Study abroad programs more popular than ever

According to a recent poll by the Institute of International Education, studying abroad has increased by 8.5%, becoming a popular rite of passage for many college students. The increase reflects data comparisons from the 2007-2008 academic year, and suggests similar numbers in the coming years when the extensive financial opportunities and overall reward of study abroad. FIU has seen similar increases. According to a recent poll by the Institute of International Education, the number of students participating in study abroad programs has increased by 8.5%.

The Office of Education Abroad offers international student exchange programs as well as the shorter length University-sponsored programs in order to encourage locals to expand and get new experiences. “We see that especially in Miami, many students haven’t gotten out of the area; when they do international student exchange they become more self-reliant and confident. They become more aware of other cultures,” said Office of Study Abroad Coordinator, Laura Marks. Despite the rise of less traditional locations, such as China, India, Japan, South Africa and Argentina, Americans visiting as part of a study abroad program, China, Japan and South Africa all saw an increase of 15% or more. “More students are eager to study in newly popular study abroad destinations such as China, India, and the Middle East. The language and cultural skills they acquire along with their academic experience will have a profound effect on their lives and careers,” said Allan E. Goodman, president and CEO of the IIE in a press release.

FIU has seen similar increases. With a sum of over 500 students, FIU continues to influence students to pursue international student exchange as well as the shorter length University-sponsored programs to expand and get new experiences. “We're experimenting with that this year, and for the first time ever to the Biscayne Bay Campus, after two successful semesters this previous academic year which had over 600 students, faculty and staff members in attendance,” said Debra J. Sheridan, assistant for the office of Global Learning Initiatives. "We had over 600 students, faculty and staff members ready to go at MMC," said Stephanie Doscher, director of the office of Global Learning Initiatives. “We built such excitement that within weeks of putting out the invitation for faculty to moderate, we had a full slate.”

The excitement is part of the reason why the Tuesday Times Roundtables are expanding to the Biscayne Bay Campus, as part of a co-sponsorship with SGC-BBC, according to Doscher. Both the MMC and BBC roundtables will be happening on the same days and times. “We’re experimenting with that this year, and if it doesn’t work this year we’ll change it,” said Doscher.

According to Maria Cedeño, graduate assistant for the office of Global Learning Initiatives, the BBC roundtable series is sponsored by Office of Global Learning Initiatives, The New York Times, and the BBC Student Government Association. The roundtables are moderated by faculty members who encourage those in attendance to engage in open multi-perspective discussions on a variety of topics that deal with global issues, events and trends. Topics from some of the past 17 Tuesday Times Roundtables include: alternative energy, the justification for war, the depiction of religion in movies and immigration in the United States.

The roundtables are part of the University’s Quality Enhancement Plan, “Global Learning for Global Citizenship” and are open to all students and faculty members. A free lunch is also provided to those in attendance.

“We have all the topics and all the faculty members ready to go at MMC,” said Stephanie Doscher, associate director of the office of Global Learning Initiatives. “We built such excitement that within weeks of putting out the invitation for faculty to moderate, we had a full slate.”

The Tuesday Times Roundtable will be returning to the modest Madisidique Campus and for the first time ever to the Biscayne Bay Campus, after two successful semesters this previous academic year which had over 600 students, faculty and staff members in attendance. TTR, a series of weekly discussions held every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. is based off articles from The New York Times and is sponsored by the Office of Global Learning Initiatives, The New York Times and the Student Government Association.

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Head of controversial Cuban radio and TV station resigns

Radio/TV Martí director Pedro Roig resigned Friday after more than seven years at the head of the often controversial U.S. government station that broadcasts to Cuba according to The Miami Herald. Roig wrote to his supervisors, “I hereby submit my resignation from the position of Director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting, effective Sept. 1, 2010 or at the Board’s timely convenience.” The letter was provided to El Nuevo Herald by Jorge de Cardenas, a public relations man and friend of Roig. According to The Miami Herald, other knowledgeable sources confirmed the resignation. The U.S. government’s Board of Broadcasting Governors, which supervises the Office of Cuba Broadcasting, was expected to announce Roig’s resignation to the Radio/TV Martí staff Friday afternoon and then later to the public.

-Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

Study abroad programs help GPAs

American imprisoned in North Korea returns to U.S.

Former President Jimmy Carter assisted in the release of an American held captive for seven months in North Korea according to MSNBC. Aijalon Gomes, looking thin but joyful, was greeted and hugged by Carter, who had flown to Pyongyang to negotiate his freedom, in his hometown Friday along with his family and friends. Gomes, who had been teaching English in South Korea, was imprisoned and sentenced to eight years’ hard labor for crossing into the North from China on Jan. 25 for unknown reasons. After it was reported last month that Gomes had attempted suicide, leading his family to ask Carter if the former president came to get him. The Miami Herald

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Three new associate justices confirmed at SGA hearing

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association began the school year this past Monday with its first Student Government Council meeting.

