The Beacon, February 06, 2012

Florida International University
University Health Services diagnoses case of chickenpox on campus

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Someone at the University has an itch.

Late last week, University Health Services diagnosed a case of chickenpox, also known as varicella, at the Modesto Maidique Campus. With an email sent out on Jan. 2, the University said it was taking measures to ensure that students and faculty are prepared, although a major outbreak is not anticipated.

“There has only been one case,” said Mariela Gabaroni, assistant director of University Health Services. “The only reason we know about it is that we diagnosed it here on campus.”

The last case of varicella diagnosed on campus was found about a year and a half ago, according to Oscar Loynaz, director of UHS. “It is unlikely a lot of people have been in contact. We don’t have a high incidence of communicable diseases on the University, but it is important that students know,” said Loynaz.

Varicella spreads through respiratory droplets and skin-to-skin contact. Most people are exposed to the disease as children, and become immune to the virus as a result.

Although, we don’t anticipate major things coming from this, we had to inform the community.

Mariela Gabaroni, Assistant Director
University Health Services

The petition called for a review of the A&S budget allocation process by the Student Government’s University-wide Council due to its unconstitutionality, according to Florida Statute 1009.24 (b). Instead it should also be the responsibility of the legislative body to allocate funds.

“We understand the current process to be unlawful and non-compliant with the intent of the state government as to how the A&S fund should be allocated,” said William-Jose Velez, CSR president in the petition. “Not only do we believe it appropriate for the directly elected representatives of the students to have a say in the entire budget, but ultimately it is the state law.”

According to the SGAC Constitution, the University-wide Council is composed of each campus’ president, vice president, speaker of the senate, comptroller from SGC-MMC and SGC at Biscayne Bay Campus and the speaker pro tempore from SGC-MMC.

The nine members of the University-wide council are responsible for allocating an estimated $13 million of AdS fee monies. After reviewing the petition, the SGC-MMC Supreme Court ruled in favor of the writ filed by Velez with the decision being released on Feb. 4 at 1:12 a.m.

“Because the SGA Constitutionally, the process to be unlawful and non-appropriate for the directly elected representatives of the students to have a say in the entire budget, but ultimately it is the state law.”

The Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus Supreme Court passed a ruling on Feb. 4 that could structure the budget allocating process that funds over 60 student organizations and facilities.

The ruling in Ex Parte Velez SC 003 came four days before the start of University-wide Activity & Service fee budget hearings, bringing into question whether or not the events will proceed as scheduled on Feb. 8.

The legality of the process was first questioned by the Coalition of Students for Reform, a self-proclaimed student political party, through a petition that was heard by SGC-MMC’s Supreme Court on Jan. 27.

The Radioactive Underground: 88.1 - 95.3 - 96.9

IN OUR OPINION
Decision lacks scope of potential implications
ALEXANDRA CAMEJO
Editor in Chief
JONATHAN SZYDLO
BBC Managing Editor

A recent decision of the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus Supreme Court has called more into question than it intended to answer.

On the morning of Feb. 4, the SGC-MMC court released its decision on a petition made by the Coalition for Student Reform regarding the constitutionality of the University-wide budget allocation process for Student Activity and Service fee monies. Keep this in mind, we aren’t questioning the wording of the ruling itself and no mention being made of the possible impact and implications that the wording of
Second teacher pulled from S. Calif. school

A second teacher has been removed from a classroom at a Los Angeles elementary school when a teacher this week was charged with photographing children for sexual thrills.

Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent John Deasy confirmed to a classroom at a Los Angeles elementary school that a teacher was removed from contact with children at Miramonte Elementary School after someone made accusations against him.

Deasy won’t provide details but says the teacher is under law enforcement investigation.

Free chickenpox vaccinations made available to students by UHS

The University seems to assume that the students on a regular basis upon consultation and for a nominal fee. They have vaccines available that are required for enrollment which are measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), hepatitis B, meningitis, and other vaccines are not required including varicella.

“Since we’re adults, the university gauges the level of response necessary. “We are seeing people who have not had it as children,” Liens said.

“We cannot overstock,” said Schmidt. “Luckily they have real-life experiences with the chicken pox,” Liens said. “Luckily, I am vaccinated.”

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SOFTBALL

New additions hope to be ready as season approaches

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With the season less than a week away, the Panthers are getting ready to start the new campaign with new Head Coach Jake Schumann at the helm.

