Library audit reveals missing textbooks loaned by staff

by MADISON FANTOZZI
Asst. News Director

Books check out but do not check back in to University Libraries. Instead, they reside in faculty offices with high nightly rates.

The Office of Internal Audit reports a potential loss of $133,000 in library material-1,139 overdue library items loaned to 268 faculty members as of June 2012 in the audit of University Libraries.

Interim Dean of University Libraries Thomas Breslin, who commented via email because he was unavailable for an interview, said the list of overdue books contains the names of full-time and adjunct faculty, all of whom the library has notified at least twice.

The audit says it was unable to determine the reason why faculty are not subject to the same circulation procedures as students and other patrons.

By contrast, the circulation and borrowing policies of University Libraries state that student library accounts must be settled before registering for classes, obtaining transcripts and graduating.

The question of imposing fines on faculty for overdue books will be discussed with the Library Committee of the Faculty Senate this spring.

Breslin’s own estimate is 1,000 overdue books among 1,000 faculty members.

He does not attribute the loss of library material exclusively to faculty, however.

“Coincidentally, I heard from one of the people that books may have been lost when the contents of many faculty offices in [Deuxieme Maison] were thrown out when mold was discovered,” Breslin wrote. “My understanding is that hundreds of missing books are in repairs.”

He said books also may have been returned by faculty but stolen before being processed.

In addition, Breslin wrote that books also may have been returned by faculty but not processed before being put back on library shelves.

“While we have occasionally found that books listed as long overdue have been returned,” Breslin said, “Cutbacks in work study funding have made the job of managing the book stacks more challenging.”

However, the Office of Internal Audits cannot confirm these speculations.

“The items we are referring to in the audit resulted from unreturned items that were checked out and not returned,” said Allen Vann, audit director of the University’s Office of Internal Audit, in a statement. “We have no information regarding losses due to theft or mold.”

According to Breslin, the library will attempt to reposition the security gates at Green Library and install a second security gate at Hubert Library to discourage theft. The library has also discussed placing cameras at the circulation desks to discourage theft of items returned but not yet processed.

“Improvement to University Libraries’ security will take place as monies become available,” Breslin wrote.

Breslin also said a reading of the shelves is overdue and dependent on securing adequate money to pay students to assist with the process. The library is working to secure funds which were depleted by a cutback in federal work study support.

Books lost by faculty members, Breslin said, will be billed to them but not necessarily replaced.

Library staff is preparing a response to the internal auditors’ questions—questions for which Breslin said he has no simple answers.

“Library staff is preparing a response to the internal auditors’ questions—questions for which Breslin said he has no simple answers.”

Librarians were not available for comment.

“The auditors raised questions about highly technical issues to which no one librarian has all necessary information,” Breslin wrote.

“Under these circumstances, librarians are correct to wait until there is general agreement among technical specialists as to what would be an accurate response to the auditors, or anyone else.”

University Libraries’ formal answer to the Office of Internal Audit will be public record.

Breslin said he will be available for further comment on Feb. 20.

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College of Medicine receives full accreditation

by STEPHAN USECHE
Asst. News Director

The inaugural class of the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine will graduate with the comfort of knowing their college is fully accredited.

Four years after its founding and seven years after the Florida Board of Governors and Florida Legislature approved it, the College of Medicine was granted full accreditation in spring 2013.

“This is actually a really good thing,” said Karina Arce, a freshman in nursing. “Before they admitted up to 30 people, but now they will allow more into the program.”

The college has been “developing a curriculum that reflects an innovative, 21st century approach to health and medical education,” according to a University press release.

The college admitted its first class in 2009.

The press release says the first class of students graduating will be eligible for medical residency programs.

According to the release, “the Wertheim College of Medicine will graduate its inaugural class of 33 students” in spring 2013.

The accreditation was made by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which claimed the college met the steps to become a “full-fledged” medical school.

The LCME is a "nation-ally-recognized authority for medical education programs leading to the M.D. degree in U.S. and Canadian medical schools," according to the press release.

Any state licensing board needs to be accredited by the LCME to be eligible for licensure as an allopathic physician, according to the University’s press release.

