Domestic violence awareness lacking

VANESSA GALLARDO Contributing Writer

The Florida Department of Children and Families reported that women between the ages of 16 to 24 were at the greatest risk of nonfatal, intimate partner violence in 2009-2010.

Locally, DCF said there were approximately 2.5 million offenses in Miami-Dade County and approximately 1.75 million in Broward County.

At a university where the majority of the student population is women, especially from countries with a high amount of violent incidents, one would anticipate a great deal of domestic violence awareness campus wide.

But at the University, it’s rare to see a sea of purple ribbons, the unifying symbol of courage, survival and dedication to ending domestic violence.

“There are so many benefits of awareness,” said a Broward County volunteer coordinator who requested anonymity for the sake of her clients.

“And college campuses are super important targets, because most victims are young, college aged women.”

The coordinator said one of the most important benefits of awareness is preventing an incident or helping a potential victim by teaching them the actions abusers take to maintain power.

Abuse comes in various forms, not just physical and sexual. Abuse can be emotional, such as verbal abuse, including yelling or name-calling. Other forms of emotional abuse include isolation, intimidation and/or controlling behavior.

“When I went to FIU, I never saw any forms of domestic violence awareness,” said Lindsay Gerber, a University alumna. “As a nurse, I now realize how important it is to spread awareness, especially on college campuses.”

Gerber, now a registered nurse at Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital, has taken care of many children and has seen a number of abuse cases.

“Victims don’t know how to get help,” Gerber said. “Many that are in that situation hadn’t learned much about it, and they don’t know how to get out. They need to spread awareness to prevent it but also, so that girls know what to do if they are unfortunately placed in that situation and how to get out.”

Congress designated October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, yet there were no signs of acknowledgment around either of the University’s campuses.

Erika Nerette, assistant director at the Victim Advocacy Center, said the reason why you won’t see banners, tables or much of any type of awareness is because of funding problems.

“There is so much more we can do,” Nerette said. “We can even put our ‘relationship IQ’ pamphlets in girls’ bathrooms, which help you analyze whether or not you could possibly be in an abusive behavior.”

Nerette said the primary method to reach students is by talking and tabling at freshman orientations and making presentations in the many freshman experience classes.

Even so, Nerette said that although the center does not make presentations for transfer orientations, she’s very proud of the free services it does offer.

The center offers various free services to its students, faculty and staff including support, therapy and assistance. Advocates are even available to accompany clients to the hospital, police station, court or to other appointments. Nerette said they are even willing to request academic accommodations for students.

But, Nerette said, awareness remains problematic.

“It’s something we have to keep working on,” she said.

Transfer student Danielle ABUSE, page 2
Students no longer need to give professor snacks

A California university professor can no longer demand snacks from students for his 39 years. Students were told of the snack demand on the first day of class. But two weeks ago he walked out of his Psychology 101 lab class because there were no snacks.

Student spokeswoman Kimberly Nava says members of the psychology department at California State University, Sacramento decided Parrott’s decision to walk out of class was unacceptable and the dean told him to stop.

Students no longer need to give professor snacks.

Abuse remains an issue

Kong said at her previous university, York University in Toronto, Canada, the campus staff went out of their way to make it known that they were always counselors available.

“I’ve never, ever, ever seen any domestic violence information around campus, not this month, not ever,” Kong said.

“Florida Atlantic University even has volunteer fair in collaborations with Women in Distress to help bring awareness,” Kong said. “Around here, there are tons of flyerts about academic assistance but never about personal assistance.”

The Broward volunteer coordinator said there are steps the university can take. She said the University could partner with students from women’s studies, social work or sociology to hang signs or set up information tables. “I think this is very helpful. I think it’s good,” Kong said. “I do what I do so hopefully one day, I will work myself out of a job.”

Abuse remains an issue.

Club reaches out to communities

UNICEF, page 1

confronted, such as natural disaster relief. Other sessions promoted teamwork and offered ideas on increasing membership nationally with beginning with increasing membership locally.

