Course requirement: march in gay pride parade

**STEFANIE MASON**  
Staff Writer

Professor Oscar Loynaz quotes Buddha in the syllabus for his class LGBT and Beyond: Non-Normative Sexualities in Global Perspective. It reads, “Believe nothing... unless it agrees with your own reason and your own common sense.”

The course covers a wide range of topics in the including subcultures, the role of media, health care, history and religion. One of the first things Loynaz has his students look at in particular is nature vs. nurture.

Another topic discussed in the course is the controversy surrounding same-sex marriage. Loynaz said there are many different kinds of students in the class with different opinions on the issue.

“If you come to terms with that question, whether you’re born gay or does society make you gay...it can sort of develop a framework on how you see marriage and marriage equality later on,” said Loynaz.

Loynaz personally feels that the legality of marriage should not be a state’s right as it limits one’s ability as an American citizen.

“I am hoping that [the Supreme Court] basically stands on the side of marriage equality because it serves no purpose for them not to make an appropriate legal ruling because they’re afraid of the consequences,” Loynaz said.

“I think all of us want to get married to someone we love,” said William Llerena, sophomore with an undeclared major.

“I think everything in the world changes. You go back to the ’30s, women got their rights. African Americans got their rights too. Why are we going to go ahead and deny the homosexual community?” said Llerena.

“People are afraid of the stupid truth.”

Ricardo Charlestin, junior in mechanical engineering, said he is “totally against” the legality of same-sex marriage and that he thinks it should not be legal in any of the states.

“It comes with my background. I’m a bible believer. I’m from a Christian family...they’re totally against it so I guess that’s why,” Charlestin said.

Loynaz said that often times, people associate same-sex marriage with things that it should actually be differentiated from.

“You have to respect people’s points of view but a lot of people kind of confuse marriage with religion,” said Llerena.

Isaias Caceres, freshman in mathematics and one of Loynaz’s students, was enthusiastic about the opportunity to march in the parade. Caceres feels it will be good “to represent everybody that wants to do something…why should that negatively impact you?”

A requirement of Loynaz’s class during the spring semester is to march in the Miami Beach Gay Pride Parade in order for students to experience what it feels like to stand up for something.

Isaias Caceres, freshman in mathematics and one of Loynaz’s students, was enthusiastic about the opportunity to march in the parade. Caceres feels it will be good “to represent everybody that doesn’t have a voice.”

According to Loynaz, this was the first year that the University had its own float in the parade. During the first march, the students came up with the slogan, “Who you are is not a choice, at FIU you have a voice.”

“The slogan lets the community know that FIU is a welcoming environment, embraces diversity and is respectful of people’s orientations,” said Loynaz.

“Sexual orientation is something that’s very personal but it’s also something that’s very public, and so I encourage everyone to really give it some thought,” said Loynaz.

-Stephanie.mason@fiusm.com

---

**ALYSSA ELSO**  
Staff Writer

A new ban on texting and driving has students pleased to know that actions are being taken to prevent the over 200,000 accidents that occur in Florida as a result of texting and driving, a statistic from the National Safety Council.

“Passing this bill is great for Florida, I think we are one of a few states not to have a ban and many accidents have been caused by texting and driving, the thought of getting a fine for texting and driving will prevent many people from doing it, including myself,” said Santiago Pava, a senior psychology major.

On April 16, the Senate unanimously passed a bill that will ban texting while driving, but will allow typing while stopped at a red light.

While steps are being taken to end this popular and dangerous trend, through this bill, texting and driving will only be recognized as a secondary offense, meaning police will first have to pull over drivers for an offense like speeding or distracted driving.

Drivers with a first violation for texting and driving will receive a $30 fine with additional court costs, while a second violation within five years could add three points to the driver’s license with an additional $60 fine.

Jeffrey Arias, junior biology major, is a bit skeptical of the success this ban will have in preventing texting and driving.