This accomplishment, however, can be credited to the ones who raised awareness to the importance of having a public medical school in South Florida, such as Dr. Herbert Wertheim, who gave $20 million and his name to the school, according to the press release, University President Mark Rosenberg and President Emeritus Modesto A. Maidique, who is also the executive director of the Center for Leadership.

They convinced the Florida Board of Governors and the legislature to authorize the new college.

College of Medicine Dean John Rock was unavailable for comment as of press time.

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**ExxonMobil to address global emissions issues in lecture**

**CHELSEA KLAIBER**  
Contribution Writer

An estimated 1.3 billion people live without electricity, according to ExxonMobil’s 2013 “The Outlook for Energy: A View to 2040.” With a projected world population of nearly 9 billion by 2040, the demand for energy is growing quickly. ExxonMobil is taking on the challenge of creating a solution to satisfy these demands while reducing the negative effects of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere.

As a part of ExxonMobil’s yearly energy outlook, several factors, such as a country’s birth rate, urbanization and economic growth are studied when assessing how future trends will affect the supply and demand of energy. “Renewable resources are growing substantially, but we need a back-up,” said David Khemakhem, an energy and technology adviser for ExxonMobil. Khemakhem will visit the University on Tuesday, Feb. 12, to educate students about the future of energy around the world.

The event, which begins at 10 a.m. in the Management and Advanced Research Center Pavilion, is sponsored by the School of International and Public Affairs’ Global Energy Security Forum.

Khemakhem believes that students can help reduce carbon dioxide emissions by taking small steps – conservation and efficiency is key. “We can all contribute to that. I do a lot of small things, like keeping my air conditioning set at 78.”

Khemakhem hopes that students will come out to the event and broaden their perspective on just how important energy is in their lives. “There are changes that are happening, and we need to be part of that change,” he said.

- news@fiusm.com

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**Florida International University Department of Religious Studies**

**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY JAINISM IN INDIA, SUMMER 2013**

The Department of Religious Studies in conjunction with Jain Vishwa Bharati University (JVBU), Ladnun, Rajasthan, India offers a Fellowship for summer 2013. The Fellowship provides airfare between Miami and India, travel/ project allowance, and tuition, room and board for a three-week Jain Studies immersion program at JVBU during July-August, 2012. The study program carries three credits from JVBU, entirely transferable to FIU.

Undergraduate students in all fields are eligible to apply. A letter describing the student's background for and interest in Jain Studies. Preference will be given to those who have taken courses in Jainism or Indian religions.

Additionally, the Bhagwan Mahavir Professorship offers Bhagwan Mahavir Scholarships to cover tuition for summer immersion programs at JVBU, or the International Summer School for Jain Studies (ISSJS) in New Delhi, or perhaps other similar programs. Credit for the ISSJS or JVBU programs are transferable directly to FIU.

Applications are due April 1, 2013, and should be sent to:  
Prof. Whitney Bauman  
Undergraduate Program Director  
Department of Religious Studies  
Florida International University  
whitney.bauman@fiu.edu
Beauty, advertisements causes nearsightedness

ALEX SORONDO
Staff Writer

I’m always conscious of it to some extent but I felt particularly aware, while watching the 2013 Golden Globe Awards, of how I didn’t look like any of the celebrities on screen. If I bore a resemblance to anybody, it was to the people being nominated for artistry or craft – crew members who, unburdened by the public eye, can afford to pay less attention to their appearance and endure the defilements of age with grace.

It seems most of the really famous people we can call to mind, apart from politicians and people of power, are exceptionally attractive. If they aren’t exceptionally attractive at the moment they were used to be, and it made them rich, so now they are famous for having once been famous.

And then of course you have the people who, like certain “reality” stars, are famous for the spectacle that is made about how unattractive they are – which makes us feel better by comparison.

Most of the really famous pop-icons in the country, the household names to most Americans, make our graces and airwaves, are – by the public standard – almost physically flawless.

The most common portrait of success that we’re exposed to while growing up is a body of certain proportions, the performance of spectacle on stage or screen, and the terrific financial gain that ensues.

