Financial stress: Not only a burden on your wallet

Valentina Lee, assistant professor of psychology at FIU, studies stress and its effects. Lee refers to two different types of stress: stressors and strains. Stressors are the conditions that require some sort of adaptation from the individual and strains are the consequences of facing those stressors. 

"Financial stress is, like many others, a significant stressor, not only among students but also working professionals. We would expect it to have similar psychological, physical, and behavioral strains to that of many other commonly studied stressors such as workload or conflict at work," wrote Lee in an email. 

Lee refers to commonly experienced strains, such as depression, and affirms that any form of stressor can have an impact on a person's cognitive resources. 

She cites sleeplessness as a common strain experienced among many as a stressor that can leave someone unable to function at full mental capacity at work or school. 

"As a professor, Lee sees that some students appear tired and have difficulty with time flexibility, something she tries to accommodate by offering plentiful opportunities for extra credit points and exam reviews. 

"I understand that people who walk in late to class, leave early or even fall asleep are not always doing so out of being disrespectful. Many times, there are students who are working full time and are doing the best they can," said Lee. 

Megan Tarantelli is a junior and communication arts major working part-time and going to school full-time.

"You don’t sleep very much," said Tarantelli when asked how she manages to perform well in school while working part-time.

She remembers the start of her college career, when she wasn’t worried about her finances and didn’t have the stress of having to work. 

"During that time I took four to five classes. I was vice president of my campus and I was involved in many clubs. That stress is nothing compared to what it is like having to work," said Tarantelli.

Now, Tarantelli takes half of her classes online, to accommodate her schedule, and admits that juggling online, in-person classes and a work schedule can be difficult and may affect IQ.

"I absolutely agree that financial stress affects cognitive ability because it affects your ability to focus."

Parking meters now accepting credit cards

When in a hurry and facing the difficult task of parking, students may opt to use the meter parking spaces, however, a second challenge may arise: being short on change.

Parking and Transportation office system.

"We live in a world where we’re technologically advanced. More people have more credit cards than cash," said Ghumrawi.

Now that they accept cash, coins and credit cards, these meters will accommodate the University community, guests and students by having all types of payment options available. 

"I feel like it’s an upgrade for FIU, doing something different. I don’t want to carry cash on me as much as I used to. It is a good alternative for students and visitors," said Joshua Carrasco, a senior psychology major.

Even with the new meters in place, the previous meters on campus are still in use. These meters will also undergo some changes where they will add a section in order to swipe a credit card.

Jennifer Sans, a sophomore majoring in hospitality management said, "it’s a good idea for students when they have no change." 

When someone uses these meters, they won’t need to go back to their cars to put a receipt on the dashboard. The ticket is automatically uploaded into the Parking and Transportation office system. Additionally, the University will have security go and check whether or not spaces have been paid.

If they find expired meters, they will write a parking ticket and leave it on the car’s windshield.

For students that park at MMC and take the bus to BBC, you can use the meter parking without worrying about the meter running out.

Students can input the space number on a BBC meter and pay for additional time for the meter at MMC; same goes for students at BBC for spaces at MMC.

REBECA PICCARDO
Assistant News Director

The issue of finding solutions to reduce the cost of higher education has been a heated topic in the past few years.

On August 23, President Obama suggested that law schools should consider eliminating their third year to reduce the cost of earning a law degree.

Professor Margaret Maisel, the director of the FIU College of Law Clinical Program, said, "I think President Obama’s comment, raising the issue of should the third year of law school be eliminated, has surface appeal largely because we know that so many law students are graduating with tremendous debt."

Eros Miranda, a junior political science and international relations major, considers options for the ongoing issues in the Middle East.

STUDENTS TALK ABOUT SYRIA

Students from YAL, Young Americans for Liberty, take on global issues by trying to raise awareness for the ongoing issues in the Middle East.
Lecture to spark discussion about Cuban Revolution

KIERON WILLIAMS
Contributing Writer

Luis Martínez-Fernandez, a professor of history at University of Central Florida, is hosting a lecture based on his study entitled “The Cuban Revolution: Frontiers, Plantations, and Walled Cities: Essays on Society, Culture, and Politics in the Hispanic Caribbean (1800-1945),” which discusses the seven windows of analysis he has written about in his lecture on Sept. 20 at Green Library at 1:30 p.m. “This book has been a labor of love to which I gave eight years of my life,” said Martínez-Fernandez. Martínez-Fernandez was born in Havana, Cuba, but was raised in both Lima, Peru and San Juan, Puerto Rico and has long been a force of change within the Latin-American community. He has written on the topics of Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, publishing academic articles in journals such as Cuban Studies, Latin American Research Review, and Revista Mexicana del Caribe. He has written five books. He is also editor of multiple award-winning, two-volume Encyclopaedia of Cuba: People, History, Culture. “I use a Cuban voice and it is likely to be attacked by ‘viva Castro’ US and European academics, as well as by the most conservative anti-Castro voices,” said Martínez-Fernandez.