A vote was called right away and the most important part of the meeting was broadcast in the stage: the confirmation of three new associate Justices. Associate Justices are vital to the Student Government Council. Before a candidate for Associate Justice can be confirmed, he/she is given a chance to speak in front of the Graduate Senators and is then questioned by the Senators themselves.

SGA approved its new Constitution with a vote of 201 to 46 and 49 abstained votes, which now requires that all Associate Justices sit on the bench for two years with consistency and continuity.

The first Associate Justice elected was Michael Foley, a member of both Pi Sigma Alpha and the National Political Science Honor Society. Foley was elected with a vote of 13 to 8.

Next to stand in front of the Council was Erica Estevez, a sophomore double majoring in Political Science and Criminal Justice. Erica received the Academic Excellence Scholarship in 2009, as well as a Presidential Education Award in 2009. She became an Associate Justice with a unanimous vote from the Senators.

Finally, Associate Justice Jessica Medina was brought to the stage and confirmed by the Senators. Jessica is a 4L student at the College of Law and also served as an Executive Paralegal in a law firm.

“I am very confident in the new Associate Justices and their analytical skills,” Chris Cabrals, senator of the College of Arts and Sciences, said.

SGA’s judicial branch has many responsibilities that the Chief and Associate Justices must adhere to. The justices must hear grievances, which can include any charges against any SGA official, group of officials, or body of government.

The Judicial branch is also in charge of overseeing petitions for legal review, which are requests for the evaluation of SGA laws to determine the constitutionality and consistency of other SGA laws. The justices must also oversee appeals from the election board or any of the governing councils.

Health education program to aid 36,000 households

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Second year medical students will get first-hand experience in working with biological and social issues of Miami-Dade communities beginning Sept. 1.

The Green Family Neighborhood Health Education Program (Neighborhood HELP) is a University-wide program aiming to educate households in all health-related needs they may have. Every medical student enrolled must participate in the 3-year program, taking preparatory classes in their first year.

“We hope that participants will have an increased understanding of their own medical condition and how to appropriately assess the healthcare system,” said Luther Brewster, assistant professor of Humanities, Health and Society, in an e-mail interview.

Students are divided into four “Panther Communities” which represent different areas of Miami, these being North Miami-Dade, Miami Gardens, Opa-Locka and a section of Unincorporated Miami; a total of about 36,000 households.

“I initially thought we would be doing normal stuff— but it’s come to incorporate a lot more than that,” said Trine Engebretsen, a second year medical student.

Juan Lozano, professor in the Division of Research, Data and Information at HWCOM supported Engebretsen by stating the goal that students will “learn things not experienced in class” and “have a broader perspective of health.”

“The areas were chosen based on a survey conducted by the Howard Wenthem College of Medicine on Aug. 18, discerning the health problems in lower-income neighborhoods.”

“One interesting thing [about the survey] is the response rate (over 70 percent) which suggests that the community was very willing to provide their information,” said Lozano, “We are still in the process of analyzing the final data.”

All of the households involved were referred by a community-based organization like church, school, or clinic and went through a screening process to confirm a medical condition in the home and ensure the safety of the students participating. This was conducted by asking a series of questions and signing a document to confirm accurate information.

“There is minimal health risk as the students will not be performing medical procedures in the homes,” Brewster said.

“We wanted to work with these communities based on knowledge, not assumptions,” said Associate Professor of Human and Molecular Genetics Juan Acuña.

Acuña explained that the program was intended to study infant mortality rates. The program is part of a series of Medicine and Society courses culminating in “Community, Cultures and Health”—the hands-on course when the students begin working with the households.

“We got a lot of background on what resources are available for the household by the health needs,” Engebretsen said.

“Our expectations are that students develop relationships with these households,” said Chief of Family Medicine and course director David Brown.

Each household is assigned three students; one nursing, one medical and one from social work, along with a faculty member. These students are expected to visit the same household once to twice a month until they graduate to address the health needs and educate the members of the home.

“We want to see communities with more residents empowered to address his or her own health and social needs,” Brewster said, “less reliance on the hospital emergency rooms.”

According to a July 2010 study conducted in California, the national average for emergency room visits is about four hours, half an hour less than California’s state average.

“We understand now that the social determinants have a huge impact,” Brown said.

In the three-year period students are not only expected to address medical problems but to also work with families at a biological-psycho-social level; not just treating the illness but also their overall health through managing social factors and education.

“FIU is trying to get us to focus on the patient long-term by educating them instead of simply prescribing,” said Engebretsen.