The girls hit the field on Feb. 2 as Schumann sat in the stands while the girls played a quick scrimmage. Schumann paid close attention.

“We are trying to get to game speed… and since we are eight days away from opening up, we are trying to get as close to game reality as possible,” Schumann said.

Throughout the scrimmage, FIU displayed their two best starting pitchers in Jenn Gniaied and Mariah Dawson. Gniaied showed tremendous presence with her six foot frame, and Dawson constantly continued to hit her spots with ferocious speed.

Now, while the team is set with their pitching, they still have some holes to fill as opening day approaches.

The Panthers still have open spots at catcher and left field and are looking for new players.

With Graves, the Panthers are fortunate that she isn’t too foreign with first base, as she has played the position before sporadically in high school over in her hometown of California.

“Shelby played first base and pitched in high school… and I think she’s just a little more comfortable at first base, but time will tell to see if she can handle it over there. But she’s one of our better hitters so we have to have her in our lineup,” Schumann said.

Now, while first base seems to be resolved, the same cannot be said about catcher and left field.

While the position is still up for grabs, the team is still assessing players such as Sophomore Rachel Slowik and Sophomore Megan Horne to fill left field and catcher, respectively.

They are still up for grabs. I think if the season started today we would probably have Rachel Slowik in the LF and go with Megan Horne behind the plate. But obviously that can change next week,” Schumann said.

Last season Slowik appeared in 58 games last season, 54 of which she started and posted a .216 average driving in five runs and scoring 29 runs. Slowik is 5-15 with two doubles in 39 at bats this season.

“arly in the season, she’s one of our better hitters and pitchers so we have to have her in our lineup,” Schumann said.

Now, while first base seems to be resolved, the same cannot be said about catcher and left field.

With Graves, the Panthers would have to rely on her final foul meaning the Panthers would have to rely more on Fiona Mansare, who also had four at bats, and Tynia McKinzie, who had not seen substantial minutes all season.

Hutlassa was forced to watch the final play from the bench, but she thinks that the play could have run a bit slower.

“We started that play too fast,” Hutlassa said. “It was supposed to start at 10 seconds, but we started a bit earlier. I thought it was going in and plus we got a rebound that could have gone in too.”

SWEET REVENGE

Panthers miss last-second shot again, fall to FAU

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Eight seconds to go in the game, Head Coach Cindy Russo calls a timeout. The Panthers are down one point, trying to pull off the win on the road at FAU in Boca Raton. Everybody in the arena knows where the ball is going, especially the Owls. Jerica Coley is getting that shot.

“It was a screen at the elbow,” Coley said. “We knew they were going to double, so we just went with a screen and roll, and it just didn’t go.”

In a fashion much similar to the one at U.S. Century Bank Arena on Jan. 21, the Panthers had the ball with a chance to win the game at the end. In fact, it was the exact same score, 50-49.

After Coley put up the shot, it rimmed out but Sasha Melnikova was there for the rebound. Five seconds to go, she dove the ball to the top of the key, where Finda Mansare was there for one more chance.

Her shot was off the mark. Latavia Dempsey got the rebound for the Owls and Coley was forced to foul as the Panthers lost to the Owls 51-49.

After the game, Coley was seen very frustrated, nearly in tears after her performance on Feb. 4. The second leading scorer in the nation was begging for the lid to come off the rim in the first half, going 0-10 from the field, held to 6 points by the Owls stingy defense.

The second half didn’t start off much better as she wasn’t until the 12:10 mark that she made her first basket.

Afterwards, there was a huge sigh of relief on her face. Coley finished the night going 0-10 from the field, held to 6 points by the Owls stingy defense.

The second half didn’t start off much better as she wasn’t until the 12:10 mark that she made her first basket.

Even though Coley struggled throughout the game to find her rhythm, the rest of the Panthers found a way to keep themselves in the game, never down more than seven at any point in the game.

Fanni Hutlassa played a big factor in that, scoring a team-high 17 points in the Panthers two-point loss at FAU.

“We still lost. It didn’t really matter,” Hutlassa said. “I was trying to hustle and do what the coaches asked, but apparently it still wasn’t good enough.”

Hutlassa went 7-14 shooting from the field and 3-6 from three point range.

She played much of the second half with four fouls though, not allowing her to be as physical on the defensive side.

