Low-key graduation ceremony for ‘invisible’ students

SIMONE GARVEY-EWAN
Contributing Writer

FIU’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Allies Organization is going further than just changing their profile pictures.

They’re hosting a Lavender Graduation for students of the LGBTQA recognized for their academic achievements, leadership and volunteer work to the general and FIU community.

“LGBTQA students are invisible here on campus,” said Gisela Vega, associate director of LGBTQA and organizer of the Lavender Graduation. “We want them to know that we care.”

Vega said that it is important to have a celebration that will recognize individuals outside of the regular graduating class for their achievements.

Charikria Lovett, a graduate student and assistant for LGBTQA, said that students need a support system and the Lavender Graduation ceremony provides students with the perfect opportunity.

“I recommend every LGBTQA student to participate in this ceremony,” said Lovett.

The ceremony is sponsored by organizations including the Stonewall Pride Alliance, Advocacy Coalition and Delta Lambda Phi – a predominantly gay, bisexual and progressive male fraternity.

The Medical Student Gay Straight Alliance, Advocacy Coalition and Delta Lambda Phi – a predomina ntly gay, bisexual and progressive male fraternity.

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University provost welcomes fourth faculty fellow

JOSEFINÉ GYLLENSPORRE
Contributing Writer

On Aug. 12, 2013, the Provost’s Office will welcome Kathleen Wilson as its new Faculty Fellow. According to Provost Douglas Wartzok, Wilson’s professional background makes her an excellent candidate for the position.

Wilson is a senator at the United Faculty of Florida and associate director of the FIU School of Music. She has bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in music related fields.

“She came here as director of the School of Music. She has also served as president of UEFA,” said Wartzok.

Wartzok sees the transition in a positive light, where a new professor will get the opportunity to understand the inner workings of the administration on campus and cascade down this information to faculty colleagues.

Wartzok said Wilson’s new position will ease communication between the administration and faculty.

“The other side of it is for the faculty fellow to understand more of the operations of the Provost’s office so that they can help explain it to the faculty and obviously within that they do a lot of projects. The biggest thing is to make sure that on both sides we recognize what the other group is doing,” said Wartzok.

The University has seen three previous fellows. The Faculty Fellow program accepts only one professor per three-year term.

“I think it’s been very successful. It’s helped me immensely but I also think that it’s helped relationships with the faculty,” said Wartzok.

Wartzok said that although the fellowship is an administrative role, it will be beneficial when the candidate returns as faculty.

“This would give her the University-wide experience in academic administration, which I think will be beneficial for her personally and for when she goes back to the faculty and takes that perspective with her,” said Wartzok.

University administration – in particular the Office of the Provost – is engaged in efforts to improve the rate and speed of college graduates.

“There are always several tradeoffs and decisions one has to make between what we would like to do and what we can actually do with the money that’s available and so I will look to her for advice,” said Wartzok.

Wilson was unavailable for comment as of press time for this story.

Health fee to increase by 2.84 percent next year

ALYSSA ELSO
Staff Writer

The health fee committee passed an 2.84 percent health fee increase on March 28 to assist Student Health Services in providing better health care to students. The new services will be offered in the summer semester with another $10.50 tacked on to the health fee students already pay.

“University Health Services asked for a 2.84 percent increase, as opposed to the 5 percent increase they could have asked for,” said Andrew Black, assistant director of student affairs for Recreational Services and member of the committee. “The 2.84 percent increase will approximately amount to $10.50 per student, per semester.”

The Committee passed the increase in a 6-0 unanimous vote. Students present at the meeting provided positive feedback prompting the committee to approve the increase.

“Ten dollars isn’t much of an increase for all of the new services that they are going to provide,” said Ashley Aguiar, sophomore architecture major. “I’m usually on campus until really late, and having the option to get 24/7 care would be extremely beneficial.”

