Graduate student representative to sit on Faculty Senate

MELODIA CACERES
Staff Writer

With students’ voices already resonating within their own form of government, graduate students will now have theirs heard in a different forum—among the University faculty.

After a unanimous approval by its members, the Faculty Senate Graduate Council voted at its January meeting, to allow a graduate student representative to sit on their board as an ex-officio member. The only other non-voting member of the council is the dean of the Graduate School. By allowing a graduate student to become a member, this marks the first University of Miami student to sit on any of the Faculty Senate committees on all three campuses.

“This is something that as a University, we’re ready to do. If we want to be really serious about shared governance, it cannot just be about faculty and administration, it’s also about the students and staff as well,” said Dr. Fred Blevens, chair of the Graduate Council in an interview with Student Media. “I think this is a big step and if the Senate approves it, it will be an important step in the right direction in having shared governance across all of the constituencies in the University.”

The approval by the Graduate Council will be followed by discussion among the Faculty Senate members in future meetings. Among other universities, University of Florida and Florida State University are those that FIU will be joining in allowing students on their Graduate Councils; with UCF and FAU remaining with no student representation.

“Any time that you get students involved, you’re going to improve the institution, you’re going to improve the educational experience,” said Dr. Blevens. “This is something that we’re starting to lose control of the game.”

STREAK continues with victory over conference opponent

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers extended their winning streak to five games as they defeated Louisiana Lafayette 62-52 on Feb. 9 thanks to a balanced scoring night that featured four Golden Panthers in double figures.

The key to the game was how well FIU stacked with ULL on the boards. They only got out rebounded by two, 33-31, even though they have not been very successful rebounding the ball this season. They were led in scoring by Michelle González, who had 16 points followed by Jerica Coley with 15 and Fanni Hutlassa with 14.

It was a defensive struggle for both teams in the first half as both teams stayed close to each other but at the 7:52 mark ULL took a six-point lead and it seemed as though FIU was starting to lose control of the game.

That would all change when they made a furious comeback, going on a 9-0 run and tied the game back up with 6:30 left on a Jerica Coley three. They grabbed their biggest lead of the half with 2:40 remaining on a Fanni Hutlassa jumper, but could not push it any further as the Ragin’ Cajuns came back to tie the game at 25-25 at the end of the half. “I thought that we lacked focus throughout the whole game, we just have been through so much adversity this year and they were down and felt a lot of pressure,” coach
The failed Times Square bombing defines the new terror threat in the United States. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told a House committee Wednesday that the danger of attacks is greater than at any time since 9/11.

Giffords speaks, asking for toast with breakfast

Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords has recovered enough from a bullet to the brain to ask for toast with breakfast. Few details are available, but Pia Caruso, Giffords' chief of staff, confirmed that the congresswoman made the verbal request on Monday when hospital workers brought her a meal. She is now speaking “more and more” since she uttered her first words several days ago, spokesman C.J. Karamargin said. He said she didn’t know what her first words were and couldn’t say how her voice sounded, since he hadn’t spoken to her himself.

Lawmakers demand Florida budget details from Gov. Scott

Gov. Rick Scott’s bold budget plan wasn’t even 24 hours old before state legislators started ripping it apart and leveling a familiar charge against the governor: He wasn’t forthcoming with details.

Whether it was has billions in cuts to Medicaid or to schools, legislators said they weren’t sure what Scott specifically cut. They insisted which cuts would further widen a $3.6 billion shortfall next year due to nearly $2.4 billion in proposed tax cuts.

The criticism wasn’t limited to Democrats; fellow Republicans were skeptical of what many thought were skimpy details in his $65.9 billion budget.

Terrorism Threat Highest Since 9/11

The United States’ policy shows America is not responsible for the creation of terrorist networks which have started,” said Al-Tallawi. “The youth of Facebook has gained more and more influence on its board that does not have a vote. The call for change is also felt among some members of the Egyptian Diaspora at the University. "Mubarak’s regime has to end now. He is putting all kinds of pressure on Egyptians these days. It’s as if he is going to attack Al-Tallawi, an Egyptian engineering student. “Unfortunately, some of his tricks did not work. Al-Tallawi argues that for Egyptians to counter Mubarak’s attempts to gain more time, protestors must not be afraid to use violence. “Some people have sympathy for him now and they say he should leave with dignity, even after all he did. Protesters have to continue what they have started,” said Al-Tallawi. 