With 1:09 to go in the game, Hutlassa committed her final foul meaning the Panthers would have to rely more on Fiona Mansare, who also had four at bats, and Tynia McKinzie, who had not seen substantial minutes all season.

Hutlassa was forced to watch the final play from the bench, but she thinks that the play could have run a bit slower.

“We started that play too fast,” Hutlassa said. “It was supposed to start at 10 seconds, but we started a bit earlier. I thought it was going in and plus we got a rebound that could have gone in too.”
McClain and the Panthers ready for upcoming season

receive her second-consecutive NFCA All-South Region First Team honor.

“I think Ashley McClain, her offensive output and just the way she goes about her business is above and beyond what I’ve worked with before,” Schumann said.

Now with the team having to fill two positions in eight days, they’ve been showing that their pitching is ready to go.

One thing stood out more than anything else was the fact that the team has seemed to make a seamless transition into Schumann’s coaching style.

“From my point of view, I think they have done a great job. We haven’t had much problem doing it,” Schumann said.

So with FIU opening up the season on Feb. 10 against Michigan State, they appear to be set to make 2012 a success.

Marah Dawson (above) along with Jenn Gniadek pitched for the Panthers in a scrimmage.

UPCOMING GAMES

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| FEB. 11| UMASS          | 1 p.m.  | Sat
| FEB. 12| ILLINOIS       | 1:30 p.m.| Sun
Medical professors create non-profit to help Haiti

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Before the disastrous earthquake that crippled Haiti in 2010, before the world-wide attention Haiti received, the millions of U.S. professionals who needed to aid Haiti, Dr. Pilar Martin, M.D., M.P.H. and fellow colleagues and students of the International Health Connection had already beaten them to the punch.

Michael Melchior, M.P.H., Ph.D in Health Promotion, April 2012, and Brian Kunkle, M.P.H., Ph.D. in Environmental Health, 2011, were the first students who took notice of Martin’s trips to Rose-Mina de Diegue Orphanage in Port-au-Prince. Melchior recalled his first trip to Haiti and his unawareness of the conditions in a developing nation.

“When you see the people in the tent camps and in the shanty towns, it really affects you emotionally because [they are] so close to the U.S. and it’s poverty everywhere.”

Similarly, Kunkle described his first trip and pointed out the basic environmental advantages in the U.S. that the people of Haiti don’t have access to.

“Just getting clean water is one of the main things you want to have,” said Kunkle. Kunkle, having previous experience in places like Mexico and Mexico City, described Haiti’s poverty level as being on “a different level.”

Through the trips are five to six days long, the amount of work exerted by the students, professors and volunteers is relentless.

Kaylin Guirand-Emile, M.P.H., recent graduate of the University and editorial board member of IHC, has been visiting Haiti since 2010 with Martin, Kunkle and Melchior. Once the team arrives in Haiti, they establish a temporary clinic for four to five days and usually see an average of 400 to 500 patients. They provide the patients with medicine, vitamins, education, books. Posts range from sharing an opportunity to be in a music video by a local artist and a flyer for a local craft fair, to how to make the most of Art Basel without an art collection.

“The idea for the blog stemmed from Russell and Poey noticing there was no Miami-based blog they could read themselves because they were either too clean or too gritty. After graduating, they took up the task of filling that void with Dear Miamigirl.

“We were in need for a creative and fun outlet,” said Poey. Since its creation, Dear Miamigirl has gained contributing writers, and the bloggers have attended events as well. “It’s kind of still getting started; we have lots of ideas and plans for this new year.”

The blog channels the collective thoughts and interests of young women, which makes Dear Miamigirl interesting for many readers, even if they are not naturally attuned to an indie lifestyle.

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After my experience, I have learned to appreciate diversity and spontaneity. I have a passion for international education and foreign culture.

Belkys Yzquierdo, Criminal Justice, English Senior

LIFE!

enables students to not only have the ability to explore the world beyond the University, but they also have the ability to complete major course work or pursue studies of interest. By studying in a program sponsored by the University, students can take classes with University professors, thus eliminating any problems associated with credits. Additionally, students can choose to go overseas by either partaking on an exchange program that FIU has with another university or enroll in an independent program overseas.

