new housing over the summer, housing has special accommodations.

"We have that awkward transition phase in Lakeview North. So there'll be rooms that

we'll move you to, where I would recommend keeping your stuff kind of close together, maybe having a suitcase of essentials because it'll be about... two or four days that you might be living in there and then you will move to your space for the summer," said Goodman.

For students who cannot leave by April 29 because of graduation or employment with housing can register for pre-approved housing extensions until Wednesday, May 3, according to information from University Housing sent via email.

If you need to stay in your housing for extra time without one of the pre-approved reasons, the rate is \$100 per night past the closing date.



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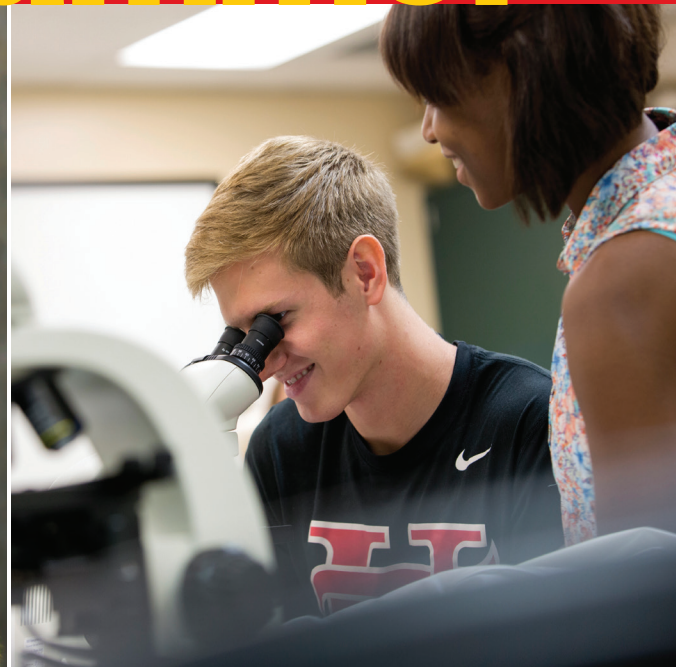
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'A Sea Change' helps students understand how they 'can help shape our tomorrow'

TAKE A BOW



ANGELIQUE
DUCOUNGÉ

With its middling beginnings, a awkward transitions, and odd bits that were at times difficult to make out, "A Sea Change" felt more like a work in progress than a completed production ready to take the stage.

This Tuesday the Wertheim Performing Arts Center debuted "A Sea Change: A Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration in Response to a Global Threat."

As the name might suggest the performance was a collaboration between various departments within FIU intended to raise awareness for a global threat -- rising sea levels -- through use of different mediums, like song and dance.

Though its mission was an

unquestionably worthwhile one, the production fell short of engaging this audience member the way it should have throughout its ninety minute run.

Its message was clear enough -- rising sea levels are contributing to climate change and threatening our environment, particularly for those of us who live in South Florida, and we alone can put a stop to it if we put our heads together and commit ourselves to making a change.

This message was conveyed to us in a myriad of different ways, from monologues, to dance numbers, to brief lectures. But in an effort to combine one too many creative efforts for the sake of this one big collaboration, "A Sea Change" seemed to stumble under the weight of its hefty narrative, resulting in performances that felt out of place instead of ones that were seamlessly woven into the fabric of the show's core

mission statement.

Despite its floundering progression from one scene to another, the production did have its fair share of highlights.

The theme of rising sea levels was consistently reinforced throughout the show with beautiful imagery, blue and white lighting, and classical music compositions that enveloped the theatre in a tranquil aura reminiscent of ocean water.

"Mara Cambient", which was danced by theatre student Jeremie Etienne, composed by Professor Orlando Garcia and Mari Kimura, and choreographed by Professor Crystal Patient, reflected this theme wonderfully, as did the University Choir when performing "Alleluia", composed by Virgil Thompson and Professor Kathy Longo.

Other highlights included "Mining Darkness," "Good" and "We CAN Save the World."

"Mining Darkness," an

impactful monologue, saw the whole theatre go dark as performer Zack Myers explored the discontentment of an out of work miner struggling with the reality of his carbon footprint.

"Good," was a quirky, self-aware skit that garnered a few laughs performed by Professor Wayne Robinson and Evelyn Perez. "We Can Save the World" was the production's closing song written by Dr. James Webb.

It was Xavier Cortada's "Do Not Open" segment that best exemplified the collaboration's theme and purpose. In asking the audience to use the paper and pencils that had been included with their programs to write letters to future generations listing all their current environmental concerns and dreams for the future, Cortada relayed the biggest message of hope and unity through the power of written word.

The letters, which won't be

opened for a hundred years and will be added to a collection in the FIU archives, really drove the point home on how our choices have far-reaching consequences and how we should start to think outside ourselves if we want our future children and grandchildren to live long and happy lives.