Nicolas Saravia works as a Beat Writer, covering the School of International and Public Affairs and the College of Law for The Beacon.

While the BOT representative has voting power among the board, the Florida Student Foundation, which manages all non-tuition based funds coming into the University, has a student on its board that does not have a vote.

“Do you know how a policy that’s going to affect a certain set of a population and not have that population’s voice? That’s just wrong,” said Edwards. “But say a lot about FUI and the value of the student voice.”

Melisa Caceres works as a Beat Writer, covering the FUI Foundation, Board of Trustees, Graduate Student Senate for The Beacon.

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American interventionism discussed

A major concern raised during the teaching of the extent to which these protests could influence the rest of the Arab World.

“I do not see an impact in Saudi Arabia, Oman or Bahrain. They have no real culture of protests,” explained Al-Khalidi. “I do not see it happening in Syria. Tunisia and Jordan. Refugees have been traumatized by the violence in Iraq.”

Another aspect of the protests, which has gained much attention in the media, is the use of social networking sites as a forum of expression against the authorities and to organize protest meeting points.

“I have been to Egypt several times and never expected this reaction from the opponent. They took me by surprise,” said Al-Khalidi.

Regarding the future of Egypt’s democracy, there remains an ambivalence of society.

“It can be pro democracy, yet it might not turn it to American democracy. The truth needs to be pursued, but it will not be easy to understand” he added.

During the question and answer session held immediately after the panel’s opening remarks, U.S. inter- ventionism became a major topic of discussion.

“The United States’ policy shows that Obama has ideas but no team,” said Mes habhi, while Clark mentioned that “the fewer roles the United States plays in this issue, the better.”

The teaching was well received by those in attendance, some of whom were eager to learn more about the ongoing protests in Egypt, said Edwards.

“I haven’t researched about the protests, so this event was a wake- up call. I had noticed the struggle in Syria on Facebook and no one was showing older generations that the youth knows what is going on,” said Al-Tallawi. “And that is an international Rela- tions major and freshman.

The call for change is also felt among some members of the Egyptian Diaspora at the University.

Mubarak’s regime has to end now. He is putting all kinds of pressure on Egyptians these days. It’s as if he is going to attack...
Golden Panthers look to avenge earlier loss

Jackson Wolek
Staff Writer

Poor shooting from the free throw line by FIU (4-7 SBC, 9-14 on Feb. 11) helped them to the 79-70 loss against Middle Tennessee (7-4 SBC, 12-12) on Jan. 29, a game in which they were leading by five at halftime behind a majority of the second half.

The same outcome is not expected during their next game against the Blue Raiders, Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Although it will be difficult to overcome such a heart-breaking loss to FAU back on Feb. 5, the Golden Panthers have been through tough losses before, considering the fact that all their defeats have been close games that they could have won if it were not for mental mistakes towards the end of each game.

But this poses the question, why are all their games so close to begin with?

At the end of the FAU game, Coach Thomas said that it should have never got that close to begin with.

When the Golden Panthers have a lead, they need to find out how to put teams away so that they are never put into the late game scenario.

One thing that must remain against competitors such as Middle Tennessee is the three-point shot.

James Washington alone went 4-4 from beyond the arc and as a team they shot 6-7 just in the first half alone.

Ironically, they made just one third in the second half, thanks in large part to keeping a close eye on Washington and not letting him get any good looks.

If they can put tight defense on him like they did in the second half, they will have a great chance on winning the game.

Another area of concern against MTSU is rebounding.

They got out-rebounded 30-23 in the last meeting and most of the boards came from Trevor Ottley who had 12 in the game.

The best way to deal with him is to put a body on him all the time and box out the best they can.

Also, if they can get Ottley into some early foul trouble, he will be either kept out of the game or if he is left in the game, will be less aggressive going after the ball.

It is exactly what happened to the big men of FIU when Dominique Ferguson and Eric Fredric got into foul trouble against them. Both of them looked like they didn’t want to try so hard rebounding because they didn’t want to accidently pick up a bad foul.

FIU’s big bodies need to stay in the game without getting over-matched as a majority of the time to control Ottley.

The Golden Panthers will have to rebound the ball better, play better defense on Washington (specifically from the three), and if the game does stay close, be able to make free throws and not turn the ball over often enough to get a win this time around.

Men’s Basketball

FIU vs. MTSU
• Time: 5:30 p.m. EST
• When: Feb. 12
• Where: Muncie, IN

Softball

New season set to begin with raised expectations

Joel Delgado
Sports Director

Coach Beth Torina has talked to her team about taking the next step throughout the offseason.