The lecture will cover the general history of the Cuban Revolution with a critical approach toward the Castro regime. At the same time, Martínez-Fernandez said it will be critical of US policy toward Cuba and extremist exile organizations.

I believe this is a difficult decision that FIU should really analyze before making.

Margaret Maisel
Director
FIU College of Law Clinical Program

Student finances creating mental stress affecting school work

FINANCES, PAGE 1

If you are worried about more pressing issues said Tanarelli.

Daniel Fonseca, a junior majoring in international relations, is an exclusively online student, taking five classes while working a full-time job. “Having to work is an added distraction that is always on the back of your mind and doesn’t facilitate learning,” said Fonseca. Fonseca has forced himself to prioritize with school and work, allowing other obligations to take a backseat. He has had to become extremely organized to keep track of due dates, but admits that working affects his ability to perform. “I work on projects and if something goes wrong, it stays with me after the clock ends, so that preoccupation of not having enough money is replaced by the preoccupation of the problems at work,” said Fonseca.

I think at FIU we are lucky, because tuition is lower than other law schools around the country,” said Maisel.

According to Dean Acosta, it is important to keep our options open. “Bottom line, these are all good ideas. We need to think about how to reduce the cost of legal education—part of that is more experiential learning, part of that is reducing the number of credits—and it’s important to not take anything off the table,” said Acosta.

Other people have said to make third year optional and have two kinds of lawyers—a limited license lawyer and regular lawyer,” said Acosta. “We are worried about the law schools, not all schools spend as much or cost as much, which is the case for FIU.

I believe this is a difficult decision that FIU should really analyze before making.

Margaret Maisel
Director
FIU College of Law Clinical Program

College of Law says it will keep all options open for two-year school

Tropical Storm Ingrid and the remnants of Big Storms Hit Mexico On Monday, flooding towns and cities, cutting off highways and setting off deadly landslides in a town of 12 people had been killed when a cruise ship has capsized position to upright appeared likely to stretch into Tuesday. Never before has such an enormous cruise ship been righted, and the crippled Concordia didn’t budge for the first three hours after the operation began, engineer Sergio Pineda told reporters.

13-Year-Old Girl Begins Microbiology Master’s

In a country where many girls are still discouraged from going to school, Sushma Verma is having anything but a typical childhood. The 13-year-old girl from a poor family in north India has enrolled in a master’s degree in microbiology, after her father sold his land to pay for some of his daughter’s tuition in the hope of catapulting her into India’s growing middle class. Verma finished high school at 7 and earned an undergraduate degree at age 13—milestones she said were possible only with the sacrifices and encouragement of her uneducated and impoverished parents.

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The nature of chemical warfare

Willfred Owens, a poet and a soldier, vividly described the effects chemical weapons have on people in his poem, “Dulce et Decorum.” “If you could hear, at every job of blood, Come gorgan from the froth-corrupted lungs/ obscure as cancer, bitter as the root.”

But what is chemical warfare? And why does it strike more terror at every jolt, the blood/ Come on people in his poem, “Dulce et Decorum.”

Chemical warfare is indiscriminate. Instead of blunting, maiming an appendage or creating a visible disfigurement, it infects from within. For instance, nerve agents may inhibit the brain from sending signals to other parts of the body. Symptoms may follow an initial attack with vomiting, severe burning of the eyes and lungs, epileptic spasms and apnea typical of pulmonary depression. Antidotes do exist but they have never been used due to the dioxins.

As I searched for answers regarding the nature and differences of chemical warfare, the researcher responded with deformed visages, blind glasses, blistered bodies, mutated appendages, and young deaths – all remainders that chemical weapons were used. It is important as students and human beings to not view words as “chemical warfare” as abstractions, but rather to see the tangible long term effects it has on a populace.