The members’ greatest struggle is maintaining membership from the University community.

“Our organization is very young at FIU and the work-shops taught us teamwork, how to get our members motivated and how to get us more motivated,” said Naseem El-Masri, activities coordinator. As a result, UNICEF was able to retain all of its membership.

On the last day of the trip, the Global Poverty Project was discussed. Initiated by humanitarians Hugh Evans and Simon Moss, the project’s main focus is for its participants to attempt five days of little spending to highlight the difficulty of living in impoverished countries.

UNICEF@FIU’s activities have included bake sales, the Halloween Week Fashion Show, trick-or-treat boxes used to collect donations and selling water bottles to support the Believe in Zero campaign.

Approximately 50 years nationally, the Believe in Zero campaign’s goal is to stamp out the child mortality rate from preventable illnesses and lack of resources. It is the organization’s main focus. A year-round project, Believe in Zero is making global progress by the thousands annually with the University making its own contributions. “As small as we are, every dollar counts. Twenty-five cents can provide clean water for a child in a poor country,” said Loan Van, president.

Promotion plans for the University include creating flyers and pamphlets, visiting classrooms and broadcasting a public service announcement on the Discovery Channel, which is one of their key tools in reaching out to the community.

UNICEF has not only gone to FIU Panthers but to communities in Miami, in public areas. There were many people who didn’t even know what UNICEF was,” said Zakkiout.

In spring 2012, UNICEF@FIU intends to further promote the educational aspect of their program, continuing to use every month to focus on a certain area of the world and demonstrate what UNICEF is about.

UNICEF, page 1

Finally, Rodriguez, assistant professor, Peer Lead Team Learning

We’ve been doing PLTL for over 10 years and research shows that students who take PLTL earn a full grade higher than those who don’t.

Nataly Rodriguez, assistant professor

UNICEF, page 1

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Abuse remains an issue.
Allen's buzzer-beater stuns Chanticleers

Jeremy Allen scored a game-high 19 points, including the game-winner at the buzzer to give FIU its second win of the season.

JOEL DELGADO
Sports Director

With less than a minute to go in the FIU home opener and the game tied up, the Panthers were hoping for some late heroics.

Jeremy Allen delivered.

The senior captain nailed the game-winning shot as time expired to lead the Panthers to a thrilling 64-62 victory over Coastal Carolina.

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## PREP WEEK
### MONDAY 28
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-2:30pm
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing
- Panther Square: Relax and Chill
- Rec/Fitness Center: Yoga/Pilates

### TUESDAY 29
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-2:30pm
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### WEDNESDAY 30
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### THURSDAY 01
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### FRIDAY 02
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### SATURDAY 03
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### SUNDAY 04
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Yoga/Pilates: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

## FINALS WEEK
### MONDAY 05
- Fresh Food: Midnight Breakfast (Open: 11:00pm)
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing
- Panther Square: Relax and Chill
- Rec/Fitness Center: Yoga/Pilates

### TUESDAY 06
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### WEDNESDAY 07
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### THURSDAY 08
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
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### FRIDAY 09
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

### SATURDAY 10
- GC Pit: Stationary Bikes
- Massage & Grooming: 10am-11am
- FIU Computer Lab: Free academic printing

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**Web:** cramjam.fiu.edu

**Mobile:** cramjam.fiu.edu/mobile

Made possible by Student Government Association, Division of Student Affairs: Campus Life, Outreach Center, Housing and Residential Life, University Health Services, Counseling & Psychological Services, NPS, Recreation Services / Business Services, FIU Libraries, Public Safety, Student Alumni Association, Center for Excellence in Writing & Academic Advising Center. Qualified individuals with a disability requiring an accommodation to attend these events must make the request no less than five working days in advance by calling 216.346.2128, 441131, 549443671.
Students face harsh reality about debt

ASHLEY LAPADULA
Staff Writer

Students graduating from college this year are walking away with more than a diploma in their hands—they are also leaving with a hefty student loan debt.

