CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

Trump brings beauty pageant to University

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Come January, the University will host beauty queens from all across the globe for the Miss Universe Pageant.

Business mogul Donald Trump announced on Thursday, Oct. 2 that the University would host the 63rd annual Miss Universe pageant, while the city of Doral will host various other pageant events.

Trump, who owns the beauty pageant and a golf course, resort and spa in Doral, had planned to bring the pageant to Doral, but turned to FIU’s arena when in need of a larger venue.

The event is scheduled for Jan. 25 at the FIU U.S. Bank Century Arena, and will be broadcasted to approximately 190 countries and territories. Although the pageant will take place in 2015, the winner will be crowned the 2014 Miss Universe.

Trump is also granting $150,000 in scholarships to first generation students and internship opportunities to the School of Hospitality & Tourism Management.

“Our students will gain valuable insight from this opportunity to intern with and learn from this world-class event,” said President Mark B. Rosenberg in an Oct. 2 a press release. “I’m delighted that having the pageant on campus will also make it possible for our first generation students to receive scholarships and young people all over the world to be exposed to FIU.”

Though the pageant itself will take place on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, other events associated with the pageant will take place in the City of Doral.

“The real venue will be in FIU, but Doral will host all the beauty pageant [events] that they have here in Doral,” said Mayor Luigi Boria.

Boria had pledged to raise $2.5 million before knowing the exact location for the pageant, though it was understood that the city simply had no venue large enough to hold the event.

“I would also like to thank FIU,” said Boria. “Not having the venue in the city, I am proud to have another community partner like FIU.”

In September, when the city was deciding whether to help fund the pageant, Doral Vice Mayor Christi Fraga said she was against having the city and taxpayers contribute money to the lavish event.

The pageant has many other sponsors, including Baptist Health South Florida and Badia Spices, along with other local and iconic businesses.

SEE PAGEANT, PAGE 7

Student Health Services encourages students to love their bodies

ALICIA DOBSON
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When Keirin Ward, a senior majoring in communications, first came to FIU as a student athlete, he quickly noticed that he was among the smallest players on the football team.

Pressured by coaches to gain weight, Ward became motivated to make a change that was more than beneficial to his athletic career; it was beneficial to his life as a whole.

“The pressure didn’t push me into a shell — it pushed me to work harder and become the player I always wanted to be,” Ward said.

Atarhe Neal-Viegbesie, a junior majoring in biology, told a similar tale when asked about the importance of body image.

After years of feeling out of place and overlooked, she was sick of feeling like a stranger in her own skin. Seeking more than just a physical change, Neal-Viegbesie sought confidence and self-esteem.

“One day I looked in the mirror, didn’t like what I saw, and decided to make a change,” she said.

Inspired by the loss of very close loved ones, Neal-Viegbesie began to develop new health and fitness habits that helped her transform into the person she always wanted to be, physically and mentally.

“I never wanted to be anyone else. It has always been about improving myself,” she stressed.

In an effort to emphasize the importance of being comfortable in your own skin, Student Health Services is dedicating an entire week to promoting positive body image and self-acceptance.

Ebonie Parris, the wellness coordinator for Student Health Services, is dedicated to keeping students positive and healthy in coordination with the National Organization for Women.

“FIU Love Your Body Week is a celebration of NOW’s National Love Your Body Day, a day when women of all sizes, colors, ages and abilities come together to celebrate self-acceptance and promote positive body image,” she said.

Although NOW’s National Love Your Body Day focuses on women, FIU’s event adds men to the mix.

“We found that college men could also benefit from this type of event, as they aren’t excluded from societal standards and body image concepts,” Parris added.

During Love Your Body Week, student services such as the Counseling and Psychological Services and the Victim Empowerment Program will be tabling and providing speakers to make presentations about a number of topics related to loving your body.

All week long, the events will take place in and around the GC Pit. Students can expect to learn about reducing the risk of cancer, self-affirmation, emotional guidance, self-care and much more.

