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Florida International University

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Senate allocates funds for organization trips

MELISSA CACERES
News Director
melissa.caceres@fiusm.com

Four student organizations received funding for trips from the Student Government Council (SGC) March 27. The Senate approved the funding allocations for the organizations through some senators felt that certain programs should be allocated more money.

“Just because we have a lot of money doesn’t mean we should just throw it out there,” said Samir Patel, speaker pro tempore.

Many organizations have trips taking place next month and await funds from the Finance Committee for expenses such as conference fees, airfare, and hotel stays. Currently, the committee is working with $20,000 of their remaining $30,000 budget.

The trips include the Honors College “Confronting America” trip to Washington, D.C., Engineers Without Borders’ trip to an EWB International Conference in Las Vegas, the Fine Arts Student Association’s trip to the Kennedy Space Center, and the FIU Lunabotics Team’s trip to NASA’s Lunabotics Mining Competition at the Kennedy Space Center.

The SGC Finance Committee assures students the allocation of funds is “properly handled for the benefit of all students.” They hear presentations, investigate, and deliberate over all requests for funding.

EWB’s funds were one of the most contentious among the Senate. Several senators pushed for EWB to be funded $100 more per student to help them cover airfare. The organization was given $1,000 for the conference fee.

Members of the Finance Committee emphasized that it would not be practical or equitable to give EWB additional funds since there are other organizations in need of funding as well.

“There have been plenty of groups that have come to us and have done great things,” said Jose Garcia, vice-chair of the Finance Committee and Honors College senator. “We just want to be fair.”

The FIU Lunabotics team received full funding for their trip. Previously, they were set to receive $244 for a banner and t-shirts; but after deliberation among the senators, they were allocated $2,169 to include the group’s hotel expenses.

Finance Committee Chair Giovanni Comela had been against funding hotel and airfare for any of the groups since spending money on those expenses does not directly benefit the student body.

“If you don’t stay at a hotel, you won’t be able to be there to put a banner out and actually put FIU’s name out there,” said Fajardo.

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News Flash

Local

Number of ‘F’ schools could surge under changes

The number of Florida schools given an ‘F’ could increase dramatically under a proposal the Board of Education will consider Tuesday.

The proposed changes to the school grading calculation have been met with heavy opposition from superintendents, parents, and advocates for disabled students and English language learners.

Under the changes, schools where less than 25 percent of students score as proficient in reading on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test would automatically be given an ‘F.’

Associated Press

Law to drug test welfare recipients

Conservatives who say welfare recipients should to prove they test to receive government assistance have momentum on their side.

The issue has come up in the Republican presidential campaign, with front-runner Mitt Romney saying it's an “excellent idea.”

Nearly two dozen states are considering this plan that would make drug testing mandatory for welfare recipients, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. And Wisconsin lawmakers advanced such a proposal this week.

Driving the measures is a perception that people on public assistance are misusing the funds and that cutting off their benefits will save money for tight state budgets — even as statistics have largely proved both notions untrue.

“The idea, from the taxpayer is, ‘I don’t mind helping you out, but you need to show that you’re looking for work, or better yet that you’re employed, and that you’re drug and alcohol free,’” said Wisconsin Republican House Speaker Ed Bach.

Correction

Tourism Management is misspelled.

At the Village” the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management is misspelled.

In Vol. 23, Issue 70 of The Beacon in the Life! section, the article “Seniors start fresh against Jaguars” incorrectly states that Rachael Ray is a Food Network celebrity chef. She is a Food Network personality.

In Vol. 23, Issue 70 of The Beacon in the Sports section, the article “Seniors start fresh against Jaguars” incorrectly states that the men’s basketball team will be playing FAU on March 3. They are playing WCU.

In Vol. 23, Issue 70 of The Beacon in the Art by bay section, the article “Students get a taste of the industry at the Village” the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management is misspelled.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

Contact information

E-mail: news@fiusm.com
Website: www.fiusm.com
Address: WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
Phone: (305) 348-1580, (305) 348-2709
Fax: (305) 348-2772
Online: www.thebeacon.com

Paula Rice
Executive Director

E-mail: advertising@fiusm.com
Website: www.fiusm.com
Address: WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
Phone: (305) 348-1580, (305) 348-2709
Fax: (305) 348-2772
Online: www.thebeacon.com

Hamilton planning GC expansion

Supported her missionary school, traveled to Peru to see how the funds were being used.