Thanks to the weak economy and rising tuition, students must rely more heavily on loans to pay for their college education. Student loan debt, especially for those combining both undergrad and graduate school debt, puts a huge burden on graduates.

Additionally, students attending graduate programs and expecting to receive a master’s or doctorate in their field of study face tough options. Depending on the school they attend, the average student is looking at more than $21,000 in debt, according to the Huffington Post Investigative Fund.

Christina Garcia, Daniel Perez and Isabelle Torres are alumni from the University who attend graduate school elsewhere. They have been friends since high school and throughout college, and they always manage to make time to study together on the weekends.

“I am having to face loans that will eventually add up to around $91,000,” said Garcia, a Nova Southeastern University law student. “I am confident that all my hard work will help me pay off this heavy burden, but it is a scary thought to overcome knowing that 15 years ago, there was no such thing as student loan debt,” Torres said.

“The economy surely has not helped must graduate students’ loans,” Garcia said.

In early November, the Obama administration issued an executive order after the student loan debt reached an appalling number—$1 trillion.

They announced new programs to ease the repayment of student loans, change the income-based repayment program next year to allow lower monthly payments and shorter durations for low-income borrowers, and offer a slightly lower interest rate to borrowers who consolidate their loans.

It may seem like a big and scary step in students’ lives; they all have a slightly positive outlook in their minds. They all hope that all their hard work will pay off in the end and that there will be a better outcome to this awful student loan mess.

Statistically speaking, college seniors who took out loans this past year to fund their college education owed an average of $25,250, five percent more than the class of 2009 owed, according to a report from the Institute for College Access and Success’ Project on Student Debt.

In addition, the report said the class of 2010 faced an unemployment rate for new college graduates of 9.1% currently a big issue for us all. I have had to make several sacrifices, like postponing buying a car or even starting my own family sooner than usual,” the University of Miami medical student said. “I hope that something can help alleviate these loans, but that is just me being hopeful,” he said. He dreams to one day work as a trauma surgeon at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Torres, a law school student at St. Thomas University, aspires to be a criminal defense attorney. “As much as all my dreams feel so nice and realistic, I think of these unfortunate loans. It is a hard thought to overcome knowing that 15 years ago, there was no such thing as student loan debt,” Torres said.

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**Students unsure of career can benefit from Buffett’s advice**

If you were to think the children of the man who ranks third on Forbes World’s Billionaires list are spoiled by privilege, you would be totally wrong.

Peter Buffett, son of legendary investor and multimillionaire Warren Buffett, proves that “Life Is What You Make It” not what your parents, or anyone else, make for you. In his book, Buffett implores the young people to speak to any student or working professional. Although he was about 50 years old when the book was published in 2010, Buffett writes in a young, non-condescending voice. In fact, when he was about age 60, he wrote in his last few pages of the book, I was truly surprised. His way of giving advice resonated deeply with me as a reader because I did not feel like he was a rich, older man trying to tell a young student how to live their life. And that is just his point — no one can tell you how to live your life.

Buffett goes on to discuss the troublesome and challenging act of discovering what one’s true vocation is. He raises the question, through specific example, of which is better: to choose a life path because of money, or to choose a path in life because we love it.

The advice Buffett gives in relation to this question was extremely inspiring to me because, as a senior, I am still in the dark about where my degree will take me. I can only imagine I am not the only one who wonders, like Buffett “...how much sense does it make to barrel through life full speed ahead before we’re even quite sure where we really want to go?”

Once you have found this vocation, Buffett stresses the importance of putting your greatest effort into all that you do. He notes that anything less than your best work will go on to serve as a “personal embarrassment.”

**Buffet [discusses] the troublesome and challenging act of discovering what one’s true vocation is.**

It will to many, who, like me, constantly struggle to make ends meet, be inspiring, and the message is sure to resonate with me. It is to many, who, like me, constantly struggle to make ends meet, be inspiring, and the message is sure to resonate with me.

Buffett points out that, which we love should be our lives, and we should not put that aside for anything or anyone.

