Center faces dire renovation needs

ELIZABETH BRUNA PINEDA
BBC Photo Editor

Ceiling tiles are falling and the air conditioning system doesn’t work properly.

Students have to stand in labs because of a lack of chairs.

The elevator is too slow and the bathrooms are in dire need of renovations.

FIU’s Engineering Center has its share of student complaints.

I was really embarrassed when the MIT recruiter for the summer program came over and the classroom that I obtained for her had duct tape,” said Janet Reyes, Student Government Association senator for the College of Engineering and Computing and a senior mechanical engineering major.

“The sides were held up by duct tape, the chairs were horrendous, there weren’t enough of them and they were all mismatched.”

Although renovations have been done in the past year or so, students say that some of the conditions have been so bad for so long that there is still much to do.

“I think that the recent renovations are great and rather helpful, but compared to everything that has been done in the past it’s nothing,” said a Modesto Maidique campus, said José Cobian, a civil engineering senior.

“They (renovations) are the first I’ve seen in the past three years that I’ve been here,”

The building itself wasn’t built by the school, but purchased from a medical company, and when that occurred the place was completely bare. It is located about two miles from main campus, yet with traffic it takes about 15 to 20 minutes to get back and forth (without parking time).

There is a CATS shuttle bus that is free for students, and thanks to the last SGA engineering senator, William-Jose Velez, the schedule has improved. However, in its peak hours the shuttle gets so packed that students have to stand up during the ride.

In the long list of student complaints, the lack of campus life and events particularly bothers students. Campus Life didn’t know until this past year that the center is a part of Modesto Maidique campus.

Reyes says that in her two years at the school, she has never seen SGA representatives.

Athletics fee increase considered

JORGE VALENS
Editor in Chief

With tuition increases on the horizon, students gathered in the Graham Center’s Ballroom to discuss a five percent increase of a fee that provides Athletics with over 70 percent of its funding, about $16.2 million.

Some of the topics on the minds of the roughly 25 students in attendance, most of whom were from the Student Government Association and the Black Student Union, were how this fee increase would affect students dealing with a rising tuition costs and access to Athletic facilities like the FIU Stadium and the US Century Bank Arena.

Currently, students pay $14.51 per credit hour with an additional $10 fee that is added per student, according to a 15 credit hour.

Florida Atlantic University comes in

Student attains exclusive fellowship

NICOLAS SARAVIA
Staff Writer

Making up to $80,000 for a master’s degree and two internships in the United States Foreign Service, Senior Raphael Garcia is the first FIU student selected for the competitive Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellowship.

After submitting his application, Garcia was selected as one of the 40 finalists. The program will bring him to the nation’s capital to be interviewed by a panel involved with Foreign Service. After that consultation, Garcia was accepted as one of the 20 finalists—making FIU one of fifteen national universities with a Rangel Fellow.

“My extremely honored to have been chosen as a 2011 Rangel Graduate Fellow. I found out about the program through Professor Hilario Martinez. The program seeks to attract outstanding young people from diverse backgrounds to careers in the Foreign Service and as a Latino FIU student, Professor Martinez thought I would be perfect for the program,” said Garcia.

The Rangel Graduate Fellowship is characterized by its competitiveness, because of the opportunity to work in one of the country’s most exclusive careers.

“It was a very competitive process but the entire Rangel staff made us feel right at home,” said Garcia.

Aside from attending graduate school this summer, Garcia will work as an intern at the House Foreign Relations Committee and next summer at a US embassy abroad.

Martinez, associate dean of undergraduate education and diplomat in residence, is looking to create a center to provide coaching for students, like Garcia, interested in having a career in the world of international affairs.

“I am determined to use my experience with global opportunities to convince FIU students that, just as we can win the Little Cesar Pizza Bowl, we can coach our academic athlete students to win nationally competitive awards that pay for our students’ graduate education, provide global internships, and launch global careers,” said Martinez.