She feels that the Golden Panthers are close to being ready to make a big leap forward with a solid young core of players that are coming off their first taste of the postseason last spring.

“I’m excited about this group and I’m looking forward to a good year, hopefully better than last year,” Torina said.

Snir, who is also one of the team’s best in the backcourt received praise for her ability to persevere through shoulder discomfort this season.

“She is an incredible backstroker, Pomerantz said. “She overcame a lot [with her shoulder] and I am proud of her.”

Rojas who was also an accomplished freestyler and butterfly specialist from the Venezuelan National Team was also praised for her leadership on the team.

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With Ohio State, ranked No. 22 in the nation heading into the regular season, rolling into the town to help keep the Golden Panthers kick off their season on Feb.11, FIU will not have much time to get things going this season.

After their opening game against the Buckeyes, the team will turn around prep for Kentucky that same night. FIU will also be going up against Memphis and DePaul on Feb.12 while finally closing out their opening weekend against North Florida on Feb. 13.

The schedule does not get any easier. The slate of games is a difficult one for the Golden Panthers to start off the year. In addition to Ohio State, the Golden Panthers non-conference schedule includes contests with four other ranked teams: Florida (No. 5), Illinois (No. 24), Georgia Tech (No.18) and North Carolina (No. 25).

The team still views the rigorous schedule as an advantage as they hope to prepare themselves for the conference play when it begins.

“We always try to have the toughest schedule possible, it just means we have to be rolling on all cylinders and come out swinging,” Torina said.

“We are ready to do that.”

Louisiana remains the favorite to win the Sun Belt Conference this season, coming into the season ranked No. 17 in the country. But the Golden Panthers, who finished second in the SBC Presseason Poll right behind the Ragin’ Cajuns also received votes in Top 25 polls.

With the Sun Belt constantly improving as a conference, it just adds another dimension and keeps the team constantly looking forward without the luxury of enjoying any particular win for too long.

“Anyone can beat anybody at any time,” Torina said. “I feel like we have a team that is capable of winning the [conference championship].”

For the players, a conference championship is one of the main prizes the Golden Panthers have an eye on as the season is set to begin.

“Last year it was all new to us,” outfielder Ashley McClain said. “This year we know what we need to...
do and we’re prepared for what we have to do.”

The team on the diamond this season will have a peculiar situation: there are no seniors on the roster this season. But Torina, entering her fourth season at the helm of this budding softball program, contends that there are plenty of players on the team that will be able to fill any sort of gap in leadership, filled by captains Jenn Gniadek, Jackie Telfow and McClain, all juniors.

Along with the type of players that Torina has brought in to the program, she has brought in with McClain and Jessy Alfonso, is eager to see what this team can do this spring.

“The great thing about this team is that we have some highly motivated kids,” Torina commented on the kind of players her team is composed of. “When you have people that are motivated it’s easy to find leaders. They’ve done a great job stepping up and I think we’re going to be alright.”

When pointing out what she believed that the biggest strength her team holds going into the season, she talked about the kind of balance her team has and how at any time one aspect of their game can rise up and make things happen.

“We are very well rounded,” Torina stated. “Any part of our game can show up on any day between our pitching, our defense and our offense. Any of them can be our strongest point. When our offense rolls it can do a lot of damage.

LOOKING TO IMPROVE

Brie Rojas is looking to build off of a successful freshman campaign last season when she set a single-season record with 12 HR. 56* RBI: 56* BA: .365 HR: 12* RB: 17* ZB: 17* DOBP: .507* R: 48*

Brie Rojas

ASHLEY MCCLAIN

RBI: 40* BA: .407 HR: 8* R: 4*

JESSY ALFONSO

* 2010 Team Leader

“We want to go further than we did last year and we’re hoping we can win the conference,” infielder Brie Rojas said. “We’re all really stoked and ready to come out and win.”

But while the accolades and success seem to disrupt the FIU offense and in a matter of three games last season, Rojas knocked in six runs in a single road game at Western Kentucky, another FIU record.

Rojas, one of three Golden Panthers on the Preseason All-SBC team along with McClain and Jessy Alfonso, is eager for the season to start and is excited to see what this team can do this spring.

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In the spirit of music and art, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum is launching a fund raiser titled MISO: A Journey through Art and Music featuring the Miami Symphony Orchestra. The fundraiser, which serves as a venue to raise funds for the museum itself, will also serve as an opportunity to expose music and art lovers to both hemispheres.