From Oct. 7 to 9, Student Health Services
NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Health officials try to track 100 people who may have been in contact with Ebola patient

Government health officials said Thursday they were tracking down as many as 100 people who may have had contact with a contagious Ebola patient as they were forcing four adults to be isolated at home. State and county officials executed a communicable disease control order to force four unidentified people, believed to be adults, to remain inside the Dallas apartment where Thomas Eric Duncan developed Ebola symptoms. The order allows health workers to monitor the apartment’s occupants daily. Five children and an unknown number of adults share the apartment at The Ivy in Vickery Meadow in northeast Dallas. The apartment, where Duncan had been staying since Sept. 20, still contained potentially contaminated mate-

rial Thursday, health officials acknowledged.

Nuclear waste dump in New Mexico is expected to reopen by 2016

The U.S. Energy Department expects to resume operations at its shuttered nuclear waste dump in New Mexico by early 2016, about two years after two serious acci-
dents released radioactive materials and sooth throughout the 2,150-foot-deep reposi-
tory. The cost of the accident will approach $1 billion, based on estimates contained in a 32-page plan from the department released this week. Repairs to equipment and the estab-
lishment of new procedures will cost about $242 million, the department said. Restoring full operations will cost $309 million more.

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Alecjandro Porras, a junior finance major, considered his career goals when he chose to join the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting during fall 2013. Porras, president-elect of ALPFA Tech Group, said he was seeking an organization that could streamline him to a secure job while meeting other students with shared values.

“ALPFA allowed me to make friends with likeminded individuals, and connect with people who push me, compete with me and ultimately strive to become more balanced individuals together,” said Porras.

As the biggest student business organization on campus, ALPFA offers opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and gain professional skills that are essential in the business world.

Marcela Ruiz-Paiz, a senior majoring in accounting, also joined the organization in fall 2013, and said it has helped grow both personally and professionally.

“I have encountered several mentors along the way who have helped me come out of my shell and are constantly encouraging me to reach my fullest potential,” said Ruiz-Paiz.

The group provides a mentorship and internship opportunities. Members dress in business attire to interview with or receive information from company representatives.

“The networking ability to speak to recruiters every Friday during our meeting has been a great way to help me feel comfortable approaching them and talking to them,” Ruiz-Paiz said.

Largest student organization holds finance opportunities

Although the organization started out to specifically help business students, it has opened up to accept students from any major who want to become involved and network in the business world.

With support from school of accounting and the Student Government Association, 52 of the most active members travelled for free to attend the ALPFA Annual Convention in Orlando this August.

“The greatest thing ALPFA has given me is a family—a group of like-minded individuals who want to succeed and want to help others do the same,” said Ruiz-Paiz.

University encourages positive body image through events

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Marcela Ruiz-Paiz
Senior Accounting

SEAS loses significant coordinator

At the Aquarius program, Thomas Potts, director of the Aquarius Reef Base laboratory, said Dunmire was a big asset to the program and an incredibly likeable guy.

“He was one of those guys who could do everything,” said Potts. “He had a good grasp on the science that was being conducted, especially with the local waters.”

Dunmire served the program as diving supervisor, boat captain and diving medical technician.

He was part of a family atmosphere where the Aquarius team are invested in one another, said Potts. “He was a great good on the science that was being conducted, especially with the local waters.”

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Why do oppressive countries get to comment about the United States “oppressing” its citizens?

This was a question rolling around in my head as I saw an article after article regarding the situation in Ferguson, Missouri. I was surprised to learn that there were several Tibetan monks standing in solidarity with the protestors. What surprised me most and caused me disgust was the avalanche of negativity coming from countries completely oppressive to their own people; countries like Iran, Russia, North Korea, China and Egypt.

Not surprisingly, North Korea is up first. The human rights report and military of North Korea has for the U.S. is nothing new; they’ve been threatening war for ages. I wasn’t surprised when in its state news agency, the Korean Central News Agency, decided to chime in saying that the U.S. “suffered disgrace” and became “a laughing stock of the world,” because of the developing situation in Ferguson. This coming from the country that, according to United Nations February reports, was committing human rights violations “without any parallel in the contemporary world.”