Never as a child did I hear the name of a great architect or engineer; the only doctor I ever heard of was Jacob Kevorkian.

The reason we didn’t see these people is because they weren’t on TV, and the reason they weren’t on TV, for the most part, is that they weren’t attractive.

Or maybe they spoke in paragraphs rather than sound bites, using words that might make the viewer feel like they don’t know enough.

The media knows that we’re insecure about our appearance. That’s the goal. The more concerned you are about how you look, the more inclined you’ll be to buy the things that we’re told will make you look better: hair and skin products, designer labels, fancy cars, name brand electronics, sodas and candies.

Coke’s popularity and advertisement toward youth, its efforts to be the first soda we ever drink, is what leads us all to believing that this is how soda should taste.

Similarly, a celebrity’s popularity is what leads us to think that this is how we should look, talk and behave.

Intelect doesn’t really have a place here. Advertisers have little use for an educated audience.

We grow up with this. We’re as much the victims of advertising as we are the products of it, and there’s no shaking the influence.

We can’t blame ourselves for being vain from time to time, for sometimes sacrificing responsibilities or opportunities out of a concern for our appearance, but being in college, we should all be extolling the virtues of writers, craftsmen, innovators – the great thinkers.

And we do, in certain circles. My experience at the University shows that engineering majors know their engineers, law students their lawyers, finance majors their economists.

We emulate the pioneers of our field but do little to acquaint ourselves, if only in passing, with the faces and issues of other fields. Sometimes out of disin- terest, sometimes fearing we won’t understand.

The more I acquaint myself with seniors on the brink of entering the work-force, the more impressed I become with how many of us have managed to become experts in our fields.

It’s disheartening, though, to hear of every- body’s impulsive avoid- ance of subjects they aren’t versed in, whether in conversation or magazines or on TV.

A gritty truth about our ignorance is that people will take advantage of it, and in far more insidious ways than we know.

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Internships: the road to employment

ADRIANNE RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Finding a job in this economy is not easy, and the sad part about that is most of us college students haven’t even started looking yet. Taking classes and finding an on-campus job is all good and merry, but it’s time for more students to start planning ahead.

With that being said, internships are one of the best ways to get a jumpstart into the career of your dreams, or at least in the field.

There is so much to be gained through internships and although a salary may not be one of them, it is a great way to learn what goes and what doesn’t in the field you plan to go into.

There are so many students who only attend school and believe that once they graduate a job is going to accept them. It doesn’t work that way.

Employers enjoy hiring people with experience. You may have the degree, but if you haven’t experienced the job and someone else has, who do you think is going to get the job? Not you. So take this into consid- eration and don’t just get a job because you’re sitting in class and thinking about what career you are going to take by storm.

Internships are a strong way to get into the field of your dreams; I know this first hand.

I am currently on my third year as a Miami Herald intern and the connections that I have made throughout my experience is priceless.

I went to career fairs and met employers. I wrote articles and learned from my mistakes. I experienced the necessity of accuracy within journalism and this probably would not have happened if I didn’t have my internship.

I hear students asking all the time where they can work and learn their profession hands on, but I haven’t been exposed to anything. Well, fear not, Career Services at Florida International University is here!

“Through conversations we have with employers, seniors struggling to find work, and FIU alumni, the most important thing you can have is first-hand, real-world experience when looking for a job. The best way to get that as a student is through an internship. It is the best thing that students can do for themselves if they want to have their dream job,” said Matthew Tanner, assistant director of internships in career services.

Students heed to his words of wisdom, please do not gradu- ate without having done an internship.

“Internships are definitely something I plan on getting into in my four years here at FIU,” said Cohen. “I want to have all my brownie points when looking for a job in this economy,” said freshmen Esmeralda Francis.

There is no excuse for us here at FIU with so many resources and having heard it a billion times how important internships are. Don’t think about the pay because internships are the way to employment.

Students need to understand that the road to employment begins with an internship. They are not just a way to earn a couple of extra dollars, they are the stepping stone to a successful career.

