State-wide budget cuts may lead to tuition increase

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The Florida legislature recently released its State University System budget for the 2012-2013 school year. The $70 billion budget included a $300 million cut to the 11 state universities. “FIU ended up with approximately $24.3 million in reductions which we have been told are nonrecurring,” said Kenneth Jessell, chief financial officer at the University. “The hope would be that next year the legislature would restore the $300 million to the SUS budget.”

This potential restoration will “be dependent upon the level of revenue that the state has for the next school year.” The model that was used to decide by how much each university would be cut individually was divided into three parts.

Half of the cuts were based on carry-forward fund balances that go into critical investments such as classroom upgrades, one-third were based on the base budget of each university and the last one-sixth “on the level of tuition that each institution would generate under the House and Senate approved tuition plan.”

The legislature also authorized a 15 percent tuition increase for undergraduates and an 8 percent tuition increase for graduate and out-of-state components, although FIU “will not exercise the full eight percent for graduate and out-of-state [students],” according to Jessell.

“We’ve really out-priced ourselves relative to other states in respect to out-of-state tuition,” Jessell said. “We’re probably going to be looking at a tuition increase that would approximate a couple hundred dollars a semester for undergraduate students.”

“As a result of the budget cuts, there are going to be tuition hikes,” said Kenneth Jessell.

University observatory construction underway

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Building a campus observatory has been a dream of James R. Webb, a University physics professor, for almost 20 years.

With a groundbreaking event on Feb. 21 and construction beginning in late March or early April of this year, the idea will become a reality through the creation of the Stocker AstroScience Center at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Webb, who is also the director of the South-eastern Association for Research in Astronomy at Kitt Peak National Observatory, said the project has been in the works for a while.

“I don’t know why it took over 15 years of effort to reach this goal,” said Webb. “It is a mystery to me.”

The physics professor has been the main supporter for the construction of an observatory on campus. “I have lobbied the administration, raised money for it on my own, eventually securing a $800,000 private donation that was matched eventually by $160,000 from State PICO funds, to build the observatory,” he said.

With Webb’s own design being used, he worked with both architects and the facility management at FIU to make sure the facility meets the needs of the astronomy students and the community.

The observatory is to be three stories tall with an astronomy lab, a lecture hall, faculty offices, a library, an observation platform on the roof and a 12 to 24 inch telescope. It is also designed to be used in spite of the interference of light pollution. Light pollution is excessive or obtrusive artificial light which dramatically reduces the visibility of stars, and is a major concern for both professional and amateur astronomers.

“Light pollution is a very serious problem in America, Miami, Kendall and all across the world,” said Webb.

Since the observatory is not a research observatory, it does not need a completely dark sky and is designed to work in a light-polluted area.

The observing pad and the dome are to be constructed above the Chemistry and Physics building and Owa Ehan. This is to give an unobstructed view of the night sky.

“Class Dismissed,” the column about all things education by Jasymn Elliott.

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said Anthony Maneiro, a junior in political science. “That’s the unfortunate truth. Of the 15 percent, 30 percent will go to financial aid, as the full 15 percent is considered to be differential tuition, the practice of charging some students more than others based on their financial status.”

Jessee said that the net increase in tuition would be about 10 percent. “In order to keep the plan on track for the next several weeks, we anticipate that about $12 million will come in for tuition based upon our estimates,” Jessee said.

This, however, leaves the University with a remaining $12 million deficit that it must make up for. In order to account for this, certain strategic investments will be cut back on and the University may have to use its statutory reserves.

Stars, Page 1

A structured view of the night sky, compared to stargazing at ground level. It is also said to closely resemble the bridge of the USS Enterprise from the popular science fiction franchise, Star Trek.

The great thing about it, he said, is that it will have the feel of being in a ‘starship,’ but it won’t be a Hollywood stage. It will be an optimized, fully functional telescope control room said Webb. “This room will be as close as you can get to exploring the stars.”