According to Black, new services will include a rise in nurses’ salaries, around-the-clock clinical service, increased physician hours at the Biscayne Bay Campus, funding to provide Health Campus 20/20 Suicide Prevention along with threat assessment planning, piloting an emergency fund for students with psychiatric medication needs and an additional wellness coordinator position that will focus on strategic program planning.

“In order to meet the accreditation compliance, we will contract out an after hours service that will provide students with 24/7 health service,” said Oscar Loynaz, director of University Health Services.

Students with disabilities will benefit from the increase because the Disability Resource Center will be hiring an additional disability consultant to help track student academic process and improve graduation time.

“They will by adhering to the national best practices standard of 300 students to each disability consultant ratio as opposed to the current 400 to 1,” Black said.

This is the first time in three years that the health fee is being increased, helping to fund many new services to further benefit student health care.

-News@fiusm.com
2012-2013 SGC-MMCC SENATOR CANDIDATE PLATFORMS

College of Arts & Sciences

-----Desmond Gustavo Petit
I want to attract more students to the majors within the college, bring more internships/career fairs for Arts and Science majors, bring more advisers to over-selected majors, and promote more student involvement with different organizations on campus.

-----Orlando Crespo
I would also produce policies that would help students with printing and other costs as well as extracurricular programs particularly appealing to the students of the College of Arts & Sciences. I believe an important issue facing students of the College of Arts & Sciences is developing what is necessary to find a secure job in the workforce.

-----James A D’Cruz
SGA’s lack of transparency as perceived by the whole student body has discouraged a healthy relationship between itself and the student body as a whole. As a senator, I will work with other senators within SGA to implement a forum through which students may voice their concerns directly to their representatives.

-----Nicole Buchely
I would like to offer more test preparation for graduate entry exams such as the LSAT and MCAT. I would also like to have interview exams such as the LSAT and MCAT.

College of Business

-----James Harden
One of the biggest issues continues to be a voice for those with online classes. I created a committee in my first year in SGA and would like to see it function in helping student resolve online class issues. Also, meeting with local business leaders to have opinions on how the real world works is something that students look for.

-----Nick Aquart
If elected I would organize events that would expose all business students to the variety of business organization on campus. Moreover, the one tool that nearly each and every business uses is Microsoft Excel and I strongly believe that students, myself included, would benefit from having a week of free Excel workshops each semester.

-----Mary Corbin
The most important issue facing lower-division students is lack of knowledge and involvement. I think it is very important for students to know what is happening with their school and student government. I want the lower-division students to feel comfortable with talking to me about issues they may have or just with asking me simple questions.

These platforms are based on a questionnaire sent to senatorial candidates. Candidates who are not included did not respond to the questionnaire.

The Beacon reserves the right to edit for style, clarity, and content.

NEWS

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Honors College

-----Raul Alvarez
The most pressing issue in the Honors College is the lack of funding from the activity and service fee. In 2012, the Honors College received only $8,000 out of its requested $20,650. I, as the Honors senator, made a full plea and presentation during the budget hearings on why the Honors College is such a valuable asset to the university and why it deserves more funding.

At-Large

-----Javier Navas
I want to implement a new shuttle system to complement the CATS shuttle system in order to provide students more access to the surrounding community. Additionally, as more classes are added to accommodate the increase in student population, it would benefit students to have more access to the faculty evaluations taken at the end of the semester and placing them on the FIU SGA website in order to assist students in deciding which class to choose.

Graduate Senators

-----Janiel Francisco Vargas
As their advocate for SGA, I will work side-by-side with the University Graduate School in order to make sure that all of their needs are addressed, and that all of their inquiries are answered as well. The most important issue for my constituents is funding, funding, and even more funding; graduate funding is paramount for most students at this level.

-----Saman Sargolzaei
One of the most important issues facing graduate students is to find an ideal job to follow with their interests and skills. We aim to facilitate the tools and skills required for graduate students to better fulfill their future career requirements.

