Meyer addresses student body, touches on budget crisis outlook

David Barrios
Senior Staff Writer

Acknowledging key issues concerning the student body including the University’s current budget crisis and noting accomplishments made by University Park Student Government Council during his administration, SGC-UP President Arthur J. Meyer spoke to students during his presiden-
tial address last Thursday.

“The financial outlook has made it so that our University has endured substantial budget cuts and may have to bear with another round in a few months,” Meyer said.

He stated that the quality and quantity of students’ education would be affected.

“The quality of our education has been affected due to the loss of qualified professors to other universities, classes options have become more limited and the University is doing more with less.”

Among other achievements that Meyer pointed out were his administra-
tion’s success in bringing Ivanka Trump, daughter of real estate mogul Donald Trump, to speak as part of the Student Government Association Lectures Series.

“We have started limiting wasteful spending inside SGA and with activi-
ties and services fees. We’re also proud of our many accomplishments in getting the community involved with FIU students through our Team FIU luncheons and hosting SGA meetings in our northern municipality neighbor, Sweetwater,” Meyer said.

He also encouraged students to participate in “Rally at Tally,” where students from all 11 state universities will meet to lobby against tuition increases, which will be held this Wednesday.

“We want to show them the accomplishments we’ve made during the past year — not that we’ve stopped working, we still have them,” Meyer said.

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In honor of the four Brothers to the Rescue volunteers who perished when their planes were shot down by Cuban MiG fighters in 1996, the College of Law named one of its courthouses C.A.M.P.4 Justice Courtroom.

In 2007, Florida’s unemployment rate was 4.1 in 2008 it rose to 6.2 percent.

Unemployment rates increased in 46 of the 50 states last year.

Florida, Nevada and Rhode Island were the only states with increases of two percentage points or more.

The national average unemployment rate last year was 5.8 percent.

Florida ranks third in identity theft cases

According to the Federal Trade Commission, Florida ranked third in the United States in the number of identity theft complaints filed.

There were 57,472 identity and other complaints of identity theft in Florida, an increase of 24,440 of those complaints were related to identity theft.

Nationwide, there were 1.2 million complaints related to fraud, identity theft and other consumer complaints last year, a 50 percent increase from 2005.

Regulations force Relay to relocate

Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg said she doesn’t believe that food was mentioned at that meeting last year, which she was not present for.

However, Dalrymple said everything needed for the event and how it was set up was discussed at the meeting with several Relay for Life members, University Park Student Government Council Chief of Staff Anthony Riorda and the stadium manager Thomimburt.

On the other hand, Berg said protecting the football field’s turf was the biggest concern for Athletics.

“This is an expensive field that cost over $1 million,” she said. “It is not meant to have food or drinks spilled on it. You can’t picnic it like a regular sod field.”

Dalrymple said without the food on the field, the fund-raising would be hurt.

The biggest issue was not being able to have tents, food or drinks on the field,” Dalrymple said. “We have a walking track and all the tents are for fund-raising.”

Another conflict was the football practices scheduled for the two days of the event. Berg said Relay for Life had the option of setting up prior to March 6, the first day of the event, and the football team would end practice at 5 p.m. to allow Relay to start at 5:15 p.m.

We usually set up at 8 a.m. and usually finish up at 5 p.m. It is a good few hours of setting up. Ending the set up at 1 p.m. is completely unheard of in the past couple of years,” Desbois said. “I could do it, but nobody else can do it.”

Football coach Mario Cristobal said he was unaware the committee moved the event out of the stadium until recently. Berg also thought all the issues with the practice were resolved.

“From what I was told, it was agreed upon with the relay folks that they would have everything set up before the practice and then gain complete access when practice finished,” Berg said.

Parzych added that the practice problem should have been resolved with the football team practicing another day.

“When we want to have an event for cancer research, we can’t move practice,” he said. “Athletes want everyone to come out to the football games and get involved and they want people to give, give, give. When it comes time for them to give back to the University – I have yet to see that.”

In addition to costs for facilities to clean up, pay for janitors and for wood to place under the tents were brought to the organization’s attention.

“We didn’t know any of that,” Erched said. “They never gave us a set amount.”

Berg explained that the cost to hold the event like Relay for Life at the stadium was too big.

“We didn’t know all the cost until events starting happening in the stadium.”

Rather than carrying out the event like Relay for Life at the stadium, Berg wanted it there. We thought it would make sense to do it there.

“In reality, they created conditions that made it impossible to have it there because the event takes a day to set up and runs all night long until the morning,” Dalrymple said.