First roundtable on Aug. 31

ROUNDTABLE, page 1

I look Hispanic at all?” and “Social Media: Privacy vs. Community.” The first roundtable at MMC, titled “Are Africans Responsible for the Transatlantic Slave Trade?” will be held on Aug. 31 and moderated by Jean Muteba Rahier, associate professor of anthropology in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies.

The MMC roundtables will be held every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in GC 140, while the BBC roundtables will be held at the same time in the Wolfe University Center, room 159.
When Wesley Carroll made the decision to transfer to FIU in early 2009, it sent some serious shockwaves across the gulfstream and a lot of exciting optimism for the FIU faithful.

And why not? The Golden Panthers just snagged a quarterback that started in the toughest conference in the country and helped mark one of the biggest turnaround seasons in recent memory for the Mississippi State Bulldogs in 2007.

Prior to that, Carroll led a St. Thomas Aquinas team to three state 3A championship games along with current FIU running back Jeremiah Harden and caught the attention of a number of prominent programs before choosing to go to MSU.

The Golden Panthers had an impressive 30 shots. There was no question that Younger cannot be a valuable piece in the form of a recycled Plan A. But that is not the case with the edge.

With Carroll, the Golden Panthers have an opportunity for a fresh start and to inject some confidence with a quarterback who has bowl game experience and has proven to be a winner.

“Both of them are very confident players,” Thune said. “It seems like they just love the game of soccer and they get excited when they get to play.”

The final Golden Panther goal was scored by another freshman, Kim Lopez. The goal was scored on a short corner. Lopez received a pass high in the box, allowing her to dribble her way into the Hornet defense and finished with her left foot.

The Golden Panthers, who scored just one goal in their first three games of 2010 before the breakout.

“Both of them are very confident and have been impressive running the scout team and did perform fairly well during spring practice, where many got to see Carroll take the field in the blue and gold for the first time.”

Putting Carroll under center would usher in the change fans are looking for and with the kind of weapons around him, such as receiver Rosie Fortenberry and the type of running backs that many got to see Carroll take the field in the blue and gold for the first time.

With FIU going up against four BCS opponents to start the season, having Carroll in the huddle gives the team a young man who not only has been in those situations before, but has found ways to win in them; something FIU has never had the privilege of having.

Cristobal will mostly be hiding his decision until the week of the season opener against Rutgers, but he has already hinted that a front-runner has emerged in the race to be the third starting quarterback in the Cristobal era.

Many are already speculating that Carroll, who has been sharing first team duties with Younger throughout training camp, is the man for the job.

With the goal scored against Delaware State, the team also missed on a slew of opportunities. When asked how the team could be more clinical in finishing, Sorzano replied "Well just working on it in practice."

"We'll head Coach Thomas Chestnut was pleased with the team's overall effort in the win. "It's great. To get home and have all the fans out makes the win that much more special," Chestnut said. "The girls were pumped up about it and now we're at .500."

Chestnut played all six of the team’s freshman in the contest, allowing his new players to get their feet wet with game action. "You want to get people looking early in the season to see how they adjust to the college game," Chestnut said of emptying his bench in the blowout.

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FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Freshman White cleared

IGOR MELO
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers may be getting a big addition to their defensive line. But before he can contribute, he must get smaller.

Jordan White, a 6-foot, 350-pound giant, participated in Thursday’s practice for the first time this season. The freshman only had upper pads on and didn’t take part in full contact drills. He missed training camp due to academic issues.

White was originally recruited at 330 pounds. He will have to shed some weight if he wants to see any time on the field.

“We’re not holding up, we are making sure he loses a bunch of weight and becomes functional,” said head coach Mario Cristobal.

“A man that size has to lose a certain amount of weight and be able to move the weight that he has to be functional.”

Cristobal isn’t even ready to determine on White’s contribution to the team this season.

“He hasn’t even been in full gear yet. Until he is in full gear, we won’t be able to even predict that,” said Cristobal.

RUNNING BACK CAROUSEL

Cristobal would love to have one running back taking over a game, but he isn’t seeing that so far.

“We just need a couple of guys that can really rise up as home run hitters,” said Cristobal.

“You’d love a guy that for three quarters he can wear the defense down and can take it over in the fourth quarter.”

Although he would like to see one of his backs to become that “home run hitter,” Cristobal is still comfortable with five of his running backs to make a contribution. Robert Boswell, Jeremiah Harden, Darrian Mallary, Darriet Perry, and Kienandr Rhodes are the five expected to contribute.

“They add a dimension to the offense that we really haven’t had in a while,” said Cristobal.

Cristobal feels even comfortable with a big back like Brandon Bennett, who is listed at 205 pounds to contribute to the offense.

INJURY

Senior running back Trenard Turner did not participate in practice and could miss some time due to an injured shoulder.

“That shouldn’t be hurting him. We’re just waiting to see what the test shows,” said Cristobal.

A Said now, Turner’s status is unknown.