“Professor Martinez has done a tremendous job of trying to ‘Pantherize’ the US Department of State and other federal agencies,” said Garcia.

Martinez highlights that directors of national programs have underscored the fact that a large percentage of FIU undergraduates are “highly desirable but either fail to apply, or cannot produce winning applications, essays and polished oral interviews.”

“Improving this situation is crucial not just for our undergraduate students. Raising FIU’s competitiveness in these prestigious awards will bring broader national recognition for FIU’s academic excellence in undergraduate education. Award-winning students enhance our own professional possibilities as well as the future economic viability of our community,” said Martinez.

“In creating and nurturing a system to assist worthy students to win these national awards, we can play a vital role and ensures that FIU remains Worlds Ahead.”
Engineering Center classrooms not likely to be fixed soon

ARTHUR MIR, Staff Writer

The Beacon – Friday, April 15, 2011

In the fall of 2007, when students first entered the Charles E. Perry building, many were excited about the new classrooms, the engineering center and the changes that were taking place on campus. Four years later, the classrooms are still not fixed, and the students who use them are not happy.

"There have been complaints from students and faculty," said the student government. "We have been working with Athletics on an agreement that will show how Athletics will contribute to the renovations of the classrooms."

Athletics Coordinator Julie Berg explained that Athletics needed the increase in order to satisfy Title IX requirements, rules in place to ensure that women have equal opportunities and opportunities in Athletic programs. They want to remedy this by adding more full-time women's coaches and expanding with Sand Volleyball as a sport.

"A lot of our professors think that there is a need for more funding in order to fully renovate the classrooms," Berg said.

"I was really disappointed with that presentation," Nemorin said. "It was a total fail that the committee would deliberate on whether or not Athletics will receive full, partial, or no increase at all.

"There are no preformed opinions in this committee," Beesting told Student Media after the event. "The idea is to get how [the fee] is going to impact [students] and how they feel about it. What they say is very important."

Athletic Director Pete Garcia and Senior Associate Athletic Director Bulg were also on hand to address student questions and concerns and to explain why the department needed the additional funds.

"I will be hearing the students' concerns. Not necessarily give a whole list of reasons why it's a necessity," Garcia said.

"The increase of the Athletic fee comes at a time when Athletics has seen success with the football team’s recent win at the Little Caesar’s Bowl and the baseball team achieving a Sun Belt Conference championship and regional health."

Garcia signed a five-year retention deal with the University on April 1 that will earn him between $1.9 and 2.5 million, depending on incentives. "We have to get to the next level where we are winning championships consistently," Garcia said. "Just because we have limited resources, we are not going to put up with that anymore. We are going to find ways, creatively, to play the top programs and to beat the top programs."

The Beacon will reconvene again April 14 to discuss the student feedback and make a decision. Should the committee decide to not grant Athletics the increase, the consequences for Athletics are currently unknown.

"I can’t afford another increase," Rodriguez said. "He added that his goal was to graduate school without having to take out a student loan, however, with the increases he might have to reconsider."
With the extension that was signed by Pete Garcia on April 1 to stay at FIU, a few things have changed and there are rising expectations.

There was no doubt that Garcia would receive a raise for the work he has done for the FIU athletic program as the Athletic Director. Along with the raise in the new contract comes the new title of Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment, which puts Garcia in charge of events like the CONCACAF Gold Cup matches being held at FIU stadium and director of the South Beach Wine and Food Festival.

Given the contract that Garcia is to receive, the university might be making it a bit too easy for Garcia to earn his salary. Actually, the salary is fine, but I have a problem with all of the attainable bonuses that Garcia can earn over the next five years.

Let’s put it this way, if Garcia cannot achieve some of the bonuses that are in his contract, he will be considered a failure. Garcia can receive a 10 percent bonus if he increased the average football attendance for the season over 16,000 people.

