Parking spaces taken for new center

Students and staff unload the Golden Panther Express Shuttle on the road. Due to a portion of Lot 3 closing, buses no longer stop directly in front of the bus stop.

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Parking woes for students will only worsen now that the University is closing down 167 parking spaces in front of the bookstore for a new building.

The long-awaited Student Academic Support Center project will finally break ground this month, but the new building will take over an area of Lot 3, and leave students with less parking spaces available this semester.

The parking situation this fall has been hectic since a parking lot closed to give way for the construction of Parking Garage 6, which will add 2,000 parking spaces when it opens in January.

“While we attempted to delay the start of construction until the end of the semester, we were not able to do so without adversely impacting the construction timeline and price,” said Guillen-Pendino, senior project manager of facilities management and construction services, in a Nov. 7 memorandum to the University community.

The SASC building has been planned out for years, but it took a while to put in all the money for the project. The University originally received funding back in May 2010, when it was granted $21 million from the Florida Legislature. The last $7 million came in this year.

The 74,000 square-foot building will house admissions, student orientation, advising, registration, student financial services and career services.

The portion of Lot 3 will be closed starting Monday, Nov. 10 and modify the rest of the parking lot to include meter parking, faculty, disabled and carpool spots.

The bus stop for both the Golden Panther Express and the CATS Shuttle will shift further south along the sidewalk of Lot 3.

The alternative parking nearby is in Lot 5 and the Lot 5 overflow. The University will be providing a shuttle service from the lots to the drop-off area between the Frost Art Museum and the Blue Garages.

The shuttle will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday until Dec. 12.

For more information, students can contact Parking and Transportation at 305-348-3615.

Healthcare on campus to expand with merge

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Four weeks ago, Daniel Soraltza, a senior information technology major, sprained his ankle playing indoor soccer. Rather than paying a visit to see his own doctor, Soraltza learned that his tuition covered free physical therapy on campus.

With a pending merger between Student Health Services and FIU Health Faculty Group Practice, many students continue to be unaware of the force that tends to their medical needs.

“I didn’t know they offered physical therapy, and I didn’t know if the [check up] was going to be free or not,” he said. “I knew I paid a health service fee, but I didn’t know how far that went.”

At the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, out of the 50,000 students who attend FIU, only half have made encounters with its SHS Clinic, and about 2,000 at the Biscayne Bay Campus clinic, according to SHS.

At the request of the University Board of Trustees, FIU health and SHS are working together to increase student awareness and make the best of University health services for students, faculty and staff.

While SHS only caters to students, FIU health is a private faculty practice run by the College of Medicine.

It is not covered by student health fees, meaning it is available to anyone in the community – like visiting a doctor outside the University.

“The idea is that there would be a single standard for delivering of healthcare on the campus wherever it happens,” said Yolangel Hernandez-Suarez, chief executive officer of FIU Health Care Network.

FIU has the fourth lowest student health fee in the Florida State University System at $93.69 per term for a 12 credit full-time student. The state average is $177.75.

Hernandez-Suarez is member of the University Health Task Force, a committee under the Board of Trustees.

Aside from SHS, the Student Government of Trustees. Alongside Student Government Council President at MMC, Alexis Calatayud, the committee is also working to inform students what insurance options they may have under the Affordable Care Act and if they are eligible for Medicaid.

By the end of fall, students will be given a 15-question survey to assess their access to medical insurance and what the University can do in response, said Calatayud.

The University earns millions for international studies

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The University recently received $2.3 million in grants to enhance programs in international studies.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the school three Title VI grants, which support foreign language and international studies, to help the University continue their work in Latin America and Africa.

Divided between two university centers, the Latin American and Caribbean Center received $2.1 million dollars and the center for African and African Diaspora Studies received $187,000.

Each center will use the money to create more scholarship opportunities, expand class variety, incorporate language requirements and train Miami-Dade teachers in their respective subject areas.

“They [The U.S. Department of Education] give us the designation of a National Research Center for having shown a strong commitment to — broadly speaking — to the study of, to the research of, to the teaching of, to the outreach of, in our case, Latin America and the Caribbean,” said Frank Mora, director of LACC.

“We were selected, one out of 18 or 19 centers, throughout the country and we are very proud because this is the first time that FIU LACC is being awarded on its own — so that’s important,” said Mora.

Every year, for the next four years, LACC will use the money to implement a two-part plan of expansion.

First, the center will receive $306,000 every year to award undergraduate and graduate students with Foreign Language Acquisition Scholarships.