“I think it’s good that the bill passed. Texting and driving is really dangerous, but I’m not really sure this ban will be as effective as it could be,” said Arias. “Making it a secondary offense might make it difficult to actually catch people that have been texting and driving, as they would have also had to be doing something else wrong.”

Rep. Senator Nancy Detert said this is the fourth year she has sponsored a bill to ban texting, this is the first year it has been heard, and now Florida is only one of five states without a ban.

Liz Sarmiento, a freshman biology major, supports the passing of the bill and believes it will make driving safer.

“Texting and driving is not safe at all, I’ve tried doing it myself and it was way too distracting,” said Sarmiento. “So many people get into car accidents while they are texting, I’m sure this ban will help to prevent many accidents and deaths.”

According to Detett, texting and driving has become an “epidemic” that needs to stop, as texting and driving claims the lives of 11 teenagers across the country on a daily basis. 

Additional reporting by The Associated Press.

/news@fiusm.com

---

Obama proposes changes to student loan interest rates

**REBECCA PICCARDO**  
Contributing Writer

Students that cannot cover their financial needs through Florida Prepaid, scholarships or grants have the option to borrow money through subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans. However, the interest rates on federal student loans could change in the next year, affecting students who will have to take on a greater amount of debt to pay for their education.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Obama administration is proposing to change the way interest rates are set on federal student loans. Currently, Congress sets a fixed interest rate of 3.4 percent on subsidized loans, but the administration’s proposal seeks to make interest rates become market-based.

If the way interest rates are set for federal student loans become market-based, it is predicted that the interest rates will double for subsidized Stafford loans. According to the Financial Aid website, subsidized Stafford loans do not charge interest while in school.

**SEE LOANS, PAGE 2**
Students becoming weary of false fire alarms

For students at Florida International University, the idea of a false fire alarm has become quite common. In recent weeks, many students have experienced the sound of fire alarms going off, only to realize that it was not an actual fire. This phenomenon has caused some students to become desensitized to fire alarms, leading to a decrease in their overall level of concern when an alarm goes off.

According to a survey conducted by the university, 70% of students reported feeling desensitized to fire alarms. This disinterest in fire alarms has led to a decrease in the number of people who respond to them. In fact, according to the survey, only 20% of students said they would evacuate the building if a fire alarm went off.

This lack of concern has also led to increased oversight by the university. In an effort to ensure the safety of its students, the university has implemented a new program aimed at improving fire alarm response times. The program involves the use of advanced technology to detect actual fires and reduce the number of false alarms.

The new technology includes the use of advanced sensors and machine learning algorithms to analyze data from various sources, including temperature and smoke levels. This helps to identify real fires more quickly and accurately, reducing the number of false alarms.

However, some students have expressed concerns about the new program. They are worried that the university may be using the program to monitor their activities, leading to a loss of privacy. In response, the university has assured students that the data collected will be used only for the purpose of improving fire safety and will not be shared with outside parties.

Despite these concerns, the university has received positive feedback on the new program. Students have reported feeling more secure knowing that the university is taking steps to improve fire safety.

Overall, the university is committed to ensuring the safety of its students and remains dedicated to implementing innovative solutions to improve fire alarm response times.
It’s final exams week and I’ve fully equipped my bank account to handle the burden of all the skinny triple shot white chocolate mochas I’m going to be inhaling like a druggie for the next few days to keep me awake.

This has become a ritual I cannot function without. Final exam rituals differ from student to student, but each one helps students get into the study groove. First, there are the rituals to help you stay awake.

A ‘thank you’ to the unsung heroes of the University

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.

The most famous exam ritual for University students, however, is the spinning of the cube in front of Deuxieme Maison. It’s supposed to give you luck on your exams if you spin it clockwise. No matter if you’re injecting caffeine into your bloodstream, praying to the FIU gods, or procrastinating on tumblr, I wish you the best of luck on your exams! May the curve be forever in your favor!

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to us at opinion@fiusm.com. 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.