Last season, the average attendance for a football game was 16,545 people. Basically what the university is saying is “Hey, don’t worry about improving too much. You’re doing great.” With all of these bonus opportunities, the school should be expecting more out of Garcia.

Since Garcia’s arrival at FIU in 2006, he has helped build a football program that went from being winless in 2006 to a team that won a share of the Sun Belt Conference championship and got a win in their first bowl game in school history at the Little Caesar’s Pizza Bowl.

Much of that success came from finding a strong, tough head coach in Mario Cristobal, who has recruited enough talent to help the Golden Panthers compete year in and year out. Garcia hired coach Turtle Thomas, who in turn managed the FIU baseball team to win the Sun Belt Conference championship in 2010.

Garcia deserves credit for helping the Athletics program become respectable on the field. There were few returning players on the Western Kentucky roster that had significant at bats against the Golden Panthers last season and will try and do so again this weekend.

Jenn Gnidak pitched in one game against Western Kentucky in last season’s series. She pitched eight innings while surrendering one run on three hits and struck out nine batters in the win.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

The Golden Panthers went 2-4 on their last conference road trip against Louisiana and Louisiana-Monroe. There were two games in the six-game road trip in which the Golden Panthers did not take advantage of chances to win the game.

After splitting the first two games against No. 19 Louisiana, the Golden Panthers had the opportunity to win the last game of the three game series on April 7. With the Ragan Cajuns only up a run entering the fifth inning, the Golden Panthers pitching and defense faltered as the second and deciding run scored on bases loaded walk. That run was the difference in a 2-1 Ragin’ Cajuns win.

In easily the toughest lost of the season, the Golden Panthers held a 7-3 lead entering the seventh inning against Louisiana-Monroe on April 9. The Golden Panthers allowed the Warhawks to score five runs on three hits in the inning to lose the game 8-7.

FIU is tied for third in the conference with Louisiana-Monroe with a 9-6 record. The Warhawks hold the tie-breaker based on the series wins against FIU.

SCOUTING WKU

The Hilltoppers enter the weekend series with a 3-9 conference record. Western Kentucky also has a current three game losing streak in conference play.

The Hilltoppers have five hitters with a .300 or better batting average which is the reason FIU came away with a 3-2 win. A save by Brad Serini and Cedric Mack graduated, the Golden Panthers have expressed a need to bulk up on the line, which was instrumental in helping the team establish a solid running game during the 2010 season.

After Brad Serini and Cedric Mack graduated, the Golden Panthers have expressed a need to bulk up on the line, which was instrumental in helping the team establish a solid running game during the 2010 season.
Florida Panthers enter offseason looking for a new head coach

AP WIRE

Two days after the Florida Panthers completed an NHL-record 10th consecutive season out of the playoffs, general manager Dale Tallon was talking about his team winning the Stanley Cup.

Tallon’s rebuilding plan remains intact, even though the Panthers just finished last in the Eastern Conference for the first time in franchise history.

The Panthers will enter the 2011 NHL draft with 10 picks and they also will have tons of cap room in the summer to use in free agency after unloading several veterans during the season. All that’s missing is a new coach to lead the way. Tallon said Pete DeBoer on Sunday, plans on taking his time before making a decision.

“We’re going to do extensive research,” Tallon said Monday. “We’re going to put together a list of top candidates and then we’re going to take our time and do it right. We have time and we will get the right guy.”

Tallon called DeBoer a good coach and a good guy, but he said was looking for someone “more like me.”

“Pete has his way and I have my way,” Tallon said. “He’s a good coach. He’ll get another job. He worked his butt off and did everything you could ask from him. I don’t have any complaints. I just felt it’s necessary for us to go in a different direction.”

“Is it not about positive or negative, it’s just if I have a different approach. I have a different style, a different philosophy,” Tallon said.

Tallon said prior NHL head-coaching experience wasn’t a requirement for the Panthers. But he did rule out promoting assistant coach Gord Murphy, who played for the Panthers the only time they won a playoff series — in 1996. Florida made its only Stanley Cup final that year, losing to Colorado, and has been in the playoffs only three times.

