University bus crashed into Police car, students late

AMANDA RABINES AND MARIA SOLEDA LORENZINO FLSM Staff

University students heading to Biscaay Bay Campus were late to class after an Academy Bus crashed into an FIU police cruiser at Modesto Maidique Campus on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

It’s a big bus, it has to make a very wide turn,” Blanco said. “The cop had a bigger car than usual and it was parked a little further back.”

Alexander D. Casas, chief of FIU’s police department said the car was left Denied, but the matter was resolved between the driver and officer.

“Now, we’re getting penalized,” Casas said about the officers. “It’s as simple as the driver misjudged the turn.”

The students on the 8 a.m. bus were more vocal. Some lamented the half an hour waiting period before another bus picked them up.

Others posted complaints on social media.

The students were late to class. The day of class at BBC.

Florida’s universities are on a mission to educate all about sexual assaults on campus

KATIE LEPRI AND MELHOR LEONOR

The Miami Herald TNS Staff

Universities across Florida are revamping how they investigate and prosecute sexual assault complaints in the wake of scrutiny from the U.S. Office for Civil Rights and questions raised by several high profile incidents across the country.

The White House, Congress and victims rights advocates are calling for greater transparency, accountability and educating all those involved on how to properly handle a sexual assault allegation -- from college presidents to coaches, faculty, fraternities, campus police, staff and students.

“This national conversation is helping us shift some priorities toward sexual assault,” said Jen Day Shaw, dean of students at the University of Florida, where four sexual attacks on UF women have been reported in the last fall.

The University of Florida, where the job I do, said Hernandez. “You’re trying to help the people to flow with the traffic, but when you park the police car right there, you’re not helping anyone,” Hernandez said.

“Given the job I do, it was no surprise,” said Nanci Newton, director of USF’s Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention.

And while some have suggested the issue isn’t as great as the media has portrayed — especially after Rolling Stone recently recanted its account of an alleged gang rape of a UVA freshman by seven college guys at a fraternity party -- the matter is still very much on the table, say college administrators.

In 2011, the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) unveiled a 18-page missive detailing how schools had to respond to student allegations of campus sexual assault. The document, known as the “Dear Colleague” letter, outlined how the institutions had to adopt procedures “for the prompt and equitable resolution” of the complaints; hire a Title IX coordinator; and educate administrators, faculty, campus police and students about alcohol, bystander intervention and sexual assault complaints.

If they did not comply, the institutions could lose millions of dollars in federal funding through Title IX, the law that prohibits sex discrimination at schools receiving federal funds, including for athletic programs.

Florida State University was on the list, as were some of the nation’s top schools, including Amherst, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, Vanderbilt and the universities of Virginia, North Carolina and Michigan. The OCR has since expanded its investigation to 86 schools, including the University of South Florida in Tampa.

The statistics make it clear. Approximately one in five women have been sexually assaulted or the target of an attempted sexual assault while in college, compared with one in 16 college men, according to a 2007 campus sexual assault study conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice. And a DOJ study issued last month indicated only 20 percent of women students (ages 18-24) who were the victims of a sexual assault between 1995 and 2013 reported their attack, fearing a reprisal.

Last May, to raise awareness, the Office for Civil Rights under the federal Department of Education released a list of 55 higher-education institutions under investigation for possibly violating Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination at schools receiving federal funds, including for athletic programs.

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If they did not comply, the institutions could lose millions of dollars in federal funding through Title IX, part of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972. While Title IX is best known for requiring high school and collegiate athletic departments to provide equal athletic opportunities to female athletes, the law also protects students from gender-based violence, including sexual assault and rape.

We have really ramped up our education in very direct ways to students,” Whitely said. “We are using our resources with great care to put as much emphasis to this, the emphasis that it deserves.”

“The problem is that what we are seeing is not just one isolated case,” said Ted Bunch, co-founder of the national violence prevention
Florida Universities fight to end sexual assault on campus

ASSAULT, PAGE 1

Florida's 12 state colleges and universities have implemented changes as well. USF and Florida International University piloted Haven last August. UF, FSU and Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton work with an online course called Campus Clarity (USF switched to this course on Monday.)