Vincent Presley

Staff Writer

There are thousands of people who work their butts off every day to make our college experience awesome and enjoyable.

These people work behind the scenes and quietly perform the tasks absolutely necessary to keep our school up and running and to those people I say, “Thank You!”

Thank you, to the heroes who are responsible for maintenance and keeping our campuses clean and beautiful. Every single time I arrive on either campus early in the morning, the custodians are already hard at work making sure our campuses never lose their magnificent glow and essence.

The floors are always spotless, there are never large piles of trash or trash bins overflowing anywhere on campus; I’ve never lost my appetite at the sight of unpleasant vermin hunting for food crumbs.

These heroes perform countless amounts of duties that make our lives much easier and allow us to focus on the harder things like exams and papers and lectures that never end.

Imagine rushing to the bathroom right before class and not being able to use it because the toilets were uncleaned, now you’re stuck holding it until after class or being late and running to find another restroom. Imagine trying to study for a midterm and having to move every five minutes because the noise in every location was too much to endure.

These heroes perform vital functions that without them, I don’t think FIU would be able to run smoothly and accommodate such a large number of students.

Thank you, to the people who work tirelessly in the bookstores at the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses.

Carla Chauca, assistant manager of the bookstore at BBC said she tries to help students with the cost of textbooks by trying to get more used books in the bookstore.

She also mentioned that when a student needs a textbook that’s located at the other campus, rather than telling the student to make the long trip to MMC, she offers to have the book transferred from MMC to BCC and save the student a trip.

These heroes “go h.a.m.” in helping us.

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

Disclaimer:

A ‘thank you’ to the unsung heroes of the University

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise. And when we cross paths, I will no doubt show my appreciation for your work, thank you.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Vincent Presley

Staff Writer

Thank you, to the heroes who are responsible for maintenance and keeping our campuses clean and beautiful. Every single time I arrive on either campus early in the morning, the custodians are already hard at work making sure our campuses never lose their magnificent glow and essence.

The floors are always spotless, there are never large piles of trash or trash bins overflowing anywhere on campus; I’ve never lost my appetite at the sight of unpleasant vermin hunting for food crumbs.

These heroes perform countless amounts of duties that make our lives much easier and allow us to focus on the harder things like exams and papers and lectures that never end.

Imagine rushing to the bathroom right before class and not being able to use it because the toilets were uncleaned, now you’re stuck holding it until after class or being late and running to find another restroom. Imagine trying to study for a midterm and having to move every five minutes because the noise in every location was too much to endure.

These heroes perform vital functions that without them, I don’t think FIU would be able to run smoothly and accommodate such a large number of students.

Thank you, to the people who work tirelessly in the bookstores at the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses.

Carla Chauca, assistant manager of the bookstore at BBC said she tries to help students with the cost of textbooks by trying to get more used books in the bookstore.

She also mentioned that when a student needs a textbook that’s located at the other campus, rather than telling the student to make the long trip to MMC, she offers to have the book transferred from MMC to BCC and save the student a trip.

These heroes “go h.a.m.” in helping us.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise. And when we cross paths, I will no doubt show my appreciation for your work, thank you.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Vincent Presley

Staff Writer

Thank you, to the heroes who are responsible for maintenance and keeping our campuses clean and beautiful. Every single time I arrive on either campus early in the morning, the custodians are already hard at work making sure our campuses never lose their magnificent glow and essence.

The floors are always spotless, there are never large piles of trash or trash bins overflowing anywhere on campus; I’ve never lost my appetite at the sight of unpleasant vermin hunting for food crumbs.

These heroes perform countless amounts of duties that make our lives much easier and allow us to focus on the harder things like exams and papers and lectures that never end.

Imagine rushing to the bathroom right before class and not being able to use it because the toilets were uncleaned, now you’re stuck holding it until after class or being late and running to find another restroom. Imagine trying to study for a midterm and having to move every five minutes because the noise in every location was too much to endure.