Murphy just finished his first season as an assistant with the Panthers working with the team’s defensemen and penalty-killing units.

“I think he did a very solid job for us,” Tallon said, “but I think that Gord is perfect in the position he’s in right now.”

DeBoer, fired after three seasons with Florida, said he’s eager to move on.

“I want to get back in coaching in this league as quickly as possible,” he said. “I think I can be successful. You go through something like this, you want to show people that you made a mistake.”

DeBoer might be a candidate for the vacant Ottawa job. DeBoer interviewed to become head coach of the Senators three years ago before accepting the job with the Panthers.

“I’m attracted to any job in the NHL,” DeBoer said. “I want to work again. ‘Open for business,’ I guess, is the sign.”

DeBoer coached the Panthers to a 30-40-12 record this past season, including a 4-1-1-5 mark after the trading deadline. The roster moves led to Florida finishing the season with nine players who spent time in the minors.

“If we have a different start and we win some more hockey games, it doesn’t go that way,” said Panthers center Stephen Weiss, who has been around for nine of the playoffs seasons and is the longest-tenured player on the team. “When you’re not winning, you’ve got to make changes. That’s just the way it goes. That’s the nature of the beast. I don’t think that’s some-thing Dale wanted to do, but when you don’t win you’ve got to make changes and he certainly did that.

“The good thing is it freed up a lot of space to do some stuff in the summer. We’ll see what happens. Hopefully, we can build something and be a lot better next year than we were this year.”

The Panthers were eight points out of the last playoff spot at the trading deadline, but they never seriously contended at any point in the season. Florida never had more than a three-game winning streak did not climb higher than 10th in the Eastern Conference standings.

Although dealing away veterans Bryan McCabe, Dennis Wideman, Bryan Allen, Cory Stillman, Radek Dvorak and Chris Higgins at or around the trading deadline all but eliminated any long-shot hope of making a playoff run, it freed up cap space and provided additional draft picks.

It was all part of the master plan.

“It’s a process,” Tallon said. “Obviously the last 20 games were difficult for all of us. We all went through a tough time. It was painful to do what we had to do, but necessary to get us moving forward in the right direction. We had to subtract before we can add. But now I feel we’re ready to go in the right direction and move forward.”

Tallon, who took over as GM last May after helping build a Stanley Cup winner in Chicago, has a big offseason in store. The Panthers have only nine players under contract for next season, and own the draft picks to continue stocking the organization with young talent.

“Who would not want to be here in this position?” Tallon said. “We’re going to turn this around, we’re going to have a great future. We’ve got a good core of young people and we’ve got some flexibility moving forward in the free agent market. We’ve got a great draft coming up with 10 picks.”

“How can you not be excited? We’ve got a great practice facility, a beautiful rink, great weather. This has got to be a destination. We want to make this a destination because we want to win a Stanley Cup.”

Baseball, softball teams climbing in RPI rankings

RECAP, page 3

MEN’S SOCCER

Members of the men’s soccer team were recognized by Confer-ence-USA for their efforts in the classroom.

Michael Muehelsey and Carlo Schmid were given the Commis-sioner’s Academic Medal for having a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher over the past year. In addition, 14 other Golden Panthers were Commissioner’s Honor Roll recipients, given to athletes who had a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Tusla led the conference with 37 academic medals while Appalachian State and East Caro-lina followed with 56 and 48 recipients, respectively.

Men’s soccer is the only FIU athletic program that partici-pates in C-USA.

SOUTH

In the latest NCAA RPI rank-ings, the Golden Panthers have been making ground in the overall rankings.

FIU is ranked No. 61 in the country, which is second in the Sun Belt Conference behind Louisiana.

The Golden Panthers dropped two of three against the Ragin’ Cajuns, who are ranked No. 34 in the latest rankings.