Through videos and graphics, the course is designed to get students to “think deeply” about sexual violence in college -- where alcohol and drugs can murky the waters of consent. “One scenario involves a drunken hookup that goes wrong, and there wasn’t consent,” said Alex Miller, content director for Campus Clarity. “There is another scenario where there is a guy taking a drunk girl into a bedroom and you have to intervene.”

MANGO building new home to business students, staff

When online education began at Florida International University 15 years ago, there were 10 faculty members, about 10 courses offered and less than 300 students enrolled.

Over the years, the demand for online education grew -- causing the school to increase the staff and the offerings for various majors, including business, nursing and journalism.

But while the class list grew, the space to develop the courses and make sure they run properly didn’t. Technical staff was scattered in different buildings and the call center was based in rented space.

“My vision was to someday, somehow, pull all of FIU online together,” said Joyce Elam, dean of FIU’s Academic Technology and Information Center.

The floors dedicated to online education include open space for the department’s 150 employees to “develop, design and support” online education, Elam said. Employees man phones in the call center and sit in cubicles to develop new ways to present information online.

Construction on the new building began two years ago, said Dean of Business David Klock. Klock said MANGO means more space for collaboration between students and faculty, and equipment to “think deeply” about sexual violence in college.

For international business student Maika Hussen, 22, the new classroom was a welcome sight.

“The old rooms reminded you of a very small middle school building,” he said. The new room offers multiple projectors, a speaker system and clean desks. He also said he liked the “openness of the new building.”

Student Geoanna Estrada agreed, saying the new building was “light and bright,” from the windows. Estrada, a marketing major, said she was impressed with the new digs and happy to see that online courses are now prevalent.

“Online courses are really popular.”
Jewish community in France on high alert

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Just a few days have passed since the horrific attack that left 12 dead and even more injured at one of France’s leading satirical publications. The world was united in anguish against a group of those who wish to silence the press. To most Westerners the idea of trying to oppress free press is a heinous crime which has no excuse. They attacked something that our society perceives as holy. That being said, they also attacked a Kosher supermarket.

Kashrut (or “Kosherness”) is the set of dietary laws that comes from the Old Testament (AKA the Torah) and which religious Jews abide by worldwide. It is very different from Halal, the Muslim set of dietary laws. The terrorists responsible for attacking free press are also responsible for taking hostages and killing people merely because they are Jewish. In France this is normal, and were it not for the attack on Charlie Hebdo, the story of the attack on the kosher supermarket would likely have been ignored.

As hard as it might seem to understand this from the safety of the United States, the Jews in Europe are scared. As the growing Muslim population of Europe leads to social tension and the reemergence of utra-nationalistic parties in places like France, Greece, and Sweden, it is the Jews of Europe that are being caught in the cross-fire.

Part of the reason is that none of the ethnic or religious groups see the Jews as part of the normal population. So much of the French population, Jews are neither French, Christians nor Muslims. Because of this, in the past ten years France has seen hundreds of attacks on Jewish targets. Just a few weeks ago, a woman in the suburbs of Paris was raped “because she was Jewish.” Before that, a Jewish family was killed in cold blood, and before that, two synagogues were firebombed in Lyon. This does not take into account the daily insults and beatings that are not “news worthy.” All within less than 6 months.

The Jews in France are scared and they are fleeing in the face of what the Israeli exterior minister called the largest wave of anti-Semitism since the Holocaust.

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African men who simply don’t want to have children.

Not only does the mentality of the “first comes love, then comes marriage” nursery rhyme being sung by men of this generation exclude swathes of couples who cannot get pregnant, but it excludes those who simply don’t want to have children.

The Jews in France are terrorized. For many years now all synagogues in France have been on high alert, using secret doors and security systems that belong in Fort Knox. The situation has deteriorated so much that there are women out there whose main goal in life is not to squeeze out as many offspring as possible. The mentality that marriage and childbearing is the pinnacle of existence is heteronormative and excludes those who wish to be in a relationship with someone does not mean that their relationship necessarily make a relationship mean more.

The perceived need to continue the tradition of the awkward first-date family meeting is trivial and childish. I would say it sounds like a canned John Hughes high-school-movie script, but he called out the ridiculous hypocrisy in the treatment of women instead of reinforcing it.

