Florida prepared for Ebola outbreak

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With Ebola surfacing as a global threat, there is worry that the virus could enter Florida, a major international port. To address this issue, the University hosted a panel on Wednesday, Oct. 22 with experts on the case.

Since the start of October, nearly 50 people in West Africa die every day from the infection, according to the World Health Organization.

Despite the statistics, Aileen Marty, a professor in the College of Medicine, said that the actual numbers of those infected by Ebola are vague. “These are vast underestimates of what’s actually going on,” said Marty. “That’s why you have to think about this as an out-of-control situation.”

Marty spent 31 days in West Africa as part of the WHO’s Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network. She said not everyone infected by the virus is tended to since many keep news of their infection to themselves or their local churches.

“With its first outbreaks in developing countries like Sierra Leone and Liberia, the disease quickly became a global issue with cases arising in the U.S. and Spain. “I don’t think I need to tell you what’s been going on because… I would think that you were living under a rock,” said Marty.

According to the 2010 United States Census, Miami-Dade County is No. 7 most populous county in the country and receives millions of foreign visitors year-round. “Right then and there it tells you that we have to be on the lookout because we are an international port,” said Lillian Rivera, administrator of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County.

However, there will be no direct flights from the West African countries Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea to Miami International Airport, Rivera said. Screening of travelers will take place in John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York; Washington Dulles International Airport in Virginia; Chicago O’Hare International Airport in Illinois; Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International airports in Georgia.

“I can’t assure you that [Ebola in South Florida] will not happen,” said Rivera, “but the plan is that we [would] test that case and we’re gonna know they have Ebola, and then that patient will be flown to these places out of the area.”

Riviera said that the Florida Department of Health is prepared for any case. She said that hospitals are well-trained, especially in South Florida, where there have been numerous natural and man-made disasters.

However, despite Riviera’s confidence, Florida is home to some of the largest populations infected by diseases – like the human immunodeficiency virus – in the country, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Compared to the death toll of HIV or tuberculosis, cases of Ebola are much smaller. According to the CDC, more than 1.1 million people in the U.S. have HIV with African-Americans disproportionately affected by it. The FDH has already set standards of guidance in case Ebola hits home. It warns that if a relative or friend is suspected of having contracted the virus, they should immediately contact their local county’s health department.

Signs include fever, vomiting or diarrhea. Contact with body fluids like vomit, stool, urine, sweat and semen are to be avoided. Hand-hygiene is recommended, even though Ebola can pass through rubbing alcohol, said Marty.

Marty said Ebola is not transmitted by mosquitoes, but rodents can do get infected, amplifying the problem. She said the outbreak may have derived from the consuming of fruit bats in West Africa.

“It’s Ebola today, but… there’ve been so many new diseases that have manifested and that’s gonna keep on happening,” Marty said. “It’s an interesting battle between us and them.”

Virtual Middle Eastern internship available to students

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In an attempt to branch out beyond journalism, Olga Castro, a senior double majoring in international relations and journalism, completed a virtual internship with the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.

From the comfort of her home, she was responsible for transcribing and organizing a huge archive of audio interviews from U.S. Embassy employees working in Kabul. The project aimed to create a retrospective product that could be used to evaluate mistakes made in Afghanistan and prevent them from happening again.

“You can sit and listen in classrooms, but once you actually get out there, it’s a different world,” said Castro, describing the value of the experience.

Having worked for The Beacon herself, she says that she came into the internship as a journalist, skeptical of the government and left with a new and refreshing outlook.

[The internship] broke down all of the misconceptions I had about people working for the government,” she said. She listened to audio reflections about topics ranging from agriculture to women’s rights. Through the internship, she accessed primary information and analysis about the nature of life in Kabul.

Having examined dozens of files from U.S. workers in Afghanistan, she was most surprised to discover how much everyone seemed to care about their particular fields. “Once [I got] down to an individual basis, I found that these people genuinely care about the civilians in Afghanistan,” she said.

Castro raved about the experience, recommending it to anyone considering government work. Stuck between a love for writing and a fascination with the Middle East, Castro was able to explore Afghanistan without leaving home thanks to the online nature of the internship.

Online interns, or e-interns, receive professional experience without having to be physically present in an office. Virtual internships are ideal for students with busy work schedules or who need to avoid commuting or relocating complications.

