Creole course highlights Haitian culture

BRITANY BARTLETT-PINA
Contributing Writer

FIU’s Latin American and Caribbean Center has experienced a notable increase in student enrollment for its six-week course program, the Haitian Summer Institute.

Since its inception in 1997, the program was designed for people interested in learning Haitian Creole as well as further development in Haitian cultural understanding. Any student interested in learning Haitian Creole as a second language is eligible to enroll in the intensive six-week course program, the Haitian Summer Institute.

Professor Jacques Pierre, a native of Haiti, has been working with the institute since 2005. Pierre has a Master’s degree in translation studies and has been teaching Haitian Creole for ten years. He believes the program’s purpose is to give people a chance to know Haiti in a better way.

“People tend to view Haiti in a negative way and this is a way to learn what it is really about; to shed light on the positive aspects of the culture,” said Pierre.

HSI has grown in class size since it began 13 years ago and unlike the gradual increases witnessed in most years, the difference from 2009 to 2010 was a change from 16 students to 23 students. While Pierre believes that this year’s increase has been affected somewhat by the attention Haiti has received since being hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on Jan 12, he does not have the data to back those claims.

The program, which also incorporates guest lectures, had initially been divided into two segments in which the first three weeks were language acquisition while the following three weeks were based on field research in Haiti. However, due to recent study abroad adjustments, the program is now conducted entirely at FIU with options in dividing the course into Accelerated Beginner’s Haitian Creole followed by Accelerated Intermediate.

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Jacques Pierre, Professor
Latin American and Caribbean Center

HSI, page 2

FIU to hire more advisers as enrollment rates increase

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

Despite tuition increases and budget cuts, FIU will hire about 100 new faculty members, with one-third being incremental hires and two-thirds replacements.

Increasing enrollment along with pursuing research initiatives within the University brings the need for new faculty while replacement hires are the result of retirements and resignations, according to University Provost and Executive Vice President Douglas Wartzok.

“We’ve hired or will hire about 106 new faculty members and I don’t think you can find any university outside of Florida that is doing that this year, or the next,” said University President Mark Rosenberg during a Budget Forum at the Modesto Maidique Campus on June 2.

Among the faculty growing during the coming semesters are academic advisers. The advising staff began its increases last year with nine new advisers. Ten more will be hired this year, with 12 more being planned for next year.

“The University has placed a greater emphasis on advising over the last couple of years as the administration has looked for ways to improve the success and retention of our students,” said Charles Andrews, director of the Academic Advising Center for Undergraduate Studies. “The Academic Advising Center has focused on adding more advisers and standardizing our training efforts.”

This is the first time that they will be having this type of staff increase, as the department usually only hires one adviser at a time over several years.

“The original plan was to have all of the additional advising staff in place by next summer,” said Andrews. “The recent decision to continue increasing our enrollment means that we will continue to add more advisers each year over the next few years.”

The additional advisers “were deemed critical to achieve a workable ratio of students to advisers,” according to Andrews. The appropriate ratio of students to advisers is 300-to-1. According to the National Academic Advising Association. Prior to the new hires, the ratio at FIU was 800-to-1, though by next year it should decrease to a little less than 300-to-1.

With the introduction of new faculty also comes new job titles. A number of recently hired advisers are now called Bridge Advisers. These advisers initially report to the central advising center but are now called Bridge Advisers. These advisers initially report to the central advising center but are now called Bridge Advisers. These advisers initially report to the central advising center but are now called Bridge Advisers. These advisers initially report to the central advising center but are now called Bridge Advisers. These advisers initially report to the central advising center but are now called Bridge Advisers.

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Advising staff increases to better serve students

The growth of the AAC will also allow advising staff to become more available to better serve students. New students will receive more outreach from their advisers to check on how things are going,” Andrews said.

College of Business now offering Healthcare MBA

The Healthcare Master of Business Administration at FIU’s College of Business Administration has not held its first session yet it is already contributing to FIU’s global learning initiative through collaborations with Southern Medical University, one of the top medical universities in China, located in Guangzhou.

