Discovery lab attempts to create real-life robocop

ALEX CRONIN
Contributing Writer

Disabled police officers and military veterans may now have a chance to get back into action.

The University’s Discovery Lab, under the School of Computing and Information Sciences, is partnering with Lt. Cmdr. Jeremy Robbins of the U.S. Navy Reserve to bring this plan to realization.

Called the “Telebot Project,” Robbins donated $20,000 to the lab and borrowed two robots from the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition. The plan is to use the robots to bring thousands of disabled police officers and military veterans back into the workforce.

The project is led by the heads of the Discovery Lab: Jong-Hoon Kim, Nagarajan Prabakar and Sunaraj Satharam Iyengar. The student developers are Irvin Cardenas, Lazaro Herrero, Frank Hernandez, Leo Shao, Uwe Cerron, Daniela Sanchez, Francisco Pekato, Mangal Prabakar, Fernando de Zaya, Justin Rodriguez, Eduardo Dennis and Jorge Andrade.

The first version of the plan, which started on July 1, is dubbed “0.1” and will be ready by the end of the year. The second version, “1.0” is expected by the end of 2013.

College Republicans united by ‘common goal’

ALEXANDER SUAREZ
Contributing Writer

The College Republicans, according to Parr, are representing once again.

According to Parr, the College Republicans are experiencing a busy season.

The first issue that brings this plan to action is “to get Obama out.”

“We are very close in line to students is by inviting the conservative message to students.”

One way the College Republicans were official.

According to Parr, the College Republicans currently have 107 registered members. About 25 to 30 people attend general meetings, according to Jesus Andrade.

“They are a lot of people that are not registered to vote because of his residency status. However, he believes that being involved in the community and encouraging others to use their power to vote shows what being a true citizen is all about.

“Members are a weird topic here,” Curiel said about the member’s role within the organization.

The organization has around 500 members. Some members recruited during summer freshmen orientations. According to Curiel, 20 members attend general meetings and participate in events for the organization because it’s hard to accommodate all members and their schedules.

College Democrats gear up for elections

MARIA BRITOS
Contributing Writer

With presidential elections around the corner, the College Democrats are experiencing a busy season.

The organization’s president, Leonardo Curiel, an international relations student and one of the founders of College Democrats, explained the purpose of the organization.

“The main purpose of the organization is to promote the ideologies of the Democratic Party and to basically show the students what the Democratic Party is all about and what it promotes,” Curiel said.

Curiel also shared his concern with the number of people currently registered.

“There are a lot of people that are not registered to vote on campus, mostly freshmen,” Curiel said.

One of the organization’s main goals is to help qualified students register to vote.

Curiel said he is not registered to vote because of his residency status. However, he believes that being involved in the community and encouraging others to use their power to vote shows what being a true citizen is all about.

“Members are a weird topic here,” Curiel said about the member’s role within the organization.

The organization has around 500 members. Some members recruited during summer freshmen orientations. According to Curiel, 20 members attend general meetings and participate in events for the organization because it’s hard to accommodate all members and their schedules.

The Discovery Lab is currently working with the two-wheeled, military grade IHMCs as a prototype, but the design may change as the developers decide what is the best look for the robot in an urban environment.

SEE ROBOT, PAGE 2

SEE DEMS, PAGE 2

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NEWS

Telebot Project aims to give disabled vets second life

ROBOT, PAGE 1

and a field test version is expected in early 2014. “Many policemen become injured while patrolling unsafe areas,” said Cardenas. “Those sort of jobs have a lot of demand in the community. Disabled veterans have useful skills, can take these jobs and make the community feel safer.”

The problem, however, is making a robot that can intimidate and display a sense of authority.

The robot is remote-controlled by the disabled officer but the voice that comes from the robot is the officer’s. The Discovery Lab is working on making the robot intimidating while also approachable enough that a small child would not be afraid to interact with it.