-----Svetlana V. Tutyina
I will promote academic excellence and leadership among graduate students by helping graduate students to get more external and internal funding, as well as to find external scholarships and fellowships. I will enhance the non-academic life of graduate students, including family-oriented events. I will carry out both academic and non-academic projects in collaboration with other, especially Miami-based universities. I will increase the participation of Graduate Students in FIU events.

College of Education

-----Chanel Simmons
The most important issue facing the College of Education students would be the establishment of field hours between Miami-Dade and Broward County. Having faculty, staff, and administration see the accomplishments we achieve in spite of the challenges we may face, would bring awareness to the overload of field placement hours at FIU.

-----Javier Morales
One of the most important issues facing students is graduating on time. I feel the Graduate Success Initiative, and its tools, should be marketed better to the entire student body.

-----Orlando Crespo
I would also produce policies that would help students with printing and other costs as well as extracurricular programs particularly appealing to the students of the College of Arts & Sciences. I believe an important issue facing students of the College of Arts & Sciences is developing what is necessary to find a secure job in the workforce.

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The Beacon – Wednesday, April 10, 2013
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Squeaky Clean

Freshman Manny Careaga and sophomore Lilia Garcia participates in a Phi Kappa Alpha carwash fundraiser while Delta Phi Epsilon holds a collaborative bake sale (behind).
A little too trusting with our valuables

JUNETTE REYES  
Staff Writer

I do not know if it is a sense of camaraderie or the simple fact that some of us just look trustworthy.

Although these complaints are sometimes perceived as the plight of being an FIU student, blaming the wrong people will not get issues resolved.

シーン: SEND US YOUR LETTERS
Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiu.edu or drop by our offices at either GL 210 or WUC 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 per month from any individual.

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Fulbrighters represented FIU at St. Augustine

CONSELIO NARANJO
Staff Writer

Some of the most brilliant FIU Fulbright students and alumnae participated on a three day meeting, from April 5 to April 7, in St. Augustine, Fla. For the commemoration of Juan Ponce de Leon – a Spanish explorer who arrived to one of the oldest cities in the United States 500 years ago. The Fulbright Scholar Program, established in 1946 by Senator J. William Fulbright from Arkansas, is one of the most prestigious academic grants which provides funding for vivid minds from all around the world in the science, education and arts fields.

The following five FIU Fulbright graduate representatives attended to St. Augustine events: Ziyad Ben Taleb, public health major (Libya); Nicolás Terradas, international relations major (Argentina); Juan Sebastián Betancourt, business major (Colombia); Anas Salahi Eldin, electrical engineering major (Syria); and Valerie Pelletier, public health major (Haiti). They were invited by the Fulbright Association, a private nonprofit corporation with chapters in North, Central and South Florida. This society was established by the Fulbright Scholars Program alumni, enabling supporters of international education to learn more about St. Augustine’s history by attending conferences, touring the city and interacting with other Fulbrighters from Florida universities.

Jesus Mendez, vice president of the South Florida Chapter of the Fulbright Association, describes Fulbright not just an academic program where students can acquire knowledge, but also as a program that promotes mutual understanding between cultures through education and communication – the main objective of Fulbright.

“Knowledge without understanding creates tragedies. Fulbright reunions are amazing and necessary opportunities where students can appreciate and share new cultures, languages and different points of views,” Mendez said.

Flagler College in St. Augustine was a Florida co-sponsor of the weekend’s events.

William T. Abate, Jr., president of Flagler College, Thomas Graham, professor of history at Flagler College and Jesus Mendez addressed the 500th anniversary of St. Augustine history. Betty Castor, member of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Fellowship Board and former Florida commissioner of education, and Shaz Akram, director of chapter relations of the Fulbright Association in Washington, D.C., welcomed Fulbrighters by presenting the organization’s goals, recognitions and personal experiences.

Nicolás Terradas, FIU Fulbright international relations graduate, shared the importance of the Fulbright program and how this opportunity has impacted his personal life and professional career.

