**SGA**

**GPSC trying to pass resolution for application process**

**JACQUELINE ROSADO**  
Staff Writer

The University’s Graduate and Professional Student Committee have set up a resolution that will make changes to their application process. GPSC is a committee within the Student Government Association, which consists of graduate, law and medical senators. According to Svetlana Tyutina, the vice president of GPSC, the committee’s purpose is to advocate and fund its applicants who want to do research outside of the University.

Tyutina explained that doing a research can be very costly, so to prevent graduate students from struggling financially, the committee funds their research. The resolution made by the GPSC was due to previous problems they have dealt with concerning the application process. According to Tyutina, there have been too many occurring issues with the application process that have affected or delayed the funding to its qualified applicants.

Some of the changes that were made are to better assist its applicants and avoid mistakes include proof of registration, the deadline being moved from seven to five weeks before time of travel or research and the addition of more people reviewing them.

Tyutina mentioned how some applicants would just copy and paste quotes they’ve used in the past, and the GPSC not knowing applicants had tampered with the applications, they would fund them.

“We want to make the application process more official and less arbitrary,” said Tyutina.

Also, Tyutina’s reason for some of these changes is to make it more student friendly by spelling everything out in more detail. For example, the committee now only accepts applications during the semester, excluding breaks and finals week, until June 10.

Tyutina said that this way they have more time to finalize applications. They can streamline and give time to process the applications if there are any changes that need to be done. With this, applicants are guaranteed their funding on time because they are given more time to make changes to their applications if there are ever any issues.

According to Tyutina, the only change applicants seemed to not agree with is the one where they are required to attend at least one funding workshop in order to qualify.

Tyutina said that their complaints about this requirement are because it’s mandatory, putting more stress on the applicants for having to attend the workshop in order to even qualify.

Tyutina’s reason for this requirement is to have more applicants attend the workshop because of the lack of attendees in past years.

The purpose of the workshop is to give direct answers to any inquiries or confusion applicants might have in their application process.

“Whatever happen is that only the handful that applied would get automatically accepted because their applications would turn out perfect after having gotten direct help from the workshop. However, the committee would still have to review the hundreds of other incomplete applications of the ones that didn’t attend,” said Tyutina.

Having to correct applications and try to reach hundreds of students after the workshop would back up the reviewing process, which would then further delay the time the qualified applicants can receive their funding.

“The new resolution will greatly reduce the processing time for all applicants, help answer students’ inquiries by direct interaction with the committee members, and help the committee address students’ complaints more effectively,” said Anas Salah Eddin, one of the GPSC senators on the committee.

**FACULTY SENATE**

**MIRIAM ARIAS**  
Staff Writer

Delano Gray is chair of the Faculty Senate and the faculty representative voting member of the Board of Trustees. As chair of the senate, Gray leads the Faculty Senate through its meetings every other Thursday as it decides on course changes in different departments of the University.

Gray attended Pace University in New York, New York, where he obtained a master’s in business administration as well as a master’s in science in accounting. Along with his duties in the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees, Gray serves in several other areas of the University including the College of Business, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the School of Advisory Committee.

According to the FIU College of Business website, Gray is a member of the Association of Fraud Examiners, the Association of Certified Bank Auditors, the Association of Financial Service Auditors, Information Systems Audit and Control Association and Association of Bankers, of both London and Toronto.

Over the years, Gray has won multiple awards such as the Most Supportive Professor Award in 2001 and 2003. "That [award] was great because that was more the students saying thanks,” said Gray. “That’s what those awards are for teaching.”

However, teaching was never in his plans while growing up. Gray attributes his decision of becoming a professor to his mentor, writer Mortimer Dittenhofer.

Dittenhofer once told him, “All that information you have in your head, if something were to happen to you tomorrow, who would benefit from it; if it is useful information, you should pass it on.”

“It’s why I started teaching,” Gray said.

