FIU degree ranked second biggest waste of money

NICOLE MONTERO
Staff Writer

The University’s English major was deemed the second biggest waste of money, based on cost and employment income and income of graduates according to an article in The Atlantic. Using these metrics, The Atlantic concluded that the program isn’t worth it, as it costs more than the graduates end up making out of college.

Based on PayScale, the largest private tracker of U.S. salaries based on self-reported earnings by individuals who graduated from hundreds of schools, The Atlantic ranked degrees with the lowest 20-year net worth.

The most valuable college degree in America, according to the findings, is a bachelor of science from Harvey Mudd College, a small science and engineering school in California. Stanford’s computer science program pays off more than any major in the country, while the University of Virginia has the best dollar-for-dollar investment.

An English major at FIU paying out-of-state tuition makes $192,000 less than a high school graduate entering the workforce at the same age—$132,000 for in-state students.

A degree in English has never been and will never be an easily quantifiable degree.

James Sutton
Chair
Department of English

University’s art major who makes $197,000 less than a high school grad. The Department of English department remains resilient, however, and defends the opportunities that an English major can bestow. Among those is James Sutton, associate professor and chairperson.

“The reason I so object to the article, other than the fact that our University’s name and department appear there, is that I don’t believe for an instant that this could possibly be true,” he said. “I don’t know how they got those numbers. My guess is that, wherever they came from, they are probably on a very small sample.”

University prepares for eMerge Americas Techweek

SAMANTHA DAVIS
Staff Writer

As Miami suits up for eMerge Americas, a large-scale conference that will bring business leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs and sponsors from all over the world to the Miami Beach Convention Center the first week of May, FIU is preparing for all things tech — recruiting student volunteers for its own pavilion that will showcase University innovations.

FIU is working alongside eMerge as a global sponsor and will be displaying innovations including Aquarius, the world’s only underwater research facility, and the Wall of Wind, which is capable of simulating a Category 5 hurricane.

Students should take advantage of this opportunity because they will be able to network and interact with guests and the companies when they’re off duty,” said Ileana Calixtus, special events and student relations coordinator. “They’ll have access to the trade show floor, where companies will be showcasing their ideas and new technologies. Plus, they can put this on their resume.”

The conference will feature keynote speakers from Facebook, Amazon, Viacom, Discovery, IBM, Knight Foundation, Clearpath and more on topics split into different “tracks” — health, finance, cities, entertainment and education.

President Mark B. Rosenberg is also on the roster of speakers, along professors from FIU and University of Miami, and Miami-Dade County Superintendent of Schools Alberto Carvalho.

FIU’s Small Business Development Center, which opened in mid-January 2014, will also be promoting their free consultation services at the conference. The SBDC is a resource for entrepreneurs and businesses in the Miami-Dade County to receive free consultation in a variety of areas such as loan eligibility, international trade and business technology. The SBDC helps people who are in the planning stages, helping to launch and efficiently operate their business.

“Although it is not geared toward students, they are certainly welcome regardless of their major or field of study,” said Jacqueline Sousa, who recently joined the College of Business during her freshman year. "It is a great opportunity to network with people who are successful in their industries and to share information about their companies. Additionally, this conference is a great opportunity for employers to find potential employees and vice versa. It is a win-win situation for everyone involved."

See TECHWEEK, page 2
First women joining Palestinian commando unit

Palestinian women in combat fatigues and headscarves rappelled down a six-story tower, fired assault rifles at imaginary terrorists and in a drill straight out of the movies bundled a would-be VIP into a car and sped off after a shooting. The 22 future commandos are trailblazers in a still largely male-domi- nated society, set to become the first female members of the Presidential Guards, a Pales- tinian elite force of 2,600 men. Their inclusion is the result of gradual changes in the West Bank in recent years. Some gender barriers have fallen, with a few women assuming posts as mayors, judges and Cabinet ministers or standing in business. At the same time, unemployment is on the rise, and fami- lies are more open to women entering non-trad- itional jobs if it means another paycheck.

Gumman kills Dutch priest in Syrian city of Homs

A masked gunman opened fire on a well-known, elderly Dutch priest in the central Syrian city of Homs on Monday, killing him instantly, a fellow priest, an activist group and Syria’s state-run media said. The motives for the attack were not known and no one immedi- ately claimed responsibility for the killing.

Pope backs scandal-plagued Vatican Bank to operate

Pope Francis has given his backing to the Vatican Bank to keep operating as it strives to improve the bank’s future, it stressed that the IOR must follow a “universal pastor.” In announcing Francis’ approval for the Institute assist the Holy Father in his mission as the “widowed net cost” is more than $74,000. Sutton didn’t agree with PayScale coauthoring English, liberal studies and human- ities majors together. According to Sutton, the Alumni association has record of 3,280 liberal studies graduates and 225 humanities majors and, if combined with 3,634 English bachelor’s, there are about 7,139 graduates from the three programs together. Sutton said he contacted PayScale last week to find out how many alumni reported salary figures to generate their numbers. He said the answer was 62 profiles.

“Sixty-two reports from 7,139 alumni,” Sutton said. “That is less than 1 percent rate of return. To be precise, it is .868 percent. A sample size of less than one percent is very difficult to take serious.”

