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OPINION

SGC-MMC VENTURES

Recapping the senate’s efforts, leadership

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA

Staff Writer

As 2009 comes to a close, so does a vocal and busy semester in the senate of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus.

As the representative for the student body, the SGC-MMC senate took it on themselves to voice concerns on issues through resolutions, bills and non-binding statements.

The most controversial of resolutions was one that asked student leaders to restructure the government in order to unify it.

The text of the resolution gave examples of what the University-wide Student Government, which includes both Biscayne Bay Campus and MMC representatives, could look like under a different structure.

Such examples included totally separate campus governments, or a structure that would have one central president for both campuses.

The resolution passed with a veto-proof majority and caused an uproar at SGC-BCC, where the majority of students are located.

The Miami Herald

“Because the times have changed, I will focus a little differently than Maidique did,” Rosenberg told The Miami Herald.

“Maidique spent a lot of his time building up the University. I’m going to spend a lot of my time sustaining the University.”

Rosenberg would be faced with the difficult task of succeeding the second longest sitting research university president in the U.S. Rosenberg would receive even bigger reminders of the shoes he would have to fill later on that summer.

On June 12, the FIU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name its main campus after Maidique. On Aug. 3, the College of Medicine opened its doors, largely thanks to Maidique’s efforts.

Rosenberg laid out his plans for the University during his installation ceremony on Aug. 27. His speech, titled “Hit the Ground Running,” focused on three key issues: access, quality and sustainability.

“It’s very important we enhance our private fundraising; it’s very important that we improve our student graduation rates; it’s very important we link our student activities to local interests; and it’s very important to engage our local community,” he added.

Yet Rosenberg realized there were challenges ahead.

“Despite the difficulty in the short term that we are trying to run a year-2009 university on a year-2000 budget,” Rosenberg said.

NEW ON CAMPUS

EXPANDING:

Jeff Parking Garage 5, scheduled to open next Fall, will add 1,800 student spaces and feature retail and food services. (Right) The Ambulatory Care Center’s ground breaking ceremony was held last summer.

University continues to grow

GABRIEL ARRARAS

Staff Writer

Throughout the years at FIU, students and faculty have been able to experience University expansion; 2009 was no different.

This year, FIU began construction on a number of projects at the Modesto Maidique Campus, such as the Ambulatory Care Center and the yet-to-be-named Parking Garage 5.

The College of Medicine’s 18,000 square-foot Ambulatory Care Center will include both surgery and outpatient centers.

The Miami-Dade County Commission supported a decision in 2007 to give $10 million to fund the center, according to The Miami Herald.

The money will come from the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bonds, which seeks to build and improve health care facilities.

At the ground breaking of the care center, speaker Albert Dotson, chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees and a long-time FIU supporter, said, “[The college] comes at a time when we’re at the height of glory.”

“Dade county and Florida will be better for having [the Ambulatory Care Center] on campus,” he added.

Across from the Chemistry and Physics building and the Red Garage lies the construction site for PGS. According to Bill Foster, executive director of the Department of Parking and Transportation, there will be approximately 2,000 parking spaces, of which...
New president fulfills promises, meets goals

ROSENBERG, page 1

budget,” Rosenberg told Student Media back in August.

In June, the Board of Trustees approved a 15 percent increase in tuition, with the aim to reach the national average of $3,755 per semester. In addition, Florida Bright Futures will not cover the increase in tuition; it will pay only a fixed amount. A portion of the money collected will go toward funding more financial aid for students.

Rosenberg has tried to follow through on this promise to engage students. On Aug. 3, he announced to the University community that he would be answering questions sent to him by video. The answers would be broadcast on Aug. 24.

When he addressed the Student Government Association, he told members he would work toward getting students more classes, and tell faculty to be more sensitive to the high costs of books.

Rosenberg has also worked toward becoming more involved in the local community. On Sept. 30, he co-hosted a town-hall meeting titled “Education in South Florida: Challenges and Solutions,” alongside Miami- Dade College President Eduardo Padron and Miami-Dade Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho.

“The fate of our three institutional links is tied to the fate of this community,” Rosenberg said. “We can address just about every community challenge by strengthening our educational institutions.”

CNN even paid a visit to FIU on Oct. 21 to feature FIU in preparation for its “Latino in America” special, giving the University national recognition.

However, Rosenberg’s presidency has had its share of problems.

In early September, the University received approval from the University's jurisdictional board for misusing a University-issued procurement card, a credit card given to specific faculty members for business-related use.

In November, it was revealed that there were two more cases of improper use of the cards by staff members. According to Rosenberg, the two staff members have already “separated” from the University.

“Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the public’s continuing trust in our University and the safeguarding of financial resources,” Rosenberg said.

Many in the University community voiced their support for Rosenberg’s candidacy even before he applied. Even a Facebook group was created, it reached 400 members by the beginning of April. On April 21, it was announced there were three finalists for the job: Rosenberg, Berkman and Carlos Santiago, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Days after the announcement, both Santiago and Berkman dropped out of contention, leaving Rosenberg to become the University’s fifth president.

“We are going to build on the strong legacy that ‘Mitch’ Maidique has graced us with... that this university move to its next level of excellence,” Rosenberg said.

Maidique steps down, Rosenberg sweeps in

JULIO MENACHE
Staff Writer

The University’s longest sitting president, Modesto Maidique, announced on Nov. 14, 2008 to members at a Board of Trustees meeting that he would be stepping down after 22 years of service, and requested the Board of Trustees begin searching for his replacement.