According to the Washington Post, an entire laundry list of abuses exist in Korea, as presented by the U.S. “concentrate on solving its own problems instead of pointing fingers.” Along the lines of America being considered the “oppression” of Network Marketing and the “opinion” granted by the Ferguson people who dare to protest. According to the Huffington Post, Egyptian authorities have made it illegal to protest without prior permission and have taken to rounding up Egyptian journalists, foreign journalists and revolutionary activists. In other words, anyone who doesn’t toe the line doesn’t get a fair trial.

Other nations that have been critical of the U.S. include Turkey, Germany and the United Kingdom. Overall, the criticism has mostly been the same; along the lines of America being foolish to think racism ended in the 1960s, that the Ferguson situation is out of control and a byproduct of racial violence; and that the U.S.’s foreign policies haven’t been helpful. Meanwhile, many groups sympathize with a majority of the criticisms being leveled. I do, however, wish that the nations profiled above would show some self-awareness and tact when commenting. The critiques from Iran, China, Egypt, Russia and North Korea ring hollow wherein the native Chinese Han are a minority population of mostly Muslim Uyghur population. The circumstances involved do appear similar, including the deadly force against civils, and reporters being detained when trying to put out their independent pieces.

An interesting thing about China is that, like North Korea, the government heavily controls the media and censors the Internet. The Muslim and many nationalities are heavily racially profiled and discriminated against by the native Han populace. Good luck hearing about that from the state media.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Egypt took the opportunity to urge “ restraint and respect for the right of assembly and peaceful expression of opinion” regarding the Ferguson situation. Iron-

ically, Egypt killed over 800 people who dared to protest the military backed removal of then-pres-

ident Mohamed Morsi last year, in an event known as the Rabaa massacre. According to the Huffington Post, Egyptian authorities have made it illegal to protest without prior permission and have taken to rounding up Egyptian journalists, foreign journalists and revolutionary activists. Therefore, anyone who doesn’t toe the line doesn’t get a fair trial.

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University honors distinguished professors during Award Ceremony

SAMANTHA DAVIS
Staff Writer
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On Oct. 2, 2014, the University held its annual Faculty Convocation and Award Ceremony at 3 p.m. in the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center. The ceremony was a day dedicated to acknowledging the excellence and accomplishments of University faculty.

This year, twenty-four faculty received awards in various categories such as Excellence in Teaching, Service, Research and Creative Activities, Engagement, Librarianship, Mentorship and Advising and the President’s Council Worlds Ahead Award.

From extensive research, writing peer reviewed articles and creating study abroad programs, to opening doors for immigrant children, writing for the Huffington Post, and receiving recognition from President Obama, the faculty here have contributed to FIU in ways that are pushing the university forward.

The afternoon included several speakers such as Chair of Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees member Kathleen Wilson, Student Government Association president and Board of Trustees member Alexis Calatayud, President Mark B. Rosenberg and Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton.

In his message to the audience, President Rosenberg discussed some of the challenges the university faces such as the State Legislature’s adoption of a new policy that ranks Florida state schools based on 6-year graduation rate, the percentage of students employed after graduation, their median income after graduating and more. Rosenberg also brought up the challenge of educational funding in the state, mentioning that $100 million were cut from schools in the state system with the potential of that amount doubling this year.

Rosenberg then explained that despite the challenges FIU faces, the university has several accomplishments to be proud of such as the 100 percent placement for music majors out of the 2013-14 graduating class.

According to Rosenberg, FIU also has a partnership with the Miami-Dade Public School System, which has helped place graduating students in their field of study.

Rosenberg expressed his gratitude and appreciation for University faculty throughout the ceremony and shared stories of how much the faculty have made an impact on the students. He repeated the words of one of the many students who have received their education at FIU:

“That place changed my life.”