These heroes perform vital functions that without them, I don’t think FIU would be able to run smoothly and accommodate such a large number of students.

Thank you, to the people who work tirelessly in the bookstores at the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses.

Carla Chauca, assistant manager of the bookstore at BBC said she tries to help students with the cost of textbooks by trying to get more used books in the bookstore.

She also mentioned that when a student needs a textbook that’s located at the other campus, rather than telling the student to make the long trip to MMC, she offers to have the book transferred from MMC to BCC and save the student a trip.

These heroes “go h.a.m.” in helping us.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise. And when we cross paths, I will no doubt show my appreciation for your work, thank you.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Vincent Presley

Staff Writer

Thank you, to the heroes who are responsible for maintenance and keeping our campuses clean and beautiful. Every single time I arrive on either campus early in the morning, the custodians are already hard at work making sure our campuses never lose their magnificent glow and essence.

The floors are always spotless, there are never large piles of trash or trash bins overflowing anywhere on campus; I’ve never lost my appetite at the sight of unpleasant vermin hunting for food crumbs.

These heroes perform countless amounts of duties that make our lives much easier and allow us to focus on the harder things like exams and papers and lectures that never end.

Imagine rushing to the bathroom right before class and not being able to use it because the toilets were uncleaned, now you’re stuck holding it until after class or being late and running to find another restroom. Imagine trying to study for a midterm and having to move every five minutes because the noise in every location was too much to endure.

These heroes perform vital functions that without them, I don’t think FIU would be able to run smoothly and accommodate such a large number of students.

Thank you, to the people who work tirelessly in the bookstores at the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses.

Carla Chauca, assistant manager of the bookstore at BBC said she tries to help students with the cost of textbooks by trying to get more used books in the bookstore.

She also mentioned that when a student needs a textbook that’s located at the other campus, rather than telling the student to make the long trip to MMC, she offers to have the book transferred from MMC to BCC and save the student a trip.

These heroes “go h.a.m.” in helping us.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise. And when we cross paths, I will no doubt show my appreciation for your work, thank you.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Vincent Presley

Staff Writer

Thank you, to the heroes who are responsible for maintenance and keeping our campuses clean and beautiful. Every single time I arrive on either campus early in the morning, the custodians are already hard at work making sure our campuses never lose their magnificent glow and essence.

The floors are always spotless, there are never large piles of trash or trash bins overflowing anywhere on campus; I’ve never lost my appetite at the sight of unpleasant vermin hunting for food crumbs.

These heroes perform countless amounts of duties that make our lives much easier and allow us to focus on the harder things like exams and papers and lectures that never end.

Imagine rushing to the bathroom right before class and not being able to use it because the toilets were uncleaned, now you’re stuck holding it until after class or being late and running to find another restroom. Imagine trying to study for a midterm and having to move every five minutes because the noise in every location was too much to endure.

These heroes perform vital functions that without them, I don’t think FIU would be able to run smoothly and accommodate such a large number of students.

Thank you, to the people who work tirelessly in the bookstores at the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses.

Carla Chauca, assistant manager of the bookstore at BBC said she tries to help students with the cost of textbooks by trying to get more used books in the bookstore.

She also mentioned that when a student needs a textbook that’s located at the other campus, rather than telling the student to make the long trip to MMC, she offers to have the book transferred from MMC to BCC and save the student a trip.

These heroes “go h.a.m.” in helping us.

The services that are performed by FIU’s heroes are worthy of constant praise.
Papua New Guinea trip brings back more than research

DANIEL URIA
Staff Writer

This past March, University professor Tudor Parfitt traveled to Papua New Guinea to continue his research on the Gogodala tribe, which practice a form of Judaism and claim Isrealite descent.

In 2012, he was appointed President Navon Professor of Sephardic and Mizrahi Studies and SIPA Research Professor at the University. “This means I am interested in the Jewish world and particularly its oriental and African component,” said Parfitt.