Gray has also won the Outstanding Professor Award three times, and received the Most Helpful Professor Award in 2006. The Institute of Internal Auditors Miami Chapter bestowed Gray with a Certification of Appreciation in fall 2004.

While his students have shown notable appreciation, Gray has not limited himself to academic success. He is involved in information systems auditing, a job that entails finding out if a

**FINAL PREPARATIONS**

The new Academic Health Center 4 building is in its final stages of preparations to be opened soon. The cleaning crew went through windows of the building wiping them down. The building is expected to be complete this February.
Flu season ‘bad one for the elderly,’ CDC says

MARILOYNN MARCHIONE
AP Writer

The number of older people hospitalized with the flu has risen sharply, prompting federal officials to take unusual steps to make more flu medicines available and to urge wider use of them as soon as symptoms appear.

The U.S. is about halfway through this flu season, and “it’s shaping up to be a worse-than-average season” and a bad one for the elderly, said Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It’s not too late to get a flu shot, and “if you have symptoms, please stay home from work, keep your children home from school” and don’t spread the virus, he said.

New figures from the CDC show widespread flu activity in all states but Tennessee and Hawaii. Some parts of the country are seeing an increase in flu activity “while overall activity is beginning to go down,” Frieden said. Flu activity is high in 30 states and New York City, up from 24 the previous week.

Nine more children or teens have died of the flu, bringing the nation’s total this flu season to 29. That’s close to the 34 pediatric deaths reported during all of the last flu season, although that was unusually light. In a typical season, about 100 children die of the flu and officials said there is no way to know whether deaths this season will be higher or lower than usual.

The government doesn’t keep a running tally of adult deaths from the flu, but estimates that it kills about 24,000 people most years. So far, half of confirmed flu cases are in people 65 and older. Lab-confirmed flu hospitalizations totaled 19 for every 100,000 in the population, but 82 per 100,000 among those 65 and older, “which is really quite a high rate,” Frieden said.

“We expect to see both the number and the rates of both hospitalizations and deaths rise further in the next week or so as the flu epidemic progresses,” said Frieden. So prompt treatment is key to preventing deaths, he said.

About 90 percent of flu deaths are in the elderly; the very young and people with other health problems such as diabetes are also at higher risk.

If you’re worried about how sick you are and are in one of these risk groups, see a doctor, Frieden urged. One third to one half of people are not getting prompt treatment with antiviral medicines, he said.

Two drugs — Tamiflu and Relenza — can cut the severity and risk of death from the flu but must be started within 48 hours of first symptoms to do much good. Tamiflu is available in a liquid form for use in children under 1, and pharmacists can reformulate capsules into a liquid if supplies are short in an area, said Dr. Margaret Hamburg, head of the Food and Drug Administration.

To help avoid a shortage, the FDA is letting Tamiflu’s maker, GlaxoSmithKline, distribute 2 million additional doses of capsules that have an older version of package insert.

“It is fully approved, it is not outdated,” just lacks information to insert. This year’s flu season started about a month earlier than normal and the dominant flu strain is one that tends to make people sicker. Vaccinations are recommended for anyone 6 months or older. There’s still plenty of vaccine — an update shows that 145 million doses have been produced, “twice the supply that was available only several years ago,” Hamburg said.

About 129 million doses have been distributed already, and about 70 million doses are given each day. Frieden said. The vaccine is not perfect but “it’s by far the best tool we have to prevent influ-

Sergio Maisonet, 73, got a flu shot this week at New York’s Brooklyn Hospital Center at the urging of his wife, who was vaccinated in August.

“This is his first time getting the flu shot,” said his wife, Zulma Ramos. Last week, the CDC said the flu again surpassed an “epidemic” threshold, based on monitoring of deaths from flu and a frequent complication, pneumonia. The flu epidemic happens every year and officials say this year’s vaccine is a good match for strains that are going around.

Giving back, a part of Gray’s philosophy

GRAY, PAGE 1

software and computer are working properly. This ties in with forensic accounting, in which his main objective is to find out what is being hidden.