“Most of the really famous popular stars, are famous for the spectacle on stage or screen, and the terrific financial gain that ensues. Never as a child did I hear the name of a great architect or engineer; the only doctor I ever heard of was Jacob Kevorkian.”

Warning: This content is for the educated audience. The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from the opinions of the Beacon Editorial Board. Readers are encouraged to provide feedback and submit their own opinions.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS
Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GI 270 or GI 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.
The University’s Ameri Lab was able to create the smallest FIU logo ever on a piece of hair through the use of a focused ion beam.

One of the most interesting aspects of this project is the irony of creating a logo so small that it can only be seen using a high-powered microscope. Rickes admits that they did not set out to be ironic.

“Although obvious in retrospect, I don’t think any of us were thinking about it in that way at the time,” said Rickes.

Although it was not intentional, the irony is not lost on Rickes or the members of AMERI. He reflected back on an incident that occurred while presenting the Lincoln penny project to the Board of Directors.

“As part of my presentation, I asked that they put the penny around while I put up a slide showing the pattern we had made, which was only visible under high magnification,” said Rickes.

“After the presentation broke up, I realized my penny was not returned and someone had kept it. I thought, ‘How will this person show off his memento, do they own an electron microscope?’ I guess it shows that people no longer have any trouble believing in things they cannot see.”
Torchbearers are individuals that demonstrate leadership and inspire others. When we think of them, perhaps we visualize the Olympic games; however, people of this caliber exist in many different fields and deserve recognition that makes them justice, accordingly.

It is for that reason that the University’s Alumni Association conceived the Torch Awards on the school’s 25th anniversary, to honor the success of people who have done wonders with their profession and the community.

“Events like these, not only serve to honor those who are committed to serve, but also to inspire people who might follow their path in improving the quality of life of the community,” said Jennifer Gomez, junior biology major.

This year’s ceremony, the 12th entry in the tradition, will take place on Saturday, March 23, at JW Marriott Marquis Miami hotel on 255 Biscayne Boulevard.

These awards are divided into five categories. The Charles E. Perry Young Alumni Visionary Award is given to those who have contributed to the contributions to the University. Finally, The Distinguished Alumni Award— an award in which the deans honor a remarkable individual per each school and college that comprise the University.

Usually, the number of inductees would be 16; however, this year there are two people who have been selected for the Community Leadership category. In this rare occasion, both Beth Davalos ’94 and Mike Tomas ’90 will be awarded this distinction. Davalos, a clinical social worker, has worked extensively to help homeless children, to protect their educational rights and to expand awareness on their situation. Tomas, on the other hand, has excelled in the corporate world, and is currently the chairman of FIU’s Global Entrepreneurship Center.

In addition to the recognition for the alumni and faculty, the gala will act as a fundraiser venue.

“A night, not only where we recognize these individuals as our ambassadors in the world, but where we raise funds for first generation scholarships and the creation of the Alumni Center,” said Muñoz.

The Alumni Center is a future building that will be constructed at MMC as a home ground for alumni and visitors. It will be located in parking lot 4, adjacent to the Blue Garage.

“[The award ceremony] is also a good way to raise money to improve the institution that gave them the education to serve the community,” said Sandra Bernaza, senior engineering major.

Those who attend the gala will have a casino theme to look forward to. “They’ll be able to play in the casino and that way help us to raise the money,” said Muñoz.

Black jack, poker and even a roulette are some of the games the casino fundraiser will have for attendees. Donations can be redeemed for torch chips that can be used to play the games for a chance to win a multitude of raffle prizes from the School of Hospitality, the Biltmore Hotel, the Miami Dolphins and the JW Marriott Marquis Miami, among others.

“The casino theme sounds quite interesting; it seems like a fun and easy way to raise money and celebrate at the same time,” said Bernaza.

For more information on the torch awards, visit fiualumni.com where you can learn more about the recipients of the awards, get tickets or make donations.

Jennifer Gomez
Junior Biology

Looking for a competitive edge? Hear from top employers about how to get it!