Another surprise might come in the fact that there are women out there whose main goal in life is not to squeeze out as many offspring as possible. The mentality that marriage and childbearing is the pinnacle of existence is heteronormative and excludes those who simply don’t want to have children. Even those who do want children don’t necessarily make a relationship mean more. The perceived need to continue the tradition of the awkward first-date family meeting is trivial and childish. I would say it sounds like a canned John Hughes high-school-movie script, but he called out the ridiculous hypocrisy in the treatment of women instead of reinforcing it.

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Close-minded men don’t get women’s issues

SAMANTHA SMITH
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This may come as a shock to some, but marriage is not the end goal of everyone, ever, period—the fact that people have one night stands and short, casual relationships is evidence of that. Sometimes people want to have human contact, and yes, sex, without necessarily having a deep and abiding romance with them. It’s called dating. And dating—which is open to all genders and not entirely dependent on men as some might think—is often used to find what people do and don’t like about other people in reference to themselves.

Dating isn’t “free sex,” it’s testing the waters and having a good time. Just because people don’t have to jump through as many hoops in order to be in a relationship with someone does not mean that their relationship means less, just as “counting” does not necessarily make a relationship mean more. The perceived need to continue the tradition of the awkward first-date family meeting is trivial and childish. I would say it sounds like a canned John Hughes high-school-movie script, but he called out the ridiculous hypocrisy in the treatment of women instead of reinforcing it.

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College remains a good bet to plump up the paychecks of millennials

DIANE STAFFORD
The Kansas City Star

College got something of a bad rap during the recession and the “jobless” recovery.

Thousands of university graduates were unable to find full-time work in their target careers. They took jobs as bartenders, waiters and other part-time, low-wage workers, burdened with tuition debt that made their years in college seem like an expensive waste.

But take another look. Professional hiring has plummeted up, and studies continue to indicate that college provides the odds-on path to bigger paychecks.

Liberty High School student Meg Whipple is a believer. A junior, she is already evaluating comparative costs and scholarship opportunities to prepare for her desired career as a psychologist.

“College costs a lot,” Whipple said. “But I need more education, so the costs haven’t changed my goal. And among my friends I see more people going to college too. They know they need college to get ahead.”

It’s not just that college graduates continue to earn more. What’s different recently _ despite the recession _ is that more and more employers are asking applicants to have bachelor’s degrees, even for jobs that don’t require such education.

For all sorts of jobs now, college degrees are the new “rule of thumb screen for hiring,” said Matt Sigelman, chief executive of Burning Glass Technologies, a labor analytics firm.

This “upcredentialing” means that these days young people without degrees _ as well as older workers _ are less likely to even be considered for well-paying, full-
Millenials with degrees earning 50 percent more than degree-less counterparts

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time jobs.

A college degree is the new recruitment filter, logical or not. If the ability to land an interview isn’t incentive enough to go to college, studies also find that the earnings gap between young adults who have bachelor’s degrees and those whose education stopped in high school is wider now than it was for any previous generation. The parents and grandparents of today’s 25-to-32-year-olds were far less likely to be college graduates than today’s 18-to-24-year-olds. But they were far more likely to earn wages that weren’t too far beneath those of college graduates. Times have changed. The earnings gap has widened.

A detailed Pew Research Center examination of median annual earnings, published in 2014, found that millennials in that 25- to 32-year-old age group who had only high school diplomas were earning less than two-thirds – 62 percent – of what their college graduate peers were earning. In contrast, a typical high-school only graduate in 1979 earned $7,449 for members of the “silent generation” in 1965. In other words, the education premium has grown despite the recent economy that left many college graduates without work in their chosen professions. Still, a Young Invincibles analysis of U.S. census data, published in December, found that “too many millennials are struggling in low-wage sectors.”

For example, the “Where Young Adults Work” report said that in Kansas last year the

dominant employment sector for 25- to 34-year-olds was retail and wholesale – one of the two lowest-wage-earning labor market sectors along with leisure and hospitality. Such low-wage service jobs put people behind the lifetime earnings curve, whether they’re held for a short while or an entire career. The unusually severe recession and job market collapse put the whammy on entry-level job hunters in another way: Many employers no longer are willing to hire and train, they want experienced, ready-from-day-one workers for their relatively few job openings. That makes it harder for college graduates to open the career door – but it closes the door completely to many less-educated applicants.