Two committees were born out of Maidique’s request: The BOF Presidential Search Committee and the Presidential Search and Advisory Committee. The first was in charge of hiring an executive search firm, which would look for potential candidates.

The Presidential Search and Advisory Committee was comprised of faculty, students, administrators, alumni, donors and other members of the University community and was in charge of creating a shortlist of candidates.

“This is an opportunity for the committee to hear from different constituencies and see what they really want from FIU,” Committee Chairperson Joyce Elam told Student Media back in January.

The search committee hired Greenwood/Asher & Associates, a consulting firm which had helped the University of Florida find its new president.

The firm announced that it would hire a candidate as early as May 1. The reason for the quick search, according to a Greenwood/Asher & Associates representative, was because of anonymity as many candidates who were still working for other institutions would not want their names made public for long.

In March, the advisory committee announced a shortlist of 15 candidates interested in being the next FIU president. The list included FIU’s Provost Ronald Berkman, who had brushed off rumors that he would be considering the job for months.

It wasn’t until April that another in-house candidate decided to try his name in the race: former chancellor of the State University System, Mark B. Rosenberg.

Rosenberg had already acted as the University’s provost and acting president. He publicly expressed interest in the position shortly after Maidique announced his retirement.

The University Police Department’s investigation of $2.6 million comes from Public Education Capital Outlay funds. PG5 is currently slated to open for parking on Aug. 10, 2010. Jorge Valens, Christopher Lazaga and Diana Jordan contributed to this report.

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CONSTRUCTION, page 1

1,500 will be for students.

“This garage will have five bays, where our current garages have four. This means the building will be one row of parking wider than the other four,” Foster said.

In addition to the parking spaces, PG5 will also feature 30,000 square feet of retail and food service space as well as the new offices of the University Police Department. Foster said that although the final price of the garage will be ascertained post-construction, the estimated final cost is $32.5 million.

Business Services will be contributing $2.45 million for their planned 30,000 square feet of retail space that will be located in the garage.

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Care center, PG5 part of year’s goals

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New LCD screens for GC among executive’s efforts

The executive branch of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus has felt some shifts in the semester and ended the year with a new make up.

Since the summer, SGC-MMC President Rionda has waged a stick at his cabinet, promising firings if a set standard was not met.

In the name of proficiency, the inner structure of the cabinet was modified from a structure where all office dealings would go up to the chief of staff, to one where the cabinet was fractured into different sections that all had a section head.

Those heads would in turn report to the chief of staff, a position that also changed. The Chief of Staff Drew Sanchez switched roles with his Deputy Chief of Staff Nick Atuelio, due to scheduling problems.

At the Nov. 23 senate meeting, Rionda announced that around 10 members of the cabinet were to be fired. As of printing, the administration has not confirmed who has been fired nor given an explanation as to why.

Despite the shifts, the cabinet has been able to point to successes. Homecoming week had events every day, and the lecture series brought CNN Special Correspondent Soledad O’Brien to a very receptive crowd.

SGC-MMC Vice President Mykaelle “Myka” Figueiredo and Community Relations and Outreach Director Kingsley Nwamah have been raking up the pieces to fund a Scholarship Gala scheduled for this coming Spring, and Rionda spearheaded the renovation to the Graham Center.

GC will get new LCD television sets that will come out of funds reserved for Panther TV. Panther TV was an initiative started in previous administrations to give the University a student-run network. Currently, $40,000 are on retention for Panther TV.

Of that money, $30,000 will now go toward bringing TV’s to GC. The ballrooms will also get a change of carpet. To replace carpets in the ballrooms, GC received $115,971 of Activities and Services fees. Despite the accomplishments, some initiatives from the start of the semester have yet to bloom.

Since the July University-wide Council meeting, where both MMC and BBC governments get together, there has been a call to create a committee that will look into special elections.

In the September UWC meeting, it was motioned to “force” both campuses’ senate to create these committees. By the end of November, however, there still was no such committee created.

The committee in question would look into whether special elections are cost-efficient enough to run when so little students vote during these elections. There is support from both campus governments to do away with the democratic process in special elections to save student money. The alternative would be to have the senate appoint vacancies.

On Nov. 30, senators introduced a bill that would create that committee. According to the sponsors, it was never intended to pass in that meeting, but to get the bill in front of the senate for review. The bill was postponed until Spring.

Another initiative that has not quite panned out was the interactive Web site SGA envisioned at the start of the semester. Though their current Web site has improved since the start of summer, the “face lift” alluded to at the start of the Fall semester is not visible. The interactive blog Rionda spoke to Student Media about is still absent.

On the Facebook front, the MMC account was called on this semester for its constant postings of Farmville and Vampire Wars instead of University happenings. It has since been cleared of the game spam.

Senate accomplishes funding student projects

anything that would be divisive among the student body. When the response came back to the senate, the veto-proof majority waned and the senate was unable to override Rionda’s veto.

The senate also issued a resolution opposing a smoke-free campus initiative, which the University’s Health Task Force proposed.

The initiative calls for a total ban on smoking anywhere on campus, even in housing.

After hearing complaints in a townhall meeting, the senate drafted a non-binding resolution that opposed the total ban and suggested that the current policies of designated areas for smoking be enforced.

The senate also came out against Manda- tory Health Insurance for University students. This was in reaction to a bill titled “Student Health Insurance Protection Act,” proposed in the Florida legislature.

The state bill would have allowed public universities to require their students to buy health insurance as a condition for registration.