At that time, Hamilton was second in her class and had just finished being featured in the newspaper for an award. After finding out that she would not have any way of continuing her college studies, Patton decided to sponsor Hamilton at the University of Mount Union in Ohio.

“A wonderful soul, he is my American father and I adore him,” she said of Patton. “He took a chance on me and he didn’t even know me.”

After studying education and earning her bachelor’s, Hamilton got her master’s in counseling from Kent State University, opening up her world to administration.

Daily, you can find Hamilton pacing GC in her business, high heels and her 80’s-style big hair.

“Ruth, in one word, is exquisite. She is full of life.” Pradeep said. ‘She just keeps going and going. But the great thing about Ruth is that in the decisions she makes, she does it to benefit GC in one way or another.”

Three years ago, Hamilton once again faced a challenge when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. “This was a shock because you can’t afford life without a source of energy and feeling well,” she said. Her hopes, though swayed, were not broken. “I learned that God put me in this place for a purpose and understand that it is not forever.” Hamilton said.

Whenever the chance presents itself, Hamilton does not hesitate to help students.

“I needed a job and I ran into Fresh Foods and we had a talk right then and there,” said Danny Hernandez, a student custodial staff worker in GC.

“She hired me right on the spot, not judging me for how I was dressed back then. It goes to show that she really cares about the students.”

The biggest piece that has held up action now and in the past are the constitutional questions,” said Rochelle Finzel, the Children and Families Program manager at the NCSL.

In Florida last year passed legislation that was eventually halted by a federal court ruling that cited constitutional concerns. Finzel said some states are trying to avoid court challenges by requiring drug tests only in cases where there’s reasonable cause to believe there’s substance abuse, instead of requiring everyone to take a test.

Sonnenschiedt’s bill also seeks to help non-citizens, she said because applicants must complete regular training to help qualify for government aid again.

Sonnenschiedt’s critics say the idea feeds off the negative — and unsubstantiated — stereotype that a low percentage of welfare recipients are likely to use drugs. Sonnensted said he’s not picking on any group, and pointed out that the legislation would likely have a much smaller impact. “The five percent, or the four percent, or whatever that percentage is, all of a sudden in order to make. They will either do what it take to get clean, or not have their (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) funds,” he said.
Faltering offense leads to three losses in Boca Raton

ANTHONY GUIVAS
Staff Writer
anthony.guivas@fiusm.com

The Panthers dropped three games out of four over the weekend in Boca Raton. The team combined to score seven runs in four games during the Strike Out Cancer Tournament, also known as the FAU Invitational.

FIU finished the FAU Invitational 1-3 and left with an even .500 record of 7-7.

TULSA 4, FIU 1

With FIU coming off the heels of a five-game winning streak, the Panthers hit a snag as to start out the Strike Out Cancer Tournament with a 4-1 loss against Tulsa on Feb. 24.

Right out of the gate the Panthers didn't skip a beat as Ashley McClain hit a leadoff home run in the first, giving FIU a quick lead. That one run was all FIU could muster in the contest as Tulsa’s pitching kept the Panthers’ bats quiet.

Opportunities became more and more scarce for the Panthers. FIU had an opportunity in the third when Tulsa's pitching kept the Panthers' bats quiet.

Junior catcher Lacey Middlebrooks got out of the jam with a fielder's choice off the bat of Brie Rojas, respectively.

AUBURN 3, FIU 1

After dropping the first two games against USA and Florida State University, the Panthers couldn't make a comeback again against Auburn on Feb. 26. The Tigers scored all three runs in the seventh inning against Junior pitcher Kayla Buri.

The Tigers scored a solo home run in the seventh inning against FIU's pitcher Kayla Buri, and added two more runs in the eighth inning on a double play.

FIU now falls to an even .500, standing at 6-6 after starting out FAU Invitational 6-4.

Panthers split two conference matches

JONATHAN JACOBSKIND
Contributing Writer
sports@fiusm.com

The two years of dominance in the Sun Belt Conference has come to a halt – at least for now.

In an attempt to initiate their Sun Belt Conference matches on a high note, FIU returned home with a 4-3 victory versus the Jaguars of South Alabama but faltered against the North Texas Mean Green in a 4-3 defeat.

The last time FIU (2-9) faced the Mean Green in a 4-3 defeat. They eventually lost 2-1. Sophomore right-hander Michael Ellis was one of the few bright spots of the day, pitching six innings, allowing only three hits and striking out six batters in his first start of the year.