The partnership resulted from a coincidental conversation between an FIU Business faculty member, Weidong Xia and a former colleague of his at SMU, an associate dean of the School of Humanities and Management at SMU.

“It just happened that she was looking for opportunities in overseas collaboration,” said her we just started a new HCMBMA program and the opportunity to develop a strategic partnership occurred,” said Xia.

The HCMBMA program begins this fall and sessions will be held at FIU’s downtown campus every Saturday over a period of 20 months. Around 30 Chinese students will be arriving at FIU in fall 2010 to complete the second year of their studies. Most of these students are sixth year medical students, who have already received their medical degrees. In China, students will take four classes at SMU during their first year and then they will finish the remaining 30 credits in the MBA program at FIU in order to receive an HCMBMA degree from FIU.

Aside from an internationally diverse classroom, FIU HCMBMA students will have the opportunity to travel to China to complete their Master Project by doing research and working at Chinese health care facilities for three months.

“They’ll be able to see how large health care systems operate. Some hospitals in China have around 10,000 beds, what their problems are and bring our knowledge to the table. Ultimately, a higher sense of sensitivity to cultural differences will be an invaluable lesson to all the students,” said Dr. Nancy Borkowski, director of the Healthcare Management Programs in the Chapman Graduate School of Business.

SMU students will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge and learn about the FIU College of Medicine’s distinctive curriculum consisting of teams that adopt communities and engage with local health care professionals in hospitals, long-term care facilities, outpatient facilities and even local health care programs. Through the “Fundamentals of the U.S. Health Systems” class, students gain real-world experience in their field throughout the entire program as opposed to waiting until their final year.

By facilitating the earning of two complementary degrees in two different locations, FIU is aiming to remain a world leader in international business education.

“It fits FIU’s new strategic directions very well, we want to become global and just adds to what we’ve already doing to make it even better by increasing visibility in China and in turn increasing revenue for FIU at home,” said Xia.

Borkowski travelled to SMU with Xia for a kick-off event officially announcing the agreement. SMU administrators will visit FIU this fall.

“It makes perfect [sense] for FIU to collaborate with a Chinese university because it’s being said that China is the growing economy that’s going to take over,” says Monica Ruiz, a Public Relations Senior who participated in a semester study abroad hospitality program at FIU’s China campus in Tianjin.

“The rest of the world has been investing time and money into learning the American way and now it’s time we invest in learning their ways because the language of business is changing and China is at the forefront of that, so it’s a good move,” Jose Coloma, an International Business and Economics senior.

Summer Haitian Creole program gains popularity

In order to be an effective advocate for the community, an understanding of Haitian Creole is necessary,” said Sirpal. This emphasis on Haitian culture can be seen throughout the FIU community. During the Fall ’09 semester, FIU hosted an event entitled “International Creole Day” which showcased Haitian foods and films.

The institute’s emphasis on Haitian culture has given students like Ginette Clarke an opportunity to learn more about their own backgrounds. Clarke, more commonly known as Gigi, is visiting from Canada while attending the summer program to better her French skills for communicating with her family in Haiti.

Having been adopted at age 4, Clarke, who recently found her biological family, had not grown up accustomed to Haitian Creole.

After yearning for a better connection with her family, whose English language capabilities are limited, Clarke decided to enroll in the program.

“I felt like I lived in two worlds [Canada and Haiti],” HSI was the beginning of bridging that gap,” Clarke said.
INFUSION OF STARS SETTLE IN Miami Heat coup will impact neighboring teams

In this case, there's a lot of it in the backyard of the biggest media circus in the world. People's minds are still tingling with optimism or realism as they try to evaluate the team's potential for a dynasty.

Soon, it will begin to immerse itself on the South Florida sports landscape too. The media phenomenon the Heat is will heavily affect the region, whether it completely overshadows its neighbor teams or helps them by shining a light on the city, which is known for its event atmosphere and bandwagon fans.