Additionally, in an effort to inform and educate, Gray has traveled to numerous parts of the world, including Africa, Greece and Trinidad.

He visited Africa while doing a lecture for the Institute of Internal Auditors for the African Development Bank on a financial product — a derivative.

In Trinidad, he did a presentation on investment securities, in which he dealt with financial people wanted to invest with, but did not want to put into a savings account.

“Part of my philosophy is giving back,” said Gray regarding these visits.

While Trinidad reminded him of his home country, Jamaica, his time in Africa allowed him to see “how very special” the people from the Ivory Coast are.

Though faced with a language barrier, Gray noted it caused minimal setback as Interpreters translated while students listened, headphones on and pencils ready. The only challenge he found was the translation of certain words that are, as he put it, unique to America.

Gray has achieved much success, however, he had to overcome several obstacles to reach the point in which he finds himself today.

In 1972, while still living in Jamaica, Gray became the campaign manager for the Ministry of Local Government.

As elections neared, life in Jamaica became more dangerous.

“People lose their lives trying to vote,” he said as he emphasized the importance and significance of doing so.

“It gets dangerous, there were shootings and killings before elections,” said Gray. “We [he and his family] packed up and left.”

Following these tragic events, Gray came to the United States and applied for a job.

In his first job interview, Gray was denied by the employment agency who placed their client’s ad.

He was simply told that American and British credentials for banking are not the same. Jamaica’s credentials fall under the British system.

Consequently, Gray decided to go back to school.

“Didn’t bother me one,” said Gray. “I made a decision that the next time I applied for a job, they wouldn’t be asking that question.”

Gray then found a job, allowing him to start over in the world of banking.

He went back to school and earned the credentials he needed in order to pursue his career in banking.

Gray began his career at FIU in fall 1999, and as noted by all his accomplishments, his hard work led to his success.

While hitting a few bumps in the road, he managed to progress, to persevere and to find himself in the position he is in today.
This is not a drill: an inappropriate response

LOURDES GINART
Staff Writer

Picture this: In the middle of class the building’s fire alarm goes off. As a student, your first reaction is probably, “Oh, my God, not another class.” Aside from that short moment of excitement, your next reaction should be to look for the nearest exit. I assumed the protocol during a fire alarm was common knowledge; if the building is on fire you’re supposed to leave the building.

Much to my surprise, fleeing from a fire or the possibility of one, as a fire alarm goes off, was not the immediate reaction of my peers. Rather, when the fire alarm went off one morning in PG5, students began to look around, all trying to hide behind faces of “class-is-cancelled!” excitement, checking to see who was going to be the first person to rise from their seat and leave classroom.

Finally, the professor headed toward the exit and left the classroom, and walked towards the food court in PG5. This is when I became dumbfounded.

An example of such an event is the 2011 earthquake. The quake caused damage to the University and many students were displaced as a result. Neither the location helped the event open to said community, nor did it stop me from being involved in the event. This is when I became dumbfounded.

Indeed, students need to recognize that alarms are now a sign of an actual immediate danger. Leave the building until an official clears you to return inside. Do not matter that you might be the first one taking action. Taking action in the right way is the correct response.

Professors should not force students to remain in a potentially harmful environment.

The University should make fire escape prevention and awareness an area that students are aware of. The University can do this by not only informing students, but by now anyone should know how to avoid the fire alarm. More importantly, they should urge their faculty to react properly and correctly to an occurring fire alarm, regardless of an ongoing exam or their lesson plan.

In an auditorium class of close to 300 students a fire alarm went off during an exam. Again, this was a false alarm but instead of taking the risk of compromising an exam, the professor asked students to remain in the building while he “personally investigated the situation.” That scenario’s outcome would have been much worse, as the auditor had a much smaller ratio of doors to students. 300 fleeing students and four doors is a formula for more chaos.