“Although I never saw my supervisors in person. We constantly emailed and scheduled times to talk on the phone for status updates,” said Castro.

According to Castro, “many people see virtual internships as lacking intimacy, but [her] professional experience was still extremely beneficial.”

Virtual internships save interns and employers a lot of time and money, particularly in industries such as journalism where most of the work can be completed and reviewed online.

The site recently partnered with Chegg.com, a textbook rental company that claims, “instead
The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Friday admonished Mexico to “step up” efforts to locate 43 students who went missing nearly a month ago, a sign that Mexico faces increasing heat over its human rights record.

In a statement issued in Geneva, the U.N. agency also urged Mexico to permit the United Nations a greater role in the drama of disappeared persons in the nation.

The office of the high commissioner noted its “concern” about the “enforced disappearance” of the students, who were last seen Sept. 26, when municipal police in the city of Iguala rounded them up, apparently in collusion with a criminal gang.

Canada rethinks security laws after attacks

As U.S. military forces have engaged in more than a decade of war across the Middle East, America has found an unwavering partner in Canada, a country with an otherwise peaceful image.

Now, after two deadly attacks launched against members of the Canadian armed forces in less than a week, fear has arisen here over whether the country’s participation in the war against Muslim extremists has finally come back to haunt it.

The Canadian government is scrutinizing its laws and policies to see whether they are strong enough to deal with national security threats after two of its citizens, who had been flagged by authorities as safety risks, were successfully carrying out high-profile attacks.

Speaking at the Parliament building just yards from where a gunman was shot dead the day before, Prime Minister Stephen Harper pledged Thursday to find missing students, asking UN calls on Mexico to do more to experience one of my options: study the Middle East and to vaccinations.

“We are very fortunate to have Professor Donald Cunnigen. He will be a discussion of the academic experience of Exile and the University of New Hampshire as well as his current career in sociological study.”

During the era of segregation in the 1930s and ‘40s, two of the excluded groups joined forces to learn from each other and succeed. Several Jews in academia, escaping from the Nazis, found new ways to expand their careers in historically black colleges due to the difficulty of landing jobs at white colleges in the United States.

Donald Cunnigen, who was mentored by one of these Jewish immigrants at Tougaloo College, is going to lead the upcoming lecture, The Academic Experience of Exile, at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 27.

During Cunningham’s freshman year in graduate school, he met his mentor, Ernst Borinski, a fugitive from the Nazi Germany who landed a job as a sociology teacher at Tougaloo.

“...he touched upon the experiences, not only of the students at Tougaloo that the life of any segregated person should not be an obstacle to reach his or her hopes and ambitions.”

His words encouraged Cunnigen to be successful in his graduate school at Harvard and the University of Rhode Island, dedicated to race relations, social movements and social inequality.

Borinski, who passed away in 1983, believed that the students at Tougaloo were on the same level as any other American college students. He mentioned several times to Cunnigen that the life of any segregated person should not be an obstacle to reach his or her hopes and ambitions.

“...he feels compelled to further her education by studying the Middle East and is seriously considering a government job reflecting the one she recently finished with the U.S. Embassy.”

For more information about virtual internships or to find virtual internship opportunities, visit internships.com.

“...students, staff and members of the community can also get flu vaccines at the College of Medicine’s faculty practice, FIU Health, in PG5, Suite 311 and MMC. No appointments for vaccines are needed from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. Flu shots are free for those without insurance; $20 for those without.

Vaccines are available while supplies last. For more information, call Student Health at 305-548-5960 at MMC, 305-919-5620 at BBC or FIU Health at 305-548-3627.

PHOTO CREDIT: Olga Castro, senior majoring in journalism and international relations, represents FIU in the Middle East.

This event, among others, is part of the exhibition Beyond Swatskia and Jim Crow: Jewish Refugee Scholars at Black Colleges, organized by the Exile Studies Program, Center for Humanities in an Urban Environment and the Department of English at Florida International University in collaboration with the Coral Gables Museum.