Other professors on campus have also been involved in the project, among them, Dr. Walter Van Harmme, professor and chairperson of the Physics Department and Dr. Caroline Simpson, associate professor of physics.

The Observatory will be open to students, both science and non-science majors.

“Our frequent star parties and events will afford every FIU student to have access to the telescopes,” said Webb.

The FIU Astronomy Club has a dedicated space to hold meetings. The center is currently looking for funding for a 24-inch lens telescope and events will afford every FIU student to have access to the telescopes.

“This has been a high priority for us,” said Webb.

Homecoming allotted extra $150,000

“By spring of next year, we should be in the facility and using it for classes,” said Webb.

Faculty to open by next spring

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With $96,555 left of campus specific budget, the committee voted to kick the amount back to the University Wide Council, which will reconvene once more for further deliberation of these funds.

Furthermore, amounts allotted to the various organizations are preliminary amounts and will be reviewed pending approval by the SGA Senate at both campuses, the Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones and University President Mark Rosenberg.
Panthers crush Hatters in first round of WNIT

Scouts impressed by Hilton’s speed at pro day

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In his last chance to show pro scouts what he was made of, T.Y. Hilton was forced to play with an injured quadriiceps that did not allow him to play at his highest level. Today, he finally got his second chance. And he did not disappoint.

On his first run of the 40-yard dash, Hilton ran a blazing 4.36, which would have tied for the best time if it had been run at the NFL Combine. Hilton noted that the scouts were impressed by his performance.

“Coming from an injury in the bowl game, they said I did really well,” Hilton said. “They said they could see me playing in the National Football League.”

When it came time for Hilton to catch passes from his quarterback, Wesley Carroll, he only dropped one pass. On what would be his final catch of the day, Hilton caught the pass but began to wince. Then, he spiked the ball as hard as he could against the wall in agony.

“I started cramping in that area. The coaches told me to just shut it down,” said Hilton.

Not only did all the scouts take notice, but so did his dad, Tyrone Hilton, who was excited to see him back in action. “It’s very interesting because he’s been hurt so much, and to see him out here running full speed for the first time since then,” Tyrone said. “To run a 4.3 (40), that’s pretty good.”

Before the day got started, the elder Hilton gave his son some fatherly advice. “I just told him to play within yourself,” Tyrone said. “All the people that are out here, all the teams out here, don’t worry. Just be within yourself.

Hilton did just that, performing as he did the past four seasons at FIU, to the max. His dad wishes that his son could end up on his favorite team, the Oakland Raiders, but he knows that he has no control over it.

“My team is the Raiders,” Tyrone said with a chuckle. “But whatever team he goes to, I know he’s going to bring some quality, some explosive- ness to the slot receiver position.”

Hilton now begins his opportunity to visit with the different teams around the country. He will be heading to New England, Kansas City and Philadelphia in the coming weeks.

“Coach Carroll always knew this is only the beginning of an extremely long process. ’It’s going to get crazy after this day,’ Hilton’s father said.

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After playing their way into the Women’s National Invitational Tournament, the FIU Panthers showed exactly why they belonged there, dismantling the Stetson Hatters 75-47.

When the brackets were announced last week, two Sun Belt teams made the NCAA tournament, Middle Tennessee and UALR. This left a spot for a Sun Belt team in the WNTI. That spot was quickly taken by FAU.

However, because of their performance throughout the year and in the Sun Belt tournament, the FIU Panthers found themselves in their first postseason tournament since 2005-06.

On March 15, the Panthers dismantled the Hatters in their 28-point victory – their first postseason victory since the ’05-06 season when they defeated Cincinnati 81-75 in overtime.

Head coach Cindy Russo thought her team did exactly what they needed to do to come out on top.

“We played our game, we put our pressure defense, we rebounded well,” Russo said. “All the things you need to do to win a ball game.”

Leading the team in scoring was sophomore sensation Jerica Coley with all 21 points. She admits that she needed the time off.

“We did a lot of cold tub treatment and we had a few days off,” Coley said. “Coach was telling me to try to penetrate more and look for the options. It just helped.”