“Fulbright has changed my life completely. This program just not gave me the opportunity to study in a country where the highest academic standards resided, but also allowed me to obtain cultural understanding. I have meet people from all around the world, without this study abroad grant, I won’t ever will able to.”

The students, alumni and participants visited historical venues such as the Hotel Ponce de Leon building of Flagler College, the Castillo de San Marcos, St. George Street, Markland House and the Colonial Quarter while enjoying the town’s cuisine and receptions.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards over one thousand grants every year, available in over 155 countries all over the world. FIU students have been the proud recipients of these prestigious awards.

According to the Fulbright association in 2012-2013, Florida welcomed 60 foreign Fulbright students from 25 different countries. Also, during 2012-2013, a total of 61 students attending Florida universities received Fulbright Scholarship grants to study and organize academic research abroad.

Florida International University has approximately 50,000 students, most with an international background, and has been a successful academic entity for the Fulbright Scholarship Program.

“FIU is growing extremely fast. It has well-known and globally recognized academic programs that attract students from the five continents,” Mendez said.

80’s flashback with The Mary Onettes

HECTOR MOJENA
Columnist

Over the course of three albums and a handful of EPs, The Mary Onettes have maintained a steady and often satisfying output indebted to the somnambulant tones and heavily affected jangle of priors like The Smiths, Felt, insert-any-debtor here.

From their self-titled debut to their most uncharacteristically grounded sound on a Mary Onettes record. "Africa" by Toto) better than most bands claiming to emulate them. The rest of "Hit the Waves" similarly mines post-punk and mainstream synth pop into an album’s worth of rich melancholia.

With their latest record, The Mary Onettes have skillfully condensed the disparate sounds of 80’s post-punk and mainstream synth pop into an album’s worth of rich melancholia.

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...the repeated refrain of “more than just a bad dream” lending a hook to an otherwise restrained, mid-tempo piece of atmospheric guitar arpeggios and echoing vocals.

It’s tracks like these that hearken back to The Mary Onettes’ first two records and, incidentally, it’s these tracks that slow the album’s momentum. Though certainly not without their charms, these songs seem to indicate a reluctance on the band’s part to fully embrace the stylistic shifts found in standards like “Black Sunset.”

The fact that the record does not fall flat despite this is a testament to how enjoyable the skilled pop craft of “Hit the Waves” can be.

An uneven second half notwithstanding, the band has turned out one of the contenders for album of the year.

With their latest record, The Mary Onettes have skillfully condensed the disparate sounds of 80’s post-punk and mainstream synth pop into an album’s worth of rich melancholia.
Robotics and hardware at The LAB Miami

Once a month, a group of technology professionals, entrepreneurs and students meet to discuss different topics related to technology or entrepreneurship. This group is called RefreshMiami, a not for profit group dedicated to providing “educational content focused on entrepreneurs and students”. A RefreshMiami event recently passed, focusing on “Hardware Hacking and Robotics.”

Despite not having any experience with such technology, it was a safe bet to go to the event, since we’ve never dealt in that field before.

The event was held at The LAB Miami in Wynwood, a coworking space geared to those in the entrepreneurial and tech community.

At the event I saw many familiar faces from previous tech scene outings, such as SuperConf and UHack. I caught up with those who I had met before, and met some new people at the event.

After everyone enjoyed some free food and drinks, the presentations finally began.

Since the presentations were geared towards working with hardware and robotics, all the presentations had something physical to show the audience, whether it was LED lights hooked up to a device, a Raspberry Pi (a “credit card sized computer”) or a robot prototype.

To introduce the idea of “hardware hacking,” two members from MakeSpace-Miami demonstrated examples how hardware hacking works. They introduced to the audience a device with LED lights that changed colors based on music, which only required a few lines of code to implement.

Following the introductory presentation from MakeSpace, Willie Avendano went further into using hardware, with his work combining hardware, art and music.