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Follow the code: Mosh with respect

KRISTOPHER SAAD
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Moshing, also called “slam-dancing” on Wikipedia and defined as “[Dancing] usually done in crowded areas by pushing, shoving and jumping” on Urban Dictionary, is an often inconsiderate and barbaric crowd behavior found at concerts. The issue isn’t with the moshing behavior itself, but rather with how the activity is carried out with complete ignorance and lack of respect for the crowd around the moshers. These moshers often run amok and violently slam, kick, hit, push and shove anyone in their vicinity including bystanders trying to enjoy the show. Being caught off guard by one of these blows can leave someone seriously stunned or injured. There have even been a few cases of people being killed in these mosh pits, prompting some bands like The Smashing Pumpkins to ban the behavior at their concerts. People of any size throwing their entire body weight against other people is akin to what football players encounter on the field, except without any bodily protection, training or preparedness.

Moshing behavior varies wildly between concerts and generally depends on the aggressiveness of the music, the specific scene involved and the individual makeup of the crowd. Some moshers are generally more considerate and aware of their surroundings as to not disturb those not participating in the activity. Yes, there is an unwritten moshing code that agrees on certain boundaries, such as helping those who fall and not running around with closed fists. Yet the ramming, flailing and kicking that goes on can still be just as dangerous even amongst moshers themselves. Most problematic however, is that more often than not there’s always at least one person or group that goes all out flailing, shoving, punching and slamming into patrons with no regard for safety or others’ wellbeing, especially for those not participating in the mosh pit.

Errant and aggressive moshers serve as a distraction from the music fans have come to enjoy. Non-moshers will often find themselves focusing on finding off inconsiderate moshers instead of enjoying the concert. Self-defense becomes the focus instead of the music. Since these mosh pits often form near the front of the stage, concert-goers trying to get a close-up experience of their beloved bands are forced to defend against such savage behavior instead of enjoying the music.

But such notions have no basis in fact. There’s never been an outbreak of Ebola in Latin America. And there have been no reports of Africans sick with Ebola attempting to enter the United States via Mexico. Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, responded at a congressional hearing, “That is not happening,” when asked about the probability of Ebola reaching the United States through its southern neighbor.

The fear-mongering by Republicans is not surprising. After a summer in which any and every possible contagious disease was purported to be carried into the United States by innocent child refugees, GOP scare tactics show the妄 to prevent disease.

The linking of immigrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border with frightening diseases is just a continuation of a worldview in which Latinos are seen as unclean. This is the reason that conservative politicians and media outlets have found it so easy to link immigrants to epidemics such as Ebola.

Until we all learn to recognize that the racialization of disease undermines efforts to deal with the reality we face, right-wingers will continue to use divisive tactics. As responsible citizens, it is our duty to stand up to these reckless claims and demand that our politicians act on fact, not fear.

LIKE LOOKING INTO A MIRROR

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GOP fear-mongering about Ebola, Mexico is baseless

MCT STAFF

Republican claims that Ebola could slip into the United States through Mexico are completely unfounded.

Former Massachusetts senator and current New Hampshire senatorial candidate Scott Brown recently made such an assertion.

“One of the reasons why I’ve been so adamant about closing our border, because if people are coming through normal channels _ can you imagine what they can do through our porous borders?” Brown said in a radio interview.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., and North Carolina GOP senatorial candidate Thom Tillis have expressed similar sentiments. Tillis actually demanded in a recent debate that the southern border, with border state politicians such as Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., be sealed. And Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Texas, has opined that the Ebola outbreak may not be a completely bad thing, since undocumented immigrants will be terrified to cross the border with infected Africans.

But there have been no reports of Africans sick with Ebola attempting to enter the United States via Mexico. Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, responded at a congressional hearing, “That is not happening,” when asked about the probability of Ebola reaching the United States through its southern neighbor.

The fear-mongering by Republicans is not surprising.

After a summer in which any and every possible contagious disease was purported to be carried into the United States by innocent child refugees, GOP scare tactics show the reason that conservative politicians and media outlets have found it so easy to link immigrants to epidemics such as Ebola.

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Art Gallery exhibits installations from traveling Brazilian artists

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About 21 miles from the city of São Paulo, Brazil, lies Suzano. This city has just over half the population of Miami, but just as much culture. Its structure consists of an urban downtown region with three main roads and surrounding residential areas. According to the city’s website, the municipal has its own office buildings, train/bus routes and shopping mall, making it comparable to a small Miami.