If the program doesn’t offer something within a students interest, for example, studying medicine in Kiev, Russia, the crew at PC 113 will work to find something outside the program for the student. In fact, Hernandez discussed how she and her team were able to find a university in Germany where there was no prior exchange or agreement between them and the University for a student wanting to study in Germany. “We are really here for the students,” said Hernandez.

When asked about which study abroad fee

Nonetheless, there is no need to be alarmed. Hernandez said that it can be affordable if one plans in advance. That is why one of her strategies is to target freshmen because they have time to save while advancing in their academic careers and are able to reach the needed amount when they are ready to travel abroad.

Most of the study abroad packages are minuscule to the $20,000 price tag; the majority of the packages fall between $1,500 to $7,000. “Studying abroad enabled me to engage in Dr. [Mark] Rosenberg’s strategic plan for FIU by obtaining an education that is ‘Worlds Ahead.’ After my experience, I have learned to appreciate diversity and spontaneity. I have a passion for international education and foreign cultures ever since I participated in a study abroad program. My experience has led me to leadership opportunities and to broaden my career options,” said Yzquierdo, after being asked how her experience of studying abroad has changed her as a person.

However, before getting excited about studying in distant lands, Yzquierdo also earnestly suggested, “Consider how your program can be tied into your major or foreign language requirements, financial matters and purchase traveler guides to plan adventures ahead of time.”
Susan G. Komen Foundation forgets mission

The thing about turning your back on someone is that it’s nearly impossible to ever get them to see eye to eye with you again.

The Susan G. Komen For the Cure Foundation’s short-lived decision to end its partnership with Planned Parenthood is illustrative of the common American phenomenon of politicizing women’s health in the name of ideology. Despite the fact that several days following a social media lambasting of the organization, Komen issued a press release stating it would reverse its new policy so that it would continue to fund Planned Parenthood.

The original move is unforgivable, and its reversal is insufficient without the immediate firing of the woman who created this controversy.

It would be necessary move to cut funding to Planned Parenthood would have resulted in an annual loss of approximately $600,000 to the organization. Not only was this move wholly incompatible with Komen’s commitment to comprehensive breast care for women of all demographics, but it could have directly affected a particularly vulnerable minority of women who rely on the hundreds of Planned Parenthood clinics across the United States.

As with the cutting of all almost social services, young women, college students, and older women who do not have health insurance would have been most affected by the cuts. Despite the move being camouflaged in jargon that made for better press releases, and despite the fact Komen maintains the decision was inherently non-political, all facts prove the move was indeed ideological.

The woman behind the attack on Planned Parenthood is Karen Handel, Komen’s new senior vice president for public policy. In what was a gross capitalization on a health initiative for political momentum and personal beliefs, the anti-choice, anti-Planned Parenthood former gubernatorial candidate from Georgia introduced a new company rule that singled out the organization.

Handel and her board introduced a new “no-investigations” rule for organizations that Komen funds, meaning that if an organization was being investigated by authorities, it was banned from receiving Komen money.

In what is a hallmark of health care for political purposes, Planned Parenthood is being investigated by Florida Representative Cliff Stearns, whose inquiry’s stated focus is to ensure no public funds were used for abortion services.

The move was intelligent, strategic, and effective. Under a vague rule, a political agenda could be hidden. Knowing Planned Parenthood is regularly investigated by political adversaries, Handel and associates knew the enactment of the new rule would exclude Planned Parenthood from crucial dollars.

Handel herself has not given a comment on the ordeal.

She did, however, retweet and quickly delete this: “Just like a pro-abortion group to turn a cancer org decision into a political bomb to throw. Cry me a freaking river.”

Unprofessional and insensitive, Handel just ousted herself as being wholly guilty of putting her own politics first and women’s health and Komen’s mission second.

If not for the public relations nightmare Handel created, obviously forgetting screen shots live on infinitely, Handel should be fired for her incapability of separating her own ideological agenda from her work.

In short, Handel cares more about politicizing than about preventing breast cancer.

In a video press release to try to quell the controversy and, as she called them, “scurrying accusations,” the company’s CEO Nancy Brinker stated that the foundation “will never turn our backs on the women who need us the most.”

She is talking in the future tense, but Komen already did turn their backs on the women who needed them the most the second they even considered defecting Planned Parenthood, and the reason why turning your back on someone is that it’s nearly impossible to ever get them to see eye to eye with you again.