In the SGC-MMMC senate, sponsors of the resolution said that the main reason for the opposition was due to the extra financial burden to students that a mandatory health insurance would cause.

The resolution originally passed with two votes against. Rionda then vetoed the resolu- tion, saying it needed more debate and research. He also admonished the senate for haphazardly making waves with the Florida legislature.

Support for the resolution effectively crumbled when it came back to the senate for the override vote. In the end, it was recom- mended to the sponsoring senators.

The senate also took steps to improve its efficiency by updating the campus bylaws, which was a goal Senate Speaker Helena Ramirez had set for the legislative branch since the summer.

Although the updates did not meet the deadline she had previously set, the main anchor of adding the missing committees’ descriptions to the bylaws were met. When the current constitution was ratified during the last administration, four committees were created but they had no job descrip- tions assigned to them. The task of defining the functions was given to the committees themselves.

- The Operational Review Committee will audit any student organization directly funded by SGA through Activities and Services fees.

- The Student Advocacy Committee will deal with student concerns and make recommendations.

- The Internal Affairs Committee will look into special elections. There is a call to have the Senate approve $3,000 to finance the Hijabi Monologues, a spoken-word performance on what it is like to be a Muslim woman in America.

The committee and the senate also funded a handful of convention trips to FIU honor societies; $300 were allocated to Beta Alpha Psi and $1,840 were allocated to The FIU Sports and Entertainment Law Society to attend national conventions.

The senate and the Finance Committee also allocated $2,000 to fund a Spanish-American War simulation run by the Jack D. Gordon Institutes for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies aimed at high school students.

The senate voted to appoint three new members of the senatorial body as well. Senators Sandra Perez of the College of Arts and Sciences, Hector Mujica of the School of Business, and Graduate Senator Muhammad Saleem.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Nov. 30, 2009, in the article titled “Aquatic Center gets extra revenue from community members,” it’s stated that students pay a $10 dollar athletic fee every semester to have full access to the Recreation Center. The center is actually paid for by students’ Activities and Services fees.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

FARMVILLE

ORGANIC: Farmers from south Miami-Dade supply produce during the weekly FIU Organic Farmer’s Market Consortium. The farmer’s market is held every Wednesday day from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. between GI and the GCC fountain.
Little chefs cook smart foods in campus kitchens

LAToya BURGESs  Staff Writer

In the kitchens of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, a group of students were learning how to slice and dice obesity with healthy, homemade foods, like rice and broiled fish. But the cooks were about four-feet tall and no more than 12 years old.

The children in the HTM kitchens were taking part in “Cooking Skills and Healthy Foods,” a program that is part of “Common Threads,” a national concept created by chef and author Art Smith of Chicago, to offer after-school programs for underprivileged kids ages 8 to 12.

This year, the program is hosted in the HTM kitchens at the Biscayne Bay Campus. It takes place every Monday and Tuesday from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Wearing their uniformed blue buttoned-down shirts, the Biscayne Bay Campus Student Government Council members held their final meeting of the year to discuss current accomplishments and future goals.

Among the topics addressed at the Dec. 2 meeting, the council discussed former University President Modesto Maidique’s $50,000 bonus which was approved after only two opposed votes were cast. The $50,000 is a bonus on top of an additional $50,000 paid sabbatical and $2.8 million for retirement.

“I voted against it along with another faculty member,” said SGC-BBC President Shulom Neistein. “I am not trying to deter or impede what the outgoing president did, but at this time, I think $50,000 is excessive.”

According to Neistein, the $50,000 could have been used for scholarships and additional classes.

“That money could be enough to hire 20 adjuncts, which get paid about $2,500 per class that they teach,” he said. “Plus, anybody that registers for the classes—would pay about $300. That brings actually extra revenue for the University from the state. That’s around $10,005 that we benefit by having those $50,000 instututed into those classes and programs.”

Neistein also spoke with the council about the First Generation Scholarship, which awards money to students of first generation families in the U.S. It is funded dollar for dollar through the state, but the University needs to match the amount given by the state to get the scholarship.

“There are $650,000 reserved for FIU, but it needs to be matched by the University. But as of right now, we have not met that potential,” said Neistein. “So we’re stressing on increasing the contributions and getting more funding for that scholarship.”

If that amount is not met, the money reserved by the state will be given to another institution.

SGC-BBC met to discuss future goals met throughout the semester. Within the first month, SGC-BBC created three resolutions acknowledging the new interim BBC Vice Provost Steven Mold, former President Maidique and current President Mark Rosenberg.

The council also focused on the students and wrote a resolution to change MAC 1105, College Algebra, from being elective to becoming part of the Undergraduate Core Curriculum.

To increase transparency with SGC at the Modesto Maidique Campus, the council created a resolution to have University-Wide senate meetings and create unity within both campuses.

“I am very pleased with this year’s council. You have all exceeded my expectations,” said Neistein.

This council has been able to get people into the positions and start making them successful. We had the cabinet filled since the beginning, and we’ve kept it that way.

SGC-BBC also managed an internship program, where students could work directly with SGC-BBC members in the office. Neistein hopes to continue a strong intern program next year.

“Intern interaction has been phenomenal. I wanted this year to have perpetuity, and that is what the intern program is. So then the next batch will come in and take over and know what they are doing,” he said.

Looking ahead, Neistein plans to work with SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda to consolidate the Student Alumni Association.

This way, he said, students will come to the University on a positive note, and as alumni, they will feel attached.

“We want to make every single member of FIU an alumni.”