Christopher Rodriguez-Barake, a University second-year graduate student, invited a group of Suzano’s most talented artists to introduce their culture to Miami. Barake works for the College of Architecture and the Arts and saw an opportunity to share his love for Brazilian art with our “Worlds Ahead” attitude.

These artists make up Projeto Suzano, and their slogan is “Art makes a difference.” The group includes a musician, sculptor, dancer, painter and photographer. Policarpo Ribeiro, a sculptor of the plastic medium and the project’s curator, says that the movement began almost seven years ago. “It just started growing,” he said.

The project is working with the Latin American and Caribbean Center to keep art alive. “We spoke to [Rodriguez-Barake] and he was able to bring us here to both actualize this exhibition and begin social projects for the future, such as an exchange program where we bring students, artists and professors to São Paulo and Suzano, and bring our students here,” said Ribeiro.

Projeto Suzano is in Miami for the last two weeks of October to directly interact with local artists. Pablo Hrodrich, a painter and street artist, explained how art differs in every region. “The climate here is different—other than just being hot—because art is influenced by so many things.”

The Graham Center Art Gallery is currently exhibiting the works of these talented artists. As the group shares its art with University students, it also hopes to bring some of Miami’s art home with them, literally and figuratively.

“Getting out of your house and going anywhere else already opens your eyes and ears. The principle we’re bringing back with us is all of this culture, all of the galleries we’ve seen in all of these museums, everyone we’ve spoken to,” said Sandra Carrilo, photographer of the project.

Hrodrich hasn’t held back from his artistic ability while on the trip. The GC Art Gallery displays a work he painted in Miami as part of a four-piece installation. “I’m developing my art here; I work with graphite to portray the city, and it’s inspired me,” he said. “Cities have different movements, in so many words of the sense that it confines to make the regions’ art its own,” he said.

This is a workshop, you know? Being here, we’re taking a lot of inspiration to heart. I plan on buying the work of other artists, too, I would love to sell my own art, but I want to bring art home. It’s not worth saying that we want to sustain ourselves with our art if we’re not consuming any art,” said Carrilo.

As one of its greatest enemies, the members of Projeto Suzano agree that the default opinion of Brazilian parents is to dissuade their children from following their artistic ability into a career.

Among the artists is Ana Karoline de Oliveira, a balletina who teaches dance to kids 18 and under in Suzano. She says that people in Brazil have less access to the arts than in Miami, but this is due to the culture.

“It’s not a lack of artists; it’s influenced by so many things.”

Anyone who would like more information on Projeto Suzano can contact its Miami Coordinator and Curator Christopher Rodriguez-Barake at projeto.suzano.miami@gmail.com.

The group has an Instagram @ProyectoSuzano, a Facebook page under “Proyecto Suzano: Arte Faz a Diferença” and a Tumblr under proyecto.suzano.tumblr.com.
I’m going to have my restaurant, she said. Yo lo voy a tener.

The Peruvian young lady worked as a waitress in a delicacy shop and had dreams of owning her own place. She had a friend who worked as a waitress in the same shop who often remembers the conversations they had.

She would never stop talking about her future restaurant, the friend said. And the dream became reality.

Six years ago, after the closure of the delicacy shop, the former waitress was able to open a restaurant right across the street: Sabor a Peru.

Sitting on 2923 Biscayne Blvd., the owner honored her roots by opening a Peruvian restaurant. The friend she used to work with at the delicacy shop now works as a waitress in Sabor a Peru.

She opened the restaurant with her boyfriend — who is now her husband, said the friend. They met at the shop, and when she opened the restaurant he worked as chef and she as waitress.

Since then, the couple has grown the restaurant staff a considerable amount, holding about 10 amicable waiters and chefs at any given time.

The restaurant’s specialty — like any other Peruvian place — is ceviche. However, unlike any other place, it’s a pretty good plate.

A couple of weeks ago, I covered another Peruvian restaurant near campus, Peru Criollo. It has several advantages over Sabor a Peru, such as its proximity to Modesto A. Maidique Campus and that it offers delivery to the campus.

Nonetheless, when it comes to food quality and variety, the Midtown restaurant holds the lead. With over 60 plates — not counting entrees, salads, soups and the like — Sabor a Peru will satisfy almost every craving.