Using a Raspberry Pi, Willie was able to create a full album of music as well as create art using the small device.

Students and faculty from the FIU Discovery Lab finished off the hardware presentations as they discussed the work being done at the Discovery Lab, along with demonstrating one of their prototypes. The prototype shown at the event was a robot that was controlled using the users movements and vision. The future of that project is to create a mobile robotic unit controlled remotely via motion capture and VR.

The Discovery Lab team demonstrated how the robot can currently move its arms using input from Microsoft’s Kinect sensor, as well as moving its head using a VR headset.

At the end of the presentations, Peter Martinez, a co-director of RefreshMiami, added to the presentations by demonstrating the ease of operating a device such as a Raspberry Pi, even for those with little to no programming experience. The presentations then came to a close, opening up a networking opportunity for those at the event.

The next RefreshMiami event will be held on April 25 at the Miami Science Museum, focusing on Lean Startups.

Those interested in future RefreshMiami events, as well as getting involved with the local tech and entrepreneurial scene, are urged to check out refreshmiami.com or request to join the RefreshMiami Facebook page.

LUIS BOLANOS

University focusing in on Cuban migration

Miami is quite a diverse city, and although people have migrated from a lot of different places, no denying that a majority of Cuban origin.

It’s no wonder then that at the University we have a Cuban Research Institute, a department dedicated to advancing Cuban and Cuban-American studies. Presently the CRI is heavily immersed in the exploration of the Cuban migration.

The University recently participated in a symposium dedicated to the discussion of how the Cuban communities in different countries compare to each other.

“I think it was the first of its kind because most of the research and teaching has focused on Cuba in the United States. We wanted to broaden the scope of the discussion to include other destinations for contemporary Cuban migrants,” said Jorge Duany, director of the CRI.

He explained that it’s estimated that at least 300,000 Cubans live outside of Cuba and the United States. Places in Latin America, the Caribbean and Western Europe are some of the new destinations where the migration is happening.

The CRI, however, isn’t nearly done arranging events of this nature for the remaining of the semester. From May 23 to 25, the CRI will be holding their ninth conference on Cuban and Cuban-American studies.

The largest in the Institute’s history, the conference will take place in the Graham Center Ballroom and will consist of 45 panels and over 250 experts from United States and other countries.

In this event, which will span from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., a broad array of socio-cultural, political and economic topics of the Cuban diaspora will be explored.

Duany considers these events as a tradition that has been part of even before joining the FIU family where he has met scholars of different backgrounds and different ages that share the same interest on Cuba and the diaspora.

“This time around we’ll continue with that tradition because we have people who are very well established figure in the field as well as people finishing their graduate studies and even undergraduate students presenting in the conference, so at least three generations of scholars will be part of this,” explained Duany.

“The migration is something that’s still going on, people are still migrating from Cuba, and so people should attend these kinds of event,” said Rubi Bravo, sophomore business major, who considers herself Cuban-American.

“I’m a little bit of both... My rhythm is Cuban, but my habits are American,” said Bravo. “I don’t go out to Cuban club for example, but I act very much like a Cuban.”

Even though the conference has a focus in the Cuban diaspora, many of the panels and experts are going to be showing casing different aspects of the characteristics of the island. Duany also pointed out that literature, art and economy are only a few of the more varied studies to be presented through the event, making it also appealing to more casual attendees and people of no Cuban descent.

“I think it’s important to acknowledge the obviously large presence of the Cuban community and know more about them. Even if you’re not a part of it,” said Steiner Lukose, a sophomore accounting major of Indian background.

In conjunction to the three day conference is a film screening at 7:30 p.m. on May 24. After a second day of discussion, the attendees will be treated to El Super (1979), a humorous look at the life of a Cuban family living and striving to succeed in the United States.

“It is a classic film about Cubans in the United States,” said the director of the CRI, “I remember seeing it long long time ago, it is a funny, very moving film.” The screening will provide a nice break from the discussion, but will also add a more clear perspective of what life in exile from Cuba is like and how it develops over time through generations.

