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 research can be very costly, so to prevent graduate students from struggling financially, the committee funds their research. The resolution made by 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 the deadline being moved from seven to five weeks before the deadline being moved from seven to five weeks before, the purpose of the workshop in order to qualify for the workshop to attend at least one funding line and give time to process applications if there are any changes that need to be done. With this, applicants are guaranteed their funding on time. Tyutina said that this way they have more time to finalize applications. They can streamline and give time to 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 for acceptance.

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. What would 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. 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 chair never planned on becoming a teacher

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

Delano Gray is chair of the Faculty Senate and the faculty representative voting member of the Board of Trustees.

DELANO GRAY

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
Flu season ‘bad one for the elderly,’ CDC says

MARILYN 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.

“Let’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 one 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 totalled 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,” Frieden said. “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 re formulation 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, Genentech, distribute 2 million additional doses of capsules that have an older version of package insert.

“T is fully approved, it is not outdated,” just lacks information for pharmacists on how to mix it into a liquid if needed for young children, she said.

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 12 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 enza,” he said.

Carlos Monseñor, 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.

“T 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 asst. dir. of student media.

He was simply told that American and British system. 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.

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.

Gray was denied by the employment agency who
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, “I’m not here, no 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 canceled!” 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 dumfounded. I wondered about the kitchen or halting sales, Dunkin’ Donuts, the only vendor open at the time, continued its sales and the line grew. It’s as if everyone was thinking, “Well if I’m going to do it, might as well have a doughnut first.”

I just wanted to scream, “No people! This is not what you do in a fire.”

I understand that most of the students in the University have lived in Miami or at least attended high school in Miami, where school fire drills occur often, students become immune to the immediate threat of a fire. But, I’d like to remind everyone that this is not elementary, middle or high school anymore; this is an extremely large institution that cannot handle fires and drills all day.

Instead, they include fire escape procedures, and other procedures, in documents like the student handbook. And what does that mean for us students? This is not a drill.

Yes, there is always the possibility of a prank or an accident, but what would have happened if there had not been an accident, what if this was an actual emergency? You’d have a large amount of students running toward one door as a fire would have been growing large and becoming a greater danger.

Sadly, this was not the first time I had been part of such a poor fire alarm response.

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 auditorium had a much smaller ratio of doors to students. 3600 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. Professors should not force students to remain in a potentially harmful environment.

The University should make fire escape plans, emergency plans, and other procedures, in documents like the student handbook. And what does that mean for us students? This is not a drill.

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 Graham Center. 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.

I am doing this would show the University is attuned to its surrounding community on a macro and micro level.

Instead, the event took place in the Pit, about a dozen or so people took part, and that was it.

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No shovel needed to get out of the Pit

PHILIPPE BUTEAUD
Editor in Chief

We need to get our minds out of the Pit.

In the Graham Center at the Modesto Maidique Campus lies arguably the heart of MMC, the GC Pit. A location popular for sales and the line grew. It’s as if everyone vendor open at the time, continued its sales and the line grew. It’s as if everyone was thinking, “Well if I’m going to do it, might as well have a doughnut first.”

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University introduces new piece to Sculpture Park

YANAISIS 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 Klaudio 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.

The current pieces at the Frost Art Museum include “Form’s Transgressions: The Drawings of Agustín Fernández,” “The Time Is Always Right,” a tribute to Mike Kelley, and “A Thousand Hells,” a collection of works by students who exhibited in an outdoors setting. This exhibit will be displayed until May 11.

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 Agostín 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 exhibition will run through the end of January.

University introduces new piece to Sculpture Park

NATALIE MONTANER
Contributing Writer

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum is bringing in 2013 by temporarily installed a variety of art pieces. The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum of January.

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.

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Medical Distinct 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 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.
Apple rumored to release cheaper iPhone

AARON PABON
Staff Writer

The rumors of a new, affordable and cheaper iPhone has made its rounds at the recent International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

Based on how many rival companies are announcing production of cheaper, affordable smart-phones, many are speculating that Apple will use cheaper materials in future productions to lower the prices, like avoiding the use of aluminum in favor of a poly-carbonate shell or not using Apple uses the only the best technology available to make quality products.

While Apple is not currently making a cheaper iPhone, one former Apple CEO suggested that the company should look into the idea. “As we go from $500 smartphones to even as low as $200 for a smartphone, you’ve got to dramatically rethink the supply chain and how you can make these products and do it profitably,” said former Apple CEO John Sculley.

Additionally, Apple and phone companies tend to come out with new models every year on the market, the price drops to about $200 and still made a profit.”

While it is unknown if Apple will release a cheaper iPhone, Bishop suggests that there is a need for it. Bishop says, “I thought, okay, these are people that are going to try to give back to FIU,” said Bishop. “All over the nation...I want to meet at least five strangers from every state. Then I’ll take it international.”

“I thought this could be a way to make some good pictures,” Bishop decided to take some pictures of his father’s old car, and 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 behind to represent his image.

“I won’t be doing this because I can do it profitably, but not instead to be better, it would be hard to believe this isn’t done.”

He humorously points out his height as an advantage and how he’s the only one among the crowd of photographers. He always tries to be “transparent” 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 put school first while taking care of his business.

“I bounced,” Bishop said, describing how he goes from one student, to a photographer to a friend who makes time to socialize despite his busy schedule.