Kevin Van Kirk’s recovery timetable still has not been announced yet. What Cristobal does know though, is that it all depends on his rehab.

“It’s a matter of how he rehab and how fast he can get back. Only time will tell,” said Cristobal.

According to Cristobal, it depends on how deep in to the season they are heading a decision on possibly red-shirting the sophomore right guard.

FLORIDA MARLINS

Morrison shares with dad

MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Sports Writer

Logan Morrison’s father remembers exactly what he said when the doctor told him he had inoperable lung cancer.

“I am going to be around long enough to see my son get his first big league hit!”

Oh, he’s seen that and much, much more.

Morrison and his dad, both choking back tears, sat side by side in the Florida Marlins’ dugout Wednesday trying to describe their emotions during a cherished reunion at Citi Field.

Words, in this case, could never be enough.

Not for a proud father who traveled 29 hours on a train to see his son play big league baseball in person for the first time.

Not for a boy who knows all too well it could be their last chance to celebrate his birthday together.

Tom Morrison, 51, was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer in April and spent much of the summer fighting for his life in a hospital. Meanwhile, his son Logan earned a call-up to the majors July 27 and a spot in left field with the Marlins.

“That was killing me, not being able to see him play,” the elder Morrison said.

Tom Morrison, finally well enough to travel, got the chance to do just that Tuesday night following the long train ride from his Louisiana home.

He saw his son go 1 for 5 and score a run in a 6-5 loss to the New York Mets.

“It was an awesome feeling, for him to see that in person,” Logan Morrison said.

Doctor’s orders prevent Tom Morrison from flying, but that didn’t stop him from making it to the Big Apple this week.

And after all the radiation and chemo-therapy he’s been through, sitting in the left-field stands watching his boy play was quite a treat.

“It’s probably the best recreation I have,” Tom Morrison said, smiling. “I made him wave at me.”

Logan Morrison was in the lineup again Wednesday on his 23rd birthday. His dad was back at the ballpark, too, purple-tinted sunglasses sitting up on the bill of a black Marlins cap, with about 20 other family members and friends in attendance.

A birthday cake awaited after the game.

“But baseball has kind of brought the family together,” Logan Morrison said.

Morrison is hitting .307 with no homers and seven RBIs, and nobody is happier for him than his father.

“Anytime he’s in the stands I kick it up a little bit. He’s their reason I’m here,” Morrison said.

After the game, the Morrison clan met up in a corridor before heading out for a postgame dinner.

“It’s kind of surreal. The kid’s living his dream,” Tom Morrison said before the game. “He’s a good kid. He deserves it.”

Logan Morrison said it’s not hard to concentrate on the field, but he often thinks of his dad during batting practice and when he’s away from the ballpark.

VOLLEYBALL

Valentin, Bjelica earn SBC preseaon honors in poll

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

FIU setter Natalia Valentin is approaching this season enthralled as the team’s leader, but with the graduation of former FIU great Yarimar Rosa, Valentin is in position to not only lead the team, but replace Rosa as the best player in the Sun Belt conference.

SBC head coaches agree.

As announced by the conference on Aug. 26, Valentin was named the SBC Preseason Player of the Year, becoming just the second FIU player to ever receive the honor, as Rosa earned it in 2008 and 2009. The Puerto Rico native was one of two FIU players to start all 36 games last season, while being named to the SBC Championship All-Tournament team. Valentin led the team in digs and aces in 2009 in helping FIU reach the NCAA tournament.

Valentin was also announced as a member of the All-SBC Preseason squad, where she was joined by outside hitter Jovana Bjelica, who won the SBC Freshman of the Year last season, was third on the team with 344 kills in 2009.

In the 2010 SBC Preseason Poll, Middle Tennessee was selected to finish at the top the East Division with 66 points on six first place votes, while FIU was picked to finish second with 63 points and five first place votes. The Golden Panthers also received national recognition with three votes in the AVCA Division I Coaches Top 25 Preseason Poll.

The rest of the East Division is comprised of WKU with 51 points and one first place vote, Troy with 28 points, and Florida Atlantic and South Alabama with 22 points apiece.

Outside hitter Natalia Valentin was the Golden Panthers their third consecutive preseason SBC player of the year award. FIU is expected to finish second in the East Division.
“A book may be over a hundred dollars at the bookstore and you can find the same book somewhere else for like 49 dollars. It’s not worth paying book- store prices when you only use the book for one semester,” said Ferguson, an international relations major.

Bookstores, located across the street from FIU, is a predominant sold-textbook store. Textbook prices range anywhere from a few dollars cheaper than FIU bookstore prices to 50 dollars less per book.

“Some people don’t mind having a book copy in front of them, physical textbooks are also a more reasonably priced alternative. E-Textbooks usually sell for half the retail price and allow students access to the full text online for a certain period of time, usually the length of a semester.”