Other faculty and alumni board members agreed with Sutton and believe the article to be “outrageous.”

“aristic and creative and full lives are a number of things that English majors,” he said. “English is an art, and any art requires dedication and passion in order to reach success. Although The Atlantic article ranked FIU’s Human- ities programs third for waste of money, the English depart- ment remains confident.

“English is an art, and any art requires dedication and passion in order to reach success. Although The Atlantic article ranked FIU’s Humanities programs third for waste of money, the English department remains confident,” Sutton said.

“English is an art, and any art requires dedication and passion in order to reach success. Although The Atlantic article ranked FIU’s Humanities programs third for waste of money, the English department remains confident,” Sutton said. “English is an art, and any art requires dedication and passion in order to reach success. Although The Atlantic article ranked FIU’s Humanities programs third for waste of money, the English department remains confident.”

FIU offers eMerge networking app

as regional director of SBDC. She brings more than 20 years of experience as a business analyst, entre- preneur and journalist; and was previ- ously a special consultant to the dean of the college.

While SBDC only opened in February, Sutton said it already had more than 60 business leaders come to its office in Brickell.

“We’ve helped businesses that are launching, and are already established,” she said. “We help businesses in financial aspects and with overseas expansion.” As part of FIU’s sponsorship with the Super Bowl, SBDC will showcase its services as well as meet students should take ad- vantage of this opportunity because they will be able to network.

ano Canizares, Coordinator of Special Events & Student Relations, said the University community receive a 25 percent discount on registration to attend the event.

“The event is for people who are new to the community and want to network with the various businesses and entrepreneurs there. FIU students from any major have the opportunity to be a part of the eMerge conference as volunteers who will serve as hostesses — running between events and provide helpful information such as where to register and assist with event manage- ment team. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”

“We’re not just going to throw them in cold turkey,” said Canizares, who is coordinating student volunteering. “Every student will receive a meal and they will receive meals and free parking during the conference. They can choose four-hour blocks from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to volunteer.”
Too ‘turnt up?’ After crazy weekend Ultra’s South Beach future unsure

STEPHANIE PIEDRAHITA  Staff Writer

It has been almost two weeks since Ultra Music Festival ended, and there is still some buzz about the controversy surrounding the event and discussions about its future.

To catch you up, Ultra has been around since 1999 when it was a one-day event on South Beach, and has transformed into the massive multi-million dollar business that takes over Bayfront Park for a full weekend during Miami Music Week and the Winter Music Conference.

The lineup usually includes the biggest names and acts within the electronic dance music industry, and attracts “ravers” from around the globe to the city of Miami.

An influx of money comes pouring in during the week; the city of Miami profits from Ultra as travelers who fill up hotels and hot spots along the beach meet with an increase in customers wanting to party it up in the vacation capital of the world.

Aside from its massive success and the undeniable influence it has within this genre of music, the festival has brought major concerns and issues for the people who live here.

The properties around the park struggle financially during Ultra weekend due to blocked traffic, and residents have a difficult time leaving and entering their homes causing an unnecessary inconvenience.

Being employed by Ultra for the weekend at the customer service table, I saw the gate get rushed by a screaming crowd of teenagers a total of 6 times; I was saddened, but not surprised, when I heard one of the security personnel got hurt and had to get medical treatment.

Drug use has also become a part of the festival, contributing to the many arrests, hospitalizations and deaths we’ve seen in the past few years following that weekend.

Recently, Mayor Thomas Regaldo condemned the lack of preparation and caution coming from the event organizers and has moved towards denying them permits to continue next year.

Some dedicated fans of Ultra could argue that cancelling the festival entirely would negatively affect the local economy and will shut out the growth of EDM in a city that thrives from it.

Even with such divided views, I feel like there is common ground here and a solution that would bring compromise and security for the festival and the people who attend it.

The majority of festivals take place on wide fields of land or at sites far from city centers (see Burning Man or Electric Daisy Carnival as examples) and provide an easy commute for travelers and residents. Instead of cancelling the event entirely, move it to significantly less populated area and provide transportation to make up for any financial losses. Bigger venues would solve crowding issues and would provide a better concert experience as well.

Security needs to tighten up too! I knew it was unrealistic to believe that 5 security guards would be able to stop a rush of 100 people from entering, and seeing a police officer zip tie fences together made me feel unsafe as a worker since it seemed more like a circus than a break in.

I knew things could have definitely been planned better when we started having to barricade will call since we were worried about attempts of ticket theft.

Even though it was not as effective as it could have been, there were measures set in place to reduce crime and injury and this case is true for ANY musical event, not just Ultra, because the possibility of something going wrong is always there.

In this case, the worst case scenario came true and I challenge event organizers to be more responsible if they hope to remain successful in this city.

I also challenge us ticket holders to act like adults and realize that trying to sneak in or breaking the law could have very dire consequences and a weekend of “going hard” is not worth it.

I’m all for having a good time and seeing the DJs I love but the experience gets ruined for me when those around me are acting like animals and forget how to act appropriately.