The Miami Heat can potentially have an octopus effect on South Florida. It can touch everything. It can bring publicity, attention and expectations. For its fellow professional teams, it can provide intangible such as motivation and competition to achieve the same thing. As far as its college teams, it could be a background attraction for recruits, and raise the profile of the area as a sports town with the countries eyes and raise the profile of the area as a far as its college teams, it could be a bles such as motivation and competition that help them by shining a light on the city.

The Heat's new monstrous limbs could touch the University as well. "What they did by signing those guys could possibly make Miami the sports town it hasn't been," said former FIU baseball player Kris Garcia. "The majority of schools and recruits look for somewhere to play where they know people will be paying attention. In this case, there's a lot of it in Miami."

A POTENTIAL PLUS

Garcia, a former infielder for the Golden Panthers in 2008, said that he would enjoy the opportunity to be around the glitz of the Heat, because it could enhance his exposure. "That puts them in the spotlight being an athlete in the same city as these guys [in Miami]," Garcia said. "Every athlete wants positive attention to their sport."

Former Golden Panthers quarterback Paul McCall thinks there are some parallels there. "There is some truth to that because just like Garrett Wittels showed," McCall said, "if you do something special you will get a lot of attention because of the amount of media and publicity in Miami. As for recruiting, it makes Miami more attractive, but there are a lot more important factors to that as well."

The other factors should be accounted for. Unlike Wittels' unprecedented streak, the Miami Heat do not directly affect the University. But does that mean they cannot benefit? If the University wants to capitalize on the situation, they could attempt to create promotional events at FIU games, such as paying away tickets to Heat games in Golden Panther events. Or involving Heat stars Paul and former FIU alumus Carlos Arroyo to as many FIU sports events as possible, which they have already done.

They could also have game night watch parties at the Graham Center's new Chili's restaurant. The University partnered with the Heat last season to have pep rallies at school and send large groups of FIU students to Heat games, but that may be more difficult to accommodate for next season with a higher demand for tickets.

And that doesn't include the minor help in recruiting this unprecedented Heat team can give FIU. Golden Panthers coaches, especially in basketball, can always tell the athletes, "Do you want to play in the backcourt of the biggest media circus in sports?"

RECRUITING

How could it help lure recruits to the team, but the South Florida region may have more to offer now.
MIAMI HEAT

Elisa Carey to carry much of the responsibility of the team will consist of mostly returners.

2010 season. With only three newcomers, her 34th year as a coach for the University. Hoping she doesn't run out of time.

six losing seasons. The coach says she has over 600 games in her 33 years after a 14-16 season in 2009.

She's a great athlete, probably one of our best. She's going to be a big part of our mix this year," said Russo.

According to Russo, she feels that Rodgers has the ability of earning a starting position on the team but also goes on to say that nothing is guaranteed.

"I don't have anyone penciled in as one of my starters. Everyone ... has to come back every year and earn that position, but I am pretty sure that she will come back this season and earn that position. Let's just say that we want her to be there," said Russo.

In 10 games, Rodgers averaged 11.7 points and 3.4 rebounds. Although becoming a starter is important for most players, Rodgers is more concerned on being on the court for the last play of the game.

"I feel it's who starts the game, it's who finishes. Starting isn't important to me. The coaches have had me in the game during critical times and gave me great responsibility," said Rodgers. "I'm not working to be a starter, I'm working for us to be winners."

FIU women's basketball coach Cindy Russo [center] is looking forward to having a healthy group of players next season and hopes to make a return to the NCAA Tournament.

Plagued by injuries the past few seasons, the FIU women's basketball players are hoping they will have a chance to compete in a city surrounded by sports glamour and success.

Freshman basketball player Dominique Ferguson believes that the city factors in depending on a player's personality.

"Just because it's Miami, and you don't want to be somewhere you'll easily get in trouble."

That doesn't mean Ferguson ignores the positives it could bring though: "It's a big plus that will hopefully draw a lot more attention and hopefully more fans to the city to watch games."