The scholarship only requires students to take a course in Portuguese or Haitian Creole as well as at least one area studies course a semester relating to Latin American and Caribbean studies. The scholarship money goes toward tuition and includes a $1,500 stipend. The deadline to apply for spring 2015 is Nov. 21, 2014.

Second, by implementing a whole series of programming, including but not limited to, a number of outreach programs, training Miami-Dade County
Global centers to offer scholarships

Did you know that an E.R. visit for a headache can cost up to $17,000?

Don't get caught without health coverage!

Affordable Care Act Fair

November 14

10 am – 2 pm

GC150

studenthealth.fiu.edu

Global centers to offer scholarships

Some people see [looking for information] as a burden since they don’t have the time,” said Sorahlu. “Or they think they don’t have the time.”

Did you know that an E.R. visit for a headache can cost up to $17,000? Don’t get caught without health coverage!

The Beacon – Wednesday, November 12, 2014

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Countless young women have protested the use of Photoshop in high-end fashion and beauty magazines for some time now. At as young as 14-year-old girls have begun petitions and held demonstrations that remarkably enough receive acknowledgement from some magazines. These young activists are not alone – a large number of magazine readers do not appreciate the edited images because of the negative effect they have on young women. Fashion and beauty magazines are infamous for being recognized as the experts of showing what society believes people – yes, including men – should look like. In turn, society is pinning the glossy, edited images of 100-pound models with perfect skin and makeup, and how to diet. Clearly, there should not be a certain way a young girl must look in order to go back to school. Her body image and weight have no concern in going back to school in the fall because obsessing over a flat stomach is not going to help her pass her classes.

If we want to bring up the health issue and change the young women look at themselves in the mirror, let’s talk about the insane diets people follow for a week to obtain that “perfect look.” Along with those back to school articles, there are the year round ones explaining the latest trends in diets, cleanses, and fasts. When a model is interviewed and gladly states she hit the gym twice a day and was on an all-liquid cleanse for 9 days before a runway show, it is published under the health tips. Because it is impossible to Photoshop a real life body walking down the runway, we are led to believe that the routine and diet are true and the look is attainable. Young women are led to believe that this kind of dieting is okay, natural, and healthy enough to pursue in. Forbidding a high-end magazine from editing images will not eliminate the portrayal of what editors want. They will simply look for other models who are able to look skinny, pretty, and flawless with the right makeup, clothing, and lighting instead of with Photoshop. Magazine images would need to be accompanied by a never-ending list of labels explaining what was done at the photo shoot. Instead of putting all of our energy in getting magazines to change their ways, we should be the ones making changes. Photoshop or not, the young girl who reads Teen Vogue and Seventeen will still want to be that girl in the magazine who is styled to look “perfect.” We must divert the issue from Photoshop to establishing a society and culture that raises young women to not idealize how we see others.

Because it is impossible to Photoshop a real life body walking down the runway, we are led to believe that the routine and diet are true and the look is attainable.

TWINKLE, TWINKLE LITTLE SPOT

Photo_max takes the blame

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With the results of the Nov. 4 elections, the University and its community have leap over one of the many hurdles in their path towards expansion.

After nearly five years of negotiating the potential relocation of the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition with Youth Fair and Miami-Dade County officials, the voters of Miami-Dade came into the picture as a beacon of hope for the University, having approved a referendum that would allow the University to relocate the Youth Fair and expand onto the 64 acres currently occupied by the fair.

With reason, President Mark B. Rosenberg, along with several members of the University, took to celebrating the small victory on Wednesday, Nov. 5, holding up large “Thank You” signs to the community passing along Southwest Eighth Street towards Southwest 107 Avenue.

But we remind the University and its members emphasizing that this is indeed just a small victory along the way to expansion.

Many unresolved issues remain, all of which will further delay the actual expansion of the University onto the 64 acres of land.

First and foremost, perhaps the most important step is that the University must find a suitable relocation site for the Youth Fair. To put things bluntly, without a relocation site, the fair is staying exactly where it currently is.

After that is determined, the second most important thing to settle is how much this relocation will cost after all. Two prices are being thrown out there by the University and Youth Fair respectively, both significantly different from each other.

While the fair places the cost of relocation at more than $200 million, Rosenberg has stated that the amount the University would spend is somewhere between $45 and $50 million.

Once the land itself is acquired and the site is finalized, the fair will move onto it, issues no longer remain so much as questions.

The utilization of the land is a means of expanding our programs and colleges, such as the College of Engineering and Computing.

With this in mind, we can’t help but wonder what this will mean for the locations separate from the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, especially the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Moving forward from here, the University is facing a lot of uncertainty and we only suggest that it is not quick to hail victory.