To continue with their current goal of solidarity with MMC, Neistein will be working on bringing commencement ceremonies for schools at both campuses.

“This will show we both have interest in schools that may not be on our respective campus. That is how we show SGA completely. Both councils complement one another and we don’t compete. We may have different visions, but our goals are the same, which is improving the student body experience and well-being,” he said.
Culinary classes show kids how to eat healthy

hats, aprons with the colorful heart-shaped “Common Threads” logos, and their own name tags. Chacin then went over the kitchen rules and techniques used by real-life chefs.

She reminded the kids to use the “Bear Claw,” a way of shaping your hands to prevent accidents when cutting fruits or vegetables, to yell the word “behind” when they were passing behind someone while carrying anything in their hands, and to yell “hot” when they were carrying a hot pot.

The program’s curriculum implements the cooking of international foods from a different country every week.

Puerto Rico was the country of choice that day, and the menu consisted of broiled Tilapia in mojo, a garlic-based Spanish marinade, baked plantains, and arroz con granadules, which is rice with pigeon peas.

To make the special mojo, students chopped and minced cilantro, garlic, onions and bell peppers with large knives using a technique called the “rock-n-chop,” a swift rocking of the knife back and forth across food to get tiny even pieces.

“I don’t usually cook at home, and I was scared to use the knives at first, but now my favorite thing is the ‘rock-n-chop,’” said 10-year-old Sochin Debnata.

Fourth grader Marsha Tropnas is part of the program, and said she enjoys the weekly classes because she learned how to “use a knife, make sauces and learn how to cook ‘new stuff’ from different countries.”

According to Newman, Bernstein brought the program to Miami and asked if the University’s kitchen could be used to host the event.

Once Newman got the green light from Joan Remington, interim dean of HTM, she said she was happy the school’s facility would be used to make a positive difference.

Newman said she wants to target the young children to help them turn into healthy adults.

The program is a hands-on cooking class that teaches kids how to make quick meals while having fun, she said.

“It is important for kids to eat properly. Kids eat a lot of packaged foods, and they don’t see where that food comes from,” Chacin said.

In a 2007 study by Johnson and Johnson, researchers found that more than 170 top-rated television programs watched by children ages 2 to 17, nearly all food advertisements were for products high in sugar, fat or sodium.

“Our culture gives a message of eating junk. People start dipping into over-eating and then have to deal with self-esteem issues and primarily health issues,” said Newman. “We can prevent this early on by introducing this generation to healthy cooking and eating.”

To learn more about “Common Threads,” visit www.commonthreads.org.
Senators save SGA from the woes of checks, balances

Rejected bill demanded too much accountability

A fter a group of five SGA cabinet members were approved en masse at an SGC-MMC meeting without explaining what specific responsibilities they would have, a small group of senators decided to make sure new constitu-
tions represented “Islamization” of the country, launched the proposal, claiming that the stur-
church steeple and bells.

Bills would require all new potential cabinet trustees to explain what the purpose of their position would be and what they would be responsible for before being approved.

The bill would also require them to say what their exact title would be.

The nerve of those people. These incredibly strict demands, the bill’s supporters claimed, were perfectly reasonable.

After all, these positions could potentially be paid.

“We want clarification, that is all I am asking,” said Senator William Velez, one of the spon-
ors of the bill.

Thankfully, SGC-MMC Pres-
ident Anthony Rianda provided all the clarification needed. They don’t really need to know any of this.

“I can create any posi-
tion I would like ... I can create the salary of the position. I think someone forgot to read [the constitu-
tion] when they wrote this,” said President Anthony Riorda.

It certainly seems so.

The constitution clearly states that the president can create cabinet positions at will, and pay them as he pleases (with student fee money).

Of course, the supporters of the bill pointed out that the constitu-
tion also states that the positions require Senate approval.

Yet nowhere in the constitution does it say that these sena-
tors are required to know about something before they vote on it.

In fact, as a former SGA senator I can tell you it has long been a tradition for some of our representatives to just vote to approve things unless they get a text message saying otherwise.

Many of our senators are shining examples of this great principle. And a few other sena-
tors even stood up to fight this madness.

“We are overstepping our boundaries,” said an alamed Senator, Alejandro Garcia.

“This looks like a self righ-
teous power grab,” said Senator Adam Johnson.

So true.

All these demands that sena-
tors be provided with relevant information before approving the ap-
pointment of government offi-
cials is a terrifying violation of the sovereignty of the executive branch.

It acts as a check if you will, on executive power. That’s just downright un-American.

If there is one thing this county stands for, it’s for a pliable legislative branch that can see all responsibilities of over-

sight and critical thinking to an all powerful executive.

And if someone is appointed to a position of power, they don’t really need to know what their specific responsibilities are.

I’m sure they’ll figure it out, and once they do, maybe they can explain it to the Senate.

Sometimes, you just have to throw caution and accountability away and just govern on the fly.

Thankfully, the majority of SGC-MMC senators understood this.

By a vote of 15-10, the SGC Senate voted against the bill, and SGA was saved from a pair of terrible threats: checks and balances.

This looks like a self righteous power grab, said Senator Adam Johnson.

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The views expressed in this column solely represent those of the author and should not be construed as representing the beliefs of The Beacon.

All angry letters, threats and expletive-laden tirades should be addressed to the author at cabral@fiusm.com.
Ten great albums from the first decade of the millennium

RYAN MOREION
Staff Writer

I’ve been following the flow of decade-end top albums lists and find myself disagreeing with about half of their selections. Now I’ve been given the arduous task to sum the whole decade up. In other words, I’m summing up my entire music catalogue and tastes into one list. It took me two weeks to come up with it but here it is.