This interest fueled Parfitt’s desire to travel to Papua New Guinea for the third time and expand his research on the Gogodala. Traveling with him this time was his wife, Gerald and Bonnie Sussman, a pair of married Rabbis, and a crew from External Relations that documented the 12-day journey.

Parfitt and company were also joined by five FIU students: graduate student Olivia Autolino, undergraduates Kyle Decker and Keysel Pelaez, and honors college student Pablo Currea.

Religious studies students Sabrina Diz and Kyle Decker discovered new interests within their field while on the trip. “Sabrina Diz became very interested in medical and women’s issues,” said Parfitt. During the trip she organized an event that delivered supplies to a women’s shelter in the village.

Decker, who has a background in studying Hebrew with University professor Erik Larson, took a liking to Parfitt’s work and began researching the subject on his own while in Papua New Guinea. “Kyle Decker took an interest in my area of research and conducted a number of interviews on his own looking at the way in which the Jewish religion or aspects of it had been developed in the Gogodala tribe. He also conducted some classes in Hebrew,” Parfitt said.

Apart from his studies, Decker also enjoyed a game of rugby with the tribe. “Olivia Autolino from the School of Education had an interest in missionary education among the tribe and how ritual was being used to transmit Jewish values,” Parfitt said. But during her time in Papua New Guinea, Autolino also got to show off one of her special talents by educating the Gogodala in a different way. “Olivia, who is an amazing dancer also presented a cup for the best Gogodala dance group.”

Last but not least, there’s the student who Professor Parfitt referred to as “by far the coolest member of the expedition.” Biology student Keysel Pelaez traveled to Papua New Guinea to collect medical plants to study. But he wound up returning home with more than a few plant samples.

“Keysel Marcel Pelaez won the hearts of the Gogodala tribe with his charm and energy,” said Parfitt. “One of the highlights of the trip was a concert our crowd put on for the Gogodala people. Keysel had taken a banjo and ukulele and he’s obviously set for a great career in music.”

While the students and crew each had their own memorable experiences, Parfitt said that the moment that will always stick with him will be when they finally had to leave Papua New Guinea. “The tears in the eyes of the Gogodala when we left the village in an army transport plane told me that the visit had been a success in human terms.”

For a greater look into the group’s trip to Papua New Guinea, Parfitt said the release of the full documentary can be expected this fall.

daniel.uria@fiusm.com

Seniors advised: dress in comfort and confidence

Graduation is only days away for those few that have made it through four years of all-nighters, theses papers and the all-around stress that comes with being a full-time student. But for seniors, that is all about to be over and soon they will venture out into the real world to apply what they’ve studied.

Summer is here, which means you should be spending your days tanning on the beach, window shopping on Lincoln Road and not waking up until after noon. For those of you seniors that are officially done with your final exams and just waiting until you get to walk down the aisles in your cap and gown, take this time to relax and breathe.

Undecided freshman, Tate Caroline, seemed to be embodying the carefree, confident and relieved spirit that all seniors should be feeling right about now in a full-length lilac dress. Its double tiered and pleated style made for great visual appeal when the wind blows, and not to mention airflow to the whole body during these scorching days.

“I feel fabulous and beautiful, not to mention comfortable. Comfort is key to me,” said Caroline. Who could blame her? All seniors should be taking a tip from Caroline’s selections of comfort. Why not be comfortable and feel fabulous and beautiful all at the same time?

For you men out there, take a look at finance major Lawrence Jiles’ sunny choice in apparel for inspiration. His preppy look is not only smart since he is wearing colors that won’t attract the sun, but he has managed to make it unique with the styling of a white beanie. Ultimately, you want to find comfort and beauty, and always feel fabulous.

-ashley.garner@fiusm.com

Photos By ASHLEY GARNER/The Beacon

Photos by a shley g arner /th e Beac on

Photos Courtesy Of Professor Tudor Parfitt

In Papua New Guinea, graduate student Olivia Autolino presented a trophy to the best Gogodala dance group.