Senior Pablo Bermudez got on base four times in five chances and junior Adam Kirsch had the team’s lone RBI. "Overall we had some beautiful moments in all of our matches. Even though we did not show our front foot in doubles [play] against South Alabama, we turned it around in singles [play]," coach Applebaum-Dallau said.

Despite South Alabama taking the edge in doubles, the Panthers clawed their way back in and won their singles match in convincing fashion with victories from senior Lisa Johnson and freshman Sarah Mclean, who downed Emily Newton and Chaine Hines 6-2.

The Panthers could not keep their winning ways, squandering to 0-2 in the doubles portion of the match.

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FIU suffers first conference defeat

**TENNIS, PAGE 3**

Guttormsen joined in on the party as all three women added to the win column. Maisak went undefeated in her first two matches against Sun Belt competition, dismantling her opponent in 6-2, 6-1. Mclean exhausted her opponent in a 6-1, 6-2 victory followed by Guttormsen’s 6-3, 6-3 win. Guttormsen is showing a glimpse of greatness in her freshman year of collegiate tennis. Despite going an impressive 2-0, the humble freshman does not believe it was still her best performance of the season. “I think I played well, but I do not think it could be my best performance. I still need to improve my game and play better each and every game,” Guttormsen said.

**UNT 4, FIU 3**

FIU could not add another conference victory as the host team, 60th ranked North Texas, defeated them. Contrary to the South Alabama doubles matches, the Panthers bounced back against doubles in North Texas as Giulietta Boha and Guttormsen showed a resiliency effort in a long 9-7 win over Valentina Starkova and Kseniya Bardabush.

However, the same could not be said for the Mean Green as they came out with a vengeance during the singles matches as they upended FIU 4-2. A 6-3, 6-5, win by conference player of the week Nadia Lee over Mclean contributed to the Mean Green defeat of the Panthers.

Maisak had a stand out performance in her match for the Panthers as she delivered a 6-3, 7-5 triumph over Kseniya Bardabush. There was a Christine Serendix sighting as the senior made her first appearance in the court since playing sixth ranked Georgia on Feb. 5. She won 6-2 in her singles matches.

Despite Panthers coming up short versus UNT, Applebaum-Dallau had nothing but positive things to say about her young, resilient team. “We need to be confident and keep our mentality going in the right direction. To me confidence is not measured by wins and losses, but by doing the right things in order to be the best player you can be,” Applebaum-Dallau said about moving forward on the 2012 season.

With the loss, the Panthers failed to beat their highest ranked opponent of the year and missed a chance to start undefeated in conference play. They are off to their worst start in the past six seasons.

The Panthers started the season off playing through a gauntlet of ranked teams.

From a player’s perspective, Johnson said her players have a hard time adjusting to playing such high caliber teams right off the gate.

“We’re used to having to play harder teams as the season went on and had to get better towards the end of the season, but now we’ve had to start out stronger at the beginning of the year and then play into a softer schedule,” Johnson said. “We just have to play with confidence and maintain our focus for the rest of the year and we should be back on track right away.”

Applebaum-Dallau commended the team for regaining focus in their doubles match and putting the past loss aside versus North Texas. Despite the double losses, Applebaum-Dallau is confident in her girls. “It looks like it’s all going in the right direction,” Applebaum-Dallau said. “We are a team that our schedule has been very tough and I do that on purpose…We are not training to play against all the non-ranked teams. We are training to play against the toughest teams in the country.”

Panthers salvage a victory against Florida A&M

**BASEBALL, PAGE 3**

of the FAU Invitational, FIU’s losing streak would reach to three games as the Panthers dropped a 2-1 contest against No. 24 Auburn on Feb. 25.

The second inning was FIU’s sole opportunity to score as Bumner kept the Panther bats quiet. With just a one-run lead, FIU’s starter Jenn Giadiekk spun a complete game but allowed two runs, which were more than enough for the Tigers to secure the win.

Auburn’s runs came both in the third and sixth respectively. In the third the Tigers’ Lauren Grijan slugged a home run, which tied the game, and then ultimately in the sixth, a triple scored the decisive game winning run.

So with FIU coming into the Invitational at 6-4 and on a five game winning streak, they take on Florida A&M.

**FIU 5, FAMU 1**

After suffering a third loss in the FAU Invitational, the Panthers finished the tournament on a high note, beating Florida A&M 5-1 on Feb. 25.