10. THE AVALANCHES - SINCE I LEFT YOU

An album pieced together by samples taken by The Avalanches is a giant jigsaw puzzle with a picture of animals, cartoons and friends dancing at a beach party. The whole frustration with sample-clearing I talked about on Person Pitch is multiplied by 100 times. That’s a lot of samples! Strangely enough, The Avalanches haven’t released a sophomore album to accompany this gem, yet, Since I Left You had a gleeful acceptance into the list. The whole frustration with sample-clearing is just one of many problems I’ve been dealing with about half of their selections.

9. THE SHINS - CHUTES TOO NARROW

Despite their appearance on the Garden State soundtrack, there are a lot of people who still don’t know who The Shins are. Chutes Too Narrow is the band’s second album and LP and it is exemplary indie-pop leaning more toward the pop side of the spectrum rather than the alternative side. They used to be some kind of political blogger who was given a Casio drum machine and a microphone. Her lyrics aren’t really too complex, yet they’re said with such fervor and anger that it resonates. Kaia marked a transition from the band, producing a more a global African/Caribbean perspective.

8. KANYE WEST - LATE REGISTRATION


Seriously, Kanye West’s Late Registration is the best hip-hop album of the decade. West hasn’t really shown any sign of slowing down, minus the whole Taylor Swift thing. He’s constantly growing, and whether that means he is evolving into an egotistical narcissist or a maniacal genius, you can’t really deny his importance in the ‘00s.

7. ARCADE FIRE - FUNERAL

I feel like all the music released this decade was a response to Sept. 11. Funeral by Arcade Fire definitely felt like an album you can mourn to. With it, the band introduced the most original sound this decade: a blend of baroque pop, chamber orchestrations and shout-out punk.

At the time, I didn’t think much of the album because I hadn’t really dealt with any deaths. But soon after a relative of mine died, Funeral made perfect sense.

6. GHOSTFACE KILLAH - SUPREME CLIENTELE

I had trouble deciding which Ghostface album was superior this decade: Supreme Clientele or Fishscale? Fishscale was a nice little album that Tony Starks at his most nonsensical via stream-of-consciousness. But Supreme Clientele had Ghost at his most confident. It was truly Ghostface Killah’s album and he had fun with it, complete with Iron Man cartoon clips and a sharp tongue.

5. THE STROKES - I SEE YOU

It seems like New York City, in general, was a source of inspiration for many indie-rock bands in the ‘00s. I’m not sure where The Strokes got the idea but the album, Is This It?, sat as some kind of weird landmark for rock. Watching them live, I’m not sure how they acted or with their music: a group of NY lads standing around strumming and drumming their instruments with little to no showmanship.

But that’s the type of attitude they resurrected with their brand of hipster, ’60s and ’70s rejuvenated rock. A reckless abandon that kick-started indie-rock back to fruition when it was down.

4. M.I.A. - KALA

M.I.A. is a really strange person. I feel she used to be some kind of political blogger who was given a Casio drum machine and a microphone. Her lyrics aren’t really too complex, yet they’re said with such fervor and anger that it resonates. Kala marked a transition from the band, producing a more a global African/Caribbean perspective.

With the help of Diplo, Switch and Timba land the production tip, M.I.A. made a rough and abrasive dance record with tons of genre variety including dub-step, reggaeton, dance-hall, grime and house.

3. TV ON THE RADIO - DESPERATE YOUTH, BLOOD THIRSTY BABES

Brooklyn will always serve as a beacon for indie-rock creativity and experiments. If you want to find inspiration and live in a community of musicians, just walk down the Williamsburg neighborhood. TV on the Radio evolved from this NY neighborhood and their album, Desperate Youth, Blood Thirsty Babes, recalls Brooklyn better than most bands.

Many argue that the Young Liars EP is their strongest effort, but it seems Desperate Youth is their most misunderstood. It’s the hardest they’ll ever sound without coming off too abrasive or melancholic. It was a mid-2000s triumph.

2. PANDA BEAR - PERSON PITCH

Panda Bear never really did anything new. It’s not like sampling old songs was some newfound innovation. It’s a beautiful artifact that, from afar, seems pretty frustrating to me: keeping up a tempo and having to deal with copyright and permits.

But, what made Person Pitch a distinct jam was how it exerted a feeling of sunshine and joy that’s forgotten in our post-9/11 world. The Animal Collective member used the samples, not as the primary, but as background for his voice. The Brian Wilson comparison is tired but makes sense. A record that plays with Beach Boys arrangements of old and techno sensibilities of new.

1. BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE - YOU FORGOT IT IN PEOPLE

No band did more for indie-rock in the ‘00s than Canada’s own Broken Social Scene. Bold? Yes. Before You Forgot It In People, BSS dazzled with post-rock and ambient song textures. The songs were beautiful little nuggets, better for indie-film soundtracks than your stereo player.

They were tame and very modest instrumental songs working with electro-acoustic tendencies and minimalism. They were playing with the same type of soundscapes Godspeed You! Black Emperor and Sigur Ros were playing with.

But You Forgot It In People marked a growth. It was a move from introspective long songs to anthonic tones for a generation. It gave BSS a voice – actually, more than one. Kevin Drew, Brendan Canning, Leslie Feist, Emily Haines, Amy Millan, etc.