The national job market appears to have finally turned the corner last year, producing month after month of healthy job growth and lower unemployment rates. But analysts say trends need to be monitored to see how that affects millennial earnings and college decisions. Here’s the rub: Slightly less than two-thirds of the high school class of 2013 enrolled in college that fall. It was the lowest percentage since 2006 and the third annual drop in a row. Last year’s numbers are still being processed.

Economists said high school graduates opted for college during the recession because no jobs were available. Now that employers are hiring again, more of them are heading straight to the work world. But cold, hard facts counsel against it. Not only are millennials with college degrees earning about 50 percent more than those with only high school, analysts estimate that college grads are still likely to earn more than half a million dollars more over their careers.

Jennifer Charles, a senior studying elementary education, signs the Global Community Engagement’s message board of motivation for children living in low-income communities in the Dominican Republic. Global community engagement is a non-profit nongovernmental organization that sponsors learning projects in the Dominican Republic.
Sophomore forward focused on ‘just winning more games’

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Standing 6-feet tall, from Sebastian River High School, starting forward for the Florida International University is sophomore Kiandre’a “KP” Pound. Statistically she’s a formidable player on the court, and off the court she’s a well rounded individual.

Basketball might be her first love, but the sophomore has dreams and aspirations off of the court. KP says she would like to be a Closet Organizer, someone who organizes and renovates closets for a living. Although she sees this in her future, there are a couple tasks she wants to complete first. One is joining fellow starters junior guard Taylor Shade and senior forward Marita Davydova in filling the void left by former FIU all-time great and current New York Liberty (WNBA) guard Jerica Coley. The other is, simply put, winning games.

KP isn’t new to success, as she lead her high school basketball team to a district championship each of her 4 years, and even won a state championship. She easily averaged a double-double over her high school career, averaging 18.7 points and 10.8 rebounds a game. She’s on a much tougher stage now, making the transition from high school to Division I basketball, and facing players much “faster … stronger” as she puts in laymen terms. Her numbers haven’t taken much of a hit coming into the season without a role in the starting line-up, and not starting the first three games of the regular season. She’s still averaging 15 points per game, and 8.2 rebounds per game, and already has 5 double-doubles in her college career.

“It bothered me so much…” Pound says about not starting the first three games of the regular season. “It motivated me everyday to come out to practice, and just work hard.” She came out in the third game of the season, a home contest against Cleveland State University, and put up a college-career high 24 points.

“Being consistent, just doing the little things... just coming out every day, and just working hard.” was what she says it took to show Head Coach Cindy Russo that she had what it took.”[Just] take no plays off.” She’s been apart of the starting five in every one of the 11 games since.

“I think we’re getting better as we play each game,” Pound says of the team, who thinks they can pick up a bit of positive momentum heading into the end-of-season Conference USA tournament. She says the team has aspirations to claim the conference title, and earn a spot among other top talents in the nation gunning for the National Championship in the women’s tournament in March.

Pound’s goal for the year? “Just winning more games. Nothing individually, just as a team. I just wanna win. Just wanna win and get better.”

E.J. Hilliard makes move to Valdosta State

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Former Miami Northwestern and FIU quarterback E.J. Hilliard has officially transferred to Valdosta State University.

Valdosta state plays in NCAA Division II which means Hilliard will be able to play right away. Had Hilliard transferred to another Division I program, he would have had to sit out a year.

Hilliard arrived at the university in 2012. He enrolled in spring and quickly emerged as the No. 2 quarterback on the depth chart. As a freshman, he appeared in six games and started three in place of the injured Jake Medlock.

Hilliard became the first true-freshman starting quarterback at FIU since Jamie Burke during the program’s 2002 inaugural season. Hilliard appeared in 10 more games as a sophomore in 2013.

Hilliard entered the 2014 season as the No. 1 quarterback on the roster. In spring practice, freshman Alex McGough began to emerge as a threat to Hilliard’s position.

Former FIU quarterback E.J. Hilliard transferred to Valdosta State University. Hilliard was replaced by freshman Alex McGough as starting quarterback after the first game of the 2014 season.

After just one game, McGough replaced Hilliard as the Panthers’ starting quarterback.