I’ve tried a good variety of the different entrees and appetizers that they offer. Trying everything from the anticucho de corazon to my typical lomo saltado and ceviche de pescado to chaufa de mariscos and arroz con mariscos.

The anticucho de corazon is a surprisingly delicious appetizer that consists of chopped cow’s heart with a light sauce on top served on two skewers.

The lomo saltado and ceviche de pescado — as well as ceviche mixto — are all dishes that are served in Peru Criollo. The lomo offered in Sabor a Peru is more flavorful than in the other Peruvian restaurant. Even though they belong to the same cuisine, the way the Midtown restaurant prepares their tender meat strips leaves you wanting more.

The ceviches are similar in regards to taste, but again, Sabor a Peru adds a little je ne sais quoi that makes my taste buds buzz in response. Even after ordering it several times, I still haven’t been able to pinpoint what makes this dish’s flavor so good.

The chaufa de mariscos and arroz con mariscos are very similar plates. They’re both prepared with a great variety of seafood, ranging from shrimp to oysters and calamari.

The difference is that the chaufa is fried-rice-style, while the arroz is simply mixed with seafood. However, there’s nothing simple about these plates’ savor. Both are tasty dishes that I often order, depending on my mood.

While the restaurant’s locale is not a must-see, the size is just small enough to be cozy but not overwhelmed. It’s somewhat cafeteria-style, but the Peruvian cuisine makes the modest restaurant stand out.

In fact, Sabor a Peru exceeded my expectations in comparison to its renowned competition, CVICHE 105 in Downtown. The dishes are more flavorful and hold larger portions — for a better price.

Sabor a Peru is a must-go if you ever find yourself in the area. Trust me, I’m The Foodie.

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Panther’s seek payback against FAU Owls in second matchup of season

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On Wednesday, Oct. 29, the volleyball team will finish off their three game road trip in Boca Raton against in-state rival Florida Atlantic University. This will be the second time they play against one another this season. The last time they squared off was at the home opener on Saturday, Sept. 17, and the Panthers lost the match three sets to one.

FAU has been having a successful season so far, as they are tied for third place in the Conference USA standings. Coming into the match are the Owls, who are riding on a three game winning streak. This streak has put their overall record at 15-6 and their C-USA record at 5-2.

FAU has played slightly better on the road compared to playing at home, with a 7-1 record when playing away and a 5-2 record when playing at home. Granted, both records home or away are still very good but the weaker home record could play as an advantage for FIU to capitalize on.

Unlike FAU, FIU is coming into the match on a two game losing streak which has dropped them to the bottom half of the standings at eighth place. This is a crucial conference game to get their C-USA record closer to .500 which is 3-5 as of now.

In the first matchup between these two teams, the game was held in the FIU Rec Center because the arena floor was damaged. This was a last minute plan and such a strange way to kick off the season. The home opener against the Owls was the only game played in the Rec Center. Right from the first serve of the match, the Panther volleyball team may have seemed off their game. This played a huge factor in the match and it seemed interesting to get the perspectives of a coach and player on that particular situation.

“I’m not going to make any excuses, I just think that our team didn’t come to play at FAU; I have never seen them play that bad, we were very excited to finally get to play at home and we were at home we were just not in the arena… given the circumstances that the facility, the Rec Center, the players and all of us, I think that the setup in the Rec Center was beautiful and there is no other reason on what we brought to the court cost the loss,” said Head Coach Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett.

Although many people agree with Buck-Crockett, there is another understanding on the loss to FAU in the Rec Center. “We knew we had to adopt the Rec Center as our home, but now after being back in the arena we are really home and it’s just an even better atmosphere,” said team co-captain Lucia Castro.

This match should play out differently and should be a closer match because since the home opener the Panthers have shuffled with their lineups and it has shown that is it paying off. One of these changes had to do with changing Castro’s role on the team and it has been very effective as of late.

Castro leads the team with 237 kills this season, which is good for 10th in C-USA. Recently, she received double-digits in digs in 11-of-21 matches as well as in ills in 10-of-21 matches this season. Expect FAU to try their best in matching up with the team’s best offensive player.

The player FAU will most likely put to go toe-to-toe with Castro is junior middle blocker Brittany Brown. Just like Castro, Brown spearheads the offense for her team. Brown leads her team in kills with 190 and kills per set with 2.75. Another attribute of Brown is that she does not commit many errors for a player that is constantly involved in a game.