They are indie-rock personified: a rag-tag collective of musicians willing to experiment and produce something different with each others’ help.

Contact Us
Christopher Cabral
Life Editor
olivia.cabral@fiu.com

www.fiu.com
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MOMENT OF CLARITY

This decade has seen a group of veteran artists continue to blaze microphones, in addition to a fair share of phenoms who have arrived to the sound waves. But that success has been mixed with controversy, as hip-hop legend Nas recently pronounced the genre dead. That statement can be viewed as a play to sell his record at the time, but the sentiment has been shared by some.

With sales down and redundant songs getting pushed on local radio stations, the reasonable consumer can easily forget that the art form is very much alive and intact. In fact, hip-hop music is as good as it has ever been and there are more than enough jewels of albums that have been released in the last decade to prove it.

10. TAYLOR, 2004 - LIL WAYNE

Rarely of legal age at the time, Wayne made his biggest leap in lyrical ability between his second album and his third, Tha Carter.

The subject matter is limited to women, the drug trade and money, but Wayne more than compensates for that with lyricism that nobody saw coming.

Wayne has become one of the most popular names in the game today and this record started his ascent into iconic territory.

9. STANKONIA, 2000 - OUTKAST

What would a list of the decade’s top albums be without a mention of Outkast? One of the best groups ever to create rap music put together its best effort here. A nice contrast to the gangster rhymes that dominate hip-hop, Andre 3000 and Big Boi made creative hits behind a diverse slew of beats.

8. GHOSFACE KILLAH, 2000 - GHOSFACE KILLAH

At the very beginning of the decade, Ghostface released this East Coast classic. The dark subject matter was met with the complementary production of RZA, Mathematics and Carlos Broady.

7. AMERICAN GANGSTER, 2007- JAY-Z

After coming out of retirement with the above average – but still disappointing – Kingdom Come, Jay took inspiration from the movie with the same title to create another masterpiece. A mature artist at this stage in his career, Jay created a modern-day version of his first album, Reasonable Doubt. A story told in stages about the life of a gangster keeps the audience riveted and entertained.
It’s tempting to look back as we approach the end of our first decade of the new millennium. For others, there is a concern with the future and whatever Mayan calendars and Hollywood have to say about it. I’m concerned with celebrating that transient space between the past and the future and whatever the future has to say about it.

This is the first and the last guy you invite to any New Year’s party. His powers of providing red wine on tap make him an obvious favorite on any New Year’s party. His powers of providing any guest list, but it’s Christ’s role as a mediator that makes him an invaluable addition to any social event.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Every party needs one guy that with the alcohol problem to pass out while we all doodle on him with a black Sharpie. He’ll help count heads, collect plastic cups and give anyone a ride home. Who else is going to actually eat some cake at this party?

MARIE ANTOINETTE

Although she was hated in her time, Marie Antoinette does know how to throw a lush party. She embodies the kind of extravagance and vanity that makes your party cooler than your guests. Missy Elliot’s wallet and the party scene.

MISSY ELLIOT

I love hearing Missy Elliot talk. She’s funny, charismatic and wonderfully outspoken.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

I have a lot of respect for this man and his observations: “Below the Girdle, it is impossible of two Women to know an old from a young one.” He’s my favorite of the founding fathers, as I like to call them, “da real OG’s.”

MEANDWOF AQUA TEE HUNGER FORCE

Meandwof would be great at karaoke, and I’d love to hear our little buddy throw down raps with Missy Elliot.

PRESIDENT OBAMA

The most powerful man alive today is certainly welcome at my party. If he comes, I’d do everything I can to get him to do the Soulja Boy dance with us.

LADY GAGA

I initially resisted putting Lady GaGa on the list because it felt too easy. After conducting my own non-scientific poll, Lady GaGa is just about the hottest thing among people I surveyed. She’ll show up fashionably late, set my furniture on fire the course of the night, but...she’s popular.

The guest list at the greatest party of all time

Our lady of pop music gets an invite because she’s popular. Our greatest party of all time and whatever Missy Elliot does.

WELCOME TO THE GREATEST PARTY OF ALL TIME!

And whatever Missy Elliot says about it.

WHEN: 10 p.m.
WHERE: The Ice Palace, 1400 N Miami Ave
HOW MUCH: $10

THE GREATEST PARTY OF ALL TIME!

WHOEVER COMES WILL BE THE GREATEST PARTY OF ALL TIME!

WHEN: 10 p.m.
WHERE: The Ice Palace, 1400 N Miami Ave
HOW MUCH: $10

Hair is optional.

Sobriety becomes questionable.

Come in and out of Madonna’s mouth when her head with 10 of your favorite party animals:

- Bobby Joe Bracy
- Dita Von Teese
- Joaquin Phoenix
- Justice
- NEON LIGHTS
- Meatwad of Aqua Teen Hunger Force
- Missy Elliot
- Robert Pattinson
- Sigourney Weaver
- Sigur Ros
- Theophilus London
- Tina Fey
- Elmo is such a nice guy. Elmo loves parties!

Our lady of pop music gets an invite because she’s popular. Our greatest party of all time and whatever Missy Elliot does.

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Hair is optional.
PETER CASTILLO
Contributing Writer

In conjunction with Student Media’s effort to encapsulate the best of entertain-
ment over the past 10 years, Radiohead FM compiled its top 10. The many DJs at FIU’s student radio station (88.1, 95.3, 96.9) below is a list of their top 20 as well as a few capsule reviews of three of their favorite albums of this decade. For more reviews of their top 10 albums, visit fiuwm.com.