RPI rankings were also released for college baseball, and the Golden Panthers are also second in the Sun Belt, coming at No. 42 in the nation.

The only Sun Belt team with a higher RPI ranking is Troy, which currently sits at No. 24.

South Alabama is not too far behind FIU in the rankings with a No. 63 ranking while FAU came in at No. 72.

BASEBALL

FIU vs. WKU

Average, Karavin Dew leads the team with a .347 average and a .573 slugging percentage. Amanda Thomas and Kelsie Mattox lead the Hilltoppers with six home runs each. Mattox and Thomas are both first and second on the team in RBIs with 25 and 22, respectively.

In the pitching circle, Sulaski and Wagner lead the Hilltop-pers pitching staff. Sulaski is 9-7 with a 2.22 ERA and Wagner has a 10-10 record with a 3.73 ERA. Both pitchers have picked up over 100 innings a piece and opposing batters are hitting under .250 against both Wagner and Sulaski this season. The pitching staff is rounded out by Nathanson and freshman Brittain Albright.

WKU pitching staff a formidable test for FIU

FIU vs. WKU (OH)

· Time: 04:00 p.m.
· When: 04/16/11
· Where: Softball Complex

SOFTBALL

FIU vs. WKU

· Time: 12:00 p.m.
· When: 04/17/11
· Where: Softball Complex

WKU at FAU

· Time: 04:30 p.m.
· When: 04/15/11
· Where: Softball Complex

Garcia needs to bring positive image to FIU

JUMP, page X

was not a fluke. Money needs to be generated to have athletics fuel themselves.

Most of all, Garcia needs to bring a certain prestige to the name of FIU. Garcia is loaded with many things to do over the next five years at FIU and he will have full support from the university staff. I hope that the students can back him up as well.
Like the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. As the countdown toward summer begins, the Theater Department’s production of William Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” ensured the season would go out with a bang. “Twelfth Night” premiered on Apr. 7 in the Black Box Theater of the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center.

The show, directed by Wayne E. Robinson, Jr. was designed entirely by students and featured original music by BFA performance majors Mariette Gallor, Nathalie Nodarse and Jordan Sasaki. The atmosphere inside the Black Box Theater was very intimate. The large, beige, architectural structure on the stage provided a stark contrast to the thick curtains surrounding the room. The play opened with Gallor, Nodarse and Sasaki singing an acoustic, eerie song as noises from a harsh storm echoed in the distance. “We get no second chance in this life,” they repeated. The actors, accompanied only by a guitar, harmonized beautifully, setting the mood for the rest of the performance.

Almost immediately, the audience meets Viola, later to be known as Cesario, a shipwreck survivor who believed she had lost her brother to the sea. Sarai Heria-Brazofuerte, who delivered a standout performance, played one of the chief protagonists, Viola. Heria-Brazofuerte had found a connection with the role, giving it her all with a great enthusiasm that engaged viewers.

Daniel Nieves played the lovesick Duke of Illyria, Orsino. Sporting a leather jacket and Ray Ban aviators, he took the stage channeling “Happy Days’” The Fonz. Andrea Bovino acted as the object of his unrequited affection, Countess Olivia. Nieves brought comedy to the setting with his quirky facial expressions and Bovino shone in her monologue about falling in love with the disguised Viola.

Two other standout performances of the night belonged to Nathalie...
Amazon takes the lead in cloud computing market

Fistfuls of Tech! is a weekly column on all things technology.

Amazon is a technology company whether it wants to admit it or not, it just so happens that it also sells a lot of gadgets.

While other companies like Apple and Google are making big plays in cloud computing and getting a lot of fame for it, Amazon is making even bigger plays right under the noses of the big players and in some cases the media.

Recently, the company introduced an extremely innovative service called Cloud Player, allowing customers to upload their own music to Amazon’s servers and stream the songs to their Android devices. Sorry iOS users.