Chegg, for example, offers a variety of textbooks that students can highlight and take notes electronically. There is also the option of printing some of the pages that Chegg has in a limited, though expensive, form. With Chegg, you can place an order right from the website, and the books will be available for you to pick up at the bookstore the next day.

There are many options when it comes to purchasing textbooks and it is important to shop around to save a little bit of money, said Monique Rios, an international relations major.

“Some people don’t need to keep textbooks when the semester is over, so the good thing about Chegg is you can just send them back without paying shipping. It’s easy,” said Monique Rios, an international relations major.

There are many options when it comes to purchasing textbooks and it is important to shop around to save a little bit of money, said Monique Rios, an international relations major.

The key is always to research before buying to know where to get the best deal.

“Even though it is more expensive, I buy my books at the bookstore because it’s convenient and I don’t have to wait for the book to arrive in the mail or even weeks, which can cause students to full heck with assigned work or readings and many professors are not lenient when it comes to not having the book within a certain time frame.”

For those who don’t mind not having a book copy in front of them, digital textbooks are also a more reasonably priced alternative. E-Textbooks usually sell for half the retail price and allow students access to the full text online for a certain period of time, usually the length of a semester.

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Week of Welcome kicked off the fall semester with loads of activities for new students, welcoming them to a revamped campus. Events on both campuses [right; top MMC, Bottom BBC] included FIU’s oldest tradition, Trail of the Torch, led by FIU baseball player Garrett Wittles [top left]; a Freshmen Luau at BBC [top right] and a comedy show featuring Arvin Mitchell [Bottom].

“Week of Welcome serves as an appetizer, so to speak, for all of the amazing events we have planned for our students this year. It’s a perfect opportunity to get to know us and kick-off your semester with some free, fun entertainment,” said Cristina Rodriguez,
Spiral Week introduces students to Greek life

Continuing with the momentum from Week of Welcome, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHC) is looking to demonstrate their pride to the University community with their own spirit week.

NPHC Spirit Week’s purpose is to reach out to the university community and interact with students on a one-to-one basis. Many students may not know a lot about NPHC or their organizations, but their spirit week aims to change that.

NPHC is the governing body of the nine largest historically African American Greek fraternities and sororities. Eight of nine are represented right here at the University.

“The council is more than just a ‘step team’ and we are very committed to the community service projects we put on and participate in,” stated senior Aze Johnson. NPHC president.

With so many different events they are looking to provide something for everyone and are expecting a big turnout this year.

The activities begin Monday with NPHC Colors Day and each organization will have a performance that represents them. The opening ceremony at 12 p.m. in GC pit is where the council will be having a short informative presentation on their mission and goals as well as the philanthropic initiative they began in January, “Hope For Haiti: Doing Our Part.”

“I’m really looking forward to making a difference in not just Haiti, but in our own local community and the council is determined to make that happen this year,” Johnson said.

In addition to service, these organizations are known for stepping and strolling, and Tuesday’s event, Bling from the Past will cover why they perform and where those traditions come from.

There will be a question and answer portion and questions can be asked anonymously. The event will be held at 8 p.m. in GC 140.

On Wednesday the council will breakaway from the seriousness of informational presentations with Nerdy Night. One thing all NPHC organizations have in common is a commitment to scholarship. In honor of that, they will be dressed as nerds all day and well into the evening for a nerd themed step show on the PC steps at 9 p.m.

“It is a good atmosphere at their events and it is entertaining,” said junior Kani Howard, who is not Greek but has many friends in different NPHC organizations. “You can see the connections between the different organizations and it is interesting to see the brotherly and sisterly bond between them,” she said. Thursday, the council will have people seeing double with Twin Day.

Every organization will be matching like twins. In the evening, the University community is invited to their Divine Gala, where they will recognize exemplary members of the council as well as other FIU talent. Entrance to the gala, which is at the Biscayne Bay Campus at 8 p.m., will be a pair of shoes that will be collected and donated to Haiti.

The week will conclude with a spirit day pool party in the housing quad at 5 p.m. co-hosted with the Black Student Union and the Caribbean Student Association, a day of service on Saturday, and a church service in Coral Gables Sunday.

PRESS START

Major new game releases storm consoles this September

With the first week of school now a memory and the days of summer waning, September brings the true start of fall, slightly cooler weather, and plenty of new games.

This month kicks off with a series of 2D platforming games. Nintendo and Team NINJA of Ninja Gaiden fame to stores.

Beginning where Super Metroid left off, series heroine Samus Aran explains her past story in the hero Samus Aran explains her past story in the

COLUMNS

FASHION FINDS

Rompers: adult onesie or cool option to beat the heat

I’ve always been really torn about rompers. They are a strange cross between overalls and adult onesies. They popped up in Europe a couple of summers ago and have slowly sneaked into the American market: first in pant jumpsuits, Saturday Night Fever style, and then the summer friendly short style.