If you do not want to see events cancelled and scare away your favorite DJs from performing in our city, reconsider your actions since they could land you in the hospital or jail. If everyone just started following the rules, we’d all have a guaranteed good time for many years to come.

-s-stephanie.piedrahita@fiusm.com

More than a social construct: defining exactly what it means to be genderqueer

JENNIFER SCHAEFER  Staff Writer

With the recent highlighting of transgender awareness in the media there is another term being used which has some confused.

Navigating the labels in the LGBTQ community can be tricky if one isn’t in the know. One such term is genderqueer.

Genderqueer is defined by urbanciticianary.com as “a person who feels that his/her gender identity does not fit into the socially constructed “norms” associated with his/her biological sex. Genderqueer is an identity that falls anywhere between man/boy/male and woman/girl/female on the spectrum of gender identities.”

Transgender awareness brought about terms such as cisgender. Cisgender means that a person identifies as the sex quite happily. Genderqueer individuals further question the notion of gender normative behavior and the idea that it be forced upon people.

Furthermore genderqueer can be broken down into sub-categories as follows: both as male and female (androgyne), neither male nor female (agendered, neutrois, non-gendered), moving between traditional male and female norms (genderfluid), and third-gendered (preferring not to subdivide the genderqueer label).

Knowing if you are genderqueer or not is a personal matter since the gender or genders an individual identifies as is a summation of their identifying feelings and their experiences.

Essentially, it is a combination of nature and nurture since gender normatives are generally societal constructs. Identifying as male in one society may be different in another. Some families are attempting to neutralize gender stereotypes in their home. One such family caused a commotion in 2011 when baby Storm was born in Toronto, Canada. Only seven people knew the biological sex of the infant the day Storm was born.

In a November 2013 update with embracethechaos.ca Storm’s mother said “Sometimes Storm says ‘I’m a girl,’ and sometimes Storm says ‘I’m a boy.’”

Later she goes on to say, “Here’s my “radical parenting strategy” — I’m trying to listen. Sounds boring, so David and I made up a fancy name. We call it gender engaged parenting.”

While some do think it is radical to allow a child to define their gender, the idea is catching. International toy store chain Toys R Us changed the way they plan their stores after success in the strategy in their Stockholm, Sweden supermarket.

The change was made after Swedish parents complained that while searching for traditionally gender binary toys for their children, many children were unhappy with the selection.

One mother cited “It is so hard for me to find anything for my daughter. I hate pink princesses,” when asked by the guardian.com why she preferred the now neutral store layout.

If we view gender as a societal construct then it makes perfect sense to have a broader spectrum from which to identify.

Limiting gender to the constraints of biological sex stifles many individuals, creates discrimination based on gender, creates gender normative standards which are often inaccurate and unattainable, and we tell people that they are limited to what essentially amounts to the plumbing with which they were born.

Navigating the labels in the LGBTQ community can be tricky if one isn’t in the know. One such term is genderqueer.

Genderqueer is defined by urbanciticianary.com as “a person who feels that his/her gender identity does not fit into the socially constructed “norms” associated with his/her biological sex. Genderqueer is an identity that falls anywhere between man/boy/male and woman/girl/female on the spectrum of gender identities.”

Transgender awareness brought about terms such as cisgender. Cisgender means that a person identifies as the sex quite happily. Genderqueer individuals further question the notion of gender normative behavior and the idea that it be forced upon people.

Furthermore genderqueer can be broken down into sub-categories as follows: both as male and female (androgyne), neither male nor female (agendered, neutrois, non-gendered), moving between traditional male and female norms (genderfluid), and third-gendered (preferring not to subdivide the genderqueer label).

Knowing if you are genderqueer or not is a personal matter since the gender or genders an individual identifies as is a summation of their identifying feelings and their experiences.

Essentially, it is a combination of nature and nurture since gender normatives are generally societal constructs. Identifying as male in one society may be different in another. Some families are attempting to neutralize gender stereotypes in their home. One such family caused a commotion in 2011 when baby Storm was born in Toronto, Canada. Only seven people knew the biological sex of the infant the day Storm was born.

In a November 2013 update with embracethechaos.ca Storm’s mother said “Sometimes Storm says ‘I’m a girl,’ and sometimes Storm says ‘I’m a boy.’”

Later she goes on to say, “Here’s my “radical parenting strategy” — I’m trying to listen. Sounds boring, so David and I made up a fancy name. We call it gender engaged parenting.”

While some do think it is radical to allow a child to define their gender, the idea is catching. International toy store chain Toys R Us changed the way they plan their stores after success in the strategy in their Stockholm, Sweden supermarket.

The change was made after Swedish parents complained that while searching for traditionally gender binary toys for their children, many children were unhappy with the selection.

One mother cited “It is so hard for me to find anything for my daughter. I hate pink princesses,” when asked by the guardian.com why she preferred the now neutral store layout.

If we view gender as a societal construct then it makes perfect sense to have a broader spectrum from which to identify.

Limiting gender to the constraints of biological sex stifles many individuals, creates discrimination based on gender, creates gender normative standards which are often inaccurate and unattainable, and we tell people that they are limited to what essentially amounts to the plumbing with which they were born.