Proving that his book is not just for young students, Buffett also touches on parenting advice. He writes that if a parent is able to, they should “give a child enough to do anything but not enough to do nothing.” Buffett describes the way in which his family did not just allow him to coast through life, but pushed him to make one of his own, and suggests that we live our lives and raise our children in the same manner.

While noting that money is not a necessity, and that not everyone gets a “level playing field” and time to slow down to what they truly want in terms of reaching their goals, Buffett states: “We don’t get to choose where we start in life; we do get to choose the people we become.”

His message throughout the book is to do what you have to do to find a way to combine what you love with something the world is willing to pay for, and you will be on the right track to making a fulfilling life for yourself.

He also notes that this fulfilled life cannot come without giving back to the community, and suggests that we all contribute to the global community in whatever way we can, as he and his father have generously done through programs like NoVo and large contributions to various programs around the world.

As Buffett gives his advice, his time and his money to better the global community, he suggests we all do the same, in whatever way we can.

His book, “Life Is What You Make It,” is the perfect read for any student looking for a major or trying to find a job after graduation, as well as any professional already working in a chosen field looking for an inspiring, fresh take on life in a bleak economy.

**Cover to Cover is a bi-weekly book review column. Look for it every other Monday this fall.**
**SGC-MMC Commentary**

**Progress made, but political party discussions die out**

The prospect of implementing political parties, which seemed to meet the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus with reverence and understanding just a few weeks ago, now seems to have lost its allure.

As Giovanni Correale, senator of arts and sciences, pointed out at the end of the Nov. 21 meeting, a senator made silenced and tired of the recursive deliberation over how the parties would function, if the senate was really passionate about this, then things would have been moving forward.

“I feel like I’m wasting my time,” Correale said, closing his argument while the senate sat silent and, just maybe, a bit shamed.

Progress has indeed been slow, and SGC-MMC is less enthused about the Senate sitting silent and, just maybe, a bit shamed. The senate sat silent and, just maybe, a bit shamed.

The political system might be too complicated, too semester—it seems the political parties have been lately—compared to earlier in the senate’s history. It seems the senate is incapable of doing 2 things at the same time? Or that belief in the necessity of one somehow demagogy the other? Ludicrous, a false choice and unfairly skewed argument.

What have we done to serve the taxpayer community that has entrusted its faith and resources to you? Have we increased the number of American students receiving PhD’s or advanced degrees? Has that increase been in proportion to that of our international classmates?

Have we fostered intercultural communication? Have we increased the number of Americans tasking with policy implementation when clearly my concern is the policy itself, while polite, is still a brush-off.

Is the belief that our institution is incapable of doing 2 things at the same time? Or that belief in the necessity of one somehow demagogy the other? Ludicrous, a false choice and unfairly skewed argument.

The message I have been attempting to deliver, these past two months, is too urgent to allow formality to exercise its deterrent effect.

Florida International University is a US-taxpayer-funded institution. According to your recent protestations, its purpose is to mold “global citizens.”

Becoming a haven for intellectual migration to the US was one of the things we were not doing. We fund FIU with the intention of creating a center for internationals to congregate in US soil and obtain US knowledge to use for the betterment of their home countries.

How much of that intercultural communication has occurred with our American citizens as opposed to International professors?

If you don’t count first-generation Americans, there are 2 Americans in our Masters in International Business program.

If you, a German and French classmate complain that they have more American students in their classes in their home universities than in their classes at FIU.

They did not come to FIU to get a European education’s experience. They came here to meet Americans.

Neither population is being adequately served by our current blindness, our limited focus.

Your refusal to even meet with me to discuss the issue speaks of a deterioration, the death of that innovation which is the very lifeblood of American progress.

This is a university. Have we learned nothing from the growing, global dissonance against those at the top who refuse to acknowledge or even listen to the legitimate concerns of those at the bottom who are footing the bill?

Have we gotten so lost in power distance that the president of an American University, a traditional fundamental center of change, is now taking management cues from bankers and tycoons?