The committee will be placing stickers on all Relay for Life fl iers because they hope that students will understand the location. Berg expressed how much Athletics is disappointed for Relay for Life to not be held in the stadium.

“We are upset that the Relay for Life is not at the stadium,” she said. “Couch Cristobal wanted it there. We thought it would be a good match and I hope we can look at it again next year.”

True depth of mass executions retold

Students are welcome and are reminded to carpool. The Judaic Studies Program is even encouraging faculty to give extra credit when appropriate.

“A big part of the story that my students have to learn, and the other people don’t know, is that the Holocaust was more than gas chambers and death camps,” Stier said.

As for what to expect, Stier said, “Expect a French-Catholic priest wearing a collar to stand in front of a small circle of people, and talking about the work he does in investigating elderly, Ukrainian non-Jews on what happened in their towns and villages during World War II and the massacre of Jews in Ukraine.”
High school opening next door on Aug. 24

DAINELY MARTINEZ
Staff Writer

Biscayne Bay Campus commuters will soon face traffic caused by almost a thousand students making their way to class— but not to campus.

State School QQQ-1 Senior High will open its doors Aug. 24, across from the David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center—next to BBC— on 151 Street, with an expected 700 to 800 ninth and 10th graders.

Plans to build the school started as early as 2006, according to Sally J. Alayon, State School QQQ-1 principal.

"Every time you see a school being built, it’s to relieve crowding from other schools. [Dr. Michael M. Keop Senior High], four miles from this school, is very crowded," Alayon said.

The construction of the school is estimated to cost $39 million, according to Assistant Director of Academics at the Miami-Dade School Board, W. Earle Simpson.

As of Nov. 2008, Alayon is a member of BBC’s Leadership Team, which met three times a month to discuss issues that affect the campus. Vice Provost Joseph West asked Alayon and the principal of David Lawrence Elementary to meet with the city.

“We look at them as part of the FIU community,” West said. “Their students will one day be our students.”

Each board member gives updates on their area during the meetings, according to Alayon.

The board will try to see it as one big educational area. Alayon said. “You have kindergarten all the way up to college.”

The opportunity to help students is the bottom line.

The high school’s curriculum will feature different learning academics within the school, including marine and environmental science, legal studies, information technology and mass communication and hospitality and tourism management.

Students will have the opportunity to select one academic area and take one class per year in that area as part of their electives.

The high school will also have a partnership with the University in areas such as marine science, mass communication and hospitality and tourism management.

High school students will have the opportunity to take college classes within the school, including marine and environmental science, legal studies, information technology and mass communication and hospitality and tourism management.

At the core of health care is prevention, and this is what the annual Wellness Expo hopes to teach students with its vendors, displays and giveaways.

The Wellness Expo, sponsored by the Wellness Center and University Health Services, will take place March 3 in the Wolfe University Center’s Panther Square from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event is open to all students, faculty and staff, and it is free to everyone.

To participate, students need to register the day of the event at a designated table on Panther Square to receive a raffle ticket, a map and a bag, which they can use to store the give- aways, according to Dona Walcott, assistant director of the Wellness Center.

Such giveaways include sports bottles, pill boxes, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, throat lozenges, T-shirts, magnets, pens and pads.

Aside from the giveaways, attendees can expect to learn how to improve their health and wellness with proper nutrition and by prac- ticing self-examinations. Attendees will be able to talk to different vendors at the event, who will be giving away brochures with information about different health topics.

There are also going to be screen-ings such as skin consultations, blood pressure testing and chiropractic services, all free of charge, offered by BBC’s Health Care and Wellness Centers, Community Blood Bank, FIU’s Victim Advocacy Center and Mercy Hospital, among others.

Food vendors from local eateries on Biscayne Boulevard will also participate in the expo. Restaurants such as T.G.I. Friday’s, Saladworks, Bar-B-Que Beach, Whole Foods Market and Pizza Fusion will be giving out free samples.

The Wellness Expo is held annu- ally and is funded by the Wellness Center. It started more than 10 years ago as a small health fair, according to Dona Gabaroni, assistant director for the University Park Wellness Center. The purpose was to intro- duce the University community to the different screenings available on campus.

There will also be free HIV testing held in a van parked on the curb of Academic 1.

For more information, call (305) 919 - 5620.
Across South Florida and the nation, countless organizations have been preparing to hold what the American Cancer Society calls its signature event, Relay for Life. Across the country, groups hold Relay events in which teams of people, up to 3.5 million people in some years, come together to help raise money for cancer research.