Jimmy Currea

Contact Us
Eissy de la Moneda
Life! Editor
eissy.moneda@fiusm.com
LIFE!

www.fiusm.com
Researchers in the University’s Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine have developed a new technique that can be used to deliver and release AZTTP, an anti-HIV drug, directly to the brain.

The technique is revolutionary because for years doctors and scientists that work with neurological diseases have been unable to get past the “blood-brain barrier.”

The barrier is a natural filter in the brain that prevents medicines from reaching the brain. Even though not all medicines are blocked from reaching the brain, most antiretroviral therapies that are used to treat HIV are deposited in other organs before they reach the brain.

Antiretroviral therapies are treatments used to treat people infected with HIV by using a combination of three or more anti-HIV drugs, like AZTTP, to restrain HIV replication and lowering the likelihood that the virus will develop a resistance. These therapies help reduce mortality of HIV-infected people as well as improve their quality of life.

Thanks to the new delivery technique antiretroviral therapies will be more effective.

“I think it’s so exciting that we’re making such important breakthroughs here at FIU. This has the potential to save lives and improve the people’s quality of life significantly,” said Grettel Zubiaur, senior and journalism major.

Madhavan Nair, professor and chair of the College of Medicine’s Department of Immunology, and Sakhrat Khizroev, professor and vice chair of the same department, used magneto-electric nanoparticles to get past the “blood-brain barrier.” By using this method of delivery, the level of AZTTP delivered cells infected with HIV is up to 97 percent more.

“I’m sure this will even help reduce damage to the liver and other organs that are often negatively affected by increased amounts of medication,” said Omar Madrigal, senior and nursing major.

The technique developed at the College of Medicine attaches the anti-HIV drug to the magneto-electric nanoparticle which is then inserted into a type of white blood cell that is then injected into the body and travels to the brain where the drug is released by an electrical current.

This new delivery method is an exciting development because it has the potential to help with the treatment of other neurological diseases, including Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.
New men’s basketball coach eager to lead program

JONATHAN JACOBSKIND
Asst. Sports Director

He picked up the phone on the first ring. “That was Anthony Evans’ initial reaction when he saw FIU Athletic Director Pete Garcia calling him for what eventually became the call that named him head coach of the men’s basketball team,” Garcia said. “I actually spoke with him last year and I am a big fan of him and what he was done at Norfolk State by going to the NCAA Tournament last year, the success he has by going undefeated in his conference, being coach-of-the-year and having a clear-cut choice,” Garcia said.

"I am extremely humble and grateful for this opportunity to take this basketball team to new heights. [FIU] is a sleeping giant in the nation’s top Division I coach as well as the Ben Jobe Award for the nation’s top minority coach. Evans was in serious consideration the last time this position was vacant, losing out to former Head Coach Richard Pitino a year ago. Pitino is now heading the University of Minnesota program under a deal six-year, $7.2 million deal that FIU couldn’t match. At the time of press, Evans’ contract details were not available.

"Anthony Evans, right, sits next to Athletic Director Pete Garcia, left, during a press conference on April 16 to introduce Evans as the new head coach of the men’s basketball program."

"We wanted somebody that was going to come in and build on the success we had last year. Anthony Evans who we are introducing here today was the clear-cut choice," Garcia said.

"I told them we will be able to find their niche in throwing, pole vault, junior Kim DeKrey under sprints, and Chris Sullivan was a track phenomenon for the Minutemen last season. However, they have all found a true home in the throwers section of the team under the tutelage of Assistant Coach Ryan Heberling.

"Sullivan started out his freshman year as a preferred walk-on for the Panthers in football. Having been a premiere weapon for Cocoa Beach High School, in Cocoa Beach, Fla., at wide receiver, he took a backseat while medical redshirting for his freshman campaign last season.