It took me two years to finally fall into the rompers trap. Once I bought one, it took me two months to finally wear it. I’m still on the fence about how they look on me, but I can’t resist their practicality.

What I like about rompers is the fact that they are so easy to wear. It works the same way a dress does: one piece; up and go.

It’s the perfect travel outfit because it’s light and easy to pack into a weekend bag or carry-on.

Treat rompers the same way you do shorts. For thicker legs, choose a style a tad bit longer and looser on the leg. This will give you some wiggle room. The wide leg opening gives the illusion of a slimmer thigh, something that is always welcome in my wardrobe.

If you have skinnier legs, you can go shorter and a bit tighter. Not too tight because then you land on skimp pajama territory. Stay away from saten or chiffon fabrics because that makes it look like lingerie as well.

To balance proportions, try a romper that has long sleeves or a loose top part. Rompers have a tendency to ride up so if you have more fabric on the top you can adjust the bottom better.

I don’t have skinny legs so they tend to ride up on me and it can get pretty annoying going to the bathroom.

Rompers are revealing so if you aren’t comfortable with that, throw on a boyfriend cardigan to keep some mystery.

And always wear them with sandals. It just doesn’t look right when worn with closed-toe shoes. It cuts off your legs in an awkward place and makes you look stumpy.

Wedges work nicely with rompers because of the slimming effect. Keep in mind that rompers are the kind of outfits that only really looks good on taller girls. It’s one of those unfair items magazines shove down our throat.

When fall hits, rompers won’t be worn out.

New to the game is a mechanic to combine weapons to form even more brutal weapons to tear into the undead.

For example, take a motorcycle and attach two chain saws to it, a combination possible in the game. Have fun driving that bad boy into a mob of zombies.

Fashion Finds is a weekly style column. The columnist receives no payment or gifts for favorable reviews.

Tuesday Times Roundtable

Are Africans Responsible for the Transatlantic Slave Trade?

Join us Tuesday, August 31st, 2010 at 12:30pm-1:30pm in MMC 6C150. Lunch and refreshments provided!

October 10, 2010

This event is sponsored by the Global Learning Program, the Department of African and African Diaspora Studies, the African American Student Association, the Black Student Union, and the FIU Student Government Association.

Jean Mutasa-Rahier, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Global and Sociocultural Studies
Director, African & African Diaspora Studies Program

Tuesday, August 31st, 2010

12:30pm-1:30pm

MMC-GC150

Lunch and refreshments provided!
Abstinence still holds major value

MELANIE M. MARTINEZ Special to the Beacon

I’m writing in response to an article printed in the Aug. 23 issue of The Beacon titled “Virginity overrated by unrealistic expectations” by Taina Fernandez.

I wholeheartedly disagree with the author’s point of view that sex is just a “test drive” for a marriage and that “chances are, you’re going to get divorced anyway.” It’s stories like this that really make me wonder if there’s any hope left in the world for people like me—or if there’s any hope left for the world period.

Humans are social beings, a fact proven time and time again by numerous studies in sociology and sociology and the simple fact is “many moons ago,” two people didn’t need the same amount of time to truly get to know each other as they do now with technology as a middleman.

Back then, people knew the people they were sleeping with instead of just believing everything written up about them on their Facebook profile. If anything, we need more time now than ever before to really get to know someone to that same level of intimacy.

Without love, sex is nothing more than a messy exchange of body fluids that houseflies can accomplish. “Casual sex” in particular is not only a fallacy, but an oxymoron as well.

Sex has been proven to create a real chemical bond between people that’s harder to override than the “sex was just fun” game. In fact, studies show it’s that very lack of commitment that carries itself over to life after the marriage and causes such high divorce rates.

That, along with financial problems, is much higher on the list of divorce causes than just being ‘sexually incompatible’ according to a Citibank nationwide survey. True Blood? But despite the unsupported claims and the fallacies of her argument, there are just “two facts” both the author and I agree on: “At the end of the day, you’re going to live with yourself forever.” Exactly, so why should we give up something that’s rightfully ours to live and love and distribute as we please?

And, if you want to get technical, the author is right in her claim that virginity is an ideal. Yet, ideals are the core foundations that keep this country, shaped the world we live in. If politicians argued on cold hard reality, they’d be exposed for the sleazy bastards they are within the first round of polls.

If we keep being force-fed the nonstop sex is nothing chatter fed to us by every form of media conceivable, no duh we’re going to have crappy marriages.

If we want our public billions to benefit the public and not “special interests,” then we need to vote for politicians who have released great plans rather than the lesser of two evils.

Thank you, Taina, for proving him wrong.

Melanie M. Martinez is a sophomore majoring in International Business and English.