The core idea of combining music with art came from Miami Symphony Orchestra conductor, Eduardo Marturet. His credits include such experimental pieces such as “Las Campanas del Silencio” in 1992 and “La Hamaca” in 1998. While he provided the full set list for the fundraiser, Carol Damian, director of the Frost Museum, collected all the artwork which is to be shown along with the music.

Music performed at the fundraiser will range from classical pieces by Wolfgang Mozart to more contemporary music from Paul Clay. “While the fundraiser will serve to collect funds to benefit the Frost Museum, what we hope to achieve is to expose fans of both music and art to each other,” said Damian. She has always wanted to collaborate with the Miami Symphony Orchestra and when Marturet offered, she jumped at the opportunity, she said.

Working closely with Orlando Garcia, chair of the School of Music and his experimental music programs, FIU students perform recitals at the museum often. FLEA, the Music School’s electronic and computer ensemble directed by Paula Matheson, has also performed at the Frost Museum.

The Frost Museum also has their very own program, Crossing Boundaries: Art and Music, a lecture series geared toward artists fascinated by music. Its purpose is to investigate the connection between music and art and the spell they cast on each other.

While looking for the pieces in her collection, Damian credits the help of art collector, Juan Antonio Pérez Simón. “He has an incredible palace full of art,” said Damian.

The art collection process began with Damian listening to the pieces from the set list and imagining what painting or piece of art would best represent the piece. For Mozart, Damian looked at classical Grecian-Roman artwork which she thought would best represent the mood of the music. For the modern pieces, Damian imagined the art sculptures of Alexander Calder as the best fit while more lively and whimsical pieces to represent the contemporary style of musician Paul Clay.

“It’s all very subjective,” said Damian. “When I played the music, and knew it was inspired by a particular artist, I looked at the art of the artist and chose what seemed to go with the music.”

The images will be projected in the background while the music plays in the foreground.

The event will also feature violinist Kristóf Baráti, winner of the Sixth International Paganini Violin Competition in Moscow last year, playing Ottorino Respighi’s “Trittico Botticelliano.”

“The MISO will perform at The Frost on Feb. 12, conducted by Eduardo Marturet.”

Contact Us
Adriana Rodriguez
Life! Editor
adriana.rodriguez@fiu.edu

Miami Symphony performs at The Frost

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

www.fi uam.com
Friday, February 11, 2011
Domestic violence awareness walk

initiate such a movement despite the lack of support was truly inspiring.”

Starting at 1:00 p.m. on Feb. 11, the 7.5-mile walk begins at Barry University and travels north towards Biscayne Bay Campus. Participants are encouraged to wear wedding dresses, prom dresses or bridesmaid dresses. The event is also open to men and encourages male participants to wear tuxedos. The reason I decided to do [the walk] was because a lot of people were saying she brought it upon herself,” said Ashton. “Having been working with the criminal justice field for seven years prior I knew that wasn’t the case and the evidence needed to come out. But in order to change the media outlook on it, I decided to give them something as radical and as drastic as the murder itself.”

During the walk Ashton stayed in 14 domestic violence shelters and visited 22 cities. The walk took her 72 days to complete and she called it the March of Hope.

The most amazing part of the walk was that I was actually able to stay with victims, talk to victims, eat with victims and sleep with victims,” she said. “I got to experience what a lot of these women are going through when they are in such an uncertain situation.

She learned that getting out of an abusive relationship wasn’t about leaving the relationship, but going into the unknown, she said. “By living in a shelter she said she got to experience first-hand what it was like to be a victim.

“People don’t understand how scary it is to be in the unknown. How scary it is to be in a different place, depending on people that you don’t really know whether they really care about you or not. It was very significan,” she said.

Early in the film, after being transferred to an internment camp, Gerbier is ordered to a Nazi headquarters, a premiere hotel in Paris, to undergo interrogation by the Gestapo. The ussle understands the threat at hand, just as they pick up on the visual allusions to the holocaust displayed at the camps.

Gerber sits on a bench with another gentleman. When his captors are out of ear shot, Gerber convinces the stranger to stage an escape and run out of the nearest doors. Gerber stabs the guard who lovers over them. His partner in crime has run into the night.