Not only did the Panthers get a solid contribution from their All-American hopeful, but three other Panthers reached double figures in scoring, including Carmen Miloglav who came up one point shy of her career high with 12 points. She knows that this wasn’t a normal night for her.

“Today everything was going in and [Coley] found me in a good spot. I just shot it,” said Miloglav.

Along with Miloglav’s 12, junior Finda Mansare recorded her sixth double-double of the season, going for 14 points and 12 rebounds.

This was the largest blowout for FIU in the Women’s NIT, surpassing their victory over UAB in 1992 where they won 95-74. With the win, the Panthers will head to Tampa for a matchup with South Florida, who defeated cross-town rival FAU 76-20.

This will be the first time since 1992-93 that the Panthers have made it out of the first round of the tournament.

If the Panthers defeat the Bulls, they will face the winner of James Madison and Wake Forest. But before the Panthers could start to think about that, they knew that they had business to take care of first, and that was Atlantic Sun Player of the Year Victoria McGowan and the Hatters.

McGowan, who is comparable to Coley in every aspect of her game, was inst 6-18 from the field and 1-5 from three-point range. The junior
Head trauma becoming more prevalent in other sports

**SPORTS**

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The violence involved in a typical football play is the same kind of trauma that many people claim to experience in a head on collision with a semi-truck.

Director of Athletic Training Jennifer Doherty-Restrepo believes that this is a problem not only for football, but for any sport that has physical contact.

“The focus has been on football primarily for years. The focus has to change,” Doherty-Restrepo said. “Things just have to shift. Unfortunately, sometimes it takes someone getting injured, some kind of big bad injury, for people to stand up and take notice.”

Now that it has become such a big topic of discussion nationwide, many athletes are aware of the symptoms of concussion.

Knowing what they are, many try to hide the fact that they have sustained a concussion from trainers. Doherty-Restrepo says this is the worst thing they can do.

“Athletes are more aware of what the signs and symptoms are and more aware that if they display those signs and symptoms that they may be pulled out,” Doherty-Restrepo said. “So unfortunately, not that it’s a smart decision, some athletes don’t want to report those signs.”

Athletes think that if they hide those symptoms, it will benefit them in some way. But, most of the time, as Doherty-Restrepo says, it’s not just the kids who think it is the right thing to do.

“I’ve seen cases where it’s been pressure from the outside,” Doherty-Restrepo said. “Whether it’s coaches, peers, parents, there’s that pressure to compete, to win and to not be viewed as weak. Those pressures are out there because it’s really competitive.”

Doherty-Restrepo says that those symptoms can range from ringing in the ears to memory loss and confusion. More severe cases could result in loss of consciousness. Rick Burkholder, the Head Athletic Trainer for the Philadelphia Eagles, has been around football and football-related injuries in the National Football League for over 13 years.

He believes that football is not as dangerous as everyone thinks it is.

“I don’t think it’s a terribly dangerous game because our commissioner Roger Goodell has done a great job to try to make it safer.”

“The standard of equipment is unbelievable,” Burkholder said. “The game could be way more dangerous than it is. I think it’s a little violent, but that’s the draw to America. America likes that.”

As a group, the NFL is trying its best to make a very physical, somewhat violent game safer.

The sport as a whole is built around the quarterback position and Burkholder, as well as the NFL, realizes that they need to be protected.

“We need to protect our marquee players. Our product is not any good if the Peyton Mannings, Tom Brady’s, Michael Vick’s, those type of players, are down,” Burkholder said. “It doesn’t help our game, it doesn’t help our product.”

Restrepo believes that this is the worst thing they can do.

“Lacrosse is the big one right now because they just did a study with the high schools and the numbers went up; they thought whether it was because of recognition,” Burkholder said. “Then, they added lacrosse into the study, and it sent the numbers through the roof. Men’s lacrosse is getting it from athlete to athlete contact and girls are getting it from equipment.”