In November 2008, FIU’s Relay for Life team had scheduled to use FIU Stadium for its fifth annual event. During an executive meeting with Relay for Life on Feb. 9, the FIU Athletics Department announced that they would be imposing certain intense restrictions that would make holding the event at the stadium nearly impossible. They declared that the Relay team would be prohibited from having food and beverages on the stadium’s field, and would have to cut four hours from the time allotted to set up the event.

The reasoning cited: A football practice had been scheduled for the same day as the event.

“You didn’t say we couldn’t have the event. They just said we cannot have food, drinks or tents on the field,” said Beverly Dalymple, director of the Center for Leadership and Services.

The money Relay for Life raises from concessions is part of the funds that go toward research.

“That’s our entire event, feeding and providing beverages for 3,000 people to stay up for 18 hours,” said Barbie Erched, student director for Relay for Life.

With these restrictions in place, Relay for Life was obligated to relocate to the front of the Ryder Business Building, where the event was held last year. They now have to pay $5,000 for sound and lights, which would have been provided by the stadium. The Student Government Association is helping the committee pay for these extra costs, but most of the money will have to come from the fund-raiser.

Due to the inflexibility of the Athletics Department, a charitable event is going to have to spend an additional $5,000 and scramble to move to a different location.

“I hope that money that could have gone to fund cancer research now may be used to pay the electric bill,” The Beacon feels that the Athletics Department is in error for imposing the restrictions themselves, but that error was dramatically compounded by the department’s failure to inform the event organizers almost four months ago that holding the event there could be a problem.

In 2008, the $819 billion economic stimulus was trimmed down to $83 billion.

“Do they just notice that an 18-hour fund-raiser would require food and beverages?”

“They said we can’t have the food and the tents; you cut it down to four hours. We don’t see how that makes it easier,” said Dalrymple.

Across South Florida and the nation, countless organizations have been preparing to hold what the American Cancer Society calls its signature event, Relay for Life. Across the country, groups hold Relay events in which teams of people, up to 3.5 million people in some years, come together to help raise money for cancer research.

The Beacon is correct in assuming that a certain amount of stress in their lives, they may be unaware of how truly detrimental it can be to their studies and health. Excessive stress can make someone feel fatigued, result in loss of concentration and, at its worst, can even manifest itself in depression and cardiovascular problems, along with psychological problems as well.

“Stress is nothing but a mere irritation; however, at its worst, it can lead to serious detrimental effects on one’s psychological and physical health,” said Endocrinologist Hans Selye coined the word “stress” to identify physiological responses within animals in the 1930s. His research led him to discover that all animals show three basic reactions to stressors: he called this reaction general adaptation syndrome, or GAS.

Selye identified three stages within GAS.

First is “alarm” – the stressor is identified leading to the heightening of our senses. Next, “resistance,” occurs when the body attempts to find a way to cope with the stressor, but the body’s resources are limited. Finally, “exhaustion” occurs when the body has been pushed to its physical limit and the body breaks down, unable to retain normal function and even retarding the effectiveness of the immune system.

“Students may acknowledge a certain amount of stress in their lives, they may be unaware of how truly detrimental it can be to their studies and health. Excessive stress can make someone feel fatigued, result in loss of concentration and, at its worst, can even manifest itself in depression and cardiovascular problems, along with psychological problems as well,” said Endocrinologist Hans Selye.

With these restrictions in place, Relay for Life attempts to race for the cure, it won’t find the Athletics Department standing in their way.

The Beacon is troubled by this turn of events and hopes that Relay for Life can still be a very successful event this year. We hope that lessons are learned from this experience, or maybe next year, when Relay for Life attempts to race for the cure, it won’t find the Athletics Department standing in their way.

EDUCATION

Education should take precedence over other concerns

If you are wondering how to avoid these situations, the NIH advises to take care of the underlying problem and then seek counseling should chronic stress persist, although medicines can help too.

FIU’s Recreation Services presents various avenues for students to relieve themselves of stress, such as yoga lessons, morning spinning sessions or just getting a good workout. Some student organizations such as the Prekaish Meditation Club provide unique and effective ways of stress relief. It is paramount that students be aware of how much stress they’re dealing with and how it can be managed or released.

In its own life, stress has been a large problem as I have eczema, a skin condition, on my fingers. Originally, my parents and I thought that it was an allergic reaction, but I tested negative for any allergies.

I soon realized that my eczema acted up whenever I got really stressed out. My skin would even turn red and bleed. I literally really bad episodes, and I also noticed that I became more fatigued, irritable, less motivated and even depressed after moments of high stress. My grades would also suffer during these episodes.

I determined to make a change not only in my habits but also on my outlook on life.