There are times when I have major projects [in my business]. Then I focus more on my company than school, but I compensate,” said Bishop.

Even though he considers photography as his definitive career and a way for him to work for no one but himself, Bishop still expects to have his sports management major as a backup plan.

“If I could do it all over, I would do business,” said Bishop. “Over the past years, I’ve become more business savvy.”

Although he has strong attachment to photography, Marvel mentions that he wouldn’t want to take photography or any other art in college because he wants to earn at his own pace, and believes that art can’t be taught.

Bishop sees every project as a growing experience and is dedicated to leaving a legacy behind. He strives to be internationally 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 also working on "Stargazers’ Chronicles." This is a project through which Bishop gets to incorporate his writing and storytelling skills by interviewing random strangers and taking a picture of them, summing 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 it international.”

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Missing key players, FIU baseball faces uphill climb

FRANCISCO RIVERO Staff Writer

The biggest loss of 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 the 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 his team in home runs and trailing Martinez in on-base percentage and slugging.

For Head Coach Henry “Turtle” Thomas, teaching his young hitters that pitching is going to be different than what they were used to will be key in having a productive 2013 season.

“The new players have to get used to Division I baseball,” Thomas said.

“They have to get used to pitchers throwing pitches for strikes, in the corners, at the knees and being able to locate their stuff better than what they were used to in junior college or high school.”

So of the all the new faces coming into this season, 21 of 35 to be exact, Thomas pointed out a couple that fans should keep a close eye on.

“From a position standpoint, third baseman Josh Anderson, a junior college transfer, is a very good defender at third base, has a very strong arm, has a very good bat and is just an overall good player,” Thomas said. “From a pitching standpoint, I would have to point to Tyler Alexander, another junior college transfer. He’s got a nice fastball and a really nice changeup and his breaking ball has gotten a lot better since he’s been here.”

MAN IN CHARGE

Last season, second baseman Tyler James Shantz was just a normal everyday player. He had a productive season in 2012 and bringing rights when it came down to striking out -- having the fewest on the team with only 25.
**BASEBALL, PAGE 6**

However, after the departure of more than half of the roster, Shantz now finds himself under a new role: captain.

“It’s kind of funny being the old guy on the team this year, being that I was one of the youngest players on last year’s team, but it’s always neat to work with younger players and pass down experience that I’ve learned over the years,” Shantz said.

Becoming a team captain was something he expected even before Thomas mentioned anything to his second baseman.

“I knew that I was going to have to be more of a vocal leader this year and it was something that I was welcoming and looking forward to,” Shantz said.

Thomas has faith that Shantz will be able to be a productive leader.

“T.J. will be a vocal leader,” Thomas said.

“Some people lead by example others lead by verbalizing and some people lead by their actions. T.J. has been a solid college guy all the way through, he’ll speak up when the team gets behind in another game, and that makes being part of this team worth it. Mario Carcoma is another hilarious player known for his ability to talk smack and then light you up when you retaliate. He’s also hard as rocks tough, taking a punch to the face during a swim off but still winning the ball,” added Weller.

Heading into 2013, the team looks to improve upon their final 5-6-2012 record that left them in fifth-place out of eight teams in the CWPA Florida Division.
SPC keeps the beat going, marking important month for Haiti

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 exchanges.

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 in the North Miami area and the number of Haitians here will only continue to grow.

According to the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, approximately $3.5 billion have been donated for relief for Haiti, attracting students of different nationalities.

January is also an important month for Haitians because of the earthquake that shook the country on Jan. 12, 2010. While the numbers vary, it is estimated that the earthquake killed about 230,000 people and left 1.3 million people homeless.

The tragedy resulted in immediate aid relief to the country, as Haitians and many others located here in the United States donated a substantial amount of money.

ACKENA MILLER
Contributing Writer

Following the Jan. 17 Reggae Night, the Student Programming Council will venture into another musical genre: kompa.

Kompa Night will be held from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. tomorrow, Jan. 24 in the Wolfe University Center Ballroom.

“Kompa Night is more about students just going on the dance floor and enjoying the beats. Kompa is a genre of Haitian music and the pace of rhythm can shift instantly. One minute there will be a slow-paced rhythm which has a melodic vibe to it, while the next minute, the music can change to a more fast-paced rhythm known to many Haitians as zouk. “The SPC Kompa Night is a great opportunity for people to gain understanding of the Haitian culture,” said School of International and Public Affairs Secretary of SPC and also of Haitian descent. She also discussed about how important the month of January is to the entire Haitian community.

“Haiti’s independence was Jan. 1 and this is one of the ways we chose to celebrate it here on campus. Everyone can come out and enjoy the night; there will be food and music the entire night. In past events we had people come out and they danced all night long,” said Dorin.

There aren’t many Haitian clubs located in Miami and often, kompa music is usually heard only at a family event or a wedding. According to Dorin, past events were successful in attracting students of different nationalities.

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Wednesday, January 23, 2013

STUDENT PROGRAMMING COUNCIL

SPC keeps the beat going, marking important month for Haiti

KICK IT TO THE LIMIT

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 will be one champ for weight loss and one champ for body fat percentage. Throughout the challenge, participants can get nutritional advising as well as see his/her process through several tests, such as a cardio-type test called the tri-fitness assessment test.

PHOTOS BY SARA UCHA (THE BEACON)

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