If you have further questions about the term or idea you can visit genderqueerrevolution.org for more information.

-jennifer.schaefer@fiusm.com

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 five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.
Nike unveils its Elite sneakers this weekend

The shoe season is reaching an elite level -- Nike Elite to be exact. On Friday, April 11 Nike will release its Elite sneakers, Kobe and Kevin Durant shoes. The release of the Nike Elite’s are an annual gift upon which sneaker enthusiasts have been waiting. These shoes are those that LeBron James and Kevin Durant will wear with their shoes on the line during the NBA Playoffs.

These shoes are the quality Nike has to offer. Plain and simple.

KD 6 Elite: Best of the best

The KD 6 Elite is the best shoe in this collection. It just has no flaws. For the first time in a KD signature shoe, this new version comes with a full-length, visible Nike Zoom unit that runs through the midsole. This type of technology makes the shoe lighter and provides extra performance when on the basketball court.

Durant himself has expressed his love for this shoe -- he doesn’t want to take them off. I don’t blame him, either.

It’s the complete package. Along with the improved technology, the shoe shed all extra weight and increased its breathability thus making it a shoe that moves precisely with your foot.

Lebron 11 Elite: Second in line

I don’t own a pair of LeBron’s, but I can certainly say the Elite version of his shoes are to be respected.

Kobe 9 Elite: Lack of Kobe’s presence hinders impact of sneakers

The Kobe 9 Elite is ranked last out of the pack because Kobe Bryant isn’t around to provide the shoe with some playoff fame. Kobe, of course, is out for the season with a fracture in his knee.

The shoe itself is decorated in a traditional Lakers’ purple and gold colorway. This shoe, much like the KD, features a lot of first-time technology. The Kobe 9 Elite is the first Nike shoe to feature Flyknit while also maximizing innovation with Lunarlon, Dynamic Flywire and carbon fiber. All of which are ingredients for an extremely lightweight high-performance basketball shoe.

The sad part about the Kobe 9 is that Bryant has yet to wear the shoe. He fractured his knee shortly before Nike introduced the shoe in February.

The Winter Soldier works as superhero fun just as much as it works as a political action- thriller.

The story concerns issues involving who to trust, what is best for the people of Earth, and how a lack of privacy is sometimes sacrificed in order to ensure freedom and security.

The “Winter Soldier” series brings us a Steve Rodgers who is still trying to make sense of the 21st century, or at least trying to catch up on everything he’s missed.

Chris Evans plays Rodgers as incredibly charming, subtle, and most importantly, sympathetic; he infuses the character with such reality, believability, and comfort that he comes off as a genuine human being, someone who really was just an ordinary soldier who was endowed with extraordinary powers.

The emotions and feelings he expresses feel authentic, and when it comes to humor, the Captain always takes the more subtle route and having to react to the jokes of others.

New Captain America blends superheroes & politics

Superheroes, politics, conspiracy, fascism -- “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” has all these things and makes them all work well together, forming a hybrid of political-superhero action that stars Chris Evans as the titular Captain, Sebastian Stan as the titular Soldier, Scarlett Johansson as Natasha Romanoff/Black Widow, Samuel L. Jackson as Nick Fury, and Robert Redford as Alexander Pierce.

The story concerns issues involving who to trust, what is best for the people of Earth, and how a lack of privacy is sometimes sacrificed in order to ensure freedom and security.

“The Winter Soldier” series brings us a Steve Rodgers who is still trying to make sense of the 21st century, or at least trying to catch up on everything he’s missed.

Chris Evans plays Rodgers as incredibly charming, subtle, and most importantly, sympathetic; he infuses the character with such reality, believability, and comfort that he comes off as a genuine human being, someone who really was just an ordinary soldier who was endowed with extraordinary powers.

The emotions and feelings he expresses feel authentic, and when it comes to humor, the Captain always takes the more subtle route and having to react to the jokes of others.
Three major topics easily understandable in ‘Captain America: The Winter Soldier’

The cast of “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” at the 2013 San Diego Comic Con International in San Diego, California.

SUPERHERO, PAGE 4

The acting of everyone involved is quite impressive, too, especially Scarlett Johansson’s. She too comes off as real and believable, showing much sympathy.

The subjects of security, freedom, and protection are major topics in “The Winter Soldier”, from being motivation to being the reason behind major plot points. There’s much in this film that, discussed, would spoil much of the story, but the themes themselves in the context of the story can be explored independently.

While the Captain goes against the very idea of obliterating privacy for the sake of security, his sentiments seem to relate to the popular attitude felt in the United States.

There are those who believe security if of such importance that privacy is allowed to be invaded, while plenty of others note this as a negative initiative and believe that their privacy being invaded goes against their rights.

There’s also themes regarding fascism which tie into events and characters from earlier Marvel films; much of all this greatly affects the Marvel universe, as well.

Lest one forgets “The Winter Soldier” is also an action film; the film is well shot, especially the action sequences near the end. As is typical in superhero films, the third act is full of action and explosions, which the filmmakers manage to balance very well.

There’s just as much typical bombastic action as there is low-key and suspenseful action; the film’s political-thriller styling shows up during tense moments where loud violence is nowhere to be seen.