Panthers earn first postseason win since 2005

**WOMEN’S, PAGE 3**

guard also committed six turnovers against the stingy defense of the Panthers. Russo commends her defense for forcing McGowan into difficult situations.

“We tried to deny the ball as much as possible to push them out,” Russo said. “They have spots they like to catch the ball and penetrate to shoot, so we got her way out of what we call our B area so it was much more difficult for her to penetrate. We had some help coming inside so the game was really denying the ball.”

This marks the 10th time this season that the Panthers have reached at least 70 points. In those 10 games, the Panthers are 9-1 with their only loss coming way back on Nov. 14 to Florida Gulf Coast, who Stetson lost to Atlantic Sun Championship to this year.

That home crowd advantage led to the Panthers stifling the Hatter’s offense, as they shot just 26 percent from the field on the night as well as committing 11 turnovers.

With both teams coming into the game with very similar statistics, it was going to come down to who wanted more and Miloglav knew that her team was going to be just that.

“They had almost the same record as us so we didn’t take them easy. I think we just wanted it much more,” Miloglav said. “I’m just grateful that a lot of people came, which is not what usually happens.”

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**Election 2012:** How The New York Times Covers the Run for the Presidency

A presentation by
**Sam Sifton**
National Editor, The New York Times

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012**
3 – 4 PM
Modesto Maidique Campus, Graham Center (GC) 140

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012**
2 – 3 PM
Biscayne Bay Campus, The Mary Ann Wolf Theater

Brought to you by Student Government, Academic Affairs and Global Learning
Radiate FM offers unique sounds on airwaves

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WRGP Radiate FM; Music & News

Hector Mojena, also known as DJ Count Goldblum, knows what makes the University’s radio station so unique and distinct to the community.

“We offer a wide array of shows covering a multitude of genres that certainly put our station in a unique position in terms of reaching as many audiences as possible,” said Mojena.

WRGP Radiate FM is a student-run radio station which airs from the second floor of the Graham Center.

As a commercial-free station funded by students’ Activity & Service fees, Radiate FM not only offers a wide variety of music but it also airs Panther Sports Talk, which gives live feedback of different games along with commentary, and Panther Wire, which focuses on University, local, state and national news.

“It’s important to take representative various aspects of our local culture, and that’s what Radiate strives to do,” said music director Krista Lopez.

FIU, however, is not the only local university with a radio station; there is also University of Miami’s WVUM The Voice.

“It’s friendly competition. They have a great slate of programming, and I think both stations challenge each other to constantly innovate,” said Mojena.

“I think we’re lucky to live in a city with two underground outlets for music that isn’t chosen by record executives and Clear Channel,” Lopez added.

Radiate FM staff have a variety of music they have to offer to their listeners.

“On any given Monday, you can tune in to hear one of our rotation shows playing the best in new music, hear a sampling of old-school disco and other dance music on ‘Supernature,’ and end the night with a selection of dream pop and chill wave with ‘The Dreamers’ and metal on ‘The Midnight Metal Maelstrom,’” said Mojena.

Music heard on Radiate FM includes hip-hop, electronic, rock and much more. With over 70 on air staff members, Radiate definitely has a variation of different music selections to offer as well as news and other student shows.

“We truly believe in the power of the DJ, so we have quite a few,” said Lopez. “I think our station is unique in its dedication to eclectic tastes and keeping true to the college radio ideologies of the ‘90s: underground music that is at the forefront of trends and talent.”

Not only does Radiate FM offer music and news, they also have interviews on the air. Recently, on Mojena’s show, “Wall of Sound,” he interviewed a German noise rock group called Grabbel and the Final Cut as well as Gainesville outfitt, Averkiou.

“Wall of Sound” airs Wednesday nights from 10 p.m. to midnight. Mojena and his cohort, DJ Torgo, play a mix of shoegaze, scintillating psychedelic, and caterwauling noise rock on their weekly program; however, there are many different types of shows broadcasted by various DJs.

DJ Michelle G’s rotation show embraces a variety of new releases of independent music along with some of her own taste as well to make her show something interesting and fresh to listen to.