Gaining the approval of the voters to expand onto the 64 acres was a monumental win in the grand scheme of things, but by no means does the mission stop here.

Send us your letters

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124.

With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.

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Editorial

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Opinion

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RING THE ALARM

Student takes initiative to eliminate violence against women on campus

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Some University students have taken a vigorous stand against the butt grabbing incidents at the MMC campus.

Gabrielle Card, a meetings and events management major, says incidents like the University groper forced her to re-think sexual violence on campus.

"I was interested in organizing an event geared towards women after the recent events of the butt grabber on campus," said Card, a volunteer for the Women’s Center. "I wanted to create an event where students can learn how to protect themselves against violence."

Card took the initiative in reaching out to the Women’s Center to organize "These Hands Don’t Hurt," an event during the International Education Week to help promote awareness on the existing worldwide violence against women and provide services as self-defense signup from the FIU police to help students protect themselves on campus.

The event will commemorate "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women," a day recognized by the United Nations to encourage other nations to create awareness on violence against women. It will be held on the BBC campus on Wednesday, Nov. 12, featuring an award winning speaker and child trafficking activist, Sandy Skelaney.

The event is part of international education week with IESSS. "These Hands Don’t Hurt" will also be featured as one of the activities during the event; it is a complimenting way to integrate men in the movement where they will write solidarity messages on their hands. "The Clothesline Project" will give victims the chance to express themselves by decorating and hanging shirts on a clothesline for exhibition as testimonies to viewers.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms and Panther Square. "These Hands Don’t Hurt" event will be from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Keynote speaker, Sandy Skelaney, will begin her speech 11 a.m. "The Clothesline Project" will be carried throughout the day.

Nonprofit Unestablished seeks to aid young artists

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They typically live on minimum expenses — starving artists, that is — either for a lack of business or because all their disposable income goes towards art projects.

There’s an unspoken cool-factor that looms over the lives of the creative. The starving artist lives a life of passion, but being broke and starving is a bit overrated, which is why Unestablished was founded.

"Being that the arts are interconnected, we all need each other. As a filmmaker I need artists to draw out storyboards, musicians to provide sound for my films," Suárez-Burgos said. “We have the ability to create a network where we can all work each other.”

With a demographic of young adults, Unestablished also wants to teach their talent about the business aspect without regular industry settings. There is no submission fee, and the artist keeps 100 percent of the profit off anything they sell during the exhibition.

"Being that the arts are interconnected, we all need each other. As a filmmaker I need artists to draw out storyboards, musicians to provide sound for my films," Suárez-Burgos said. “We have the ability to create a network where we can all work each other.”

The plan is to teach students about business and legality issues, how to be able to make their craft a full-time career, and become financially responsible off what they love to do.

The visual art that will be showcased will vary between film, photos, paintings, drawings, performance art, sculptures, mechanical art, and 3d art. During the event there will also be a 3D printer workshop, thanks to a partnership with 1-Click 3D Print.

Last year, the mechanical art piece featured a motorcycle and this year they plan on displaying a 62 Fiat as part of their Interactive Art section, which features art that people can walk up and touch. Suárez-Burgos and Duffy found the inspiration for Unestablished after attending an event Performing Arts Exchange on Calle Ocho. Though they liked the idea of communal art, they didn’t feel the same way for the commercial art that was on display.

Unestablished is meant for young artists and raw talent. Not someone who’s doing it for the finances, but out of the love one has for their craft. Which is why submission is open to everybody and anybody, “we want to see what this city has to offer.”

The deadline to submit is November 16.
And you thought college was going by fast.

If you’re thinking about your future, you should be thinking about the Coast Guard. Open to students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities, the Coast Guard’s College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative (CSPI) Scholarship Program provides hands-on training and leadership experience to college juniors and seniors around the country. CSPI benefits include:

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Visit GoCoastGuard.com/CSPIScholarship to learn more.
Panthers scrape by with win against Barry University in exhibition game

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FIU women’s basketball narrowly escaped a loss as the Panthers beat Barry 60-57 on Friday, Nov. 7. The season’s last exhibition game proved to be a nail-biter with the game coming down to the final seconds.

There, the game was decided by some critical free throws from a few clutch players.

The Panthers, led by junior guard Taylor Shade, came out firing in the first half. A 14-4 run appeared to have given the team some breathing room, until Barry came fighting back just before half time.

The tide had begun to turn in the Buccaneer’s favor as Barry hit consecutive three pointers fueled by several solid defensive plays.