It is a testament to the film’s subject matter that scenes of the Captain jumping around saving the world are just as exciting of tense moments involving Fury or Pearce (Robert Redford); a specific scene involving Fury is particularly engaging, managing to balance tension with excitement.

“The Winter Soldier” works as superhero fun just as much as it works as a political action-thriller. It’s melding of these genres is unique; something that is never seen in films of this type.

Working as a reflection of the times and of honest values, the film is able to elevate its status as a superhero film and becomes something a bit more.

“The First Avenger” had its values, and “The Winter Soldier” tests those values to the end, resulting in a motion picture hybrid that changes the Marvel landscape.

-Maria Gil, Contributing Writer

‘Mr. Peabody & Sherman’ rejuvenated for all

In the new 3-D animated movie, “Mr. Peabody and Sherman,” directed by Rob Minkoff, we experience an adventure between a dog and his boy. Based on “Peabody’s Improbable History,” this film takes a modern look on an old classic.

Dreamworks animation has done it again in creating a film enjoyable for all audiences. Just as in the classic tv show “Mr. Peabody and Sherman” embark on the WABAC and to important points in history including The French Revolution, The Trojan War and Alexander the Great.

Maria Gil
Contributing Writer

The cast of “Peabody & Sherman” is about Raymond Reddington a.k.a. “Red”, an FBI’s most wanted criminal, who gets making bad historical puns along the way.

Differentiating this new film from the original classics is that young Sherman is officially attending school and develops an unlikely friendship between a young girl named Penny.

Issues arise when people begin to question Mr. Peabody’s (the most capable dog in the world) capability to raise a young human boy. You’ll laugh, you’ll may tear up a bit, and groan at the bad yet amusing puns because we cannot be in “The Nile” of that.

Ty Burrell the voice actor of Mr. Peabody does a marvelous job recreating the voice of our favorite talking dog: busi ness dog, inventor, scientist, Nobel laureate, gourmet chef, two-time Olympic medalist. With his co-stars: Max Charles (Sherman), Ariel Winter (Penny) and Tom McGrath (Odysseus) make it easy to fall in love with these characters once again. Even though this film is geared towards young audiences it can definitely amuse adults with subtle adult humor.

There’s also themes that change the Marvel landscape.

This show keeps a high rating and is renewed for a second season.

Annelise Cummings
Contributing Writer

The ‘Blacklist’ provides action-filled drama, intrigue

The ‘Blacklist’ is about Raymond Reddington a.k.a. “Red”, an FBI’s most wanted criminal, who gets captured and works with Elizabeth Keen, a task force agent to capture the most dangerous criminals that are on a list he has been culminating for the last 20 years.

When I first saw this show, I was a bit skeptical because I thought it was going to be like any other crime drama TV series.

But after the pilot episode, it became more and more interesting to watch and wonder, “What’s going to happen next?”

The cast is perfect for this series, the plotlines are incredible and the show never strays off the main point of what it’s about: Who is Elizabeth Keen to Reddington?

This show keeps surprising me every single week and has all the things that make a great series. It has to have suspense, drama, action, mystery, and on occasion, mental breakdowns.

James Spader who plays Reddington transforms himself as the character. From the very beginning, he captivated me with his persona, his dedication to become a criminal mastermind and how he executes his role to the tee. If you like action-filled drama and government intrigue with a side of criminal insanity, then this show is for you.

I highly recommend it.

This show can’t stop watching it because it’s that good. Right now, it’s on hiatus, but “The Blacklist” returns with a new episode on April 21 on NBC at 10 p.m. and is renewed for a second season.

The Beacon – Wednesday, April 9, 2014

- life@fiusm.com
**International Panthers embrace Miami in every aspect**

**Jahrel Francis**  
*Staff Writer*

Sports are universal. Despite this simple fact, sports obviously have their differences internationally, varying by nation. The entire women’s tennis team is foreign to the United States, coming from all over Europe along with one from Venezuela. Even the coach is not a native of America and has a diverse feel for the game.

While almost each of the players are coming from a separate country, they each bring a certain aspect to the team; even though they mainly derive from Europe, having similar experiences, to bring to the Panthers.

“The main difference here is that it’s more about fighting, you play on the team and in Europe I played as an individual,” freshman Nina Nagode said.

To go from focusing on yourself to worrying about your team and having trust and hope toward them is a notable trade. From their you have the coaches to find synchrony. The coach pulls the team together and pushes the team for more.

“My coach in Slovenia is a lit bit similar,” Nagode said. “Me and my classmates had the same coach so it was similar but here I learned some new stuff.”

Having the coach also come from Europe, she has her own distinguishable experiences share. “(Miami) is beautiful and if you know how to use this weather, for your advantage,” freshman Coach Katarina Petrovic said. Petrovic has played all over the world and notes the work you can do with Miami weather. Coming from her hometown Valjevo, Yugoslavia and a career in University of South Carolina, she has much experience to bring to the table.

The players bring their own experience to the University courts. The main contrast they all shared, from Europe to Miami, were the settings of play.