A panel to discuss the film will be held after the credits roll down where the CRI expects to have some of the cast, the director and the writer whose play the movie is based on.

Both of these events are co-sponsored with the FIU African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment, and WPBT2.

This is an opportunity for anyone interested in Cuban culture and history to get involved, for the general public a fee of $125 will be charged.
Holy Coley and the immaculate season

RUBEN PALACIOS   Staff Writer

It might not be a bestseller, but junior Jerica Coley’s record book is definitely a lengthy read. After another season of topping women’s basketball records, it just got a little longer.

The St. Petersburg, Fla. native’s ascent in basketball is well documented. A breakout in her sophomore campaign where she led her team in every statistic landed her in the national spotlight with a Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year and Associated Press All-American award to boot. After yet another stellar year, Coley repeated as the conference player of the year and again received All-America honors.

“It just means that the hard work during the summer kind of paid off a bit,” Coley said. “Just keeps me focused on working hard knowing that the work actually pays off.”

After the stellar sophomore season, Coley, with all the notoriety and hype, wasn’t sure if she could repeat her success. She still wasn’t as good as she wanted to be.

“I didn’t know if I could do it up last year, but I was hoping to improve and have a better season,” Coley said. “I needed to get more mature mentally, have a better IQ of the game and my shot selection needed to improve. I needed to be more of a leader.”

In the season opener against the University of North Florida, Coley showed she could still dominate every facet of the game by coming up just a rebound and a block shy of a triple-double.

Coley finished the game with 21 points, nine rebounds and a school record nine blocks. The nine blocks become even more remarkable when Coley’s stature and position come to mind; the point guard is just 5-foot-7.

“For a 5-7 point guard, it’s kind of mind-bogging. She’s just that athletic,” FIU head coach Joseph Mays said.

The milestone would put her name next to the likes of Brittney Griner of Baylor, Elena Delle Donne of the University of Delaware, Maya Moore of the University of Connecticut and Maya Moore of the University of Connecticut.

“I wouldn’t say we’re keeping an out for them, but Middle Tennessee is always a great competition,” Idom said.

Men’s basketball is in a strange state of mind as they head to C-USA. The team exceeded every expectation as they made it all the way to the Sun Belt Championship, losing to WKU by only two points. They were expected to finish second to last in the SBC, but instead posted their first .500 season in the last 13 years.

However, all of these things were accomplished under first year head coach Richard Pitino. Pitino left the team to transfer to Minnesota, losing to WKU by only two points. They were expected to finish second to last in the SBC, but instead posted their first .500 season in the last 13 years.

“People just don’t expect you to block their shot, they get a little comfortable and that just gets me a few blocks,” Coley said.

While blocking is certainly a strength, it’s her scoring that’s made her her a household name in Division I basketball. The All-American led the nation in scoring with a school record 26.3 points per game this past season. Coley and scoring were basically synonymous this season and have been during her tenure as a Panther.

Coley broke the single-season scoring record this year, a record that stood for 31 years. With 840 points, Coley surpassed Karen Turnquest, who netted 820 points back in 1981. “It’s something to think about, it makes it a little cooler,” Coley said about breaking a record that stood for so long.

With 2,135 career points, Coley is in sole possession of second place all-time at FIU. She is just 380 points shy of first place and is on pace to shatter the record and claim first place on the all-time scoring list.

“It will be a big accomplishment and an honor,” Coley said. “I’ll be happy because it’s a milestone to be the career leader in points at any school.

Interestingly enough, Coley would become the second Coley to lead a Florida school in career points scored. Her aunt, Tamika Coley, is the UCF women’s basketball record holder for career points with 2,006.

The younger Coley, though, has a shot to join a very rare class in women’s basketball: the 3,000-point club. Coley sits just 865 points shy of becoming the tenth woman to score 3,000 points in a career.