Dean of Undergraduate Education Leadership Advisory Board • EDU-LAB
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Timothy Kuebler, TITAN CEMENT (AMERICA)
Scott McIntyre, SOLAR ENERGY MANAGEMENT

To learn more about the speakers, visit: https://ugrad.fiu.edu/dlab/boardmembers.html

FIU Panelists
Amir Mirrman, Dean, College of Engineering and Computing
David Klock, Dean, College of Business
Marilys Nepomuceno, Professor, College of Architecture and the Arts

Q&A with students
All majors welcomed
Recruits ready to tackle the start of new era

PATRICK CHALVIRE
Contributing Writer

The first Wednesday of every February brings a wave of excitement to college football programs across the nation. High school football players, after months of speculation, officially pledge their allegiance to a university in what we now call National Signing Day. The new player enters a chapter in his life and for some programs like FIU, it also marks the beginning of a new era.

Xavier Hines from Belen Jesuit Preparatory School and Cristopher Flaig from Vero Beach are just two of 18 recruits who signed with FIU on Feb. 6. Choosing to do so wasn’t an easy process.

Weeks before signing, FIU and the Panthers picked up one victory in singles and three doubles matches, the team has a good plan for practice, "I mostly picked FIU because I don’t like the cold," Hines said. "Waking up in the morning and practicing in the snow, I’m just not really used to that." Though FIU may only be a block away from Hines’ high school, some other commits don’t necessarily have that luxury. For Flaig, it takes a two and a half hour road trip to get to his future school. The offensive lineman had FIU at the top of his list since his junior year of high school.

FIU may only be a block away from Hines’ high school, some other commits don’t necessarily have that luxury. For Flaig, it takes a two and a half hour road trip to get to his future school. The offensive lineman had FIU at the top of his list since his junior year of high school.

Flaig, who committed early on with Cristobal, made the decision to reopen his recruiting process because he wasn’t sure who would take the reigns at FIU.

For many other recruits, it became a matter of being convinced to play for someone who just received the head coaching job a few weeks earlier. Luckily for Flaig, Turner did just that.

"I spent some time with Coach Turner. I really liked him," Flaig said. "I just knew FIU is where I wanted to be from the beginning." Offensive line is a position in need of improvement coming into the new season. FIU lost a handful of senior linemen last season and Flaig knows that opens up an opportunity to start, something not too many young players get the chance to do due to lack of size.

During Wednesday’s press conference, Turner addressed the possibility of Flaig being a starter at long snapper. Turner had also previously mentioned to Flaig that he had the talent to come in right away and start but that no starting position would just be handed to him.

"No expectations," Flaig said. "I’m just going to do whatever coach tells me to do. I’ll keep working out and working hard and do whatever I can for the betterment of the team."

Xavier Hines from Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, far right, is one of 18 commitments headed to FIU.

Rita Maisik lost her doubles match against Yale on Feb. 1. The Belarus native also celebrated her birthday the day before while in Connecticut.

-SPORTS@FIU.COM

Panthers chilled in road trip to Northeast

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

The tennis team returned home from its trips to New Haven, Conn., and New York City empty-handed.

"It was just a stressful process," Hines said of the coaching uncertainty at FIU. "Committing so early, a lot of schools back away from you, but I was still OK with it. I still would have chosen FIU unless they took longer to choose a coach."

Both Hines and Flaig’s schoolships were honored when Turner arrived, which helped ease the process as well. However, Turner and his staff benefitted from the warm South Florida weather, too.

"I mostly picked FIU because I don’t like the cold," Hines said. "Waking up in the morning and practicing in the snow, I’m just not really used to that." Before signing with FIU, Hines had also been in contact with now former defensive backs coach Jeff Popovich, who was fired Wednesday afternoon. This left Hines with some doubts.

"I’m not sure," Hines said. "I’m not OK with it because I was close to coach [Cristobal], but I understand it’s a business thing. Not too sure if it was something he did, but I’m guessing it was bad." Though FIU may only be a block away from Hines’ high school, some other commits don’t necessarily have that luxury. For Flaig, it takes a two and a half hour road trip to get to his future school. The offensive lineman had FIU at the top of his list since his junior year of high school.

Flaig, who committed early on with Cristobal, made the decision to reopen his recruiting process because he wasn’t sure who would take the reigns at FIU.