Again, no. Do not leave such a large mass of people in a potentially burning building because you might have to write another exam.

As adults, students need to recognize that alarms are no longer a drill; fire alarms are now a sign of an actual immediate danger. Leave the building until an official clears you to return inside. Do not matter that you might be the first one taking action. Taking action in the right way is the correct response.

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The University’s main campus sits on about 574 acres of land. There are more than 20 buildings at MMC. I refuse to believe there is nowhere else the event could have taken place, or there weren’t any other rooms in GC that could have hosted the event.

Or, perhaps, have the event exclusively at the University of Miami. There are more members of the Haitian community in North Miami than in Sweetwater.

So it could have been an event open to said community with some of its leaders present to add either insight or personal stories to what Phanord said.

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We are told there is nothing shocking about this drop. We are told comparing the enrollment numbers of one semester to another is irrelevant. We are told comparing the enrollment numbers of one semester to another is irrelevant.

This semester to semester drop is the steepest in the last four years - even when accounting for graduation.

Sometime between August 2012 and January 2013, 7,000 students put their FIU career on hold or have abandoned it completely.

This fact should not be underestimated. Although the enrollment plan for the 2013-2014 school year allots for a decrease in enrollment due to budget cuts, the University will work to grow its future enrollment.

Thus, this drop should be taken into account for what it is – a drop.

In comparison to past semesters and past years, and in terms of the future, the cause or causes of dropping enrollment should be an issue addressed by the University, for the University and in terms of the future, the cause or causes of dropping enrollment should be an issue addressed by the University, for the University.

Students should not be treated like exclusive information.

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from the personal and professional views of the editor and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

DISCLAIMER

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University introduces new piece to Sculpture Park

YANANISI COLLAZO
 Contributing Writer

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum is eager to add a new, illusionistic piece to their sculpture collections. Donated by Venezuelan artist Rafael Barrios and Art Nouveau Gallery, this handmade lacquered steel sculpture is known as “Dislocated Vertical.”

According to Klausio Rodriguez, assistant curator at the Frost, both the artist and Art Nouveau Gallery approached the University with the idea to present the school with this art piece, and the University accepted. During the installation processes, Barrios was present to decide on the sculpture’s location and the color it would be.

“As you can see, he is all about optical illusions, optics and gravity,” said Rodriguez. “His work is not specific to this museum. In other words, his work is along those lines of perception, illusions and tricking the mind, or so to speak.”

Originally, Barrios was commissioned to do the Park Avenue Project in the upper east side of New York, in which he temporarily installed a variety of art pieces.

According to artcircuit.com, Barrios’ steel sculpture is known as “Dislocated Vertical” was one of 10 sculptures that was placed in New York before it became part of the University. “Barrios has a studio in Miami, is a friend of the community, and most importantly, is aware of FIU’s Sculpture Park, which is fairly well known and well received,” said Rodriguez, explaining why Barrios donated to the University.

“To Beauty: A Tribute to Mike Kelley,” brings to the University’s own progression of King’s legacy through comparative photographs. The Kelley exhibit will be displayed on the third floor of the museum until Jan. 29.

The exhibition event which brings to the university until Jan. 29. The works on display manage to exhibit Kelley’s graphite drawings, his sculptures and surrealist paintings to illustrate the beauty of athletes from American culture that showcase advancements of King’s civil rights movement. Through photographs and a compilation video of King’s speeches, the gallery explores the social justice he strived and fought for.

One section ties in King’s legacy to the University’s own progression through comparative photographs. The exhibit will run through the end of January.

“Medical Disturb to Health Care Disparities – II” is a collection of works by students who created paintings inspired by unethical medical controversies called “Health Equity: A Lasting Legacy.” A piece by Mileydis Llanes, entitled “A Thousand Hells,” was inspired by the experiments conducted by Joseph Goldberger.