**Radiohead FM’s Top 20 Albums of the Decade**

**20. FEELS**
**ANIMAL COLLECTIVE**

**19. HISSING FAUNA, ARE YOU THE DESTROYER?**
**OF MONTREAL**

**18. SOVIET KITSCH**
**REGINA SPECTOR**

**17. FRANZ FERDINAND**
**FRANZ FERDINAND**

**16. ANALORD**
**AX**

**15. MADVILLAIN**
**MADVILLAIN**

**14. ILLINOISE**
**SUFIAN STEVENS**

**13. ARULAR**
**M.I.A.**

**12. PERSON PITCH**
**PANDA BEAR**

**11. VAMPIRE WEEKEND**
**VAMPIRE WEEKEND**

**10. FEVER TO TELL**
**YEAH YEAH YEAHS**

**9. FUNERAL**
**ARCADE FIRE**

**8. IS THIS IT?**
**THE STROKES**

**7. TURN ON THE BRIGHT LIGHTS**
**INTERPOL**

**6. CRYSTAL CASTLES**
**CRYSTAL CASTLES**

**5. RETURN TO COOKING MOUNTAIN TV ON THE RADIO**

**4. NEO BIBLE**
**ARCADE FIRE**

**3. THIRD PORTISHEAD**

**2. YOU FORGOT IT IN PICS**
**BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE**

**1. ANNASIAC**
**ARCADE FIRE**

Throughout the decade, Radiohead FM’s disc jockeys tuned in to thepulse of the modern world. From the explosion of electronic and indie rock, the DJs of Radiohead FM selected an array of multi-genre artists for the top 20 albums of the last decade.

This has been a decade of growth for many musicians. For example, LCD Soundsystem returned from a bout with obscurity. Only 11
tracks long, _Is This It_ is short and sweet. And _The White Stripes_ turned heads with the success of _Elephant_. The albums selected here illustrate the diversity and range of music that has been created in the past 10 years.

This list is not exhaustive, and there are many albums that could have been included. However, these albums represent the highlights of the past decade and are a testament to the creativity and innovation that has characterized music in the 2000s.
Football renews rivalry against FAU on senior night

JOHNATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

In an old fashioned shootout last December, the Golden Panthers could not hold on to a lead in a late season loss to FAU. The 57-50 result continued a trend in the young rivalry; victory for the Owls. But it was also undoubtedly the most exciting game the two teams have played in their seven meetings.

For seniors like Paul McCall and Scott Bryant, a win this time around would go a long way in sweetening an otherwise sour season.

“The way they won that game last year, it leaves a bad taste in your mouth,” McCall said. “That was true pain after that game to have bowl game and shot at a winning season ripped from you. They deserved it, but we have a chance to get that back this year and that means a lot.”

The Owls have won three straight contests in the “Shula Bowl,” but the Golden Panthers pushed FAU (4-7, 4-3 Sun Belt) to the brink last season, and Rusty Smith, who passed for 389 yards and five touchdowns in the meeting, is out tomorrow with a shoulder injury.

“It’s a rivalry game, no other way to look at it,” Bryant said. “We’re trying to bring the Shula Bowl back to FAU. They took it from us, and I remember the feeling when they rushed the field at Dolphins Stadium.”

The cross-town contest was dubbed the Shula Bowl after legendary Miami Dolphins coach Don Shula, but the game will only grow as large as the neighboring schools allow.

Is the rivalry legit?

“Well, it’s become a big-time rivalry,” Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal said. “This is a game that every year is going to grow more and more into a national type rivalry. What you have is a lot of guys that know each other. A lot of pride on both sides. Both programs are
talent that we are bringing in right now, that talent that we are bringing in now is something that we need and we’re beating out programs for recruits that three or four years ago would not have been possible.”

TIGHT UNTIL THE END

The first half included a 56 percent shooting percentage by the Falcons who kept the lead mainly through the first half, while the Panthers kept their inconsistent streak of three-point shooting alive shooting 36 percent for the half and 35 percent for the game. Falcon guard Dee Brown was the game’s highest scorer with 20 points, while forward Scott Thomas chipped in 10 points, three blocks, and two steals for the game.

The second half included an array of scoring from Marvin Roberts, Antoine Watson, and Phil Gary who all had 13 points in the game. Phil Gary scored all his points in the second half.

FIU head Coach Ishah Toms told sunports.com that they faced a difficult challenge against the Falcons because of their size.

“They were very excited about this incoming class and we’re finished yet,” Tomic said. “We’ll probably add one or two more players, but the level of talent that we are bringing in now is something that we need and we’re beating out programs for recruits that three or four years ago would not have been possible.”

The biggest question mark for FIU coming into the game is punter Carlos Munera, who was recruited by Nebraska, by Wake Forest, and Clemson among others.

“There’s not that bond, that tightness.”

Men’s basketball drops fourth consecutive game

JOEY CRUZ
Staff Writer

The height disparity was too much for the Golden Panthers men’s basketball team to overcome. The Golden Panthers (2-7) did all they could against the much bigger Bowling Green State Falcons, but it was not enough to close out the 67-62 loss on Nov. 30.

The Falcons out rebounded the Golden Panthers 39-28 in the game, 6-foot-9 center Otis Polk dominated with 11 rebounds in the game, 6-foot-6 center Scott Thomas chipped in 13 rebounds in the game, limiting Bowling Green State to 40 percent for the half and 35 percent for the game.