OPPOSITE REACTION!

With every fan that the Heat have to the American Airlines Arena, every team that plays on the same night the Heat do could be drowned in all the Heat's interest.

"My whole career is built on fuel," Wade says. "Every competitor needs something to fuel their fire."

"It's a respect factor."

Wade said. "It's a respect factor."

After an offseason with little time to relax, Wade got back to doing what he prefers Sunday — playing basketball. With a dozen NBA pals, Wade entertained a crowd of thousands at a charity game in the Miami Marine Stadium Park.

"I'm Too Drunk..."

Common, the Grammy-winning rapper, was on one bench and boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. on the other.

"Gamma Phi Gamma"

"White Chicks 1-3-0 -15 .250"

"Buncha Guys 0-4-0 -62 .000"

"I'm Too Drunk..."

"Dawson Boys Sunday Gay"

"Choir Pan 0-4-0 -69 .000"

"Who Dat 0-4-0 -17 .000"

"PD*: Point Differential"

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FISTFULLS OF TECH!

It's not your iPhone 4, it's me. I need to try new things.

I am sitting here writing my column, staring at my iPhone 4. I'm a little sad.
This sadness though isn't because of what you think. My iPhone 4 has actually been pretty good in the reception department. My attempts to "death grip" the iPhone 4's reception to hell have been unsuccessful for the most part.
Sitting in my office here at The Beacon, my desk at my other job, my home; I can get it to drop, but never below two bars. Again though, this is not why I'm sad.
I am sad because in my mind, the iPhone and iOS 4.0 for the most are starting to get a tad bit predictable.
Let's go ahead and assume for a moment that the iPhone 4 is absolutely flawless, no reception problem, no proximity sensor problems, just perfect.

One dollar for an application here, three dollars for a game there; after a while it adds up to a lot.
In the three years I have used an iPhone, I have spent over $100 in apps and ringtones.

The average iPhone user has no idea how much money they have dished out to developers and Apple while they’ve tapped away at their iPhones.

Don’t for a second think that this was an easy decision for me or anyone making a switch from an iPhone.

The problem with leaving the iPhone, much like leaving the Corleone family, is that once you are out they’ll find a way to pull you back in.

From leaving something you have used for three years, the sheer investment I have made in the platform alone sends chills down my bank account’s spine.

The problem with leaving the iPhone, much like leaving the Corleone family, is that once you are out they’ll find a way to pull you back in.

As my mouse hovered over the “buy now” button for the last time; no more iPhone for me.

That’s a lot. To start fresh on a new platform seems mad, but there is a method to this madness, which I’ll get to in a second.

Christopher Nolan, director of The Dark Knight and Memento, has solidified himself as one of the premiere storytellers of his generation with Inception.

Inception is the best movie of the year so far. It takes you inside the world of dreams unlike any movies you have seen before. Leonardo DiCaprio’s performance, Nolan’s direction and the film’s special effects all deserve Oscar nominations.

Dom Cobb (DiCaprio) is a professional thief whose job is to steal ideas by breaking in to people’s dreams. This rare ability has made him a must-hire in the seedy world of corporate espionage, but it’s caused him to become a fugitive preventing him from seeing his family.

Cobb’s new client, Mr. Saito (Ken Watanabe), offers him one last job and with their performances to tell the tale of a doomed love story.
Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Ellen Page are great in their respective roles, but Tom Hardy really brings humor to the tension-filled and serious film.

Inception employs several fascinating special effects that include Gordon-Levitt walking on walls and ceilings while fighting a bad guy, DiCaprio and Page having a calm conversation with explosions going off around them and the city of Paris folding in on itself.