Determined to identify the cause of a disease called Pellagra, Goldberger tested on inmates at a Mississippi prison in exchange for a pardon. The works on display manage to capture the past ethical discrepancies of the medical field people blindly rely on. The exhibit will be displayed at the University’s Sculpture Park, located on the second floor of the Frost.

“American Sculp -life@fiusm.com

Frost welcomes new year with variety of displays

NATALIE MONTANIER
 Contributing Writer

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum is bringing in 2013 by giving students an opportunity to experience new, dynamic works of art. Pieces range from unique sculptures and surreal paintings to historically exhibited.

The current pieces at the Frost Art Museum include “Form’s Transgressions: The Drawings of Agustín Fernández,” “Ivan Navarro: Fluorescent Light Sculptures,” “To Beauty: A Tribute to Mike Kelley” and “American Sculpture in the Tropics.”

Unlisted on the Frost website are also a Martin Luther King Jr. exhibit and a student section entitled “Medical Disturb to Health Care Disparities – II.”

The exhibit “To Beauty: A Tribute to Mike Kelley,” brings to life a preview of Kelley’s artistry. Kelley’s works are known to be provocative-like representations of the American culture that showcase his concern for our society’s inclination towards a “dark side.” The pieces also express his odd childhood preoccupation with the Land O’Lakes girl.

In an interview posted on The Museum of Contemporary Art website, Kelley said, “I like to think that I make my work primarily for those who dislike it. I get pleasure from that idea.” The Kelley exhibit runs until Feb. 24.

For those interested in drawing, “Form’s Transgressions,” a collection by renowned Cuban artist Agustín Fernández, is a must-see. Although Fernández is known for his sculptures and surrealist paintings, the collection focuses solely on Fernández’s graphite drawings. Fernández’s ability to capture a simplistic yet almost erotic tone on just a piece of paper is something many visitors can appreciate. This exhibit will be displayed on the third floor of the museum until Feb. 17.

The Time Is Always Right,” is an exhibition event which brings to life the inspirational and social advancements of King’s civil rights movement. Through photographs and a compilation video of King’s speeches, the gallery explores the social justice he strived and fought for. One section ties in King’s legacy to the University’s own progression through comparative photographs. The exhibit will run through the end of January.

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Determined to identify the cause of a disease called Pellagra, Goldberger tested on inmates at a Mississippi prison in exchange for a pardon. The works on display manage to capture the past ethical discrepancies of the medical field people blindly rely on. The exhibit will be displayed at the museum until Jan. 29.

Located on the second floor of the Frost is the “Ivan Navarro: Fluorescent Light Sculpture” exhibit. This exhibit entails Navarro’s works with light and electrical materials. This is the first time his “Nowhere Man” series has been exhibited in the US, which is based on the Olympic pictograms by Otl Aicher. His work is made of fluorescent lights that illustrate the beauty of athletes from “nowhere.” This exhibit will be displayed until Jan. 27.

Finally, “American Sculpture in the Tropics” is a collaborative work between the museum and the University’s Sculpture Park, featuring 10 enormous sculptures made from steel, copper, wood, concrete, rubber, aluminum and cast fiberglass.

The sculptures were created by a variety of different artists and exhibited in an outdoors setting. This exhibit will be on display until May 20.
Student aspires to be international photographer

EDWINE SEME
Staff Writer

Some students follow their dreams by finishing college. Others follow their dreams while still in college.

Marvel Bishop is one of the students who followed his dreams while simultaneously going to FIU. Standing 6’10” above ground level, Bishop sees the world from a different angle, and doesn’t categorize himself as your average intro- vert photographer. If you meet him, he will greet you with, “Hi, I’m Marvel Bishop and I’m a photographer.”

Bishop started getting inspired to be a photographer when his best friend started doing photography in 2007. However, he didn’t start until summer 2009, the summer before he started at the University. While driving back home with his father after a visit at FIU, he remembered snapping a couple of picture of his view from the highway on his iPhone.