This statement, according to Rosenberg, came from FIU alumnus Dennis Scholl, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Rosenberg shared some of Scholl’s numerous accomplishments, which includes having worked for one of the country’s leading accounting firms and currently serving as Chair of the Perez Art Museum Miami.

The Award Ceremony was a reminder of how faculty have pushed students toward greatness and Rosenberg emphasized how profoundly FIU is growing:

“We [faculty] are doing what we love. Working with some of the most determined and appreciative students anywhere, providing more and better internships every year, graduating higher rates of students every year, carrying out our research

SGA President Alexis Calatayud speaks at Faculty Convocation on Oct. 2.

and initiatives with an ever growing confidence and impact and developing win-win partnerships here and abroad.”

The 2014 Faculty Convocation and Award Ceremony was the first conducted with the University’s new provost, Kenneth G. Furton, so the event was also a chance for the FIU community to get to know Furton.

Furton has a strong background in research, having completed projects in a variety of areas such as arson, currency, drugs and explosive detection. He has used sophisticated equipment to create odor sensors, researched ways to improve canines’ scent detection and worked on drug detection on money.

One thing people may not know about the university’s new provost is that he has also studied how other animals, such as birds, meerkats and even elephants can detect drugs.

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In his keynote address, Furton talked about his desire to make FIU a better place for students.

“I want to create an environment where students feel welcome and do not feel that they are alone,” Furton said. He emphasized the importance of creating internships and study abroad opportunities for students.

Furton’s work as an educator, mentor, researcher and even a crimefighter has prepared him to help FIU take on the challenges ahead.

“I am committed to tirelessly pushing FIU forward,” Furton said.

The Award Ceremony ended with a question-and-answer session which gave audience members the chance to speak on issues that concern them.

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LIFE!

Here have contributed to FIU President Obama, the faculty receiving recognition from the Huffington Post, and programs, to opening doors for and creating study abroad Council Worlds Ahead Award. Advising and the President’s Activities, Engagement, Service, Research and Creative Excellence in Teaching, faculty received awards in University faculty.

and accomplishments of acknowledging the excellence was a day dedicated to Center. The ceremony Award Ceremony at 3 p.m. Faculty Convocation and University held its annual

Jilin Zhao, Professor of Hospitality and Tourism Management receives an award for excellence in mentorship and advising during faculty convocation.

Dammy Oshodi, a communication arts junior, dances with other students during the Nigerian Independence Day celebration at the GC Pit on Oct. 1.

STEPs FOR INDepEndence

Brian Trujillo /The Beacon

Brian Trujillo /The Beacon

Brian Trujillo /The Beacon

Brian Trujillo /The Beacon

Brian Trujillo /The Beacon
Food off campus: A taste of Peru

THE FOODE! It was a rainy night last week and I was in my dorm, starving. I didn’t want to go out at 9 p.m. in the rain to get food from Fresh Food Company, but I also didn’t know where to order delivery from. All I knew was I didn’t want to eat pizza again. I was in the mood for ceviche, but as far as I was concerned there wasn’t any restaurant near the University that delivered seafood. Then I came across Peru Criollo through Urbanspoon, a life-saving app.

Peru Criollo also offers a small variety of Latin American beers, wines and specialty drinks. It also offers breakfasts on Saturdays and Sundays, which proves convenient for students who dorm at MMC, given the lack of places to eat on campus during the weekend.

Less than two miles from the Modesto Maidique Campus sits Peru Criollo, on SW 108 Ave and Bird Road.

The location is easy to find, and the place itself takes after simple, Latin American-style diners, with several wooden tables and chairs, and a long bar.

The servers, mostly Hispanic, are very helpful and don’t hesitate to tell you about their specialty dish: ceviche mixto, a mix of seafood bathed in lemon juice.

The food is brought promptly after ordering. The portions are a good size, and that’s coming from someone who doesn’t enjoy meager servings.

I ordered the usual ceviche and lomo saltado. As for the food’s taste, it was certainly better than delivery. The ceviche – a mix of fish, onion and lemon – was the better of the two, although its flavor was a bit different than that from downtown seafood restaurants.