Hilliard continued to see stints on the field in certain packages early in 2014. The “two-quarterback system” created a lack of continuity at the position which led to Head Coach Ron Turner making McGough the full-time quarterback.

McGough was impressive in his freshman campaign. He threw for 1680 yards, 14 touchdowns and only 10 interceptions.

The strong showing set him up to keep his starting job in 2015. Hilliard was likely to sit most of his senior year which led to his transfer to Valdosta State.

Hilliard is not the first Panther to make the move to Georgia. Former FIU quarterback Jake Medlock transferred to Valdosta State after the 2013 season. Medlock threw 16 touchdowns and only four interceptions as a senior in 2014.

The vacancy left by Hilliard opens the door for new Panther recruits such as Christian Alexander.

Alexander is a highly touted QB recruit out of Lakeland High School who has already committed to FIU.
The Ocean Bank Field at FIU Stadium will be hosting a different kind of football this weekend.

On Saturday, Jan. 17, the University will be hosting the first Copa Campeones de América, and two South American soccer teams will be playing for the title.

Argentinian team San Lorenzo de Almagro, a soccer club based in the Buenos Aires neighborhood of Flores, is considered one of the biggest clubs in Argentina, alongside River Plate and Boca Juniors.

Colombian team Club Atlético Nacional, from the city of Medellín, came to the University in July of 2014. They practiced on the intramural field as they prepared to face French team AS Monaco FC in the Copa Euroamericana at Marlin’s Park. They lost 2-4.

Leandro Romagnoli, midfielder for San Lorenzo, says students can expect to see soccer at its highest level.

“They are going to see two big teams who have both succeeded in many tournaments,” he said at a press conference. “Over anything else the students will experience a good game.”

Tickets range from $44 to $182, but FIU students are eligible for a 20 percent discount, according to Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations Wes Hardin.

Students will be able to purchase the discounted tickets on Friday, Jan. 16, in the Graham Center or through the Ticketmaster website using a code provided by the promoter, OnSide Entertainment, Hardin said.

Doors open at 3 p.m. on Saturday with several pre-game festivities, including Argentinian and Colombian food, games and attractions, according to an email sent by OnSide Entertainment.

The game begins at 6 p.m.

Juan Benedetty, a sophomore defender for the FIU men’s soccer team, hopes hosting games like this will raise interest in the University’s own soccer team.

“I hope FIU students go because that will raise interest for the sport in general,” he said. “That will lead people going to our games eventually.”

San Lorenzo de Almagro practice at FIU soccer stadium on Wednesday, Jan. 14. The Argentinean team will play Colombian team Club Atlético Nacional at the ocean bank field on Saturday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.
Springs into the semester by prepping to get a head start on studies

The most dreadful time to this start is the odd and drop period, where we pray to the gods that if we refresh the page enough times the blue square will turn to a green circle.

Miami's Wynwood neighborhood has turned the city into a festival of street art

When the globally recognized annual art fair known as Art Basel Miami Beach, the highly successful spinoff of Switzerland's original Art Basel, launched in December 2002, much of the action remained in Miami Beach, but some of the attention had shifted across the causeway to Miami's newly hot Wynwood district.

What was once just a handful of galleries has been followed by a wave of chefs and tech types that sometimes hosts public events, you might even see local craft beer with such regional favorites as a fried conch sandwich, Florida alligator bites and Key lime pie.

London-based artist David Walker created this mural in the Wynwood Art District using only spray paints during Art Basel 2013.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WITH FIU AND PEACE WALK

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

WHERE: WUC 157

WOLFE

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

PANTHER POWER TAILGATE (SWIM TEAM)

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

LUNCH, LEARN AND LEAN-IN

WHERE: WUC 157

UNIVERSITY CLOSED

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

ACADEMY OF LEADERS (AOL) ORIENTATION

WHERE: WUC 155

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

SPC DANCING WITH THE WOLFE

WHERE: Rec. Center

WHERE: Rec. Center

WHERE: WUC Ballrooms

WHERE: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

WHERE: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Loggia by Cafeteria

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

WHERE: WUC 233

WHERE: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

WHERE: Rec. Center

WHERE: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

WHERE: 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

WHERE: WUC 233

WHERE: 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

WHERE: Aquatic Center

WHERE: 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

WHERE: 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.