“I was just chilling and I saw the light beam into the palm trees,” explained Bishop. “I just thought this could probably make some good pictures.” Bishop decided to take some pictures of his scenery, and fusing them with his iPhone’s capabilities, he posted them on Facebook.

“I thought, okay, these might be the worst pictures taken in history,” joked Bishop. But little did he know that these casual snapshots would be the start of his path into photography.

This self-taught photographer is currently a junior majoring in sports management at the University, all while owning his own company, Marvel Bishop Photography. The company does photography for weddings, families, models and more, as well as films, such as documentaries, music videos and promos. He calls himself “a creative” and tries to tell a story through his pictures, giving his clients the best vision of excellence.

Positive comments and praise from his peers pushed his confidence to start taking photography more seriously.

Bishop makes it clear that he isn’t solely in this industry for the money, but to leave a good thing behind to represent his image.

“You and I aren’t going to be on this earth forever, but things that we do and leave behind, that could be your name, that’s what’s going to last forever,” said Bishop.

In a society full of photographers, Bishop wants to stand out from the rest. He doesn’t strive to be better, but instead tries to be different by not being your average photographer.

He humorously points out his height as an advantage that helps him rise among the crowd of photographers. He always tries to be “trans parent” to his clients and let his personality show through.

Bishop faces many challenges as a photographer. His biggest challenge is juggling school, his company and social life. Planning to graduate next fall, he tries to push school first while taking care of his business.

“I bounce,” said Bishop, describing how he goes from one thing to the other. He strives to be inter nationally known and is confident that he will get there through a series of creative projects that he plans to carry out, including “FIU Portraits,” for which he will try to photograph at least 1,000 FIU students from both campuses.

“This is a personal project of mine, but also my way of giving back to FIU,” said Bishop.

He is also working on “Strangers’ Chronicles,” a project through which Bishop gets to incorporate his writing and storytelling skills by interviewing random strangers and taking a picture of them, summarizing up who they are with their stories.

“I’m trying to tell people’s stories through my eyes,” explained Bishop. “All over the nation... I want to meet at least five strangers from every state. Then I’ll take international.”
Missing key players, FIU baseball faces uphill climb

FRANCISCO RIVERO  
Staff Writer

The biggest loss the FIU baseball team suffered last year didn’t come from a game. It came from graduating more than half of their 2012 roster heading into the 2013 season. The Panthers head into 2013 looking for new firepower after losing 19 players from last year’s club. Of the players who departed, third baseman Mike Martinez and outfielder Jabari Henry look to be the biggest losses.

Martinez led his squad in batting average, on-base percentage, slugging percentage and hits last season. He graduated FIU as one of its most historically potent bats, leaving with the RBI, hits and total base record.

Henry was just as dangerous as Martinez last season, leading the team in batting average in 2012. The third baseman, who’s now in the Houston Astros organization, leaves with his swimmers and diving team in a campaign that has exceeded even the most optimistic predictions for the first half of the season. The squad is ranked in the top 15 nationally for the first time in the program’s history and has broken seven team records this year alone.

“I’m not surprised by the quick turnaround,” Horner said. “I feel like there are so many assets here at the University with everything we have here. In our sport, it only takes a few key kids to make that first jump and then the culture change happens quickly.”

Horner began his career at the University of New Orleans in 1992, where he led the comeback of the men’s swimming and diving programs to the Lakefront Aquatic Center after the facility was shut down in the aftermath of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. Horner was recognized in New Orleans-based magazine, Gambit Weekly, as one of the “40 under 40,” which featured community members for their efforts in rebuilding a positive New Orleans.

“A lot of the appeal was to come in and do something for the greater good and be a part of something bigger than just the swim program, but the community of New Orleans came back and recovered as well,” Horner said.

Two decades later, Horner’s tapped into the same magic to turn around the FIU team. He has been successful in such a short time because of the complete change of culture on the team. A change noted by Sarah D’Antoni, who transferred into FIU this year after two championships years at Indian River State College.