Radiate FM can be heard on 88.1 in the Homestead and Kendall area, 95.3 near the University’s campuses, and 96.9 in North Miami; the station can also be streamed online worldwide and can be heard at any day at any time on FIUSM.com. Students are encouraged to request songs at 305-FIU-3575.

SPRING BREAK

Students giving back over Spring Break

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A beach full of liquor, loud music and half naked adolescents is the generally accepted, MTV version of spring break. After toiling away at the books all semester, or at least tweeting about doing so, students often use the time to relax and vacation. But for some students, spring break offers an opportunity of a different kind: a chance to give back.

This spring 160 students will be part taking in Alternative Breaks, organized volunteer trips in which a group of college students take part in a service project addressing a variety of issues like poverty, education reform, refugee resettlement and the environment.

Over the years alternative breaks trips have become a popular substitute for the ‘traditional’ spring break. Prior to embarking on the trip students are educated on the social issues they will be working on.

Once they arrive the group works in conjunction with local non-profit organizations to complete the project.

The University has a long history of being involved with Alternative Breaks, opening its own chapter just a year after the organization began in 1994. The University’s program now ranks second in the nation.

This spring break a group of students traveled to Nicaragua to help build a kitchen for a local elementary school. The kitchen will be used to feed close to 150 underfed children. Nicaragua is a country highly affected by malnutrition, especially for young children, as many there live on less than $1 a day.

Other FIU students went to Costa Rica to engage in a reforestation project for a rain forest that once was the home for a number of endangered species, among which were the jaguar, harpy eagle and scarlet macaw.

Meanwhile, a third group of students spent their spring breaks in California, working alongside AIDS Project Los Angeles, an organization whose goal is to improve the lives of people affected by HIV.

Rashad Sapphire, a hospitality major and senior at FIU, has been working with Alternative breaks since his freshman year, when he went to Guatemala to help build a school. This year he is going to LA to help out with AIDS Project Los Angeles.

“There he and his peers will be distributing food to people who are HIV positive, working with the social workers from the organization, helping out with a marathon the organization is participating in, and also learning more about HIV/AIDS to help break the stigma that surrounds it.”

“I got involved with Alternative Breaks because I really feel that living in America and attending college is such a privilege and that those of us with this privilege should give back somehow, so I found the best program that would allow me to do that,” said Sapphire.

“I have a lot of fun on these service trips, so it’s not like I’m missing anything. I can party any weekend in Miami, so this is something different,” Sapphire said.

Other students have also found ways to give back this spring break, on their own. Blair William, a senior and physical education major, planned to help out at the Special Olympics over his spring break.

“This is my first time getting involved in an event like this so I’m pretty excited. I think it’s very important to give back because it helps the community come together and grow.” Williams said of his upcoming volunteer work.

Ideally, Alternative Breaks and other volunteer organizations hope that by immersing young people in diverse environments and challenging them to react to the local problems, students will not only gain awareness, but a true desire to help others which they will carry with them for the rest of their lives, encouraging others to do the same.
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New state university drains funds from Florida schools

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Sometimes I worry people in charge don’t know what they are doing.

The state legislature is currently in the working stages of making the University of South Florida’s Polytechnic campus its own University.

This would make USF Polytechnic the 12th state university in the State University System, which is managed by the SUS Board of Governors.

USF Polytechnic is the Lakeland campus of USF. Polytechnic focuses on the programs of science, technology, engineering and math.

With all due respect to the gentlemen on the legislature, the last thing the SUS needs is to be a complete dozen. This applies if looking five or 10 years into the future.

Florida, let alone the entire country, is still reeling from the effects of the recession. Public funding has and is still on the decline. Let’s take our own university for example.

This fiscal year, 2011-2012, the University received $157 million from the state compared to last year’s number of $228 million.

That number is down by $71 million – about 33 percent. And FIU isn’t high on the legislature’s list of state universities to receive funding. So imagine what a possible new university to the SUS would receive in funding.