Inception hit theaters nationwide July 16.
CONGRATULATIONS

TO FIU’S GARRETT WITTELS

All-American infielder, A Record-Breaking Season, 56-Game Hitting Streak, Sun Belt Player of the Year, Member of the 2010 Sun Belt Championship Team, 2010 ESPY Nominee for Best Male College Athlete

FIU is proud to celebrate Garrett Wittels, a Worlds Ahead student-athlete who finished the 2010 season with the second-longest hitting streak in Division I history and earned a place among college baseball’s greatest players.
In our July 14 editorial, The Beacon discussed the referendum that passed on June 30 which approved the consideration of the Student Green Energy Fund by the Board of Trustees. If approved, students will pay an extra 25 cents to a dollar per credit hour to support this effort, which could potentially generate $500,000.

We briefly mentioned that this fund is one that should not be the responsibility of the students. However, it is the responsibility of the students to voice their opinions as to how the green fund should be spent.

We do so every time an important issue or bill comes before Congress or the Senate and we are oblivious. We accept our students’ right to be informed through both their ignorance and lack of action that we tacitly accept the fragmented government we currently have.

Action without knowledge can do more harm than good. Many political parties are guilty of this. The Tea Party, a spin-off of the Republican party, for all its vigor has shown repeatedly that many of its members are ignorant on matters they complain about.

During one interview held at a Tea Party rally, a woman complained about President Obama having cars, and said that we are not a country. When asked if she knew what a car does in the U.S., she admitted she did not. When told that Republican President Reagan had a car, the drug czar, she admitted she didn’t know this.

Democracy only works if we have an informed and responsible public. This requires sacrifice because it takes time and energy and many of us lead busy lives. However, its hard to fathom that most people can’t spare a little time each day to be informed.

For some, time isn’t the primary factor. They say they don’t like politics. They are discouraged by how inept, slow, and corrupt some officials have been. But this is all in part to our failing to be responsible citizens.

Without an informed and energized public to hold officials accountable, our government will be a pale imitation of democracy.

When some do get involved in politics, many rally around talking points and rhetoric. Instead, we ought to demand officials to have substance when they speak about issues and bills. They need to do so in ways that most people can understand.

The Health Care Reform Bill that passed earlier this year, and now The Wall Street reform bill that passed on Thursday, July 15th, are complicated and hard to follow. Yet, politicians failed to explain either one.

While we shouldn’t look to politicians to tell us what the truth is, if citizens do their due diligence, then they can compare what they’ve learned with what their representatives are saying.

We are at fault when we elect politicians solely because of their party affiliation and when we respond to their appeals to our emotions. We are at fault when we don’t vote at the polls and when we don’t write to our representatives. We are at fault when we leave politicians to their own devices, free of the public’s leash.

A politician is going to work towards his or her own self-interest, therefore we must arm ourselves with knowledge and make our wants his or her chief concern.

I understand many of us lead busy lives. However, through the decisions of politicians our freedoms waver or thrive and our wallets burst at the seams or slowly deflate.

As long as we are satisfied with soaring rhetoric, sound bites, and minimally responsive officials we will have a government that doesn’t serve in our best interests. Instead, it will serve our shallow expectations.

We deserve the government we get

Christopher Diaz
Opinion Editor

Politicians pull strings and we dance. We curse them, yet we allow ourselves to be puppetized.

Without an informed and energized public to hold officials accountable, our government will be a pale imitation of democracy.

Freshmen groups limit, stifle growth

BRANDON THOMPSON
Contributing Writer

Florida International University’s First-Year Interest Groups are not the way to go when entering college as a freshman, unless it would have been their way to hold on during their first semester and be given an inordinate amount of work in which your options are limited.

Beginning in 1999, FIU found a way for incoming freshmen to branch out, make new friends, and make their first experience in college a little easier with First-Year Interest Groups or FIGs for short.

In a FIG students are selected as the same number of classes, depending on semester, with twenty-four other students.

The University encourages all incoming freshmen to participate in a FIG to make the transition from high school to college easier and to streamline the registration process so they can just throw students into a group and be done with it.

In regards to what seems like the picture-perfect program for freshmen is the number of FIGs that are offered to students here on campus. In college they tell you that you get to pick your own schedule, and that you get to choose the classes you want.