The milestone would put her name next to the likes of Brittney Griner of Baylor, Elena Delle Donne of the University of Delaware, Maya Moore of the University of Connecticut and Maya Moore of the University of Connecticut.

“I think next season is going to be even better for the team and individual players to get more attention, Scouts go where the better teams are, so I am definitely excited about that,” Jervis said.

Women’s basketball does not have it any easier. If you include the Hilltoppers and the Blue Raiders, C-USA will have six teams next year that tallied 21 wins or more in their previous season.

“We are looking at better competition, tougher competition,” Idom said.

A season never really ends for a sport. It is simply put on hold until the next season.

However, the offseason has just as much action as the official games. These actions include the recruitment of new players, coaches filling vacancies and veteran players rehabilitating. The big offseason move this year includes everyone. With the exception of men’s soccer that’s already there, every sport. With the exception of men’s soccer that’s already there, every sport. With the exception of men’s soccer that’s already there, every sport. With the exception of men’s soccer that’s already there, every sport.

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I can’t find a real reason to be mad at Richard Pitino. The former FIU men’s basketball coach bolted out the door less than three weeks after the end of a historic season, quickly working out a six-year, $7.2 million deal with the University of Minnesota.

I had a thread of hope that Pitino would remain a Hurricane and make this program relevant, well, for the first time ever. But hey, money talks, especially when you make five figures in Miami is worth one year’s salary in Minnesota.

I’ll give Athletics Director Pete Garcia some credit. He said he offered a “modest pay raise” to Pitino at the season’s conclusion.

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Staff

Pat Riley said he wakes up around 11 a.m. these days then heads into the office to chat with fellow Miami Heat executives Nick Arison and Andy Elisburg about nothing.

He’s lying, of course. "There might not be anyone in the Miami organization who savors playoff time more than Riley, the Heat president with eight championship rings in his collection. And with Miami on the cusp of setting a franchise record for wins in a season — the team mark is 61, which this Heat club could match with a win against Milwaukee on Tuesday night — Riley speaks very much like he’s ready for another postseason run.

"It’s the ultimate dream for me," Riley said. "It really is."

Riley last coached on April 16, 2008, the end of Miami’s miserable 15-win season. All that’s happened since is the promotion of Erik Spoelstra to head coach, the acquisition of LeBron James, Chris Bosh, Ray Allen, Miller, Shane Battier, Mario Chalmers and others to play alongside Dwyane Wade — a trip to the NBA Finals, one championship and 288 regular-season and playoff victories — third-most in the league over that span. And barring all-out collapse, Miami will head into the playoffs later this month as the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference and there’s a second straight title would be great for Miami."

Pat Riley says Heat will be ready for playoffs

SPORTS
The Beacon – Wednesday, April 10, 2013

EDUARDO ALMAGUER

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Coley set for big senior season

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and the all-time leader, Jackie Stiles of Southwest Missouri State.

"That’s pretty elite right there. It would be another milestone and a major accomplishment," Coley said. "I saw it on TV a couple of days ago and not many people have made it there. That would be great."

Despite the outstanding scoring numbers, Coley remains a student, one not tagged as just someone who can score. "I like to play defense, I like to get steals and rebound, I like to block shots," Coley said. "I just like playing basketball and I would consider myself as a complete player who can score.""Here’s a scary thought for any opponent Coley will face during her senior year: she is not satisfied with her game yet and plans on getting better.

"I will work out to try and be more efficient," Coley said. "And become more of a student of the game so I can be smarter and be the type of player that makes people around them better. That will help us win more games."

Win more games and win our conference, that’s the main goal," Coley added. "I want to win our conference tournament and go to the NCAA Tournament."

Since 1970, only four franchises — the Lakers, Chicago, Detroit and Houston — have been able to successfully defend an NBA championship. Miami will enter the post-season favored to become the fifth club on that list, which was Riley’s goal when putting the core of this roster together in 2010.