Nightly meditation, which I still do, has had a dramatic effect on my stress levels; it puts me back to my center and lens me see the world clearly. The most powerful stress deterrent is the mind. Ultimately, we perceive and judge the external world is what leads to its mental representation. We actively decide what we find dangerous, stressful or challenging, and we then choose how to cope with these situations.

The Beacon is troubled by this turn of events and hopes that Relay for Life can still be a very successful event this year. We hope that lessons are learned from this experience.

The onus of this plan needs to be directed toward the creation of jobs and education to facilitate the ability of the next generation to receive a quality education. I was lucky to have parents in a financially stable position which was able to provide the necessary priority by taking advantage of the Florida Prepaid Fund. But not everyone is lucky.

Thus, the $17.1 billion for Pell Grants and $8.8 billion for the governor’s specific allocation to different aspects of education should be built upon as time goes on, investing more in higher education. This $83 billion is a good start but much more legislation will be required for education to be one of the prime ways to maintain the future economy, given that current problems are sorted out in time.

Students can manage stress

Andrew Zamora

Contributing Writer

Between class, studying and being involved on campus, it’s easy to develop stress. Stress is more than feeling anxious, annoyance and being stretched thin – it has both psychological and biological effects. It can hit you right on your psychological and physical health.

I have had issues with stress in the past which have caused many problems, even to this day.

Endocrinologist Hans Selye coined the word “stress” to identify physiological responses within animals in the 1930s. His research led him to discover that all animals show three basic reactions to stressors; he called this reaction general adaptation syndrome, or GAS.

Selye identified three stages within GAS.

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“We’re a student organization and we feel that the Athletics Department nothing, and it literally harmed our team spirit and Services.

Dalrymple, director of the Center for Lead-
They have not only shown the transition to the modern era but also how much perceptions have changed, Dabdoub said. Monthly meetings run about 90 minutes.

First-time visitors can join the book club for free but membership is required for subsequent visits. FIU faculty, guest speakers usually lead the meetings. Members are also allowed to suggest books for the group to read.

In 1997, the Wolfsonian became a department of FIU offering an education and research database to quench the thirst for learning.

In 2005, the Wolfsonian Book Club was created at the Wolfsonian Museum to provide participants with a rich literary environment. Deputy officer for the museum David Skip observed one of the meetings and hopes to be able to attend club meetings soon.

"As I was listening to the book club, they were discussing the famous American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright’s murder... it was frighteningly fantastic," Skip said. Due to budget constraints, it is necessary for participants to become members.

Annual membership for FIU students and staff membership is $30.

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© Florida Department of Health
Seniors end careers with dominant win

Healthier. Every scholarship player is active. This is the same team that in late December had just five scholarship players. That is a big reason why the Golden Panthers feel they are better than their 12-19 record indicates.

“We have so much talent with Freddy and it’s so easy to play with him because he can pass, he can post you up and he’s strong inside,” point guard Soto said. “I think our shooters are going to be a lot better. It’s a new beginning for us, and I think with everybody back, everybody healthy, we’re going to be a threat.”

In that 90-73 loss against ULL on Feb. 5, the Golden Panthers were without Asprilla.

Early on, the Golden Panthers led 37-31 against the Owls, who were without Asprilla.

The Owls outscored the Panthers 49-27 in the second half in which FIU shot a second-best 18-60 (30 percent) from the field and held FAU to 38 percent shooting.

From an offensive standpoint, the Golden Panthers produced a balanced attack with four players reaching double figures. Galindo finished his last home game with a solid 16-point performance and six rebounds. Soto provided 14 points, five assists and no turnovers.

“Now is when this kid is beginning to get in shape to be on his total game,” Rouco said about Soto. “I think he’s got his confidence back.”

During the last minutes of the game, Hicks was able to fulfill a goal he had been talking about all week – he made a 3-pointer shot. It was the first 3-pointer shot he has ever made, and Rouco was happy for the 7-foot center. Rouco gave Hicks permission to shoot a 3-pointer if the team had a big lead.

“If you could do something for any kid that he can remember forever, what better way to finish the season,” he said.

However, Galindo said he will not let Hicks shoot a 3-pointer during the tournament.

“No, I’d be the first one to tell him, ‘No,’” Galindo said. “It’s my last game at home and I’m glad that we all finished with a win.”

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Early on, the Golden Panthers led 37-31 against the Owls, who were without Asprilla.

The Owls outscored the Panthers 49-27 in the second half in which FIU shot a second-best 18-60 (30 percent) from the field and held FAU to 38 percent shooting.