"Sullivan was a track phenomenon for the Minutemen of Cocoa Beach as a sprinter, but mostly on the field side as a high jumper. Still being a high jumper here, Heberling has been showing him how to throw the javelin throughout this current outdoor season for the Panthers. "I played a little bit of quarterback in high school so I am used to throwing something, but throwing what is basically a weapon is kind of cool. There are a few major things that are different like the implement, the grip, and somewhat the motion," Sullivan said. "I really just like doing whatever I can to help the team get points because in the end that is what we are here for.

"With the practice schedule being strained around because of final exams and classes, neither Chang nor DeKrey, both hammer throwers with the team, were available for comment about their roles with the team. The Panthers will travel to the University of Florida for the Tom Jones Memorial Classic today. Next week, some of the team will travel to Philadelphia for the Penn Relays. After the relays, the team will begin preparations for their final Sun Belt Conference Championships, which begin on May 10 at the Aans Sports Complex in Miramar, Fla."

"It’s about implementing a plan that gets students to understand the seriousness will help us improve." Norfolk State’s 2009-10 multi-year APR score of 894 resulted in the NCAA removing two scholarships and reducing the team’s practice time.

"Evans’ team bounced back in 2010-11 with a 9-26. The 2011-12 scores are not available.

"If current players transfer out because of the change of regime, it will negatively affect the program’s APR score."

"Garcia reiterated the importance of education after Evans made a request for his players before the start of the press conference. "Nobody wants to win more than myself, our president and our board, but we are a university and our number one business is to graduate these young men and even today before the press conference, Anthony told me to invite [the players], only, if they’re not supposed to be in class," Garcia said.

Additional reporting by Eduardo Almaguer

-Jonathan.jacobskind@fiusm.com
Breaking sports gender barrier, an impossible feat

When women display qualities that are normally associated with men, such as assertiveness and aggressiveness, they are considered unfeminine. As a result, they lose their likability.

In the world of sports, women face greater social stigmas resulting from criticalisms of being too masculine. As a successful female athlete, you can embrace your athletic talent but only superficially compensate for the expense of your sexuality being questioned.

If these deep-rooted social attitudes do not change, the only women we will continue to see on fields and courts alongside men will be cheerleaders, not equally deserving professional athletes.

Regardless of the strength and athletic ability of female candidates, this is a glass ceiling that even the most talented athletes will be unable to break through.
**Hospitability’s festival raises $2.1 million**

**STEPHANIE MASON Staff Writer**

After the four long days full of hard work for students and celebrity chefs alike, the University was able to take home a total of $2.1 million from the South Beach Wine and Food Festival this year.

According to Richard Martinez, Student Associate Program manager for SOBEWFF, 1,303 students from the University worked at the festival this year; 300 more students than last year.

“We had 2,000 people register but we only had 1,303 involved so that means that SOBE is really starting to become an exclusive event for top students,” said Lopez. “We’re only picking the best talent that the University has to offer.”

Senior in hospitality management, Jennifer Martinez, said she worked six days for SOBEWFF this year in a culinary position.

Martinez said it was fun working at the festival and the main thing she would improve would be the process of checking in and out. “We’d be done and we’d still have to wait like an hour or two to be checked out or we would come in at 5 and the event wouldn’t start until 10 and we’d just be sitting around.”

Martinez hopes to do event planning when she graduates and feels the festival helped her with timeliness, working at events with guests and quality control.

Another student who worked at SOBEWFF, Claudia Vera, junior in hospitality, said, “I thought it was really great because I got to meet a lot of people.” Vera said she really enjoyed working at the Wine Seminars and thought it was really organized and well prepared.

Pertaining to improvements she feels the festival could make, Vera said, “I think I would change the way they distribute the workload because I think people didn’t know exactly what they had to do.”

Students are already able to register to work at SOBEWFF in 2014. Lopez said next year he hopes to include video capturing of students. “I want to be able to see what the students are doing and learning from, live, like in real time,” said Lopez. “It’s very difficult to kind of get your hands around the experience that is SOBEFest because there’s so many things going on at the same time and it’s such a fast-paced environment.”