If a freshman registers in a FIG, all of those choices are thrown out of the window, because the classes you may have chosen in the fall may not be an option.

Furthermore, when registering for a FIG your choices are limited especially if you are leaving high school with AP or Dual Enrollment credits.

Even though it is a summer term, there should be more course options available for freshmen. Being stuck with two liberal arts classes and a First-Year Experience course is no fun at all for students such as myself.

Personally, I think taking two liberal arts classes is pointless at this time because I will satisfy my liberal arts credit requirement and then receive elective credits for the other class that I did not want to take in the first place.

Another advantage that FIGs are supposed to be is communication amongst your professors. This is supposed to help your various professors understand your schedule and make sure that tests or assignments are never overdue on the same day.

Two of my professors did not even know my class was in a FIG until we told them. This discredited the guarantee that all of our professors talk with each other.

Although FIGs try to provide freshmen with an easier transition from college to college, they are supposed to be about doing everything you can yourself.

Isn’t college about trying new things and being independent? Enrolling in a FIG shelters freshman from going out and experiencing FIU for themselves.

When freshmen partici- pate in a FIG, they won’t be exposed to other classmates in classes that are not in a FIG, in college, they may have college experi- ences in which they may be able to learn something new.

Students may not be able to take that one class that they knew they wanted to take when these freshmen got to college.

First-Year Interest Groups shelter freshmen from expe- riencing college classes on their own and from taking the classes that they would like to take.

Ultimately, FIGs are a waste of energy and time. They shelter freshmen when freshman should be allowed to experience what college has to offer.
HOSPITALITY

Millions reinvested into school

JACQUES ROZIER Contributing Writer

When the Florida Wine Extravaganza debuted on a Sunday afternoon in 1997, it lasted a few hours at the Koveos Convention Center and raised $23,000.

In July, the name is now South Beach Wine and Food Festival, it lasts four days and the 2010 festival raised over $2 million.

In the earlier years of the festival, the school raised $1 million for the event. Around $800,000 ensures the event is ongoing. However, according to Mohammad A. Qureshi, assistant dean of facilities and administration for the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM), most of the money is used for scholarships and school renovations - almost $1.6 million in scholarships to University students, to date, including over $400,000 from this year.

The remainder of the money that is not reinvested to the event or given to financial aid has been set aside for improvements to the facilities of HTM:

“We want the building to reflect the quality level of the school and the quality level of Southern Wine and Spirits as well,” said Joan Remington, interim dean of HTM. The school is currently waiting on a Cortelis match approval [please explain what a cortelis match is] from the state for their funding. Even with the out, they have just passed $500,000 saved.

The money will be used to build a 150-seat restaurant at BBC. The school is also renovating and expanding the Advanced Food Production Lab, which will include replacing and upgrading all equipment.

The Southern Wine & Spirits Beverage Management Center will also benefit from the funds. For their beverage management classes, they will build a new, full service bar. They also plan to build a barista station, allowing them to incorporate coffee and tea to the classes.

In addition to these two projects is a new medical equipment scam in which doctors, clinic owners, patients and drug companies have morphed from the typical Medicare fraud as more lucrative than dealing drugs and having less severe penalties.

Now, officials say, Medicare fraud is being dealt with as a crime, and not to return to the Solstice Wellness Center, scene of an alleged $2.8 million scam.

Authorities called Mushkins- kaya one of the clinic’s “serial beneficaries,” with phony bills totaling $141,161 paid by Medicare.

In Miami, Daniel R. Levinson, inspector general of HHS, which oversees Medicare, said the arrests indicate “a wholesale health care fraud schemes can replicate virulently and migrate rapidly across communities.”

Cleaning up Medicare fraud will be key to paying for President Barack Obama’s proposed health care over- haul. Federal officials have allo- cated more money and manpower to fight fraud, setting up strike forces in seven cities with a plan to expand to a dozen more. So far, the operations are responsible for more than 720 indictments that collectively billed the Medicare program more than $1.6 billion.