For the third time in the invitational the Panthers got out to a quick lead but this time hung on and gave their pitching staff a much needed break. The Panthers opened up the scoring in first when Kayla Barit got on with a bunt single and then scored on an McCain single right after. And for the first time during that weekend, the offense continued to tack on more runs in the following inning when Jenny Welch drove in Betti Peller on a ground out.

FIU’s bats continued to warm up in the fourth inning when first baseman Shelby Graves delivered her first career home run in the fourth and added another RBI in the sixth on a squeeze play. And likely Kelsey Grabak scorched a pitch for a double, delivering the fifth run of the ballgame.

As the bats got going, their starter, Maria Janezich pitched her best game of the year. The sophomore from Carolina, Washington threw a complete game striking out 10 Rattlers. She also kept Florida A&M to just three hits.

FIU will now look to get over .500 again as they travel to Fullerton, California to start off the Cal S. Fullerton Tournament.

It won’t be an easy task for FIU as they will take on No. 3 California and host Cal State Fullerton on March 3.
Audiences should expect unique experience at Arabian Nights

Top: The set for Arabian Nights. Bottom: Marilyn Skow, the costume designer displays one of the headpieces she created for the production. Skow made off of all the turbans used for costume by hand.

Students’ votes decide Movie on the Lawn event at The Frost

After one month of uncertainty, the Frost Museum has finally announced the winner to the movie that will be airing in this month’s Movie on the Lawn event. For the first time, students were able to decide what will be the highlight of the evening.

Popular series like “Pirates of the Caribbean” and “Harry Potter” may have won a spot in the box office, but they trailed behind in the polls. Even winners of the Academy Award, such as “Wall-E” and “The King’s Speech,” were only able to tie for second place.

When it comes to deciding the Academy Awards, the statues come in second to the dresses. Here are the actresses that I noticed for their choice in dress, bad and good.

Natalie Portman: Portman wore a vintage red Christian Dior pelika dotted gown. This look is completely understated and I’m shocked that Vogue put her on their best dressed list.

Portman isn’t the type that can pull off a vintage gown like this one; the volume and cut overwhelmed her tiny figure. This style of dress should have been hemmed at her ankles so that we could see her shoes. Also, letting the dress touch the ground made her look short.

To top it off, her accessories made her look even older. With some more modern accessories and a pair of interesting and visible shoes, this dress could have wowed me.

Jennifer Lopez: I’m pretty sure Lopez has worn a dress exactly like the Zuhair Murad couture she wore, to every event she’s ever been invited to, leaving me yawning permanently.

Don’t get me wrong, the dress is an incredible piece of art. The sunburst design in shiny beadwork over a see-through gown is completely gorgeous. For Lopez to have looked more original, I would have taken the sleeves off completely.

I’m also tired of her wearing her hair in a high bun. Pairing some soft waves with this glamorous dress would have been fresh and youthful.

Gwyneth Paltrow: When I saw this white Tom Ford on Gwyneth Paltrow, I actually got the chills. The sleek white floor length gown and matching cape—yes, you read that correctly—was the number one look of the night.

The one-shoulder gown had minimal draping, which let the cape look like an extension of the dress. Paltrow wore her hair straight and sleek in a low pony and kept the makeup minimal. She wore a diamond cuff and ring—that was it.

She didn’t even wear nail polish. The simplicity suited her perfectly and was the best example of not letting a dress overpower you. I am obsessed.

Emma Stone: She’s been on my best dressed list every single time this awards season, but I feel like Stone let me down.
### Bands outshine the delayed start at the Electric Pickle

Next up was The State Of F, a female duo fueled by their emo-driven lyrics, attitude-infused drumming, and the whimsical handling of digital ivory keys. At this point of the night, at about 12:30 a.m., the Pickle held its largest crowd with the entire patio area filled with shoulder-to-shoulder bobble heads.

The State Of F put on a solid performance that had the crowd eating out of the palms of their hands, but so much so that due to the small stage, the lighting becomes more symbolic to allow the actors in the different design elements," said Galaska.

"Every production presents its own unique challenges in terms of the script. Lighting comes from what the playwright gives as instructions as well as the different people in the lighting team who present different design elements," said Galaska.

"As there are less items on stage, the lighting becomes more prominent in defining time and space. It’s a storytelling piece and it’s really fun for lighting to define the spaces in a visual sense."

#### Production gets creative with set

The abstract set design has allowed Tony Galaska, assistant professor of lighting design and costume stage management, to use light to establish the spaces of the play.