Remote-controlled robots are currently used by the military and business applications. The developers’ goal is the eventual ability of the robots to write parking tickets. Cardenas does not think these robots will take the jobs of police officers.

“Disabled veterans have their pensions and can get an extra job and more money and serve the community as well. Most veterans want to get into the workforce and the hope is that with this robot they can.”

“Usually, robots take away jobs. This one will give jobs back,” Cardenas said.

The goal of the project is to get these robots to be mobile enough to venture into unsafe areas that are dangerous or otherwise impossible for a human officer to enter.

The Discovery Lab is currently working with the two-wheeled, military grade IHMCs as a prototype, but the design may change as the developers decide what is the best look for the robot in an urban environment.

Cardenas does not think he should be president again next year.”

Members of the organization participate in community service activities, build their resumes if an executive position is acquired and have the opportunity to meet elected officials, such as former presidents, governors and mayors. “It just gives you so many unique opportunities,” Curiel said.

The organization does not have a place or date on which it meets regularly. However, the president contacts the organization’s members through email, Facebook and text to inform the members of meeting dates, times and locations.

U.S. President Bill Clinton last month. Going to Washington D.C. to represent the University’s College Democrats and meeting White House officials are also part of Curiel’s agenda at College Democrats.

Curiel explained his reason for supporting Obama. He said that the hard work the president has put in favor of students, in regards to the loan programs, passed during his four years in the White House, has impacted students and is the reason why students are willing to vote for him. “Students are a big part of his re-election,” Curiel said. “I believe that he should be president again next year.”

Curiel encourages students to join the organization, not just for the politics but for the experiences gained.

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UCCs are more of a burden than necessary

ALEX SORONDO
Asst. Opinion Editor

I am a senior and trudging, still, through the University Core Curriculum; digressing from grad school applications and their requisite writing samples to do my homework for Spanish I.

In the evenings, I work on a critical essay examining motifs in the later works of Philip Roth; and, then in the mornings, three days a week, I write single-para graph essays explaining to Pedro why he can't bring his dog into the biblioteca. These are the consequences of my own procrastination, of course. If I'd only buckled down and sacrificed the will to live, I could've caved this thing off in two years. Que razonable.

But after three failed attempts to satisfy the UCC's year requirement (the biggest obstacle for most English majors, and for which I all but washed my professors' car to finally pass), I feel pretty justified in my resentment toward The Core. There were other classes I wanted to take, other things I wanted to study that might have helped me out as a writer, a journalist, a human being; and I don’t think I’m alone in feeling that if I can show aptitude, passion, and dedication for a particular field of study that I should be able to pursue that subject with all of my effort and energy and strengthen my skills and earn my degree in the name of Roth - amen. Pero no. The UCC, and its surrounding network of bureaucratic confusion, is here to stay.

Not because it’s pleasantly vindictive for the administration, or even necessarily because it might seem pretty lucrative to have a single teacher, and maybe one or two Teaching Assistants, hosting a class of 200 students who all need a $140 textbook.

The unpleasant fact, the painful justification for the tyranny’s rule, is that the UCC does teach us something pretty profound.

It teaches, as Bob Dylan would put it, that you’re gonna have to serve somebody. Not that this is foreign practice to anybody of college age. High school is essentially a pulsating embodiment of servitude and drudgery.

But you aren’t actually paying for your high school education; at least not directly. It’s a rich learning experience when, at the age of nineteen, you have to hand over $600 for the “opportunity” to take Finite Math for the third time.

I would rather pay $1,000 to be flagged each morning for a semester. But you don’t get to pick your poison in college; it’s handed to you. The question is whether or not you can stomach it.

Because that’s all your undergraduate degree really says. It doesn’t mean that you’ve mastered the material in your field, it doesn’t even suggest a formidable intellect.

Your bachelor’s degree is a testament, above all else, to your work ethic. Maybe it took you five years, maybe two: the point is, you got through it.