It is obvious that women’s health organizations in the U.S. constantly have to be on the defensive against calculating politicians and anti-choice fanatics.

But, its particularly egregious that an organization would enact a policy that, in practice, is quite possibly the exact antithesis of its own mission statement.

It is ridiculous that social media and public outcry proved brilliant and caused Komen to reverse its new rule; however, the mere fact that the organization allowed partnership to overshadow its core mission, even for a fleeting moment, is reprehensible.

The reversal should only be viewed as a part victory; the public should realize, for the sake of competency and restoration of the credibility and non-partisanship Komen claims to have, that Handel is fired immediately.

RULING, PAGE 1

the ruling may have.

When an issue pertains to a University matter, and not a specific campus, the Student Government Association Constitution calls for the creation of an ad hoc court for U-wide cases with this court being composed of an odd number of justices, no less than four, from both SGC Courts.

Although Ex Parte Veze SO01 was filed under the MMC branch, it should have been handled by the mentioned ad hoc court. By presiding and ruling over a U-wide issue, the Supreme Court at MMC appointed itself (as explicitly stated in the ruling) to single handily review an issue that clearly affects the power and positions of SGC at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

This ruling sets the precedence that SGC-MMC has jurisdiction over all student government matters at the University.

The SGC’s Supreme Court ruling on Ex Parte Veze, is in violation of its own constitutional provision.

The Supreme Court of the Federal Judiciary System, which includes a Supreme Court put forth in their ruling of Ex Parte Veze, instead of using their authority to address the issue brought before them and not the consequences of its decision. By doing so, we believe that this ruling dangerously allows for open interpretation within ramifications that can affect the entire structure of the University’s SGC, which is unique in comparison to all other universities in Florida.

In effect, the ruling was left open-ended that interpretation of Ex Parte Veze, grants SGC-MMC the power to not only hear judicial matters, but also regulate on U-wide issues instead could be hidden.

Science. Because the ruling grants the power of BBC judicial review and legislation to SGC-MMC, it can be argued that SGC-MMC is now SGA, doing away with the campus specific council at BBC.

However, the dissolution of SGC-BBC, although it affects the more than 7,800 students who attend BBC, isn’t what will have the most immediate impact. The mere pressing issue at hand is the impact that this ruling will have on the Activities and Service Fee Budget Hearings and Deliberations that are currently scheduled to commence on Feb. 8.

The A&S Fee Budget Hearings and Deliberations decide on the allocation of $13 million for over 60 student facilities and organizations.

Prior to this ruling, the University Wide Council that presided over said hearings and deliberations consisted of each campus’ president, vice president, speaker of the senate, comptroller and the speaker pro tempore from SGC-MMC.

Yet the ruling can be interpreted to be saying that since there is no more SGC-BBC, the U-wide council can only be made up of members from SGC-MMC, since BBC no longer has any active governing bodies. This will leave BBC underrepresented, or misrepresented, cope budget hearings and deliberations.

Bearing the weight of this decision, we believe that the A&S budgeting process should be postponed due to the lackluster effort the SGC-MMC Supreme Court put forth in their ruling of Ex Parte Veze, until a reasonable solution to the matter at hand is found.

Although this ruling is in violation of the SGA Constitution, it stands as law until it is contested in the only remaining supreme court at the University, SGC-MMC.

By MMC’s Chief Justice going on the record as saying that the SGC-MMC Supreme Court should not drive into the implications of the case, the Supreme Court at MMC is contradicting the very nature of the federal judiciary system.

By simply glossing a Federal Supreme Court decision, say Roe v. Wade, Mella and his associate justices would have realized that when making a ruling all angles should be covered to leave as little room for interpretation as possible.

Ex Parte Veze is a clear example of not only SGC-MMC’s Supreme Court not being familiar with their own Constitution, but also not under standing the function that a Judicial Branch of a governing council serves.

Ramiﬁcations of decision unaddressed by Court

The thing about turning your back on someone is that it’s nearly impossible to ever get them to see eye to eye with you again.
A DAY IN THE LIFE

Student in the dark works hard and believes in self

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Waking up in the morning, picking out clothes, choosing a seat in class, buying chips from a vending machine or walking with friends to classes are simple tasks that require little thought for the average college student. For Rayvn Richards, a senior sociology major, Richards, who is blind, that simple. Richards was born a healthy boy with his sight in tact until the day he was shot at the age of 17. His other senses were partially impaired. His taste diminished and his hearing is not enhanced as other people and my touch has been impaired. This disability hasn’t stopped him from pursuing his dreams. He is currently taking classes this spring with help from the Disability Resource Center, Public Safety, and friendly classmates such as Santiague Deprez, who met him this semester and accompanied Richards after just finishing a class one late afternoon to catch his special transportation.