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"As there are less items on stage, the lighting becomes more prominent in defining time and space. It’s a storytelling piece and it’s really fun for lighting to define the spaces in a visual sense."

#### Radiate Reviews is a weekly music review column. Michael Hernandez is DJ Mike Manchill.

"This allowed the action of the set to move freely and the audience to feel like members of the company."
Discoloring remarks regarding sexuality harmful

The only one who should be concerned about their sexuality is the person themselves.

Therefore, the only one who should be concerned about their sexuality is the person themselves.

REGULAR FEATURES

Columnist

COLUMNS

In an attempt to understand and better explain to our readers the current deliberations, we made an effort to attain the budget binders, containing all of the line item requests by the 60 plus student organizations and facilities that are funded by A&S SGS.

After several attempts were made to acquire physical copies of these binders, The Beacon was able to obtain a password protected digital version of said public document through sources within Student Government—something a typical student would never have access to.

This is a critical period for so many organizations that are waiting upon their upcoming budgets, and it is a joint responsibility between student media and the government to relay up-to-date news, but these types of obstacles hinder the ability to effectively disseminate this information.

This lack of transparency in the budgeting process is only symptomatic of the overall lack of transparency within Student Government as a whole.

While we don’t expect each student to check their budget meetings every minute, we do expect Student Government to post them online accordingly. As of press time, SGC-MMC last posted Senate meeting minutes on Feb. 13 and the most recent meeting minutes posted for SGC-BCC were from the Senate meeting on Nov. 16, 2011.

The unavailability of this information prompted us to make an official request on Dec. 19 per the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, for all minutes from SGC-BBC’s Executive Cabinet; Student Advocacy Committee; Internal Affairs Committee; Finance Committee; Operational Review Committee; and Rules, Legislation and Judiciary Committee.

No response was received from either SGC-BBC Executive Chief of Staff Sony Fernandez, or from the five senate committee chairs, all of whom are responsible for documenting their activities.

We understand that SGA, just like those it funds with A&S fee monies, is student run and that other responsibilities often hinder the effectiveness of their positions; however, it takes more than it takes to acquire what should be public information is unwarrantable.

The lack of transparency was best highlighted during the impeachment allegations against SGC-BBC President Denise Halpin when charges against Halpin were dropped before the proper public procedure of impeachment was followed, as reported in the Oct. 26 editorial.

Even during the nomination and appointment process of the SGC-BBC senate’s Internal Affairs Committee chair, Oluwatamilore S. Odimayo, who sits as the SGC-BBC Finance Committee Chair asked applicants what plan they have for keeping SGA matters private—an aspect of governing they should strive to avoid.

Ongoing governmental developments, such as budget deliberations, should be easily accessible for everyone, not just those who ask.

The matters of the government are public, and no matter how small FIU student participation might be, we believe that SGA has the responsibility to ensure that they remain public.
Pros and cons of a ‘morning after’ vending machine

A vending machine such as the one placed in Shippensburg University offering easier access to contraception could prove problematic if placed on Biscayne Bay Campus, due to the proximity of underage students in the local community.

Students will also participate in a body image collage. The collage will consist of post it notes that “talk back” to the media about the body image that they portray to the world.

The three main eating disorders are anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating. Anorexia is characterized by an obsession with losing weight, vomiting and starvation. Bulimia is cyclical binge eating and purging. Binge eating consists of compulsive overeating followed by episodes of excessive dieting. According to the National Eating Disorder Association, all eating disorders require medical attention and mingle together anxiety and depression.

In the United States, approximately 10 million females and one million males are fighting an emaciating battle with an eating disorder such as anorexia, bulimia, or binge eating. Anorexia is characterized by an obsession with losing weight, vomiting and starvation. Bulimia is cyclical binge eating and purging. Binge eating consists of compulsive overeating followed by episodes of excessive dieting. According to the National Eating Disorder Association, all eating disorders require medical attention and mingle together anxiety and depression.

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Students will also participate in a body image collage. The collage will consist of post it notes that “talk back” to the media about the body image that they portray to the world.

The three main eating disorders are anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating. Anorexia is characterized by an obsession with losing weight, vomiting and starvation. Bulimia is cyclical binge eating and purging. Binge eating consists of compulsive overeating followed by episodes of excessive dieting. According to the National Eating Disorder Association, all eating disorders require medical attention and mingle together anxiety and depression.

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