The fish was tender and thoroughly soaked in a rich, lemon-based sauce.

The lomo saltado, however, was somewhat bland. A mix of sliced-up meat, onion and peppers, the lomo is bathed in sauce. However, the meat felt slightly dry and could have used more seasoning. While not a bad option, it could certainly consist of a better flavor for its $12.99 value.

Peru Criollo also offers a small variety of Latin American beers, wines and specialty drinks. It also offers breakfasts on Saturdays and Sundays, which proves convenient for students who dorm at MMC, given the lack of places to eat on campus during the weekend.

Overall, the experience was a positive one in regards to food quality and service, and I’m certain I will be paying Peru Criollo another visit soon.

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FOOTBALL

Momentum carries into second half of season

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The Panthers are only half way through the 2014 season and they’ve already tripled their win total from a year ago. They currently sit at 3-3 and are riding a two-game win streak after wins against University of Alabama at Birmingham and Florida Atlantic University.

The season didn’t start as planned for the Panthers. They opened with a loss at home against Football Championship Subdivision team Bethune-Cookman. Despite a poor effort, the Panthers had a chance to win it with a last-second field goal. The snap was botched and time ran out as the score stood 14-12 in favor of Bethune-Cookman.

The Panthers followed up that loss with an impressive showing against Wagner. Freshman quarterback Alex McGough led them to their first win of the season in his first collegiate start. Freshman running back Alex Gardner broke the freshman rushing record with 138 yards on the ground in the 34-3 victory. They welcomed the Pittsburgh Panthers to The Cage. The game really was. FIU's 42-25 final score was not what the Panthers expected. They currently sit at 3-3 with 138 yards on the ground in the 34-3 victory.

The Panthers then welcomed the Pittsburgh Panthers to The Cage. The 42-25 final score was not what the Panthers expected. They currently sit at 3-3 with 138 yards on the ground in the 34-3 victory.

One of the biggest contributors to this hungry defense has been Leonard. He’s rushed against Wagner. He’s rushed for over 400 yards so far and is averaging 4.9 yards per carry. His poise in the pocket and good decision making are a big part of why the Panthers currently rank top five in turnover margin.

“We work on turnovers every day in practice,” said Leonard. “When the ball is on the ground, we work on scooping it up. We really do a great job of that.”

Gardner took over as the starting back in week two against Wagner. He’s rushed for over 400 yards so far and is averaging 4.9 yards per carry. He scored his first collegiate touchdown on Thursday night against FAU.

The Panthers are 2-0 in C-USA play this year and sit second place in the East Division behind Middle Tennessee. They have six games remaining: at University of Texas at San Antonio, Oct. 11; versus Marshall University (Homecoming) on Oct. 18; versus Rice University on Nov. 1; at Old Dominion University on Nov. 8; versus Middle Tennessee State University on Nov. 15 and at the University of North Texas on Nov. 22. The Panthers only need to win three of their remaining six games to qualify for bowl eligibility.

SOCCER

Panthers focus on positivity to pull through

JAMES PROFETTO  Staff Writer  james.proffetto@fiusm.com  

The middle of the season brings fresh outlooks, new sports of urgency and fresh haircuts for the coaching staff and players on the women’s soccer team. At practice Tues. Oct. 2, the Panther outlook was one to welcome adversity, confident in the guidance of Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt.

“The level of competition is gonna be high,” said senior midfielder Johanna Velz, who, before the interview, was sung “Happy Birthday” to by her teammates. “We’re in conference, so every game is a must win... Winning and losing are tougher in conference (than the season), that’s when it becomes more on the line... Competition is higher and higher each game.”

Through 11 games, the Panthers have produced a 6-5 record, while beginning Conference USA play at 1-1. This team is no stranger to tough matches, as they’ve faced three top 25 opponents (University of Arizona; California State University, Long Beach and Santa Clara University), and three west coast universities (SCU, Pacific University and LBSU). The seven-game home stretch concluded Sept. 28.