With a win against FAU the Panthers can gain ground on the teams higher than them in C-USA standings. A win also puts the volleyball team one game over FAU in the overall series between them. As of now all of the overall series record is even at 26-26.

With the C-USA tournament approaching every game is an opportunity to become a top seed in the tournament and become familiar with these teams because they will be the ones the Panthers might take on in the tournament.

FOOTBALL

‘The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly:’ A midseason review

ANTHONY CASTALVO

The 2014-2015 Panther football team has been eons better on both sides of the ball than the previous year’s squad.

We are now a little more than halfway through the college football season and the team has tripled its win total from a year ago. With four games left in the season, the Panthers are staring at a 3-5 record.

The team is scattered with freshman starters on offense like quarterback Alex McGough and running back Alex Gardner, but also has solid veteran players on defense like cornerbacks and return specialist Richard Leonard. The Panthers are on pace for a 6-6 season, which would be a big swing up from last year’s 1-11 campaign.

If you read my profile piece on junior tight end Ya’keem Griner earlier this season, you’d know how he predicted a six-win season. Also, if you’re a loyal listener to Panther Sports Talk Live, you would also know that I had faith in this team to at least hover over the .500 mark for the season.

With four games left on the schedule, all of them being conference opponents, the Panthers will take on Rice University at home, Old Dominion University away in Norfolk, Virginia, Middle Tennessee State University at home and University of North Texas away in Denton, Texas.

The Good

True freshman McGough has led the Panthers in passing yards this season and is on pace for 1,700 yards this year. He is the team’s second-leading rusher with 79 yards. To put those numbers into perspective, Corner Halliday the NCAA leader in passing yards currently has 3,344. That is almost double McGough’s projected total for the year.

The Bad

These four teams have a combined record of 13-15. Only Middle Tennessee is above .500, at 5-3. The Panthers have a realistic shot at being 7-5 or 6-6 this season, which would be a combined five points.

The Ugly

I like to keep this section short and sweet. No one likes being ugly, not even football teams. These stats are just plain ugly, though. FRJ is ranked No. 105 in turnovers lost with 15 in eight games. Also, they are ranked No. 114 in the nation in sacks allowed with 26 for 188 yards at a clip of 3.25 per game. Those two numbers correlate to one thing: the offensive line needs to get together and stop allowing defensive players to get to the quarterback thus limiting sacks and driving the turnover numbers way down.

FIU was on a bye last week, Oct. 25, but will take the field against Rice University on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 12 p.m. at The Cage.
Florida International University Stadium
11310 SW 17th St. Miami

Aventura Government Center
19200 West Country Club Drive, Aventura
Betty T. Ferguson Community Center
3000 NW 199th St., Miami Gardens
City of Miami – City Hall
3500 Pan American Drive, Miami
Coral Gables Library
3443 Segovia Street, Coral Gables
Coral Reef Library
9211 SW 152nd St., Palmetto Bay 1
Elections Department (SOE Main Office)
2700 NW 87th Avenue, Miami
Homestead Community Center (William F. “Bill” Dickinson)
1601 N. Krome Avenue, Homestead
John F. Kennedy Library
190 West 49th Street, Hialeah
Kendale Lakes Library
15205 SW 88th St., Miami
Kendall Branch Library
9101 SW 97th Avenue, Miami
Lemon City Library
430 NE 61st Street, Miami
Miami Beach City Hall (Training Room - 3rd Floor)
1755 Meridian Avenue, Miami Beach

Miami Lakes Community Center (Mary Collins)
15151 NW 82nd Ave., Miami Lakes
Model City Library @ Caleb Center
2211 NW 54th Street, Miami
Naranja Branch Library
14850 SW 280th St., Homestead
North Dade Regional Library
2455 NW 183rd St., Miami Gardens
North Miami Public Library
835 NE 132nd Street, North Miami
North Shore Branch Library
7501 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach
Shenandoah Library
2111 SW 19th St., Miami
South Dade Regional Library
10750 SW 211th Street, Cutler Bay
Stephen P. Clark Gov’t Center (SOE Branch Office)
111 NW 1st Street, Miami
West Dade Regional Library
9445 SW 24th Street, Miami
West Kendall Regional Library
10201 Hammocks Boulevard, Miami
West Miami Community Center
901 SW 62nd Ave., West Miami