The legislature hasn’t shown any signs of possibly providing more funding, causing FIU and other public state universities to seek alternate sources of revenue.

The main one being students. Compare the $157 million FIU received from the state to the $174 million students paid in tuition to FIU. In 2007, tuition was $106 million.

So, again, imagine what the tuition would be for the students of a new state university. Or even if Polytechnic starts with low tuition and raises it every year, I don’t think that plus its unique nature would appeal to students more than the established state universities.

This also creates smaller pieces from an already shrinking pie for the current state universities.

All the universities in the state system are seeing cuts in their state funding, some more than others. So adding another university could mean deeper cuts from year to year. The state could even divert more money to the new university that would desperately need it. Understandable, but not in the best interest of the entire SUS.

While the pie is getting smaller, student money is being used to somewhat fill the hole left by the decreasing state money, an understandable concept, but I disagree.

But I really don’t want to be a student when it becomes readily apparent state money is disappearing much faster than tuition increases.

This also has political undertones as the timing of the release of the proposal was not too long after Gov. Rick Scott made comments about the state not graduating enough students with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degrees and too many students with anthropology degrees.

“Is it a vital interest of the state to have more anthropologists?” Scott said. “I don’t think so.”

There will be a 12th state university as the legislature hasn’t shown any signs of wavering on their position – they’ve shown by this ignoring the complaints of USF Polytechnic’s students, faculty and staff.

Thankfully, my heart will beat easier as USF Polytechnic will have several benchmarks to achieve over the next five years to completely achieve independent status.

The benchmarks are available for viewing on the Bog’s website.

I just hope that by the time USF Polytechnic reaches its benchmarks, if it does, Florida and its higher-education customers – eventual students and parents – are more capable of supporting another university.

And the people in charge will know how to use that support.

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While the pie is getting smaller, student money is being used to somewhat fill the hole left by the decreasing state money, an understandable concept, but I disagree.

But I really don’t want to be a student when it becomes readily apparent state money is disappearing much faster than tuition increases.

This also has political undertones as the timing of the release of the proposal was not too long after Gov. Rick Scott made comments about the state not graduating enough students with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degrees and too many students with anthropology degrees.

“Is it a vital interest of the state to have more anthropologists?” Scott said. “I don’t think so.”

There will be a 12th state university as the legislature hasn’t shown any signs of wavering on their position – they’ve shown by this ignoring the complaints of USF Polytechnic’s students, faculty and staff.

Thankfully, my heart will beat easier as USF Polytechnic will have several benchmarks to achieve over the next five years to completely achieve independent status.

The benchmarks are available for viewing on the Bog’s website.

I just hope that by the time USF Polytechnic reaches its benchmarks, if it does, Florida and its higher-education customers – eventual students and parents – are more capable of supporting another university.

And the people in charge will know how to use that support.
Elections Board rules against its own codes

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The Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Election Board met on March 7 to hear deliberations and decide on two issues that affect the contention of SGC-BBC’s presidency in this year’s election.

The issues decided upon were whether Oluwatobili Adekoya could switch from being Pablo Haspel’s running-mate, and vice presidential candidate, to being a presidential candidate a week after the deadline for candidate applications had expired; and whether or not Haspel met the regulations, as stipulated by the SGC-BBC Elections Code, for being an eligible presidential candidate.

On March 5, via email, Adekoya contacted SGC-BBC Election Board Commissioner Wetly Wang requesting a change be made to the candidate application he had submitted for review to the SGC-BBC Election Board.

According to the SGC-BBC’s Elections Code 703.06 Subsection XI, “A candidate must file all registration documents with the Elections Board Commissioner on or before the deadline date and time designated by the Student Elections Board.”

Wang previously submitted an application to be a SGC-BBC vice presidential candidate, but it was voided in lieu of a second application for him to run as an incumbent for the SGC-BBC Senator at Large seat by the Feb. 29 application deadline.

The SGC-BBC Elections Board proceeded to hear the matter of whether Pablo Haspel was an eligible SGC-BBC presidential candidate. Pending his acceptance as a grad student in fall 2012, Haspel would not be registered for classes.