Not only did you study and do the work and, ostensibly, learn some stuff along the way; you made the necessary sacrifices. You juggled jobs, skipped meals, dealt with advisors, pulled all-nighters, scrounged up the money for textbooks and tuition.

You overcame the bureaucracy’s hurdles of how much money to pay this person in that office on either end of their four-hour lunch break.

Es muy difícil, it really is. And while it provides -- or tries to provide -- a rounded education, with a few credit-hours in almost every field, the real value of the UCC resides in its godforsaken misery. It’s the Church of the Battered Brain. Enlightenment through suffering.

“In the beginning,” it tells us, “you will do as told. You will work at what you hate; you’ll spend dozens, maybe hundreds of hours laboring over subjects that will not only yield no benefit in your career but will, in fact, be promptly forgotten after the final exam. You’ll buy the experience for more than it’s worth and, if you don’t earn a C, you’ll buy it again.”

I’m not trying to downplay the ulcer-inducing contempt and impotent rage it evokes on a regular basis.

Believe me. I despise the Core with the passion of a thousand Spanish dances and I can’t think of a single benefit or a lasting lesson learned from any of its classes. They’ve brought nothing but frustration, anxiety, boredom and lament. That being said, it has its perks.

-alex.sorondo@fiusm.com
Environmental sustainability is important because it provides services vital for human survival and improves the quality of our lives and for future generations.

Cola Izaguirre, Sustainability Coordinator, Panther Dining

Since then, Jumia Jusice and most of the retail office locations, such as Starbucks and Cilantro, have joined in on the effort.

Looper is a back-to-the-future thriller with a few sci-fi concepts thrown in, but it’s mostly a whiz-bang time-travel caper. It’s a thriller, but it’s not a thriller in the traditional sense. It’s more of a sci-fi film, with time travel as the central theme. The film is about a man who travels back in time to prevent his own birth, and in doing so, changes the course of history.

With Joseph Gordon-Levitt as the lead character, Looper is a film that will appeal to fans of both science fiction and action genres. It’s a film that is both thought-provoking and entertaining, and it’s sure to leave audiences thinking about the implications of time travel and the consequences of altering the past.

**RECIPES OF SUCCESS**

The Food Waste Project, founded by Sol Izaguirre and Miles Medina, is one of the most successful and innovative compost initiatives in the nation. The project has been recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency and has been featured in national publications. The project aims to reduce waste and provide a resource for the community.

The Food Waste Project has been successful in diverting food waste from landfills and turning it into compost. The project has increased the number of community gardens and has provided a resource for the community.

Rian Johnson’s “Looper” is a film that will appeal to fans of both science fiction and action genres. It’s a film that is both thought-provoking and entertaining, and it’s sure to leave audiences thinking about the implications of time travel and the consequences of altering the past.

**Contact Us**

environmental.ﬁdu@fiu.edu

**CALENDAR FALL 2012 EVENTS**

**CAMPUS LIFE!**

**Monday, Oct. 8**

**Panther Pride**

**Tuesday, Oct. 9**

**Kickoff of the Bay Games**

**Wednesday, Oct. 10**

**Friday, Oct. 12**

**Monday, Oct. 15**

**Tuesday, Oct. 16**

**Wednesday, Oct. 17**

**Thursday, Oct. 18**

**Friday, Oct. 19**

**Saturday, Oct. 20**

**Sunday, Oct. 21**
FIU traveled up to Orlando on Oct. 3 to face the University of Central Florida for its second conference game of the year.

Coming into the game, the headline was the battle of two high-scoring forwards in FIU’s Quentin Albrecht and UCF’s Deshorn Brown.

Each forward lead their respective teams with seven goals this season.

The first half of the game was a defensive battle between the Panthers and the Knights. FIU (6-2-2) got out nine shots on goal while UCF (4-3-2) collected five. However, the Panthers goalkeeper, Robin Spiegel, stood strong with a scoreless first half and two saves. The Knights goalie, Sebastian Evers, did not go unchallenged either, holding FIU to a scoreless second half.