From an offensive standpoint, the Golden Panthers produced a balanced attack with four players reaching double figures. Galindo finished his last home game with a solid 16-point performance and six rebounds. Soto provided 14 points, five assists and no turnovers.

“Now is when this kid is beginning to get in shape to be on his total game,” Rouco said about Soto. “I think he’s got his confidence back.”

During the last minutes of the game, Hicks was able to fulfill a goal he had been talking about all week – he made a 3-pointer shot. It was the first 3-pointer shot he has ever made, and Rouco was happy for the 7-foot center. Rouco gave Hicks permission to shoot a 3-pointer if the team had a big lead.

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However, Galindo said he will not let Hicks shoot a 3-pointer during the tournament.

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**BASEBALL SERIES: FIU 3, BROWN 2**

The Golden Panthers’ record is now 3-2. However, a poor shooting effort from most of the Golden Panthers, particularly the team’s leading scorer Monika Bosilj who went scoreless on six attempts, would be too much to overcome as FIU dropped to FAU, 57-48.

As the lead off man, he got the offense going by getting on base four times. He pitched his first complete game as a Golden Panther. Outfielder Pablo Bermudez provided the offensive support for Rembisz going 4-for-4, including a key two-run home run in the top of the seventh inning. Bermudez missed most of the previous series against the University of Louisiana-Lafayette due to a hamstring injury suffered in the beginning of the season opener. He went on to miss the next two games.

**Women’s Basketball: FAU 57, FIU 48**

Women unable to salvage last home game

**The Beacon – 8**

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL: FIU 57, FIU 48**

**SENIOR NIGHT**

Women unable to salvage last home game

**The women’s basketball team played their season finale at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Saturday night with hopes of defeating rival Florida Atlantic University, who won the first matchup between the two teams earlier this season. However, a poor shooting effort from most of the Golden Panthers, particularly the team’s leading scorer Monika Bosilj who went scoreless on six attempts, would be too much to overcome as FIU dropped to FAU, 57-48.**

**Starting guard for the FAU Owls, Carla Stubbs, led all scorers with 15 points on 7-of-11 shooting and seven rebounds. Junior guard Ashley Traugott led the Golden Panthers with 14 points and Marquita Adley contributed with a solid eight points along with 10 rebounds. Senior Jasmine Jenkins also contributed with a solid eight points and 10 boards in her last regular season game as a Golden Panther.**

**The Owls took the lead first with back-to-back layups by Andrea Taylor and Breana Turner. Seeking the same momentum, FIU responded with six points to give them a 6-4 lead with 14:16 minutes to go in the first half. Both teams exchanged baskets but FAU was able to stretch their lead to eight points. The Owls were able to maintain their lead throughout the first half and even up the game at 2-1 defi cit the seventh inning.**

**However, the pitching would not hold up in the second game of the series as Brown exploded for a six-run sixth inning to avoid the two-game sweep. The Golden Panthers’ record is now 3-2.**

**BROWN 7, FIU 4**

R.J. Fondon made a stellar debut for the Golden Panthers until the sixth inning. He had shut down the Brown University hitters for the first five innings of the contest. But back-to-back hits and a walk opened the flood gates, and Brown tacked on six runs to take control of the game. Once Fondon exited the game, the FIU bullpen could not keep Brown hitters from getting on base or scoring.

The Golden Panthers’ 4-1 lead quickly turned into a 7-4 deficit that the team would not recover from. FIU would not score another run in the game.

Townsend had another good offensive performance as he reached base four times.

**Browns’ record is now 3-2.**

**FIU 3, BROWN 2**

Starting pitcher Scott Rembisz continued the dominance he displayed in the season opener vs. the Jacksonville Dolphins.

He pitched his first complete game as a Golden Panther. Outfielder Pablo Bermudez provided the offensive support for Rembisz going 4-for-4, including a key two-run home run in the top of the seventh inning. Bermudez missed most of the previous series against the Dolphins due to a hamstring injury suffered in the beginning of the season opener. He went on to miss the next two games.

As the lead off man, he got the offense going by getting on base four times and recording two RBIs. Outfielder Tyler Townsend provided the other RBI with a line drive to centerfield. He went 1-for-4. Rembisz allowed just three hits during nine innings of play. He did not walk a batter, and he gave up two earned runs.

**FINAL FACE-OFF: Senior forward Alex Galindo stares down an FAU defender in the last home game of his FIU career. He finished the night with 16 points.**

**SLIP N’ SLIDE:** Outfielder Tyler Townsend attempts to steal a base against Jacksonville on Feb. 22. Townsend went 3-for-6 against Brown University during the weekend doubleheader.