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Capable governor candidates ignored

ANDREW MEYER Special to the Beacon

In America, the race for president of the country is so consuming we tend to overlook our other elections, even the race for governor.

As governors are presidents of the states, they cause quite a bit more attention. A disappointing Facebook message concerning one “frontrunner” for Governor of Florida motivated me to do a bit of research.

It turns out there are some amazing governor candidates in Florida right now.

With the help of private investors, Michael E. Arth turned an infamous crack-town in Deland, Florida into a vibrant historic district by buying crack houses and renovating them. Calling the war on drugs “a war on the poor in Florida!”

Farid Khavari is an economist with the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. He turned its public mental health system into the best in the nation. Khavari has also worked tirelessly to create solar energy across Florida. Khavari’s also a co-founder of Solar Power First, a non-profit which has been credited with helping the Global Climate Coalition.

This past year, both Khavari and Arth were pushed out by the party establishment as the party was motivated by predators Wall Street and low-interest mortgages who could make billions providing cheap housing for the homeless.

Both Arth and Khavari are nearly invisible to the public. But the truth is both parties have the same owners. Arth and Khavari may not win in 2010, but until we start analyzing the potential of our political candidates they way we analyze our football teams, there won’t be any winners except the league owners.

Get the vote.

Andrew Meyer is a first-year law student and founder of TheAndrewMeyer.com.

"I'm giving up an opportunity to say what research and evidence you have. You've offered none, other than yelling." --Anderson Cooper in an interview with Rep. Ghoumert over his fear of Terror Babies.

Disclaimer:
The opinions expressed within this page do not represent the views of the Beacon, FIU Board of Trustees or students. This issue is separate from editorial and reflects individual perspectives of contributing written and/or members of the University community.

EDITORIAL POLICY
Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which encompasses the views of the student, chief, management, and the editors of both the print and online versions of the Beacon regarding any issues or topics important to the students of FIU. The Beacon reserves the right to edit, modify or refuse any submitted letter for publication. Letters should be submitted online at http://www.thebeaconfiu.com Letter to the Editor

Send us your letters
Send a problem with a problem! Want to give feedback or a tip? Or do you just have something to say about The Beacon? Send your thoughts to opinion@fiu.edu or drop by our offices at D-1104 HICO 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, and year.

Maidique’s abstaineeism too costly for University

While President Emeritus Modesto Maidique, the longest serving president at the University, will be conducting research on business-level decision making at Harvard as a visiting professor, he will still be collecting a sizeable paycheck from FIU; nearly $500,000. "In these challenging economic times, we need strong leadership and sound decisions," said Maidique in a prepared statement to The Miami Herald. "Working along some of the best minds in this field at Harvard, we can further understand the difference between good and bad decision making.

Perhaps Maidique should conduct some research on whether or not collecting a sizeable paycheck and good decision making for the University. As part of his retention package with the University, Maidique is set to receive $478,000 annually until 2015. Regarding his salary at Harvard, the school declined to comment.

Maidique’s departure from the University was without its share of controversy, particularly regarding both the renaming of University Park campus and a bonus awarded to him by the Board of Trustees during the summer of 2009.

Of the $100,000 promised to Maidique, $50,000 was donated to the then newly created College of Medicine. The remainder will be paid when the University can allocate the funding.

Currently, Maidique is the executive director of the University’s Center for Leadership and College of Business.

"The Center for Leadership itself has been a point of mystery to The Beacon, as we struggle to understand its role in the College of Business and in the University’s research arm.

The center’s website describes itself as “committed to becoming the premier center for global leadership research, development, and training in the nation.”

It further adds that one of its missions is “engage in cutting-edge research in the area of leadership development.”

What is leadership development and why isn’t it mentioned anywhere in the center’s mission statement? Moreover, how does Maidique, post-presidency, fit in to this center and the University’s overall strategy?

The Beacon believes that Maidique’s role has not been clearly defined. Despite this he has accepted a new role at another institution.

Faculty Senate Chair Thomas Breslin stated in March 2009 that the BOT may revisit Maidique’s contract if the economic crisis worsens.

Since then, the economy has worsened to the point that the BOT lost over 3,500 jobs in the past year. On top of that, classroom sizes have increased as tuition for students has spiked.

The Beacon understands the major contributions made to by Maidique during his 2009 year as president. He was instrumental in the development of the University's College of Medicine and Law.

Perhaps Maidique’s contributions have garnered him respect and a solid reputation in the local and national community.

With both in hand, he could serve as a valuable asset to the University both in fund raising and low-interest mortgages who could make billions providing cheap housing for the homeless.

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Tony Horton will speak about his 11 laws of fitness

Horton in Miami and ready to bring it,” said Fernanda Bressan, outreach director of Get Moving Catalog. “Tony is an iconic figure in the battle to improve America’s health, and we’re glad to be able to bring him to Miami to both help raise awareness and offer people a chance to meet and workout with him.”