"I had to look out for my best interest," Flaig said. "I visited FAU but I knew the whole time there that I liked FIU a lot more." For many other recruits, it became a matter of being convinced to play for someone who just received the head coaching job a few weeks earlier. Luckily for Flaig, Turner did just that.

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-SPORTS@FIU.COM

"We are just working on consistency and coach has a good plan for practice," Trifunovic said. "We are working a little more on conditioning, and now that we have set teams for doubles we are working on getting them adapted and getting better at doubles," Petrovic said. "The main thing is, I need to see more energy from the team."
Freshman achieving dreams and exceeding expectations

OSCAR BALDIZON
Contributing Writer

Danielle Albright has been around a swimming pool since she can remember. Swimming out of Wharton High School in Tampa, Fla., Albright was a senior captain and recipient of her teams’ MVP and Coaches award. She was also a district and regional champion as well as a state finalist.

After leading FIU to a victory in its final dual meet of the season on Jan. 26, the Sun Belt Conference named Albright the Swimmer of the Week and thrust her into the conference spotlight as a freshman to be feared for years to come.

“It was very shocking because I’m on the pool deck with great swimmers such as Sonia Perez and Johanna Gustafsdottir, who have won that award before, and I don’t consider myself at their level just yet,” Albright said.

Coming into this season, Albright was considered a great recruit with a bright future but has exceeded expectations in her first college swimming season. After receiving her SBC award and becoming a member of the 4 by 800 yard relay team that will try to make Nationals this year, she has established herself as a key competitor for the Panthers.

But it wasn’t always just awards and good times for the freshmen who majors in business and minors in marketing.

“The beginning of the year was a shock to all the freshmen’s systems because none of us had trained that hard before, but it’s amazing how quickly you see results if you stick to [Head Coach Randy Horner’s] season-long program and give it your all,” Albright said.

Her work ethic and dedication this year hasn’t gone unnoticed by the coaching staff either.

“Dani is getting better and better every single day and every single meet,” Horner said. “We have no idea what’s she’s capable of and really, neither does she. She’s really starting to break-through and who knows how good she is going to be at the end of the season.”

Both Albright’s older brother and sister swim throughout high school, which is how she got into the sport at 3 years old and started dreaming about competing in college swimming.

Her father ran marathons his entire life – which may have influenced Albright’s endurance in her 200-meter speed.

Albright is also a certified swim instructor, keeping her around the pool for most of her time. But she also enjoys other sports such as volleyball and soccer, which she also competed in during her time in high school.

“Swimming is definitely harder because with other sports you always have that interaction with your teammates and coaches whereas with swimming it’s a little bit tougher because it’s all in your own head and you’re starting at the bottom of a pool for the majority of practice,” Albright said.

With the conference championships coming up in less than two weeks, it’s safe to say this young competitor will be ready to show everyone in the SBC what they will be dealing with for another three years.

“We can see the great recruits coming in to visit and it’s crazy to think about where coach Horner will lead the program to by the time I’m a senior,” Albright said. “He has already improved the program so much in just two years so it’s exciting to think about the future.”

Danielle Albright comes from a swimming family. Her father ran marathons his entire life – which may have influenced Albright’s endurance in her 200-meter speed.

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Ron Turner’s second son joins FIU football

EDUARDO ALMAGUER
Sports Director

Football Head Coach Ron Turner hired Morgan Turner, his son, to work with tight ends and offensive tackles. Morgan Turner comes over from Stanford where he was an offensive assistant from 2011-12.

“Morgan is an outstanding coach and has great knowledge with working with offenses,” Turner said in a press release. “His experience...will be invaluable as we work with our student-athletes in learning and executing our offensive planning.”

With Morgan Turner joining the FIU staff, Ron Turner now has both sons working under him. The Panthers hired Cameron Turner almost three weeks ago as the quarterbacks and wide receivers coach.
Whistleblower Tour discusses issues facing businesses today

MICHAEL ORTEGA
Staff Writer

With the rise of corruption in business, the only solution is to seek out the few who can stand up for what is right. The American Whistleblower Tour made its return to FIU on Feb. 7 to shed some light on this situation.