ELECTION DAY
DATE November 4, 2014
TIME 7:00am – 7:00pm

MIAMI-DADE EARLY VOTING
October 20 – 24 • 7:00 am – 3:00 pm
October 27 – 31 • 11:00 am – 7:00 pm
October 25, 26, November 1, & 2 • 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

PAID FOR BY NEXTGEN CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – FLORIDA.
Students met with University deans for academic advice and counseling

ALEX BLENCEW
Staff Writer
alex.blencew@fiusm.com

More than 40 students and faculty members attended an academic resource affair allowing students to meet the deans of their colleges.

The Meet Your Dean event on Wednesday, Oct. 22, hosted by the Student Government Association, was an opportunity for students to get advice from the leaders of their schools’ and learn ways to successfully reach graduation.

For Christopher Allen, marketing manager for the College of Business, educating others was extremely gratifying.

Allen started working in higher education after a career in the sports industry.

“That’s the beauty of college,” said Allen, who is also an undergrad college student, “You are learning from other people’s mistakes and experiences.”

Students met with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Michael Heithaus, Dean of the University Graduate School Lakshmi Reddi and Dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication Raul Reis. Students even got to take selfies with the student leaders and council members of SGA.

Carlos Burgos, hospitality graduate and Student Government Council international student services coordinator, encouraged international students to help others struggling with relocating to the states.

“Sometimes after moving from another country you have a tough time finding housing,” said Burgos, whose passion has always been airline hospitality.

Burgos said some international students suffer from depression after moving, on top of the challenges of learning a new language and taking classes.

“Students who are already adjusted should talk to those students and help them out,” he said.

Apart from getting the chance to exchange business cards, attendees were given sheets of paper when they signed in and were to earn four hole punches by visiting four different tables. Then they exchanged the slip for food and an FIU USB.

“Advising is the most important part,” urged Francisco Marrero, associate director of student services for the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

“Being in good standing in courses and keeping a high GPA are very important in getting on the path to success,” Marrero said.

SGA wanted to provide a networking opportunity and to engage students with professionals from different school programs at the event.

“We live in a world where if you’re fixed on one thing, you may not realize that there are other opportunities in front of you,” said Allen.

Kids with food allergies are treated with teal pumpkins

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Kids with food allergies are treated with teal pumpkins

MCT STAFF
bbc@fiusm.com

As you walk around the neighborhood for some Halloween fun this year, you might find yourself wondering why some of the pumpkins are teal.

These pumpkins don’t come from a strange patch, but from a new national campaign called The Teal Pumpkin Project that’s promoting food-allergy awareness this Halloween.

Though it is often the time of year for kids’ blood sugar to collectively skyrocket, not all are able to enjoy the treats most people hand out. According to Food Allergy Research & Education Inc. (FARE), the campaign’s sponsor, 1 in 13 kids in the United States has a food allergy that can be life threatening.

Displaying a teal pumpkin indicates that a home is offering trick-or-treaters a non-food treat option.

“We are seeing a lot of people embracing it,” said Veronica LaFemina, vice president of communications for FARE. “It makes sense to have other options for all trick-or-treaters to feel safe and included in their Halloween experience.”

To participate, individuals paint a pumpkin teal and display it, or post a free, printable FARE sign from the organization’s website, then provide non-food treats to trick-or-treaters on Halloween. FARE suggests offering trinkets such as glow sticks, bracelets, bubbles, vampire fangs and spider rings.

Some non-food treats still contain allergens, such as Play-Doh, which contains wheat. FARE recommends choosing wheat-free and latex-free items.

Will kids be saying “Trick or toy” now? Probably not, but providing the option could make a little tyke’s Halloween experience much better. For more information or to download a teal pumpkin sign, visit foodallergy.org.

Odalis Amaya (left), a junior in public relations, talks to School of Journalism and Mass Communications Dean Raul Reis.

BBC gets into Halloween spirit

FUSM STAFF
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The Student Program Council is putting together a Halloween celebration on campus at 8 p.m. on Halloween eve at the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms.

There will be food and drinks and students are encouraged to wear costumes.

To help students get into the Halloween spirit, the MCT staff has compiled a list of Halloween movies and television shows.

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