According to the SGC-BBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsection XIII, the elections board commission will verify that all applicants meet the requirements for being eligible candidates through the Office of the Registrar.

The deadline for applications was on Feb. 29 at 5 p.m.

The SGC-BBBC Elections Board unanimously voted in favor of allowing Adekoya to switch his candidacy from SGC-BBC vice president to president with Oluwatobili Oluwatobili as his running-mate. According to the SGC-BBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsection VII, “A candidate must file all registration documents with the Elections Board Commissioner on or before the deadline date and time designated by the Student Elections Board.”

Oluwatobili previously submitted an application to be a SGC-BBC vice presidential candidate, but it was voided in lieu of a second application for him to run as an incumbent for the SGC-BBC Senator at Large seat by the Feb. 29 application deadline.

The SGC-BBC Elections Board decided to hear the matter of whether Pablo Haspel was an eligible SGC-BBC presidential candidate. Pending his acceptance as a grad student in fall 2012, Haspel would not be registered for classes.

According to the SGC-BBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsection XIII, the elections board commission will verify that all applicants meet the requirements for being eligible candidates through the Office of the Registrar. 703.06 Subsection XIII.1 continues, “The Elections Commission shall then strike from the list of candidates the names of those persons who have failed to qualify for their intended office.”

An official SGC-BBC 2012 Elections Candidate List was released to Student Media by SGC-BBBC Public Relations Coordinator Samantha Metayer on March 5, after Wang had confirmed the eligibility of each candidate.

Haspel was on that list.

After deliberating on the matter, with the majority of the opposition’s debate being led by SGC-BBC President Denise Halpin, who attended the March 7 meeting as an observer and general member of the public, the Election Board unanimously voted to allow Haspel to continue his presidential candidacy upon presenting the board with a letter from the dean of the graduate program that he is applying for verifying the his graduate school application is currently being considered.

Presidential candidate challenges election board decision

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In light of a recent Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus Election Board decision, presidential candidate Pablo Haspel filed a writ of certiorari on March 8 with the SGC-BBBC Supreme Court contesting the decision reached at the March 7 Election Board meeting.

The writ contests the legality of the SGC-BBC Election Board’s decision at the March 7 meeting to allow Oluwatobili Adegoye to switch from running for SGC-BBBC vice president to president during the Feb. 29 application deadline.

Citing SGC-BBBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsections VII and 703.06 Subsection XI, Haspel is demanding that “the justices review this case, and make a determination that will fix the gross neglect of deadlines and procedures that occurred. There has to be legitimacy restored to deadlines or else no one will respect any of the governing documents of SGA.”

Haspel originally submitted a writ on March 9 with the SGC at the Modesto Maidique Campus Supreme Court due to fears that the Board’s decision would not rule partially upon his case. “I’m requesting that the MMC Supreme Court hear this case as opposed to the SGC-BBC court because I fear that the justices might be put under pressure by certain members of SGC-BBBC and would like to have a fair judgement dealt that has no personal bias,” wrote Haspel in the writ submitted to the SGC-MMC Supreme Court.

The SGC-MMC Supreme Court denied Haspel’s request to hear his writ. “To hear this case would be unconstitutional,” said SGC-MMC Supreme Court Chief Justice Octavio Melo in a written response to Haspel. “I’d like to emphasize that our vote to deny this case was based, regardless of outside influences.”

As students are off on spring break, the University begins on pending renovation projects through out the campus. Workers (above) construct a ramp to allow access for a crane to begin repairs on the interior of Academic One.

Sustainability

SEAS provides alternative to tossing out old electronics

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Think about it. If recycling one million laptops can power 3,657 U.S. homes, what else can be done with unwanted electronic?

Alternative recycling of electronics and other materials was launched at Biscayne Bay Campus last April and is still working on the regular recycle program; it is harder to get all the bins in the right places and spread the information. However, Bueso affirms that they intend to expand the alternative recycle program to MMC.