The second half included an array of scoring from Marvin Roberts, Antoine Watson, and Phil Gary who all had 13 points in the game. Phil Gary scored all his points in the second half.

The second half showed great promise while FIU brought the lead down only to three points with 40 seconds remaining in the game, limiting Bowling Green State to 40 percent shooting cooling their streak down in the second half.

The loss is the team’s fourth consecutive loss.
THE MIAMI MUSIC FESTIVAL

DECEMBER 10-12, 2009


The following downtown Miami venues will present schedules of performances on each night of the Festival:
- The Festival Tents at SW 7th & S. Miami (4 Stages)
- Transit Lounge (3 Stages)
- Tobbacco Road (3 Stages)
- The Hard Rock Cafe (2 Stages)
- Waxy O’Connors (2 Stages)
  - Gordon Biersch
  - Red Bar
  - Havana Dreams
  - Japengo at the Hyatt
  - Ecco Lounge
  - Finnegans River
  - Mekka (3 Stages)
  - La Guaracha
  - Artoconecto...pug in at Macy’s
  - Wallflower Gallery
  - Blue Martini

Additional venues and performance schedules can be found at miamimusicfestival.org

ADMISSION

*Three-day wristbands: $50 ($35 with valid Student ID)
*One-day wristbands: $25 ($20 with valid Student ID)
*Single venue admission: $10 (as space is available)

Wristbands on Sale at All Venues During the Festival

Must be 18 to enter some venues, 21 to enter others. Venue policies listed on miamimusicfestival.org.
TOP 10 ATHLETES OF THE DECADE

#1 CARLOS ARROYO

He's been the most recognizable FIU athlete of the decade that has played at FIU since 2001. During his men's basketball career at FIU, Arroyo became the second player in school history to score at least 1,600 career points. He finished his FIU career setting school records with 459 assists and 177 steals. Arroyo also ranked second in school history in three-point field goals made (174), third in field goals made (562) and third in free throws made (302). Arroyo has been in the NBA for eight seasons, and he's made lots of noise with 459 assists and 177 steals. FIU career setting school records in free throws made (302). Arroyo also ranked second in school history in three-point field goals made (174), third in field goals made (562) and third in free throws made (302). Arroyo has been in the NBA for eight seasons, and he's made lots of noise.

#2 YARIMAR ROSA

She's the most decorated individual athlete in FIU history, and it's not close. The only player of this decade to be selected to multiple All-America teams. She's been the volleyball conference Player of the Year twice, and she received the 2009 award, because of her dominant reputation as she missed almost half the conference season. She's led her team to back-to-back Sun Belt East Division Championships, and had been the conference's most dominant player on the only FIU team to post back-to-back NCAA tournament bids since Cindy Russo was putting up banners in the '90s.

#3 RONALD FORBES

The 2008 NCAA All-American track & field athlete ran his way into the FIU record books and the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. He was the flag-bearer for the Cayman Islands in the opening ceremony. Forbes finished in fifth in the 110-meter high hurdles event in the Olympics. He's a two-time Sun Belt champion in the 55-m hurdle and holds three FIU records. Making the All-Sun Belt team three times and becoming the third male in FIU history to

#4 SHERI ANN BROOKS

FIU has one national championship and Sheri Ann Brooks earned it. She won the NCAA title in the women's 200-meter dash in 22.85 seconds, and also won the gold medal at the 2007 Pan American Games in Brazil in the 4 x 100m relay. She also won the silver medal for the Jamaica team in the 4 x 100m relay.

#5 ANTIWAN BARNES

The University's first player drafted to the NFL was linebacker Antwan Barnes. The Baltimore Ravens drafted Barnes in the fourth round of the 2007 NFL draft. In his senior year his defense was No. 28 in the nation. He holds the FIU record for sacks with 23., and was also part First team Sun Belt Conference selection as a junior and a senior.

#6 WILLIE COLLazo

Anchored the FIU pitching staff with his 20 wins over his junior and senior campaigns. His senior season remains one of the best pitching seasons in FIU history with 13 wins and a 2.94 ERA, earning a 3rd team All-American choice.

#7 T.Y. HILTON

T.Y. is only two years into his FIU career, but he already ranks in the top five in career receptions, receiving yards, and receiving touchdowns. But his impact goes beyond his play on the field. In selecting FIU over offers from BCS schools like Florida and West Virginia, he gives an air of legitimacy to Mario Cristobal's tenure. With two years left to go, he well may make next decade's list too.

#8 JOSH BANKS

Banks' three seasons at FIU featured ERAs under 3.50, including a 3.50 ERA over 105 innings as a junior that led to his selection in the 2nd round of the Major League draft by the Toronto Blue Jays, the highest draft choice for any FIU athlete ever. He pitched 115 innings at the major league level including a 4.75 ERA with the San Diego Padres in 2008 over 85 innings.

#9 TYLER TOWNSEND

Townsend holds the FIU career record for K's, and his 77 K's and 182 total bases in 2009 were also FIU records. Townsend improved in each of his three seasons at FIU, going from 5-14-24 home runs each season while also hitting at least .320 each year. Was selected in the 3rd round of the Major League draft by the Baltimore Orioles and skipped his senior year to sign.

#10 GERGANA SLAVTCEVA

Slavtcheva averaged 15.2 points per game over her career and holds school records for three pointers made and attempted, while setting the record for triples made in a season as a junior. Contributed each season, going from 6.1 points per game as a freshman to at least 16 each year after. Was a three-time All Sun Belt choice and lead the conference in assists as a sophomore.