Cloud Player and its Dropbox-like counter-part Cloud Drive are basically the same thing. A user gets 5 GB of free storage online where they can put whatever they want. If you end up buying an album from Amazon Music, you’ll get bumped up to 20 GB of storage.

Cloud Player, and a slew of other competitors have6 fretted with this premise for a long time but have been hesitant because of the possible legal problems that could arise with the Recording Industry Association of America. Amazon did something awesome: they told the RIAA that they didn’t need the licenses to put user’s songs in the cloud and they basically dared them to sue.

This is a big move for the cloud, and if this trend picks up and companies begin moving away from cloud-based music services for mobile devices we will see the affects on the hardware side as well.

Suppose Motorola wants to build a new Android device. Instead of packing the phone with Flash storage in upwards of 32 GB, they only have to install enough space to locally store apps and the operating system itself, say 8 GB. This would lead to cheaper phones as manufacturers can spend less on storage.

Another interesting move by the company is the ad-subsidized Kindle book reader. For $114, you can own a full-fledged Kindle that is basically ad-supported, meaning that ads will pop-up as you are using them.

Though I think that $114 is still too steep for an ad-supported ebook reader, I do have to say that this is a definite step in the right direction.

This year, we see Amazon taking one step forward in making a watershed move for the company, a $99 Kindle. At this price point it enters the realm of an impulse buy, and that is going to make it stand out against the iPads and the Xooms of the world.

Ultimately, what Amazon is doing is diversifying its offerings and it’s doing so in a very stealthy and successful way.

While Google, Apple and Facebook are slugging it out in a mobile phone war by making and moving huge moves in the cloud. It makes sense; they have the resources and the ability to do it.

What’s next, Amazon? Search? Social Media? A mobile phone?

Cast gets big laughs in play

This is a film without shame: violent, morally reprehensible, utterly inventive. I know that the core audience would care to know.

If you don’t understand the fun in the boundaries of social acceptance.

What it comes down to is whether you understand and enjoy the charm in the ridiculous, over-the-top violence of the grindhouse cinema movement from the 1960s and 1970s. If you don’t understand the fun in a good, old-fashioned gore fest, you probably shouldn’t be watching this movie.

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

‘Hobo’ delivers just what it promises

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Public transportation lacks efficiency

GISELLE RODRIGUEZ  Staff Writer

The rising cost of oil and its impact on our gas prices highlights our city’s desperate need for an alternative. With the University hosting a multitude of students, the need for reliable and affordable alternatives for getting to school needs to be addressed.

However, while other schools in the county have direct routes on the established public transportation system—for example, the University of Miami has a dedicated stop off the Metrorail—the only public option to get to the University is an often circuitous, unreliable bus route.

When gas prices started tipping the $3.50 mark for a full tank, I looked into an alternative for driving my car to school. I already take the shuttle to the Biscayne Bay Campus twice a week, so I knew I like the whole bus thing and the fact that I can work while someone else drives. Unfortunately, Miami-Dade County does not seem to want to cooperate with me in my quest.

As a college student, I have the option of acquiring a monthly EASY card for the reduced price of $50. This sounds like a good idea, as I would be saving around $30 assuming I fill up my car twice a month. The problem arises when I try to find a bus route that will take me to campus with any kind of alacrity. In order to get to school at night in the morning, it would be a two hour trip. This is, of course, assuming that there is no traffic and the buses all arrive on time, if they arrive at all.

My freshman year, I had a friend in my first class who would leave her house at 5:30 a.m. in order to get to our 8 a.m. class. She missed a test once because the bus she needed never arrived.

With the deteriorating condition of our environment and the rapidly rising cost of oil and gas, no one is arguing against the fact that we need some sort of change in our transportation. Miami-Dade County is so spread out, however, that it is physically impossible for you and me to just go biking. A dangerous option with the severe lack of bike routes. It is too late to change the layout of the county, but it is certainly too late to try to alleviate the omnipresent traffic and prevalence of awful public transportation.