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication, College of Law, School of Accounting and The Government Accountability Project brought the program to the University.

“It has been great to come back to FIU. It is always a pleasure to see and get to know so many bright minds,” said Louis Clark, president and corporate and financial accountability director of the GAP. “FIU always brings great questions and knowledge to these conferences.”

The American Whistleblower Tour has been touring city to city educating the public about the phenomenon of whistle blowing, its benefits and all of its adversity. According to the GAP, every year thousands of workers witness corruption on the job. Most employees remain silent, but a brave few choose to speak up about this corruption by blowing the whistle on this injustice.

“Standing up to the boss is never easy, but you have to judge what is right and wrong. Most people want to say something but are scared of the repercussions that come from blowing the whistle,” said Clark. “Always remember you have help from the outside, others will want to help when you bring the story to light.”

The tour also speaks about the six steps of whistle blowing and the proper way of doing so in a business location.

Some of the notable accomplishments by whistle blowers are the White House wrongly being called “The Body Ecology Diet,” a health expert and renowned author of “The Body Ecology Diet,” majoring in biology, believes that genetically modifying babies for physical or intellectual purposes is wrong. “Even though I’m studying science, I’m Catholic, and it’s against my religion. I agree with [genetic engineering] if it’s used to prevent diseases, but using it to change [a baby’s] appearance and hair color...that should be left untouched.”

Jamil Charles, a senior majoring in biology, agrees with Perez.

“I don’t think it’s right to pre-plan what your child is like,” said Charles. “You should give the child the right to grow up to do what they want to do.”

Mandale disagrees.

“I don't see any issue in genetically engineering a child. It should be my decision. If I decide to have a genetically engineered baby, that’s between me, my baby, and the doctor.”

In regards to genetically modifying a baby for an infertile woman to conceive, Charles believes there are “two sides to every story.”

“Having the technology to do this...it’s not like you’re killing anyone. The only bad side is the consequence of the kid itself. It’s hard to imagine too many other people doing that. It seems to put so much stress on someone,” Cruz said. “Things of this nature will probably never disappear and may get out of hand one day.”

Selima Hussain
California State University, Northridge

YOU SHOULD GIVE THE CHILD THE RIGHT TO GROW UP TO DO WHAT THEY WANT TO DO

University discusses genetically modifying humanity

SELIMA HUSSAIN
Staff Writer

Childbirth is a miracle that, for many years, seemed to be a precious, intimate moment shared between a mother and father. Babies cannot be created without this intimacy.

Or can they?

New technology and research about genetically engineering babies is emerging at a fast pace.

On June 28, 2012, 30 genetically modified babies were conceived in the United States for the first time.

According to Donna Gates, a health expert and renowned author of “The Body Ecology Diet,” genetically engineering babies has been made possible through new findings about the mitochondria, or DNA-filled “powerhouse” cells, in a woman’s ovaries.

Healthy, functional mitochondria are essential to bearing children, and infertile women typically have a lack of it. By implanting mitochondria donated from a fertile woman into the egg cells of an infertile woman, scientists have made it possible for infertile women to bear children.

A genetically engineered child will have three sets of DNA: one from the biological mother, one from the donor, and one from the father.

Goutam Mandal, assistant professor in the College of Medicine who specializes in molecular biology, believes that modifying a woman’s mitochondria in order to create life is not genetically engineering a baby.

“The mitochondrion is an independent genome body. It has little influence; it’s a small modification. I don’t see that as unethical. Directly influencing the nuclear genome [to change a baby’s characteritics] would be genetically engineering a baby.”

While modern technology has made it possible for infertile women to bear children, many fear that these rapid advancements could change the way childbirth occurs in the future. More specifically, some fear that using growing technology to purposefully change a baby’s appearance or intelligence levels will become a norm.

Andres Perez, a sophomore majoring in biology, believes that genetically modifying babies for physical or intellectual purposes is wrong.

“I don’t think it’s right to pre-plan what your child is like,” said Charles. “You should give the child the right to grow up to do what they want to do.”

Mandale disagrees.

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Seth Green/The Beacon

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