“For example, in Germany you play outside on clay. In winter we play indoors,” senior Giulietta Boha. “I’m from Italy so everything is on the clay, we don’t have hard courts,” sophomore Orlando Carlotta said.

Boha was born in Wuerzburg, Germany and Orlando was born in Trieste, Italy. Both regions focus on clay and winter indoors. With these different courts the environment and the play change along with it.

“When the clay you have to play longer points, so the game here is faster,” Orlando said.

Miami sun and wind can throw another curve into the game for the Panthers but having this be their home court they have begun to use it for their advantage. “Here I have the easiest but still left with a slight challenge,”

“Me and my clubmates have the coaches to find it,” freshman Nina Nagode said.

My city is really windy, so I’m used to the wind,” Orlando said. “But here is harder to play because of the humidity and the warm,” you get more tired.”

The court changing along with the setting and environment the ideas and skill sets are a bit skewed between the countries they have played in.

“When you travel, even within the country, you encounter different people with different tendencies from you and your usual opponents.”

“I feel college tennis the girls they play a lot of balls in with consistency,” Boha said. “I feel like home they play more aggressive, going for their shots.”

“For many, going from high school to a college is a significant transition but these girls connected it with being in another country, language and culture to add to the mixture of things. Mere conversation sparked up memories and desires of being home.

For freshman Valentina Brieceno it isn’t too strenuous. Born in Caracas, Venezuela, she isn’t far from her culture. To be exact she has been playing in Miami for a few years.

“I’m not too far from home because too many Venezu- elanos live here in Miami,” Brieceno said. “the beaches in Venezuela are a million times better but my family is here with me thankfully.”

There are still many aspects of life for Brieceno to miss but remain, Venezu- elan culture, despite ethnicity, is something shocking.

“I’m German so I’m used to being on time, like everything has to be perfect,” Boha said. “Here nothing is on time, that’s different. Back home we have history with all the countries and here it’s actually new.”

“Miami culture is like no other. Speaking to anyone there is something they find special about Miami no matter where they come from. Regardless of the connota- tion, there is at least one alter- nation from one place to here.”

“Okay the food,” Orlando said. “In Italy we have better pasta and pizza! People are more relaxed in Miami, the rhythm is slower and I like it.”

The laid back vibes and relaxed perspective they encounter is due to the size of the city and population within it.

“I come from a small city like 10,000 people,” Nagode said. “Everything is bigger. In my city I know everybody but here I meet more people.”

With so many people it explains how they list what they find so different. The women’s tennis players have gone through a great switch in sport and life. From the courts to the style of dinner and when you show up for it, these players have a series of adjustments that they have to go through.

This assimilation process is not one that overwhelmed the Panthers though. That sort of process is tough but despite it all, tennis is still their game to play. They are now 10-6 with just one game left before the Conference USA Championships. Miami is not slowing them down just changing the scene of where they succeed.

---

**Panthers lose close series to Old Dominion**

**Alejandro Solana**  
*Staff Writer*

It was another rough weekend for the FIU baseball team as they lost yet another series versus a conference opponent.

This time it was the Old Dominion University Monarchs taking two out of three against the Panthers, who have now fallen to just one game over the .500 mark in Conference-USA play.

Friday’s matchup at FIU Base- ball Stadium was the first ever meeting between these two teams in baseball and it did not go the way the Monarchs hoped dropping the match-up to ODU 2-1.

Despite another solid outing from junior right-hander pitcher Mike Franco, a seventh-inning full of mistakes from FIU would fall once again in a Friday night series opener.

Game 2

The second game between these two teams would be another difficult one to swallow for the Panthers as they would lose again dropping their conference record to 7-7, a perfect.

The win for the Monarchs secured them a successful trip down to South Florida and improved their conference record to 8-6.

Freshman starting pitcher Cody Crouse had the start for FIU and pitched well for most of the night.

ODU took a one-run lead early any tied until the top of the eighth inning.

Crouse was relieved by junior Robbie Kalaf who gave up a two-run home-run to ODU’s Nick Walker, a true freshman.

The home run by the ODU freshman, Walker, ended a 270 inning streak of which a Panther pitcher had not allowed a home run.

FIU would tally on two runs in the ninth inning down 4-0 in an attempt at a late comeback, but the rally caps would eventually be taken off as the late effort was not enough and ODU took home the victory and the series win, 4-2.

Game 3

Coming into the third game and final game of the series, the Panthers still had a chance to make some light out of what had been a dark situation for them this far this weekend.

Behind FIU’s ace, freshman pitcher Chris Mourielle, the Panthers took the final game 1-0.

Mourielle has been on point this season on the mound and his great season continued as he blanked the Monarchs and recorded his second shutout of the season. Mourielle now has a 6-0 record with an outstanding era of 0.59.

There wasn’t much hitting in this one between the Monarchs and the Panthers, with the differ- ence coming in the bottom of the sixth when junior shortstop Julius Gaines was brought in by an RBI double from junior Louis Silverio.

Despite losing the series, winning the final game and avoiding being swept will defi- nitely work out in FIU’s favor as they improve their confer- ence record to above .500 and keep them in the top half of the conference standings.