It is too late to change the layout of the county, but it is certainly not too late to try to alleviate the... prevalence of awful public transportation.

The Metrorail, an important part of our public transport, is hamstrung by its tiny, one-route way. Most gas stations now boast their marketing and throughout society, and should constantly remain focused on quantity, rather than quality. We, as a University, will begin to experience a dilemma when we try to help us achieve this vision of being “Worlds ahead.” This idea of significantly increasing enrollment will hurt us more than it helps us. If the University takes on too many students beyond what its resources and facilities can cater to and accommodate, we are doing more harm than good.

Official Policies and Editorial Board

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its sections. To submit your opinion, email them to opinion@fi usm.com.

Enrollment plan a step backward

JARROD KNOWLES  Contributing Writer

The level of prestige of any educational institution is determined by how many people it rejects. With that being said, the University of Miami must always be careful to reconsider their future enrollment plans.

The University boasts proudly of its diversity, educational standard and ethos. However, an important thing to note is University President Mark B. Rosenburg’s plan to significantly increase enrollment by 20,000 over the next ten years, according to the Sun Sentinel.

We need not enroll the “entire world” to help us achieve this goal, which stands “Worlds ahead.” This idea of significantly increasing enrollment will hurt us more than it helps us. If the University takes on too many students beyond what its resources and facilities can cater to and accommodate, we are doing more harm than good.

Truthfully, this enrollment plan is all about the money. Although the University must make a significant amount of money to thrive, we must remember that if this becomes the primary focus, that is when the problem arises. If the leaders of the University begin to view every student as an additional $4000 in the bank every semester, and they wait intently on Fall term to roll around so that they can increase both enrollment and tuition, we have a problem.

The focus in any educational institution should be on the students and their individual development. A student should not be viewed as a dollar sign, but rather as a future productive member of society who has something to offer the world, because they were inspired, rather than overcharged or left outside in the cold because they could not get a seat in a class. We, as a University, will begin to experience a dilemma when we focus on quantity, rather than quality.

The University should ensure that its students remain happy and satisfied in order to guarantee its success in upcoming years. Was I able to get to register for my classes, I hope that I attain a seat and the opportunity to learn. Next time I look for parking, I sincerely hope I find a spot, so that I may be on time for my classes.

Just as I am excited to be here and receive my education from this place, it would give me great confidence and happiness to know that those who are in command of this university think about me as a person, rather than a dollar sign. So please, I sincerely beseech you not to fill up the University and bring about satisfaction and success. However, I do understand you cannot let it spill over and ultimately waste.
Event used recyclables to promote green

CRISTINA MIRALLES
Staff Writer

“Going green” is a contagious trend currently sweeping the nation and the University has caught the bug.

Student organizations at Biscayne Bay Campus have made changes and held events around campus in order to go green. They have placed recycling bins around campus and made changes in the cafeteria that would benefit the faculty and students. The Student Alumni Association decided to host a “Go Green” event in order to enhance these changes.

The event was held on Tuesday, April 12 at Panther Square and had a good turnout. This was the first time the event occurred, but SAA hopes to make it an annual tradition for the students.

“When we are trying to go World Ahead, we hope to involve our students in going closer towards a more eco-friendly university,” said Zahra Arabhi Aski, student ambassador president of SAA.

“Going green” is “a phrase referring to individual action that a person can consciously take to curb harmful effects on the environment through consumer habits, behavior, and lifestyle,” according to gogreenhints.com.

Go green, which requires a lot of initiative from everyone, is saving water and energy, using less gas, eating right and trying not to use plastic bottles.

Recycling is the main way in which to use less of every bottle and the University isn’t slouching in this area either.

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus passed a resolution on Feb. 7 for the “Panther Pickup Recycling Campaign.” This resolution was made to add new recycling bins and move around the older ones to higher circulation areas.