Ultimately, while "A Sea Change" might not have reached the empowering heights it aspired to, the production still managed to get across some moments of real resonance here and there, reminding its audience that climate change is not a future problem, too distant for us to really feel its repercussions. It is real and it is here, and how we choose to grapple with it can help shape our tomorrow.

Take a Bow is a column that reviews plays, productions, and art in various genres.

University researches alternative therapies

MIRROR, PAGE 2

therapy, said the event was a success.

A shift in the practice of dealing with the rehab of stroke and brain injury patients is a recent venture being that up until now it was believed that if a person did not regain movement a

Techniques such as the Inmotion2 Robot have provided groundbreaking results when it comes to revitalizing extremities of stroke patients even years after the onset of their stroke, Valdes said.

"With the Inmotion2 in terms of brain therapy it is all about high repetitions. For example, with stroke patients, the neurons on the affected side die. But the fascinating things about our brains is that we can create new neurons," she said. "Through neuroplasticity, we are able to create new neurons to be able to gain back function ... through high repetition and concentration."

Valdes also explained that the robot can be better than normal therapy as it allows for more progress in less time.

"The robot moves a patient's arm 960 times in one seated session as opposed to 10-50 in normal therapy..." she said. "The robot progresses with the patient, if the patient isn't able to complete a specific motion, the robot completes it for them."

Valdes sees the University as a key leader in the development and application of innovative therapies like the Inmotion2 Robot and is determined to increase awareness of it's success.

"If we keep advocating at different facilities about the robot and educating the positive significant changes it entails, we can recruit more individuals each year. In the near future, I can see our graduate program [having] real patients come into FIU... [this] gives us more hands on experience, increases research, and gives FIU a better name," said Valdes.

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Alexa Valdes
Graduate Student
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

year after the onset, they plateaued.

"Now there are different techniques that have a lot of support," said Huerta. "As a therapist, I get more excited than the patient because I know what [the success] means for the research... when you help [stroke patients] recover and regain, it is so rewarding," said Huerta.

Understanding your fears can help you overcome it

SUNNY SIDE UP



JULIANE
SUNSHINE

According to fearof.net, the number three fear in the world is, Acrophobia, better known as the fear of heights.

Personally, I have struggled with this fear ever since a failed attempt at rock climbing. I can remember getting half way up the wall until I looked down and felt dizzy and scared. I started to question whether or not I had a fear of heights.

The first thing a person should do if they feel like they are suffering from a fear is understand the symptoms.

According to helpguide.org, symptoms can include difficulty breathing, dizziness, heart racing, sweating and chest pain.

Junior sports education major, Brandon Starke, explained his feelings about heights.

"It's weird because I love rollercoasters, but when I am on a ladder or somewhere high up and I don't feel stable, my heart begins

to race really fast. I don't want to say I have a fear or heights, but I definitely don't like it," said Starke.

When people generally talk about heights, they are generally referring to it as a fear, unless they specifically have been diagnosed with a phobia.

While fear and phobia might seem like the same thing, they are completely

different and have different symptoms. When people generally talk about heights, they are generally referring to it as a normal fear.

I have found that through baby steps and exposing myself to heights slowly, I've been able to learn how to handle my fear of heights. All fears and phobias,

Turning down a great job because it's on the 10th floor of the office building would be a phobia. While, experiencing butterflies when peering down from the top of a skyscraper or climbing a tall ladder is a normal fear.

different and have different symptoms.

As defined by Google, a phobia is, "an extreme or irrational fear of or aversion to something."

An example by healthguide.org, helps to show the difference between a phobia and fear.

Turning down a great job because it's on the 10th

can be helped with proper treatment. For more information, you can visit helpguide.org or talk to someone at FIU mental health service department in SHC 270 at MMC and WUC 320 at BBC.

Sunny side up is a column that discusses various issues that affect students.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Panthers rule Senior Day with 4-0 victory

STEVEN MELENDEZ
Contributing Writer

Senior day was a success as the No. 30-ranked FIU women's tennis team (18-1) extended its winning streak to 16 by defeating the UCF Knights (12-7), on April 1 at the FIU Tennis Courts.

This victory marks the Panthers' 11th home win of the season.

"We play as a team. Everybody fights for everybody, that's the key. I didn't think we played that well today, but as long as everyone plays for each other that's the key," said Coach Katarina Petrovic.

The doubles portion of the competition was extremely competitive with FIU earning the needed point. It started with Natalie Serrano and Emilia Granstrom of UCF defeating Maryna Veksler and Ulyana Grib 6-1, and then Mina Markovic and Gabriela Ferreira of FIU defeating Nicole Jimenez and Elizabeth Bagerbaseh 6-0, bringing it to 1-1.

The final doubles match to decide who receives the important point was

between senior Nina Nagode and Andrea Lazaro of FIU and Cortney Cesarini and Monica Matias of UCF. Nagode and Lazaro started off inconsistent, losing 1-4 in the early part of the match, but with their teammates backing them up and Nina's energy in full display, they mounted an incredible comeback with a 7-6, (7-2) in order to earn their team the doubles point.