The Panthers now hold a 24-8 overall record, and improve to 8-7 in the conference. Up next for the Panthers is a one game series against the University of Louisiana-Monroe tonight, Wednesday, April 9 for a mid-week matchup.

---

fiusm.com Wednesday, April 9, 2014
The Owls were down the entire game, but showed some signs of life in the seventh inning down 3-1. The home half of the seventh began with an Owl walk. Graves was able to get the next to Owl batters to fly out. With two outs and a runner on first FAU was able to string together two hits to score the runner from first and put runner on second, down just one run. Coach Jake Schumann had seen enough from Graves. In to finish the game was Jenkins. Jenkins would strikeout the only hitter she saw to pick up her third save of the season.

For the final game of the season FIU once again sent out Jenkins. Jenkins would once again deliver another masterful performance, going seven innings, allowing one earned run, on just three hits, while punching out five Owls.

This time around FIU was able to give Jenkins some run support. In the first inning FIU was able to put two runs on the board and never looked back.

FIU is now 10-4 when scoring in the first inning and 18-3 when they draw first. On the other hand, FAU has one of the lower ERA in the C-USA with a team ERA of 2.14.

The Panther’s defense All-American Bowl. He was recognized by The Miami Herald as a Miami-Dade County Top 25 recruit. After a successful senior season, his football career continued at West Virginia University. "Obviously there was a lot of opportunities in West Virginia. Everything that it had to offer FIU had also and at the same time it’s close to home, close to family, and it’s a more comfortable environment," Albury said. FIU presented a wider range of opportunities for the redshirt freshman on an athletic and academic scale.

The school has given Albury the opportunity to fulfill whatever goal he may have in college football. At the end of the road lies a more comfortable environment, according to Albury. "It’s a place where you can make your games, your family, and your community proud," Albury said.

The players are working towards improving every aspect of their game and they believe that this team could potentially have the tools for such improvement. White spoke on his belief for the Panthers in 2014. "Definitely a winning season," White said. "We have a lot of guys coming back so we all know what’s good around here." A winning season and the hope of improvement pervade the minds of nearly every FIU football player. White and Albury, as Panthers, are taking the initiative and striving for that one big goal. "We want to bring some wins back to this stadium and we feel like we have the team," Albury said.
New SGC-BBC president counts on teamwork for progress

ALYSSA ELSO
Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus concluded the 2014 election last Thursday, announcing its new President, Jazmin Felix and Vice President, Camille Williams.

“I am very thankful for the opportunity to be elected as SGA President,” said Felix, a second year junior currently pursuing a double major in Nursing and Nutrition.

As of right now I am just focusing in on the main issues that need to be addressed during my presidency and gathering the facts and information to start implementing change,” said Felix.

“My main objective is to make BBC a more student-centered and unified campus and I look forward to working proactively with the students and administrators; always keeping in mind that teamwork makes the dream work.”

Felix, who was previously a Nursing and Health Sciences senator in SGA is an active member of the FIU community, participating in hosting various events in order to build relationships and make students be a part of SGA.

In her two years attending FIU, Felix has been a graduate of the Academy of Leaders Program and the Executive Protégé Initiative. She is currently a Site Leader for Alternative Breaks where she will travel to Nicaragua to assist in the maintenance of an orphanage. Felix, has also served as an E-Board member for the Martin Luther King Jr. Taskforce, as well as a member of the Black Student Union and acted as an ambassador for the Women Who Lead Conference amongst various organizations.

When it comes to the goals Felix would like to accomplish as president, amongst her top priorities are: fixing the parking crisis, working on the second road access and the need to make students the number one priority. Within only a few days of officially being elected, Felix is already hard at work to make her goals a reality.

“As of right now I am just focusing in on the main issues that need to be addressed during my presidency and gathering the facts and information to start implementing change,” said Felix.

“My main objective is to make BBC a more student-centered and unified campus and I look forward to working proactively with the students and administrators; always keeping in mind that teamwork makes the dream work.”

Felix is already hard at work to make her goals a reality.

It is important for everyone to understand that things will not happen overnight, but the ball is definitely rolling and conversations are taking place.”

Joining Felix in moving BBC into a more student-oriented campus is Camille Williams as Vice-President.

“I’m definitely proud and excited for the experiences to come,” said Williams, a senior journalism major. “I am a little nervous, but I am positive that my potential will lead to physical results, within myself and SGA.”

As a new member of SGA, Williams believes that she will grow into the position. “I’m confident I’ll grow through this and become a major contributor,” said Williams.

And though she may not have been a previous member of SGA, Williams is still currently a member of the Black Student Union as well as an active member of Strong Women Strong Girls, where she mentors with three other young ladies.

Williams, while currently not working on any of her personal goals for SGA is ready to help Felix in making changes.

“She means business,” said Felix.

“I am super passionate about service and about helping people in general,” said Felix.

“I have the intellect, personality and women power to promote change and I truly work to serve the general body and making sure that we as a whole are secure.”

sgcb@fiusm.com

New SGC-BBC president counts on teamwork for progress

SPRING STUDYING

Aracely Lopez, sophomore in education, enjoys the weather of the new season while studying on the benches outside in between classes.