As Gerber runs through the night, we hear machine guns in the distance along with the echoing sounds of his feet as he barrells down the sidewalks (during an incredibly extended tracking shot). The other escapee has most likely met a lead-ridden fate, but Gerber has other business, mainly survival.

True identities are hidden between operatives. A pair of brothers work within the resistance, Luc and Francois (Paul Meurisse and Jean Pierre Cassel), both unaware of the others’ involvement or their extent of dedication to the cause.

Mathilde, another operative, is asked by Gerber if her husband knows about her work.

“Certainly not. And neither does my child,” she replies.

The romanticism is minimal, for though they attack a group that represents oppression and barbaric acts, there is a futility towards their actions. They face death or torture constantly, with no sight of the end of their occupation in sight. It’s the Autumn of 1942, well over a year before the Allied invasion at Normandy.

When a key member of their group must be eliminated, it is done with the understanding that it is for the good of their cause. Never have I met a group more commendable yet deplorable individuals on film.

This is not a tribute to the French Resistance but rather a statement about the balance between futility, loathing and admiration. Insurgency must face inter- nal and externally which a final jarring question: What was earned?

Réal de Reel is a weekly column on films. Look for it every Friday.

BRIDE, page 8

1960s film released from the Criterion Collection

Jean Pierre Melville’s Army of Shadows is a film on war and uncertainty. Recently released from the Criterion Collection, the film is armed with monochromatic color palette of grays and blues that dominate the proceedings, this is one of the most disarming works to emerge from the 1960’s.

From the silences, what I remember the most are the haunting screams of a young French Resistance member. The young man has betrayed members of his group to the Vichy French authorities, forced into a safe house at gun point by members of the resistance. Gerber (Lino Ventura), a high level leader, looks on as the teenager is tied to a chair by Felix (Paul Crauchet) and Le Masque (Claude Mann).

But complications arise. A family has moved to the house next door. The British have not supplied the resistance forces with silencers for their handguns. None of the men holds a knife or handgun. None of the men holds a knife or handgun.

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Réal de Reel is a weekly column on films. Look for it every Friday.
On Jan. 24, 2011, a blast rocked an airport in Moscow, Russia. At least 20 people were killed and over 100 were injured. Although no one has claimed responsibility, Russians suspect the bombing to be an act carried out by the Caucasus who have been known culprits of terrorism in the past.

Also happening at this time, are the uprisings in Egypt and the government. The Internet and all cellular activity have been blocked, yet somehow, information continues to be disseminated, and it is clear that the country is in a state of upheaval.

The two international events have one single thread tying them together: the ignorance of them throughout the western world. This is well reflected in the University population. Very few people have heard of these incidents, especially with the simultaneous occurrence of the State of the Union Address by President Barack Obama.

There is little to no information currently circulating throughout campus about these crises. Neither the administration nor any student organization has responded or showed any concern.

During rush week, a few members of the various Greek organizations were asked to comment on either event, and only a handful of members were aware of the issues. When random students were asked if they had seen any news reports, the students either claimed they had seen it in Egypt or Moscow, or only had seen something related to the issues on his news feed.

Though technology seems to be hardwired into our culture, we have evidently been underutilizing it. The internet is truly one of the last bastions of free speech, and it seems as if American culture has failed to grasp that as a concept. Rather than absorb as much critical information as possible with this technology, most of the University’s student body’s technological activities consist of such mundane things as keeping up with their Facebook, updating their Twitter, or watching the latest episode of “Jersey Shore.”

There is no sense of higher-intellectual drive with the advanced technology that is available to the average American, let alone the average University student. Despite being so in-tune with technology, students tend to detach itself from the real world. More important are the bits and pieces of useless data that float through invisible connections rather than actual situations happening all over the globe, let alone the events on the home front.

When students were asked if they were interested in politics in a recent colloquium conducted by the Honors College with Dr. Dario Leon, only a handful of the hundreds in attendance raised their hands. If the supposed elite of the University have little interest in something as critical to American life as politics, what does that say about the rest of the students and their peers?

If society refuses to encourage the further utility of informational technology, it risks driving itself into the ignorance which it has tried so hard to avoid. If the American public can’t even acknowledge an airport bombing, especially after the recent dilemmas with the new security measures, it doesn’t bode well for the future.

Unless this disconnect is rectified, people will continue to sink more and more into themselves, isolated from the rest of the world.

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The volume of books I had to spend every hour of my time here. In doing so, I learned the easier your academic life in the United States will be. Though I passed the Test of English as a Foreign Language and the Graduate Record Examination, my reading speed was still slower than the native students.