Horton said he designed the P90X workout for regular gym users not getting the workout with him.

First discussion to focus on ‘unintended consequences’

RUNDOWN, page 12

professor in SJMC, will be moderating the initial roundtable discussion topic is “Unintended Consequences.”

Veraldi, in an interview with Student Media, mentioned the designer of the Range Rover sport-utility vehicle, Charles S. King.

King designed the Range Rover to be the pinnacle of performance from an engineering perspective, but “watched in dismay as his creation became an international symbol of gas-guzzling conspicuous consumption,” according to an article in The New York Times.

More information on the topic wasn’t given as Veraldi said she would open the roundtable with the story of King in an effort to spark the debate. Veraldi did not mention a full plan for the roundtable.

If you have any ideas for a topic you would like discussed, or if you are interested in becoming a moderator, you can contact Maria C. Cedeno, graduate assistant for OGLI, at mcedeno@fiu.edu.

The discussion series is designed to provide students with an opportunity to interact with professors and administrators outside of the classroom, in a more informal setting, according to the same flyer.

Additionally, the series will introduce the opportunity to explore topics of international importance during a time of undeniable globalization.

What makes P90X different from other workouts is that it provides a technique called muscle confusion. The regimen introduces new routines, preventing the body from adapting to exercises over time.

“Choosing to exercise five to seven days a week and eating healthier will dramatically change your life to be infinitely better,” Horton said.

College students normally have a heavy workload whether it is with school, work or both.

Those who fall under that category should find time out of their day to do some form of exercise.

“College students should do at least 20 minutes a day of hardcore exercise,” Horton said. “It allows the brain to function better and not only make you look better, but feel better.”

The BBC Rec Expo is available for all students to come and join except the exclusive workout with Horton.

Students must register first online at bbcrec.fiu.edu/recexpo to participate.

**UPCOMING TUESDAY TIMES ROUNDTABLES**

**OMG, IDK Who’s Reading my Texts**

- Time: 12:30 p.m.
- When: 09/21/10
- Where: WUC 159

**Can Saving our Oceans, Save the Planet?**

- Time: 12:30 p.m.
- When: 09/14/10
- Where: WUC 159

**Gay, Whatever Dude!**

- Time: 12:30 p.m.
- When: 09/21/10
- Where: WUC 159

**To Be Announced**

- Time: 12:30 p.m.
- When: 09/28/10
- Where: WUC 159

**JOIN OUR STAFF!**

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. Don’t be shy; Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.
Over 550 students at annual Freshman Luau

LIANAMAR DÁVILA SANABRIA
Asst. News Director

The faraway lands of the Polynesian Islands paid a visit to the Biscayne Bay Campus on August 26th during the 11th Annual Freshmen Luau as part of the Week of Welcome festivities with a promise of tropical themed foods and activities to make revelers want to lei their heads.

The afternoon featured Polynesian dancers engaging students in learning to dance, a caricature artist offering free portraits, a themed picture stations, arts and crafts stations, games and giveaways. Horton’s 11 laws of fitness consist of: variety, consistency, intensity, diet, exercise, and weight loss programs.

“There is a philosophy I use in my own life,” Horton said in an interview with Student Media. "This is something our department and campus can be really proud of to bring Horton to BBC inspired overwhelming interest in faculty and students. "This is something our department and campus can be really proud of to bring someone of that magnitude, "Horton said. “We have never done anything this big.”

The other popular thing among students was the Free Caricature Stand by Al-Rod Studio which had the second longest line throughout the afternoon. Students also participated in game show question competitions and balloon stuffing games.

The event was presented by the BBC Campus Life and Orientation, Student Alumni Association, Office of the Vice Provost – BBC, Undergraduate Studies and the Wolfe University Center.

The周二 Times Roundtable

Student demand brings discussion series to campus

ALEXANDER BLUESTONE
Contributing Writer

The Tuesday Times Roundtables will be debuting at Biscayne Bay Campus, starting Aug. 31 with “Unintended Consequences.”

Over 600 students, faculty, and staff members attended 17 roundtable discussions at the Modesto Maidique Campus during the 2009-2010 school year, according to Global Learning for Global Citizenship, and thanks to popular demand from the student body, according to a flyer for Global Learning for Global Citizenship’s Tuesday Times Roundtables.

The roundtables series will have a regular home at BBC this year. The roundtables will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in room 159 of the Wolfe University Center.

The roundtable series is due to the collaboration of the Office of Global Learning Initiatives (OGLI), The New York Times, Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus, Campus Life, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Office of the Vice Provost and the FIU Library.

The roundtables are open to the entire University family, free of charge.

There will be food and refreshments provided to all attendees.

Lorna Veraldi, associate