Alex Blecincove Staff Writer

Paige Wunsch, a hospitality and tourism management graduate student and B.R.E.W FIU alumna member, said she did not start off as a big beer fan.

However, things changed after she took the beer class offered as an elective at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

“One thing led to another, and the next thing I knew I was making my own [beer],” she said. “And I haven’t looked back.”

With the new Beer Science Lab—a state of the art beer brewing laboratory to accompany the recently constructed Restaurant Management Lab, the University is extending the culture of craft brewery in Miami.

On Thursday, April 3, the CSHTM celebrated the official opening of the Beer Science Lab with nearly a hundred guests, which included beer connoisseurs, FIU alumni and innovators from Gold Coast Beverage Distributors, to tour the new lab and sample food and beer.

“I had students who said, ‘We’re done with your class, but we want to continue to make beer’,” said Felix.

At the beer club, we are working as a student body to find a temporary alternative.

“I found that I really liked it, so I fell in love with it,” said Oliver.

“I started making craft beer not because I wanted beer, but so I could have real beer, and that’s when I fell in love with it,” said Oliver.

Oliver says the culture of craft beer is becoming more apparent in New York and, especially, in Miami; the culture is growing still, he said.

“I started making craft beer because I have a University alum who studied marketing, the business of craft beer is evolving every day. We started noticing that the craft industry was expanding,” said Shihadeh.

“What’s been happening is that people can now just buy one or two craft beers, so if you don’t like it, you don’t have to get a six-pack,” said Shihadeh.

Shihadeh says the craft beer culture is growing, and although there is a certain loyalty among beer drinkers, a lot of people are more willing to try something new.

“I’m really surprised with what’s been happening at Chaplin,” said Lisa Palazzo, regional sales manager of Riedel Wine Glass Company. Spiegelau glasses from the Riedel Wine Glass Company were used for the dinner, because the glasses are uniquely crafted to enhance the flavor and aroma of the drinks they contain.

Palazzo said she was impressed by the students’ innovation with this beer lab.

“Beer science is a natural extension and I think it’s the next place they need to be in the food and beverage industry,” she said.

“Ambeersador” of The Lagunitas Brewing Company, Joe Reyes, said he has seen the jump in the craft beer industry and is working on opening three new craft beer stores.

“When I started working, I found that I really liked the culture,” said Reyes. “Every brewery has a type of culture and you have to find the one that fits for you.”

Oliver agrees, and sees the huge potential that lies in the craft industry for students of B.R.E.W FIU.

“What’s wonderful is that people have an opportunity to fall in love with what they’re doing earlier in life, and can pursue that in a career,” said Oliver.

—alyssa.elso@fiusm.com

Chaplin school hosts dinner for new beer science lab

SPRING STUDYING

Aracely Lopez, sophomore in education, enjoys the weather of the new season while studying on the benches outside in between classes.

Alex Blecincove Staff Writer

Paige Wunsch, a hospitality and tourism management graduate student and B.R.E.W FIU alumna member, said she did not start off as a big beer fan.

However, things changed after she took the beer class offered as an elective at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

“One thing led to another, and the next thing I knew I was making my own [beer],” she said. “And I haven’t looked back.”

With the new Beer Science Lab—a state of the art beer brewing laboratory to accompany the recently constructed Restaurant Management Lab, the University is extending the culture of craft brewery in Miami.

On Thursday, April 3, the CSHTM celebrated the official opening of the Beer Science Lab with nearly a hundred guests, which included beer connoisseurs, FIU alumni and innovators from Gold Coast Beverage Distributors, to tour the new lab and sample food and beer.

“I had students who said, ‘We’re done with your class, but we want to continue to make beer’,” said Felix.

At the beer club, we are working as a student body to find a temporary alternative.

“I started making craft beer because I have a University alum who studied marketing, the business of craft beer is evolving every day. We started noticing that the craft industry was expanding,” said Shihadeh.

“What’s been happening is that people can now just buy one or two craft beers, so if you don’t like it, you don’t have to get a six-pack,” said Shihadeh.

Shihadeh says the craft beer culture is growing, and although there is a certain loyalty among beer drinkers, a lot of people are more willing to try something new.

“I’m really surprised with what’s been happening at Chaplin,” said Lisa Palazzo, regional sales manager of Riedel Wine Glass Company. Spiegelau glasses from the Riedel Wine Glass Company were used for the dinner, because the glasses are uniquely crafted to enhance the flavor and aroma of the drinks they contain.

Palazzo said she was impressed by the students’ innovation with this beer lab.

“Beer science is a natural extension and I think it’s the next place they need to be in the food and beverage industry,” she said.

“Ambeersador” of The Lagunitas Brewing Company, Joe Reyes, said he has seen the jump in the craft beer industry and is working on opening three new craft beer stores.

“When I started working, I found that I really liked the culture,” said Reyes. “Every brewery has a type of culture and you have to find the one that fits for you.”

Oliver agrees, and sees the huge potential that lies in the craft industry for students of B.R.E.W FIU.

“What’s wonderful is that people have an opportunity to fall in love with what they’re doing earlier in life, and can pursue that in a career,” said Oliver.

—alexBlecincove@fiusm.com