Around the country, the schemes have morphed, from “large mone- yed by a man who did nothing but pay patients all day, authorities said.

At the same time, authorities were aware a crime was being performed on the building.

Hospitals such as Miami’s Baptist Medical Center, which has a large number of Russian patients, are also tapping into the scams, seeing Medicare fraud as more lucrative than selling drugs or using less severe judicial methods.

Medicare fraud as more lucrative than dealing drugs and having less severe criminal penalties, officials said.

For decades, Medicare operated under a system that paid providers first and then - a system that very often was paid for by Medicare and funded to Cuba, where authorities believe they remain.

A new joint effort by HHS and the Department of Justice enables law enforcement to view Medicare claims in real time and flag suspicious patterns. More stringent screening methods, including more comprehen- sive background checks, have also been put in place. The agency gets roughly 18,000 applications daily to become a Medicare provider. Now they can put a moratorium on new applicants in certain areas, like physical therapy, if they departments are aware a crime had been committed.

Sebelius toured vacant store- fronts in Miami on Friday where Medicare fraudsters set up shop, including bogus clinics operated by Cuban immigrants Carlos, Luis and Jose Benitez. The brokers are the agency’s most-wanted fugitives, charged with bilking $119 million for costly HIV drugs that patients never received — and buying hotels, heli- copters, boats and even a water park that would sell Cuba.

“Someone can come and give $10 million, but this is consistent, involves students, allows networking; that’s what makes this one unique,” Qureshi said.

The festival is a vision of executive director and founder Leesh Rager, who is also the vice president of communication for Southern Wine and Spirits.

The partnership pairs the knowledge of HTM with the capability of Southern Wine & Spirits. According to Remington, the purpose of the festival is basically community service, which is a focus of the University. Thanks to collabor- ation between HTM and Southern Wine and Spirits, this event reflects the quality education of students in HTM.

Students are provided with opportunities to network and gain experience at the side of top name chefs from all over. This event also leads to job applications and references. In the end, the school gets the proceeds, but it also serves as a learning venue for over 900 students from various majors across the University.

"It is a win-win situation for the community and for the school," said Remington.

KEUL KENNEDY TOM HAYS Associated Press

Elderly Russian immigrants lined up to take kickbacks from the back- room of a Brooklyn clinic. Claims flooded in from Miami for HIV treatments that never occurred. One professional patient was named in nearly 4,000 false Medicare claims.

Authorities said busts carried out this week in Miami, New York City, Detroit, Houston and Baton Rouge, La., were the largest Medicare fraud takedown in history — part of a $251 million crackdown.

In all, 94 people — including several doctors and nurses — were charged Friday in scams totaling $251 million. Federal authorities, while touting the operation, cautioned that patients never received.

“For the first time federal offi- cials have the power to overhaul the system under Obama’s Affordable Care Act, which gives them authority to step paying a provider they suspect is fraudulent. Critics have complained the current process did nothing more than rubber-stamp payments to fraud- ulent providers.

“That world is coming to an end,” Health and Human Services Secret- ary Kathleen Sebelius told The Associated Press after speaking at a health care fraud prevention summit in Miami. “We’ve got new ways to go after folks that we’ve never had before.”

Officials said they chose Miami because it is ground zero for Medi- care fraud, generating roughly $3 billion a year. Authorities indicted 33 suspects in the Miami area, accused of charging Medicare for about $140 million in various scams.

Suspects across the country have been set aside for improvements to the facilities.

For these cases represent only a fraction of the estimated $60 billion to $90 billion in Medicare fraud absorbed by taxpayers each year.

For the first time federal offi- cials have the power to overhaul the system under Obama’s Affordable Care Act, which gives them authority to step paying a provider they suspect is fraudulent. Critics have complained the current process did nothing more than rubber-stamp payments to fraud- ulent providers.

“Of course there are companies that keep getting away with it and deter them nothing, but somehow, they remain. It is a win-win situation for the community and for the school,” said Remington.

94 charged in Medicare scams totaling $251 million