Upon entering the second half, both teams looked to assert their dominance and leave the game with a win.

It wasn’t until the 65th minute when a foul was called on forward Colby Burdette, giving the Knights a penalty kick opportunity. UCF’s leading scorer, Brandon Curiel, took the shot and buried it in the bottom corner.

The more shocking stat is that the teams the Panthers have either drawn or lost to, have shot less than FIU.

Over the past six games, the Panthers have had 76 shots to their opponents 65. However, the Panthers fall short to their opponents when it comes to shots on goal. Over the past six games, FIU has had 19 shots on goal while their opponents have had 26.

FIU must also look into finding a second scoring option on their team. Of the 15 goals, the Panthers have this season, seven have come from Albrecht, three from Burdette, two from forward Gonzalo Frechilla and goals from midfielder Daniel Gonzalez, midfielder Patric Ramlial and forward Nicolas Rodriguez. Coming into this season, both Burdette and Gonzalez were looking to be the team’s first or second scoring option; however, both have struggled to get off to strong offensive starts.

**FRESHER STRUGGLES**

Coming into the 2012 season, the bright point of this team was all the young talent that came to play for FIU. However, after 10 games, only two freshmen have scored for the Panthers.

Gonzalez, FIU’s number one signee, has had only one goal and three assists so far this season, while Ramlial has one goal and one assist. Other freshman like forward Andrew Mattek have gathered zero goals and assists.

FIU will need its young guns to perform better and get on the scoreboard more often this season if they are to achieve their goals and Head Coach Kenny Arena’s goal of reaching the Conference USA tournament.

**Thanks seniors, but it’s time to prepare the freshmen**

*a combination of stick’en*. It would have been foolish to assume that Head Coach Mario Cristobal, one of the pioneers of FIU foot ball, would not have had his eyes on other head coaching vacancies.

However, after reportedly rejecting a job offer to become the 25th Head Coach of the 143-year old Rutgers Scarlet Knights over the offseason, Cristobal opted to continue building the tracks to the train he once called “unstoppable” and in turn, made a firm commitment to FIU, a commitment that has brought upon two bowl appearances in just the span of a decade.

It would be unfair to slam the door on the Panthers after a tumultuous start to an expectation-laden 2012, without waiting to see what Cristobal and staff does to rebuild. But, the time has come to call it a season and move on. It’s time to find the next pioneer of this program.

He could already be walking the campus halls of Southwest 8th Street and 107th avenue. But, it’s going to take patience to find him.

That patience has to start now.
Bears linebacker Briggs not slowing down

ANDREW SELIGMAN

With the season sweeping towards the halfway point, Bears Pro Bowl linebacker Lance Briggs is coming off another standout stretch.

Lance Briggs says he's not slowing down. He's showing no signs of aging.

Briggs, who still has a lot of time left in his career, has continued to prove doubters wrong.

Briggs says he's still playing at a high level because of his work ethic, competitiveness and preparation.

Briggs, 34, is one of the NFL's top outside linebackers.

Briggs has 10 sacks this season, tied for the team lead.

He's also making big plays, with 27 tackles for losses.

Briggs says he's as good as ever.

Briggs says he's still improving.

He's still proving he's one of the NFL's best.

Briggs says he's not slowing down.

Briggs, who's entering his 12th season in the NFL, is still one of the league's best.

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OIL, WATER DON’T MIX

Presidential candidates ignore climate change

Selima Hussain
Contributing Writer

From a staggering economy drowning in debt to gay marriage and abortion rights being fiercely debated, the problems the United States is facing right now are foreboding, controversial and endless.

But a particularly “hot” topic is missing: Climate change.老师和其他重要的经济内容是必需的。然而，对于这些内容的讨论，老师总是通过面对面的互动来实现。