He described his experience as “okay,” considering his impairment. He uses a long walking stick to help him feel around the area where he walks and assistance from friends and classmates are essential to get around campus.

When in class, Richards uses a voice recorder to document lectures. At home he scans his papers using JAWS, a Microsoft Windows program that reads information on your screen using synthesized speech. It makes it easier to use programs, edit documents, and read Web pages. It can also provide braille output in addition to, or instead of, speech. These tools make studying easier for students who have lost their vision and have limited resources.

For Richards, it is difficult to use braille since he has thick fingers and when brushing over each symbol alone or combined with others can mean a wide variety of things. Braille is a system of reading and writing designed for use by blind which consists of tangible dots and points to represent letters and characters.

Although some might consider these obstacles, Richards shows no signs of backing away from reaching his goals. In regards to other students who share the same impairment or disability, Richards said, “You can complain and moan about your problems but it won’t change the fact that you have them. Instead work hard and believe in yourself.”

Richards is just one of the many brave students that strive to better themselves. According to statistics obtained through the Little Rock Foundation, 93,600 U.S. students are visually impaired or blind. According to Gabriela Alvarez, Coordinator of the Disability Resource Center, as of 2010-2011 school year, there were 47 students attending FIU with visual impairment. The help that the Disability Resource Center provides depends upon the student and the level of impairment.

For students with low vision, a Closed Caption Television (CCTV) is used to enlarge hard copy documents or textbooks. This aids the student in accessing any of their necessary tools for reading.

For blind students, the center works with publishing companies to provide them with audio or digital versions with audio. If the student can read braille, they have the technology available.

“Students who are blind have an impressive ability to approach each situation with optimism and determination,” said Joanna Lindsey, Disability Specialist. “Everyday I am inspired and challenged to assistance through their academic journey.”

CAMPUS LIFE

Students can’t help but rant about the lack of reception

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The battle for cell phone reception at Biscayne Bay Campus remains a day to day struggle for some students at Biscayne Bay Campus. Students demand cell phone reception for daily social interaction. Usage may also pertain to access to Internet and email while on campus.

Goldie James, sophomore Hospitality and Tourism Management major recently changed cell phone carriers from T-mobile to Sprint because she believes T-mobile delivers poor service on campus.

“Cell phone reception is very limited here at Biscayne Bay Campus. If I had no reception, I would go to any office and ask a clerk for a phone,” James said.

In emergency situations, students would need to step outside and further away from the building. Yet, at the Modesto Maidique Campus, cell phone reception problems are virtually non-existent. “I sometimes find missed calls and emails at the library and in every corner because of poor reception,” Carold Casimyr, a senior in the civil engineering program said. “I would [need to] find a computer and I would use email as a way of communicating.”

Biscayne Bay Campus’ problem with cell phone signal may stem from building structure.

The problem, however, does not apply to all students with different cell phone carriers.

Some students like Christina Yidi, a sophomore student majoring in Biology, has no issues with the cell phone reception at BBC.

“I’ve heard Verizon is the best, yet my family has AT&T and it’s really good in reception.”

Madison Moreno, a sophomore student majoring in public relations, believes the lack of cell phone reception is on purpose.

“I’ve heard that most schools do it on purpose. It’s a cell phone block in reception in order to prevent students from using their cell phones in class,” Moreno said.

According to the Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Dr. Shekhar Bhansali, the reason BBC may have an issue providing decent cell phone reception relates to the building’s physical structure.

“The problem with cell phone signal at the campus is due to the iron and metal in the buildings, and that’s when shielding happens,” said Bhansali. “No one likes to put antennas inside of a building.”

“Shielding” refers to a barrier that blocks the signal.

“The middle of the building is called a dead zone. A dead zone means there is no signal,” Bhansali said, “I would doubt it’s a problem with cell phone companies.”

Although some phone companies may be superior to others in signal, if the problem with reception persists, students can find reception by leaving the Academic One and Two for the Hubert Library and other areas around the main buildings.