I am proposing that we make broad and sweeping changes out of love for our university. Maidique spearheaded broad and sweeping change out of love for our university. What is the problem?

Did you take the job out of love? Or should your apathy be taken as an indication that you only took it because you were next in line?

Mai Chau E. Allen, JD, LL.M, MIB Candidate 2012

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**University President’s definition of global does not include Americans**

Mr. President,

I come to you by open letter because the guards have closed off the tower, reportedly, at your request. I come to you by open letter.

The message I have been attempting to deliver, these past two months, is too urgent to allow formality to exercise its deterrent effect.

Florida International University is a US-taxpayer-funded institution. According to your recent protestations, its purpose is to mold “global citizens.”

My concern is that your definition of “global” does not seem to include Americans, particularly at the all-important graduate level.

While recruiting the best and brightest from around the globe is essential in the globalization equation, it is only part of the computation.

International Students + Global Education = International Citizens

In order for our institution to truly be global, we must consider the entire equation: “(American Students + International Students) + Global Education = Global Citizens”

The taxing-potizens of the cash-starved State of Florida did not find, nor do they fund FIU with the intention of creating a center for internationals to congregate in US soil and obtain US knowledge to use for the betterment of their home countries.

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In order for our institution to truly be global, we must consider the entire equation: “(American Students + International Students) + Global Education = Global Citizens”

The taxing-potizens of the cash-starved State of Florida did not find, nor do they fund FIU with the intention of creating a center for internationals to congregate in US soil and obtain US knowledge to use for the betterment of their home countries.

Becoming a haven for intellectual migration to the US was one of the things we were not doing. We fund FIU with the intention of creating a center for internationals to congregate in US soil and obtain US knowledge to use for the betterment of their home countries.

How much of that intercultural communication has occurred with our American citizens as opposed to International professors?

If you don’t count first-generation Americans, there are 2 Americans in our Masters in International Business program.

If you, a German and French classmate complain that they have more American students in their classes in their home universities than in their classes at FIU.

They did not come to FIU to get a European education’s experience. They came here to meet Americans.

Neither population is being adequately served by our current blindness, our limited focus.

Your refusal to even meet with me to discuss the issue speaks of a deterioration, the death of that innovation which is the very lifeblood of American progress.

This is a university. Have we learned nothing from the growing, global dissonance against those at the top who refuse to acknowledge or even listen to the legitimate concerns of those at the bottom who are footing the bill?

Have we gotten so lost in power distance that the president of an American University, a traditional fundamental center of change, is now taking management cues from bankers and tycoons?

I am proposing that we make broad and sweeping changes out of love for our university. Maidique spearheaded broad and sweeping change out of love for our university. What is the problem?

Did you take the job out of love? Or should your apathy be taken as an indication that you only took it because you were next in line?

Mai Chau E. Allen, JD, LL.M, MIB Candidate 2012

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Delinquent organization finds loop hole in system

JONATHAN SZYDLO
BBC Managing Editor

On Oct. 31, the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Senate voted to freeze Panther Power’s funds due to the student council being delinquent on submitting their Event Audit Report to the SGC-BBC Operational Review Committee on Oct. 7, by 5 p.m.

SGC-BBC Operational Review Chair, Oluwatobi Adekoya, had informed all councils that fall under the purview of Campus Life at BBC on Oct. 3 that their Event Audit Report had to be submitted by the end of the week; if an organization were to not be in compliance with this event, SGC-BBC would take disciplinary action.

According to the University’s Student Government Association University Wide Statutes, section A.10.[d][iv], “On any offense, an organization’s funds will be frozen. An account shall be frozen for a period not to exceed 10 school days. Two school days prior to such freezing, SGC Pres- ident or the Comptroller must notify in writing to the Treasurer of the entity whose funds are being frozen and to the Senate, the reason of such action and the duration of the account freeze.”

In regards to the freezing of Panther Powers funds, the senate had passed the measure by a vote of eight in favor and two in opposition. According to Adekoya, it is common practice for the executive branch to respond to measures, resolutions, or statutes within five days of their passage within the legislative branch.