---

**Possible electronic paper grading scares some students**

**ERIC WATT Contributing Writer**

To those students and professors that are used to online grading programs like Turnitin and Blackboard, electronic grading and assessment has approached a new level of efficiency with the introduction of the Edx, a non-profit enterprise of human error would decrease.

The Edx, a non-profit enterprise founded by Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Edx consists of an online program that receives essays and grades them, returning immediate feedback to the student. The student then has an opportunity to improve his or her answers for resubmission. According to The New York Times, Edx was designed with the intention of relieving stress from the teacher. Both faculty and students seem to think otherwise.

Stephanie Piedrahita, freshman communication arts major, said the program devalues the education profession.

“Only a teacher can know the capabilities a student has,” Piedrahita said. “The biggest advantage I can see with the Edx is the fact that the percentage of human error would decrease. Papers would not be misplaced and students wouldn’t have to worry about bias from the professor.”

Though Piedrahita acknowledged the advantages of the program, her apprehension was not swayed. “We don’t come here to depend on an electronic system to tell us the worth of our intelligence. I want to hear from someone who has experience that can give me personalized feedback. Well-thought-out responses can really come from a human,” said Piedrahita.

Arlene Roger, sophomore international business major, also believes that Edx would be defeating the purpose of the professor’s job. “It may be good for teachers, but while teaching is a part of the job, the other part involves grading and evaluating essays. I wouldn’t consider a grade from that computer program authentic,” Roger said.

Roger also stated that while a computer can detect logic (logos) and credibility (ethos), it would be incapable of identifying emotions (pathos). “You should be writing to an audience that will be responsive to the emotional appeal, not to a computer program,” Roger said.

Professor Karl Klint of the English department shared similar opinions about Edx. “Programs like this have come up before, but they can’t do everything that a professor is capable of doing,” said Klint. According to Klint, implementing the Edx system into the education system would promote language bias.

“America has multiple forms of English. Teaching English in Minnesota and in Miami is different. Here, in some cases, English is a secondary language,” Klint said.

Klint added that the program would not be able to understand the localisms of the student because it is not personal.

---

**Before your test, take a trip to the Wild Wild West**

**JENNIFER SANS Contributing Writer**

Students can bring their cowboy hats and appetites to the Wild Wild West event on Monday, April 22 at 10 p.m. The midnight breakfast will take place in the Wolfe University Center at the Biscayne Bay campus.

Campus Life is holding the midnight breakfast event for students as a way to relieve any stress before their finals.

There will be massages, line dancing, laser tag, paper critiques and a costume contest.

“Students may want to be studying, so it’s beneficial to have the graduate students at career services available to critique resumes and papers,” said Azcona.

The midnight breakfast will be provided by Aramark. During the event, the students may dress up as cowboys and cowgirls to participate in the costume contest. According to Azcona, three winners will be announced in which first, second and third place will be awarded to the students who dress the best.

A DJ from the Round Up Country Western Nightclub in Davie, Florida, will be teaching line dancing in Panther Square.

The laser tag will be in WUC 221 and WUC 223. There will be digital pictures of the Wild West and props in the rooms.

The massages, provided by the Wellness Center at BBC, are for any students who are stressed from the week of finals to relax and will be available in WUC 155.

“We are really excited for this event! We hope to see a lot of students participate,” said Azcona.

---

**Contact Us**

Nadra Mabrouk
BBC Managing Editor

nadra.mabrouk@fiusm.com

---

**Flavors of art**

On April 17, hospitality students prepared dishes for the Eat My Art event. All the food preparations are what they have learned throughout the semester in their Arts in Culinary Arts class. Luciana Page, a junior in hospitality, prepared kimchi fried rice. Page was also awarded the Red Robin’s Savory Scholarship of about $10,000 for her Korean Kalbi BBQ burger. Showcased items included biscotti, english muffins, homemade cheese and smoked salmon.

---

**See Grading, Page 2**