“The team is very disciplined and he never misses a step in his season long program which keeps us all focused,” D’Antoni said.

Chelsie Kidd has been a part of the FIU swim team for four years now and an important piece in the turnaround of the team. As a member of the team before coach Horner arrived, she remembers what it was like before he was on board.

“You came to swim practice but no one was very serious about it, and as a group we are all so much more committed and more centered around the team now,” Kidd said. “To be able to watch the transformation means a lot, and it’s awesome to help lay the groundwork for years to come as the team will get better and better.”

With a season-long program geared for the Sun Belt Conference Championship, something the team has expected since the start of the season, everyone on the team has bought into Horner’s vision to elevate FIU’s swimming program.

After finishing his first season with the team breaking 11 school records, he followed that up with the No. 23 recruiting class in his first full season recruiting this year. Dani Albright has had a stellar freshman season this year, but it almost didn’t happen at FIU.

“As a senior, I was committed to FSU, and then coach Horner contacted me and visited me at a practice and as soon as I met him I knew he was the coach for me,” Albright said.

Horner connects with his swimmers and provides a support structure for them to achieve their goals. He is intent on staying focused on winning the SBC this year, but he is also excited for where this young team could be in a few years.

“Winning a conference title, I hope, becomes a formality in the process and not our end all goal,” Horner said. “We want to start to scoring points and have the team placing at the national championship events.”
The FIU sand volleyball team practices in the newly built sand courts on the west side of the Panther Garage. The squad is in its inaugural season and kicks off its string of tournaments in March.
New INR courses offered by senior fellow

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

Two new courses are being taught this semester – topics of international relations and topics of European history – by senior fellow for the School of International and Public Affairs professor Martin Palouš.

Five senior fellows for the School of International and Public Affairs were introduced on June 2011 with the hope that their unique experiences and expertise would not only further enrich FIU students’ education through their lectures but also present the possibility of new opportunities of engagement and research.

Palouš is among the five visiting senior fellows, as well as a distinguished visiting professor of SIPA. He has held several teaching positions, dealing with topics that relate back to his hands-on experiences as a monumental figure since the beginning of his public affairs career.

The course titled Topics of International Relations deals with understanding the United Nations, which Palouš believes he is qualified for and can “…have a good chance to compare a bilateral and multilateral diplomacy…,” given his time as an ambassador for both the U.S. and the United Nations.

The combined courses of Topics of International Relations and Topics of European History deal with the democratization, security and integration in Central Europe.

Palouš said his method of teaching as a combination of academic and practical approaches. He adds that as someone who is active, “…you may not see everything that you can see as a distant observer but if you are a distant observer, you may be too far from the realities of the interests that are concerned with your studies.” He is always trying to combine these two elements in relation to his past experiences and outlook.

Being a senior fellow involves a two-year residence; however, Palouš may stay beyond the ending date.

In addition to teaching at FIU, Palouš is also involved with the Václav Havel Library in Prague and is the president of the American Václav Havel Library Foundation.

As part of the new opportunities of engagement and research expected from his time here as a senior fellow, Palouš hopes to create a project with the INR courses that is a collaboration of students interested in different academics and international studies.

His involvement has ranged from a disinterested individual helping Palouš’s activism in public relations -- first for Czechoslovakia and then the Czech Republic.

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On Jan. 18th, the Recreational Center organized a New Year Get Fit Kick-Off. The orientation was for an annual get-fit challenge that is 10 weeks long. Participants may get in shape in any way they prefer. To determine winners of the challenge, it will be measured by body fat percentage and weight loss. Although the challenge is organized by the Rec Center, it is in collaboration with the Wellness Center. The challenge is five years old and this year, there are 26 teams registered. There will be two teams that win: one champ for weight loss and one champ for body fat percentage. Throughout the challenge, participants can get nutritional advising as well as use his/her process through several tests, such as a cardiotype test called the tri-fitness assessment test.