The first and foremost challenge is the language barrier. Continue improving your English; the more you learn, the easier your academic life in the United States will be.

That is truly a crime.

In making new friends, do not be shy to talk to the international or team members. Give yourself a chance to show your personality and give them a chance to know you. They might be your connections when searching for a job. I found that the college life here is more than studying; especially after joining the Academy of the Arts, it was a great experience. As the only Asian student in this program in spring 2010, and with all the troubles such as language and cultural differences. With my team members’ help and encouragement, I made great progress in my English.

A new challenge I would like to mention are driving and housing. Having a driver’s license is very important in Miami because the transportation system is not efficient. Also, do not need to carry your passport in everywhere as the risk of losing it. With your own car, you will become more independent. In terms of housing, it is better to ask senior students for suggestions. In doing this, you can avoid many troubles and save a lot of time.

Life in the U.S. goes fast, so time is very precious. Increase your efficiency and make good and full use of your time here. In doing so, I believe that I have an unforgettable experience.
Common spoke of being great

DEBORAH SOUVERAIN
Staff Writer

He had his ups and downs with H.E.R. and shared with the world how much he used to love H.E.R., but ultimately his passion for “Hearing Every Rhyme” keeps him and hip-hop bound in his journey to greatness.

Common, acclaimed Grammy award winning hip-hop artist, actor and activist visited the Biscayne Bay Campus on Feb. 9 to discuss his journey to greatness and empower others to find their “light.”

In true hip-hop fashion the night began with a freestyle from Common where the rapper poetically used references from the Bible, the Miami Heat and south beach.

Expected to discuss hip-hop and its effect on society, Common had a far more profound message in mind. “I came to talk to [you all] about greatness,” said Common ending his freestyle and transitioning into his lecture.

Throughout the lecture Common made frequent religious references and at one point read verses two through four in Holy Bible, a verse he says he often visits when going through difficult times.

Common gave the audience insight into his personal life, beyond hip-hop, briefly alluding to his relationship with fellow musician Erykah Badu.

Stating he was willing to play second fiddle in the relationship that ultimately dimmed his “light.”

“Dimmed my light to make others happy to make her happy.”

Jokingly, Common went on to say, “[You all] know “Window Seat,” yea I know window seat on the plane that I was referring to Badu’s most recent controversial music video.

Common ended his lecture by reinforcing his philosophy of achieving greatness and the importance of believing in one’s self.

“Let your life shine... Belief is contagious.”

FOODGASM

Though just raw fish, shashimi can have ‘majestic qualities’

Most people I have known go through stages in their eating inclinations. As children and young teens they find certain foods to be disgusting. I’m referring to acquired tastes, something that takes repeated exposure to enjoy. As much as I can remember, I was not one of those people. At least I was always eager to try new things. So when my parents were eating raw fish, I probably thought it sounded good.

Japanese typically serve sashimi as a first course, before any other strong flavors influence the palate. This is a testament to the delicate taste of raw fish. In order to fully appreciate the taste it should be eaten delicately. Just like you ought not throw back a full glass of fine wine as soon as you open it, the same goes for sashimi consumption.

The process of pulling a fish from the water, cleaning it and then eating it in its raw state has to be sort of a human instinct that we never abandoned. The preparation of sashimi ties us back to the eats of millennials past. The simplicity of the dish is splendid; there is almost nothing to it.

Some lined up slices of fish flesh and that’s all. Yet something so simple can have majestic qualities.

Biting into some of my favorite raw fish is an enchantment for me. White fish for example, with its buttery, melt-in-your-mouth consistency provides jubilation. Tuna and Himachi (red snapper) share a similar buttery consistency, but also have a fuller lightly sweet sea flavor. Other fish like Salmon are among the sashimi staples as well.

Sashimi is commonly served alongside wasabi, pickled ginger, and soy sauce. Other sauces like ponara are also common. Wasabi, which is a spicy green paste, can be mixed with soy sauce for dipping, or used separately as a condiment. The pickled ginger serves as a palate cleanser to eat before trying a different fish. Sake is an apt beverage to enjoy with sashimi, if you’re old enough to order it.

Sashimi can be found at most Japanese restaurants. Any place that serves sushi will likely also serve sashimi. The difference between the two is that sashimi is just raw fish, while sushi is the raw fish served on top of rice.

Foodgasm is a bi-weekly column on food and cooking.

Kraets is a hospitality major.