Kevin Gonzalez, SGC- BBC comptroller, informed Panther Power of their fund freeze on Nov. 14, 14 days after the senate passed the measure.

In an interview with Student Media regarding the SGC-wide event audits, Gonzalez, Adekoya and SGC-BBC Finance Committee Chair, Olawatamile Odimayo, explained that the reason for the audits is for assurance that student organizations that are funded through student fees were transparent with their accounting and maintaining a degree fiscal responsibility, and would take necessary measures against delinquent organizations.

“Fiscal responsibility is a shared feeling between me and Adekoya,” said Gonzalez. “It’s about doing what’s right and preserving the integrity of the campus.”

However, while SGC- BBC was demanding that organizations that are funded by Activity and Service Fees were following the guidelines associated with proper A&S money spending, the comptroller had yet to hold an A&S fee spending orientation with any of the student council executive boards until Oct. 19, 60 days after the start of the fall semester. Gonzalez admits that he was negligent with his responsibilities when it came to holding the A&S fee spending orientation and sending Panther Power’s notification in a timely manner.

“I dropped the ball with the orientation,” admitted Gonzalez. “When I was (SGC-Mostido Maudique Campus) comptroller in the spring I didn’t have to hold an SCS orientation. And when I came to BBC, I was never made aware that I had to hold it either…” In my defense [regarding the Panther Power freeze] the two weeks that it took me to send out the notice was also during internship recruitment, which I was not focused on.”

If Gonzalez, who is responsible for $911,996, would have informed Panther Power, who is funded $16,311, within the five days after the freeze measure was passed in the senate, Panther Power would not be able to hold its annual Winter Wonderland.

At time of press, Tamichia Roger, Panther Power president, had yet to respond via email to requests made by Student Media as to how much money is budgeted for Winter Wonderland.

In order for an organization to have their funds released for an event, which in the case of Panther Power’s Winter Wonderland would have fallen during the freeze period, it would have to be enforced accordingly.

File For Funds must be submitted no later than three weeks in advance of an event, which in the case of Panther Power’s specific event, they must submit a File For Funds form specifying where the money will be spent, and for what purpose.

File For Funds must be submitted no later than three weeks in advance of an event, which in the case of Panther Power’s Winter Wonderland would have fallen during the freeze period, it would have been enforced accordingly.

However, in spite of Gonzalez’s delayed notification, Panther Power was able to submit not only their File For Funds for Winter Wonderland but also the Event Audit Reports, for which they were getting the funds frozen, by Nov. 3.

As a result, the fund freeze, which officially began on Nov. 16, had no effect on Panther Power’s programming.

Proposed expansion meets opposition

ANTHONY CAVE
Contributing Writer

North Miami residents, University students and University President Mark Rosenberg packed Nov. 15’s North Miami City Council meeting for one main topic – the University’s proposal to build a second entrance along 135th street.

The line stretched out the corner door, as the television in the lobby displayed the meeting live for those in standing room only.

North Miami Mayor Andre Pierre was especially frustrated, accusing Rosenberg’s predecessor, but has not gathered momentum until Rosenberg began to implement his 10 year ‘Worlds Ahead’ strategy plan which calls for a gross influx of students to the University.

The initial resolution brought forward by councilman Scott Galvin to oppose any proposed expansion passed in a unanimous vote by the North Miami council.

SGA funds shuttle for finals

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. News Director

At the Nov. 4 University-wide council meeting, the Student Government Association requested the use of funds from the their Accumulated Cash Balance Account to allow students to use the Golden Panther Express shuttle for free during finals week.

Student Media reported on Nov. 9 that the council decided to request $5,000 from SGA's ACBA to cover free trips to and from the Biscayne Bay Campus and the Modesto Maidique Campus for the first two days of finals week.

The entire week would cost up to $10,000 according to Patrick O’Keefe, president of the Student Government Council at MMC. The first two days would cost up to $2,000.

Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones’ approval is still pending, which is required for the release of said funds.