At that time, he used the word "dynasty" when talking to season-ticket holders. For the Heat to get there, a second straight title would seem to be an obvious prerequisite. "I knew after 2008, that 15-win season, that was it," Riley said. "But I never realized that I would have an opportunity to watch and thoroughly enjoy just the players on the practice court, watch them warming up, watch them playing the game, watch them celebrate, watch them have fun. It’s just been an absolute Godsend for me at this stage of my career."
Candidates see a need for more food choices on campus

VINSON PRESSLEY Staff Writer

Two candidates are running for Student Government Council on a mission to bring more food options to the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Fu Zhou Wu and Richard Azimov are running for president and vice president of SG/SBBC for the 2013-2014 school year and they have big plans for BBC.

“We share the same interests to benefit the student body [and have] a strong professional partnership,” said Azimov, vice president candidate who teamed up with Zhou Wu.

Azimov also said Zhou Wu’s goals align with his vision.

“We do have some ideas on what the students want by creating surveys and working with students to resolve this issue,” said Azimov.

While they have different platforms, Zhou Wu echoed her running mate’s sentiments.

“We want to form a nice partnership with Panther Dining Services,” said Zhou Wu.

Zhou Wu pointed out that on weekends the only source of food available on campus are the vending machines, which she said really only serves candy – counterproductive for students who works out or eats healthy.

Zhou Wu also mentioned that she wants more food available near the library.

“It’s all about communication,” said Zhou Wu.

Zhou Wu is concerned about the communication between Modesto Maidique and MMC and how it affects the student body.

“Students are the ones who will benefit the most,” said Zhou Wu.

Azimov also said Zhou Wu has work and responsibilities ahead of them if elected, but according to Azimov, one of the goals is to help students remember that FIU has helped them become the people they are today.

Brokenheart research method for sea turtles

ALY’S TOLEDO Contributing Writer

Katherine Mansfield, a visiting researcher associate to the School of Environment, Arts and Society, will be discussing the life and history of the “Iron Lady” who led the United Kingdom as the first woman to hold the title of prime minister.

According to her spokesman, Lord Timothy Beardsworth also stated that “She remains a beacon of inspiration to fight for what’s right and her loss will be felt for years to come.”

Mansfield’s lecture will highlight the current involvement and research methods being used in the study of sea turtles and their quests to make it home.

Mansfield began her work with sea turtles in 1994. Originally, Mansfield intended to work with coral reefs and seagrass beds. While participating in her first internship with the Coral Reef Research Foundation in the 2000s, Mansfield worked in Haiti.

From the time a baby sea turtle hatchling until its first and only female prime minister, Thatcher was a great lady.”

“After all she has done for the country, it is a shame that she has left us,” said Caly-Sanchez.

Richard Beardsworth, politics and international relations professor, in an email to Student Media said, “At both national and international levels, Margaret Thatcher defended a set of pro-market economic and social policies that radically shifted political consensus towards the liberal right. She was a leading statesperson of her time since these policies both anticipated the collapse of the Soviet empire and drove through a global era of neoliberal economics.”

Beardsworth also stated that “She remains a key politician of our age.”

British Prime Minister David Cameron expressed sadness to the British Broadcasting Corporation, stating “we have lost a great leader, a great prime minister and a great Briton.”

Aside from being the United Kingdom’s first and only female prime minister, Thatcher was the key in introducing a series of political and economic initiatives to reverse Britain’s economic issues in the ’80s. She focused on deregulation, flexible labor markets, privatizing companies in the U.K. and reduced the influence of trade unions.

Her leadership would be tested during the Falklands War, the Cold War would help her win a third term as Prime Minister in 1983.

Thatcher’s funeral will take place next week. At the time of printing, the exact date and time is unknown.

Thatcher will not have a state funeral but will be given military honors starting at Chapel of St. Mary Undercroft at the Palace of Westminster, and ending at St. Paul’s Cathedral.