In an article published on Feb. 14, 2011, Camilo Hernandez, a biomedical engineering freshman and former senator for SGC-BBC who proposed the resolution, said the campaign would have to be allocated about $500 from the SGC-BBC senate discretionary fund to cover costs of advertising and doubling the amount of bins from 15 to 30 bins on campus.

There has been a lot of talk in the past about the bins being fire hazards, according to Hernandez in the article. He said once the panther pickup bill is passed and funds are appointed, he will meet with a graphic artist to improve the theme of the recycling campaign as far as safety goes.

As of this writing the bill has not passed.

The University is trying to get students to participate in different ways to help their future as well as their environment, according to the University’s news website. Aski said SAA wanted to have this event so students could realize how much is wasted on a daily basis on campus and hopefully this realization will lead to more recycling on their part.

Students were asked to build panther structures out of recycled bottles, boxes and older issues of The Beacon. The structures could be whatever the students wanted but they had to figure out what they could make with only those items and some imagination.

Aski believes hands-on learning and using recyclable items is a more beneficial way for students to learn.

“Our generation needs more fun and visual images than facts, books, and lectures to learn about an issue,” Aski said. “As the saying goes, pictures are worth a thousand words. We are trying to bring some creativity and fun out and actually show the students as opposed to telling them how much we waste.”

“With building panthers out of items we waste on a daily basis, we hope to create an image in the students’ minds to stop them from throwing away items they can easily recycle,” said Aski. Aski added from the S.A.A members, many students thought the event was very helpful and different.

“I think the event was great and I think [the structures] helped the students see the different ways they can reuse the different items they recycle,” said Linda Bellot, a senior biology major.

“Every effort to raise awareness in enjoyable ways makes people more green conscience. So I think this does help,” said Farah Yamini, a junior philosophy major. “However, I would like to see more facts and figures about the benefits of being green conscience.”

FOODGASM

Add squid to your salad; thank me later

The heat is fast approaching and bathing it takes refreshment. The classic imagery of combatting the heat is a glass of iced tea or lemonade, but recently, I’ve heard it has been taken to the extremes of ice-baths in the tub.

On the food front, the common theme is a cool this-or-that. Cool carrot coulis with cool whip, or cool cucumber coulis, for example. I want to offer a cool concoction of my own, one more conceivable than coolish or consummative.

Imagine the scenario that it’s hot and you’re by the pool. I’m sure most people are familiar with these circumstances. So you’ve been swimming and are beginning to develop an appetite. There’s a barbecue nearby but you’re not craving meat; it’s too heavy for the heat. I have just the thing.

I got the idea for an interesting salad from watching one of my favorite Food Network shows, “Good Eats.” Alton was featuring squid on the episode and made a dish with grilled squid. Something about it really set my mind off, and the next thing I knew, bam, (Emril voice) it tasted like a pinch of salt.

This simple salad I thought of comes together like a Piccata during his cabin period, just a bit less excess. You will first notice the colors of the Mexican flag, with diced tomato and red onion couices, contrasting with bright green chopped herbs, and white grilled calamari tubes.

The taste and smell reminisces of the sea, mixed with extremes of ice-baths in the tub.

Put the squid in plastic container and add the garlic, red pepper flakes, half of the vinegar, a few tablespoons of the oil, the lemon juice, salt and pepper. Cover the mixture and let it marinate for about 20 minutes. In a separate bowl mix the remaining oil, vinegar and lemon juice for the dressing.

After about 10 minutes start preheating your grill to around 450 degrees Fahrenheit. Open the lid, quickly place the squid on the grates, and close it. Discard the marinade. Wait about 40 seconds then flip the squid over. After another 40 seconds take the squid off the grill. It should not look transparent on the outside and hopefully will have some grill marks. Transfer the squid to a cutting board and slice each tube into two or three large rings.

Put the tomatoes, onions, squid, and parsley in a dish, pour the dressing over the top, toss to combine, and serve.