Throughout this span, the Panthers went 4-3, never getting stuck in a late game. The Panthers have produced a 6-5 record, while beginning Conference USA play at 1-1. This team is no stranger to tough matches, as they’ve faced three top 25 opponents (University of Arizona; California State University, Long Beach and Santa Clara University), and three west coast universities (SCU, Pacific University and LBSU). The seven-game home stretch concluded Sept. 28.

Through this span, the Panthers went 4-3, never getting stuck in a late game-winner by University of North Carolina at Charlotte handed Chestnutt and his squad their fifth loss. The most telling characteristic of this team is their ability to bounce back. The Panthers have not lost two consecutive games this season, a perfect 4-0 after a loss. “We never capitalize or pay attention to the negatives too long,” said sophomore midfielder Alyssa Robinson. “Obviously, we go over them and see mistakes we made. We’re always ready to fix them.”

Chestnutt chimed in on the resilience of his team: “We don’t focus on the wins and losses, that’s not our focal point. The focal point is our process and how we do things... This team is experienced... It’s about staying focused, how well we did last time out and how well we are improving and bringing in new materials.”

The team, sensing an improved performance. The Panthers only need to win three of their remaining six games to pull themselves out of the middle of the C-USA conference.
Former guard partners to create brand

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A lot of things can happen inside a stuffy car after an intense summer workout. For former FIU men’s basketball guard Deric Hill, a brand was born.

His desire to succeed paved way for the “Don’t Settle, Be Great” brand to come to life.

Hill reached a lot of people when he scored 16 points and recorded six assists in a stunning win over the then-Middle Tennessee State University in the Sun Belt Conference Men’s Basketball Tournament semifinals in March of 2013. The Panthers entered the tournament as the No. 12 seed. Yeah, what started as the matchup against the top-seeded Raiders seemed like an overwhelming one before Hill took over the game.

He went on to make All-Tournament honors and played a key role as a walk-on, non-scholarship player, on the Panthers team that made a dramatic run through the SBC tournament, that ultimately fell one win shy of making the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament.

Hill, alongside a childhood friend, Danny Lopez, produced a brand that is touching a wider audience and garnering nationwide attention.

The brand, “Don’t Settle, Be Great,” started off as a way to motivate themselves during workouts, but it soon evolved into a way of life.

“It’s a movement to tell people not to sit around and be [satisfied] with being ‘okay’ with what they’re doing,” Hill said. “We want to spread a message to people that they can be great at anything.”

Hill and Lopez left a workouts during the summer of 2013 in hopes of creating their own inspirational quote. The “Be Great” part was already something they used to keep pushing each other during workouts, and came upon “Don’t Settle” because their friendship wouldn’t let them do anything else.

After coming up with their quote, the duo designed athletic wristbands with the quote on it, in a red, white and blue theme.

“Everybody can relate to it,” Lopez said of why the brand has grown so much. “It’s not just for athletes. It can be for people at the workplace, mothers, fathers or students.”

After the wristbands started popping up across the nation, Hill and Lopez decided to expand the brand and began to design T-shirts. They got too many requests for shirts to not give it a try, Lopez said.

And like the bands, the shirts released and sold out shortly thereafter.

“Everything was done right,” Lopez said, adding that the shirts were sold out within the first week of release online.

The expansion has even reached kids sizes because parents want their kids to wear the inspirational brand, Lopez said.

“I’m a firm believer in youth and how they influence the world. As a “World’s Ahead” University, hosting the pageant will gain attention from many across the globe in the next few months.

“We’re gonna get worldwide exposure. They’re running a commercial for us during the telecast.”

The 2013 pageant, hosted in Moscow, Russia, was held in a state-of-the-art arena with a seating capacity of more than 7,000.

According to the FIU Athletics website, the USCBA has an overall seating capacity of 5,000.

There was slight concern about a schedule conflict between the pageant and the men’s basketball schedule. The schedule previously listed a home match against Florida Atlantic University on Jan. 24, the day before the pageant.