"We started really tight and it was tough with the ceremony and all the emotions. I'm glad we won," added Nagode.

After obtaining a 1-0 advantage heading into the singles portion the Panthers wanted to make sure they left nothing to chance by claiming three straight points. It started with Ferreira defeating

Jimenez 6-1, 6-0 followed by Grib earning her 21st singles victory of the season, which ties Veksler

for most on the team this season, defeating Elizabeth Bagerbaseh 6-1, 6-0.

The Panthers' next game

is the last of the season, they will be taking on Florida Atlantic University Saturday, April 15 in Boca

Raton. First serve is set for 10 a.m.



STEVEN MELENDEZ/PANTHER PRESS

Senior Nina Nagode sets racket for incoming ball in Senior Day match against UCF.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Junior golfer scores second-best stroke average this season



COURTESY OF FIU ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS

Junior golfer Katerina Krasova hits ball to get a hole.

NICHOLAS POBLETE
Staff Writer

Junior golfer Katerina Krasova has the second-best stroke average this season for the women's golf team at 75.52.

The Ricany, Czech Republic, native majoring in business management, had offers from various

universities, but none of them, she said, met her criteria. Through "Athletes USA," she got in touch with FIU.

She said she chose the University because "the location is in Miami," and, "you can play the whole year."

The transition, however, from Ricany to Miami was

difficult for Krasova. The predominantly Hispanic culture in Miami made it difficult for her to accommodate, she said, as a non-spanish speaker.

"You have to deal with it by yourself, which is challenging," she said, "but it's going to make you stronger in the future."

Although her stroke

average is the team's second best average, Krasova said there is still room for improvement.

"After a tournament, I check what I did wrong, and I try and analyze what went wrong," she said. "Sometimes in golf you need a little click, and then you start shooting better."

With WEB.com and Conference USA coming up, Krasova hopes she and her team will end the season playing at a high level. This will be the first season she plays in Jacksonville's WEB.com tournament.

In addition, Krasova will be a senior next year, with the responsibility of leading the women's golf team next season. Juggling all the responsibilities that come with being a student-athlete throughout her first three years at FIU has prepared the junior for her senior year. She said is ready to take on the challenge of leading her younger teammates.

"It is the year when you can give it everything," she said. "I want to really focus on my game."

PantherNOW.com

FIU Student Media's
rebranded website

is still bringing

up to the minute

news coverage,

instant sports updates,

what's new in student life,

music and talk shows,

event photo galleries and more.

'PROUD PARTNERSHIP'

Athletics department names stadium after donor



PETER HOLLAND JR.
Staff Writer

The FIU Athletics department has revealed that the football stadium will now be named Riccardo Silva Stadium for four years. The decision was made after Silva was recognized for his \$3.7 million donation to the department since 2015.

"I want to personally thank Riccardo Silva for his generous gift and his belief in FIU Athletics," said FIU Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia. "It means a great deal to the department and illustrates the relationship we have built with Riccardo Silva. These are the type of gifts that help achieve our goal toward building world-class facilities for our student-athletes and our community."

Silva is the president and co-owner of the Miami FC soccer team, which started its first season in 2016 in the North American Soccer League (NASL). Silva, an Italian businessman and entrepreneur is also an owner of the Silva International Investments. With his love for soccer and almost two decades of running team organizations, the Milan native is looking forward to the partnership with FIU.

The donation and renovations of the Silva Stadium included the installment of a new jumbotron, which is measured over 1800 square feet. The

upgraded video board will feature a 13HD pixel layout, the premier technology used for outdoor applications within the sports industry, according to the Athletics Department. It will have live video and instant-replay capabilities,

also installed a new surface for the football field from FieldTurf's Revolution 360. The new turf field features fibers that provide longevity and resilience, and is used by many of the country's top venue, according to the

“

When I brought professional soccer to Miami last year, I never dreamed that the Miami FC would be playing in a stadium named after me. It's a huge honor of which I'm very proud and grateful.

Riccardo Silva
President and Co-owner
Miami FC

”

along with multiple zones of content, including statistics and graphics.

"FIU has been an amazing partner since we began working together with Miami FC," said Silva. "When I brought professional soccer to Miami last year, I never dreamed that the Miami FC would be playing in a stadium named after me. It's a huge honor of which I'm very proud and grateful."

Along with the new jumbotron, Silva Stadium has

Athletics department.

"I'm proud of the partnership with Riccardo Silva that speaks to our win-win commitment to our community," said President Mark B. Rosenberg.

Miami FC is in the beginning of its season, and the team will play its next two matches at Silva Stadium starting on April 22 against the Carolina RailHawks at 7:30 p.m. and FC Edmonton on April 29 at 7:30 p.m.



Left: President Mark B. Rosenberg thanks Miami FC President and co-owner Riccardo Silva for his donation to FIU Athletics.

Right: Silva speaks about FIU Athletics honoring him with new stadium name.