Despite an impressive defensive performance from Barry, who held the Panthers to a field goal percentage of 31.4 percent, FIU managed to keep control of the game and the lead, ending the half with a score of 26-23.

In the third quarter, Barry continued right from where they left off before going into the half. This time, however, they succeeded in taking the lead from FIU, after a progressive start where they knocked down three consecutive field goals.

This dominating pattern continued throughout a large portion of the second half.

Still, the Panthers fought back, creating second chance opportunities from 20 total offensive rebounds and even more scoring opportunities by forcing 15 Buccaneer turnovers in the game.

Eventually FIU overcame the nine-point deficit in the fourth quarter and tied the game at 57-57.

And at the end of the game, they put themselves in a good enough position to just sneak by Barry with the help of some critical last second free throws from junior guard Destini Feagin, senior guard/forward Zsofia Labady, and senior forward Tynia McKinzie to ensure a victory for the Panthers.

McKinzie led the way with 25 points, 12 rebounds, and 2 steals, while senior forward center Marita Davydova recorded 18 rebounds.

Both women played an important role in Friday night’s victory by setting the tone on the offensive and defensive sides of the ball thanks to their efficient rebounding effort.

FIU finished with 46 total rebounds and 18 second chance points coming from their 20 offensive rebounds.

Feagin, Labady, and sophomore guard Nikola Todorovic also impacted the game with their scoring. Labady and Todorovic both finished with eight points, while Feagin finished with nine.

Shade finished with four assists and two steals. Shade and McKinzie contributed to the defense with their respective steals, adding to the 15 recorded turnovers.

The 16 points that came from these turnovers, along with 18 second chance points, may have been the difference between a win and a loss in such a tight game.

The Panthers will be returning to the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Friday, Nov. 14, at 5:30 p.m. to host Tennessee Tech in their first regular-season game.
**Wrestling becomes active after two year hiatus**

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Ten FIU students have set a high goal for this winter season: to revive the once forgotten FIU wrestling team. Not only to revive it, but to bring victories home as well.

FIU wrestling has been inactive for two consecutive years. Max Dalcy, a senior mechanical engineering major, has found the time to take part in this fresh team of wrestlers. Although practices are held late nights at the gym, he has found it rewarding to come back to the mat.

“I think we’ll do really well, we’re willing to wrestle come to practice and put in the effort,” said Dalcy.

The team is made up of a group of men who want to work hard and dedicate their time not only keeping the team active, but to competing at a collegiate level, and very possibly winning championships.

There have been a few freshmen who have become involved with the team, continuing their experience from being on their high school teams. Business management major Joshua Baron serves as a great example, and someone who has quickly gained leadership skills on the team.

Baron was forced to decline his scholarship to Oklahoma and came to FIU as a second choice. However, he did not want to exclude wrestling from his life after working for two years on the Miami Killian Senior High School team. “I started looking for options, I saw FIU had a team and I became determined to work on it,” said Baron.

“When you ask about FIU wrestling people answer, ‘Who?’ They don’t know there was a wrestling team. We’re taken lightly. Our biggest weakness is actually getting enough momentum to keep this thing going. We have to show them we’re about it, we’re in this,” said Baron.

Although FIU wrestling is not the most popular sport at FIU, they do have experienced wrestlers working towards the same goal, whether it is practicing past 11 p.m. or sacrificing weekends for tournaments.

“Everyone is pretty experienced, they started in mid October and ends late February. However, their season goes all year because they compete in various USA tournaments. They will kick off their season at a University of Central Florida tournament Saturday, Nov. 15, where FIU will meet Florida Gulf Coast, University of South Florida and UCF at the mat.
Humans evolve in communities, not separated from everyone. That is why it is important to have friends and finding the “right” friends is a skill college students can develop while in school.

I like to be around people I can relate to. I try to surround myself with people who share hobbies and other interests with me. This ranges from recreational activities to more creative avenues like music.

The places where I have met most of my friends varies. However, what they all have in common is that at these places and events, I met a pool of people with which I shared at least one interest.

I have not made friends where alcohol is the prime focus, such as clubs or bars – they’re not my kind of crowd because I don’t share the joy of drinking with those people.

At football games and other University events organized by different clubs – such as journalism clubs, environmental clubs, music clubs, etc. – I was able to mingle with different crowds with whom I shared one or many interests.

The time you spend in college is one of the best times to form friendships. You’re able to meet peers with interests similar to yours, and can even share similar struggles.

In college, students graduate at different times, the friends we make in our first semester might be there for several years or just a few months.

My advice is to explore different events and find out what you like best. When you know what you like, you will know what people you want to surround yourself with.

The people you share many interests in college with might become friends for life.