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia said the league understood that the big event would be taking place and agreed to push the game back to Jan. 27.

“Everybody wanted to make this happen for South Florida, so Florida Atlantic and Conference USA said yes. Because of that, we had to do it,” Garcia said.

The Panthers are scheduled to visit FAU earlier in the month.

As a “World’s Ahead” University, hosting the pageant will gain attention from many across the globe in the next few months.

“We’re gonna get worldwide exposure. They’re running a commercial for us during the telecast,” said Garcia. “This is great exposure for an international university in an international event.”

Since 1960, Miami has hosted the pageant 15 times—more than any other host city in the world. Miami wanted to host the pageant in the past, but lost its bid in 2013 to Russia.

Two years later, it was Doral’s turn.

“Even as one of the newest cities in Miami, Doral is a premier place to live, work and play due to its beautiful lifestyle and entrepreneurial opportunities,” said Paula Shugart, president of the Miss Universe Organization.

Shugart continued, “Since the Greater Miami area is a melting pot of people from all over the world, our contestants will feel right at home as they showcase what the area has to offer. I cannot think of a better backdrop in January than sunny Miami for our global telecast.”

Midfielder Nicholas Midttun sprints with the ball at the game against University of Alabama at Birmingham on Sept. 27. Next game is on Wednesday, Oct. 8 against the University of South Carolina.

KICKING IT

University to host the Miss Universe Pageant

PAGEANT, PAGE 1

So far, they have raised over $1 million in funds to help cover the cost instead of footing the bill to the city.

The 2013 pageant, hosted in Moscow, Russia, was held in a state-of-the-art arena with a seating capacity of more than 7,000.

According to the FIU Athletics website, the USCBA has an overall seating capacity of 5,000.

There was slight concern about a schedule conflict between the pageant and the men’s basketball schedule. The schedule previously listed a home match against Florida Atlantic University on Jan. 24, the day before the pageant.

Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia said the league understood that the big event would be taking place and agreed to push the game back to Jan. 27.

“Everybody wanted to make this happen for South Florida, so Florida Atlantic and Conference USA said yes. Because of that, we have to do it,” Garcia said.

The Panthers are scheduled to visit FAU earlier in the month.

Hill and Lopez, who met at South Miami High School, are making it a point to reach the youth in the Miami area.

Aside from their brand, which they hope will motivate the youth in the area to do better and make better decisions, they are hosting their first annual bookbag giveaway on Aug. 15.

The giveaway will provide kids with necessary school supplies as they begin the school year. Because the two have collegiate basketball experience, they also have goals to establish annual basketball summer camps and develop a foundation to continue to help underprivileged youth.

“We’re striving to help kids in need,” Lopez said. “We want to provide them with things they don’t have or can’t afford.”

Hill and Lopez started “Don’t Settle, Be Great” in order to continue to motivate themselves as friends who cared about each other. Now, they keep the brand fresh in an attempt to motivate strangers to not fall victim to complacency; they want others to strive to be great just like they did on that hot summer day.

“The brand means something to us and the positive message that comes out of it does too,” Hill said.

Fans of the brand can reach out to either Lopez or Hill via their website, Dsbg_apparel.bigcartel.com, via email at Dsbg_apparel@yahoo.com or on Instagram at Dsbg_apparel.
Housing construction left up to Board of Governors

KARLA REYES Contributing Writer

Construction on the new residence halls at the Biscayne Bay Campus has halted, leaving students without on-campus housing until summer 2016.

In an email with Maydel Santana-Bravo, director of the FIU Office of Media Relations, she said beginning construction is expected in early 2015 and its completion in July 2016.

She said construction was not interrupted, but rather phase two needs to begin.

Site preparation and safety measures for the building have been completed, but construction cannot begin until the Florida Board of Governors approve the project, which could be a wait as long as early 2015.

The University, which only provided land for this project, is in a public-private partnership with Servisat, the project’s developer, who will be working on the financing the project.

The new Bayview Housing will be built next to the Roz and Cal K Owens Conference Center and the old Bay Vista Hall is now under Royal Caribbean.

The University and Royal Caribbean Ltd. signed a contract that would provide 20 annual internships at Royal Caribbean facilities to University students, access to the performing arts studio under construction at BBC, and access to data that can potentially be used for research.

Two hundred forty-four students lived in the Bay Vista complex before it closed in May, but Santana-Bravo said only 48 of the students displaced received priority housing at the modesto Maidique Campus.

In turn, the University gave Royal Caribbean Bay Vista to renovate and house their own performance employees.

According to Santana-Bravo.

“All of them were not going to come back because some were graduating,” said Santana-Bravo.

RaShonda Jackson, a senior broadcast media major who lived at Bay Vista until it closed, said she planned to graduate next semester — long before the new housing at BBC is completed — but the move was an inconvenience.

After she was set to move to MMC, Jackson received an email notifying her that financial aid would not cover housing costs.

“Basically, they said I had to pay out-of-pocket,” said Jackson.

Even with priority registration, Jackson said she couldn’t move to MMC due to the spike in costs for a two-bedroom unit. Jackson now commutes from her home in West Little River.

When she called the University to ask about the issue, they told her there was nothing they could do.

“I never had this problem at BBC,” said Jackson.

Vy Trinh, a senior chemistry major, said she moved out of MMC housing this semester because it was too expensive for a student only taking two classes.

Trinh now commutes to MMC from her home in Sunrise.

“I don’t need to pay $40,000 more for six credits,” said Trinh.

Online programming and coding workshops teach the importance of online networking to students, community

YANEU GONZALEZ Contributing Writer

Workshops teaching journalism students, University alumni and community members tools of online marketing and web coding continue.

Last Saturday, Oct. 4, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication hosted a Social Media 2: Analytics workshop to show students how to effectively use social media.

Future workshops on Oct. 25 and Nov. 8, between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., will teach attendees how to create interactive content using HTML5, CSS3, and other web programming.

Moses Shumow, an SJMC assistant professor, said social media has broadened our ability to network with people.

Shumow said, on a cultural level, even where social hierarchies are active, Twitter users may have 5,000 followers, but celebrities will have more.

The system has changed from one-to-one to one-to-many to a more direct relationship between the “many” and the media that is actually produced.

Shumow said companies like WhatsApp, with zero revenue, can now sell for billions of dollars.

“There’s got to be money to be made in that. This has no historical precedent,” said Shumow on the new business model brought by these sites.

Saturday’s workshop on Oct. 4 will teach people how to measure their social media effectiveness and give them tools to optimize their online influence.

Alex de Carvalho, recently named the new Knight Innovator in Residence, taught both Social Media workshops.

Rebekah Monson and Amory Blondet, both industry leaders in Miami, will also be instructing workshops.

Jeovanny Rosario, a junior in Economics, said marketing majors will benefit most from the workshops, as will people with, or who are interested in, owning a small business.

“The majority of students would believe, ‘Oh, that’s just running a Facebook page. I can do that,’” said Rosario. But he said the workshops will teach students otherwise.

Each workshop is $99 for University students, while FIU Alumni pay $199 and the general public pay $299.

The price is what some students said is preventing them from attending.

“As a student, I might be a little bit more wary of spending $199 on the four workshops,” said Tomas Caldoner, a freshman in International Business.

“If I wasn’t a student, I wouldn’t pay for it because it’s too much money for the general public.”

Rosario agreed with Caldoner.

“Maybe I’m just cheap, but I think it’s a lot for just four workshops,” said Rosario.

However, Shumow said education is always a wise investment.

“Education is always good. It’s a step in the right direction,” said Shumow.

“I think these workshops are important in terms of hand-on skills,” he said. “They will teach you about the opportunities that are out there.”

All workshops take place at BBC in Academic 2, Room 242. Prospective attendees should visit http://sjmc-med.fiu.edu/digitalworkshop/ to reserve a seat.