For the full column, go to fiusm.com

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University alumna working with Ms. Foundation for Women to create change

MARIA GIL
Contributing Writer

FIU alumna Lindsay Rosenthal has become the next in a line of great leaders for female equality.

Rosenthal, who graduated in the class of 2007 with a baccalaureate degree in English, has been honored with an opportunity to be part of the Ms. Foundation for Women 2013-2014 fellowship, chosen from a pool of over 160 applications. This foundation was created to fight back in the war against women by “promoting and defending laws and policies that protect women’s rights, safety and well-being.”

Rosenthal will be aiding the foundation by identifying the best strategies for increasing access to health care services for girls currently in the transition from the juvenile justice to the foster care system.

Rosenthal has always had a commitment to justice and has wanted to work to empower women and fight back in the war against women. This commitment to help women’s justice has been a part of her since the days she roamed the halls of the University.

During her time at FIU, Rosenthal was a women’s studies major and very active with women’s issues. Alongside being an activist for women’s issues, Rosenthal enjoys literature and writing, which led her to become an English major.

“There was as good a chance that I’d end up on the path to becoming an English professor as there was that I’d end up doing policy work,” said Rosenthal. Becoming an English professor was not in the cards, however, because right after graduating from FIU, Rosenthal dove into the most challenging work she would ever do. Rosenthal tackled the field of child welfare for two years, working with children and families engaged in the child welfare system in our own Miami-Dade County. There she had to confront, in-depth, the crisis produced by poverty in the lives of people in our own community.

Rosenthal’s goals are not about changing women in need, but rather creating change for women in need. That is why, through the Fellowship, she is advocating for policies that boost access to health care for girls in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. Through Obamacare, new opportunities have arrived that will permit the expansion of access to health services for young people and groups struggling with health discrepancies.

Rosenthal will be taking advantage of these newly opened opportunities to better serve girls in both the foster care and juvenile systems—girls who have greater need for health care access than most of the other teens and adolescents.

By helping eliminate the informal practices that have restricted access to crucial health care services, Rosenthal aims to expand the range of care that these girls and young women can acquire. This is just a short term goal for the 2013-2014 year. “[The] longer term goals for my career include working towards the development of a broad base of policies focused on empowering whole communities, rather than policies structured around changing the behavior of individuals, which is often more punitive than helpful,” Rosenthal said.

Eventually she wants to change the injustice that is seen throughout the world. Rosenthal is set to embark on a path to make a difference in the lives of many young women, and soon she aims to make a difference in the world as a whole.

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Album Review: Bosnian Rainbows’ self-titled album

By three minutes in all elements come into play to form a colorful, harder hitting chorus. The same themes are present for tracks “Wordless”, “Dig Right In Me,” “Turtle Neck,” and especially “The Eye Fell In Love.” Slow ambient experimental sounds that pick up in complexity, speed and volume and mesh into a blend of head bobbing rock and roll goodness. “I cry for you” contains one of the album’s best psychedelic guitar solos starting at minute 2:15 and abruptly ending to transition into an eruption of sound at three minutes. Another guitar solo worth noting is on track “Turtle Necks,” distinct for its fast paced strumming and aggressive indie rock tone.

The album as a whole become less psychedelic as the tracks progress. “Torn Maps” is the turning point in which the experimental and trippy guitar solos are faded out and instead start to gain aggressive garage/ punk aesthetic tones. The same holds true for the synthesizers as their use is modified to produce deeper darker sounds if not put aside all together.

Tracks with copious amounts of in your face, crowd moving garage rock sounds are “Always on the Run” “False Maps” and “Turtle Neck.” Slowed down drum beats, the return of psychedelic guitars and synths are what close the album. Volume and speed come down to a simmer towards the end of the album with “Red” and “Mother Father.”

Bosnian Rainbows’ album was released June 25, 2013.

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Album Review: King Krule’s 6 Feet Beneath the Moon

British musician King Krule, formerly known as Zoo Kid, is 19-year-old Archy Marshall of London. Marshall first released his track Out Getting Ribs in 2010 when he was only 16 years old under the name Zoo Kid. Out Getting Ribs was a suitable introduction to the young artist’s talent. Recorded and mixed in his bedroom in the company of a few friends, Out Getting Ribs let the world into his grimo intimacy—a place where you can hear Marshall’s throat clear or his muttered “I’m sorry” laced around his own strained vocals.

This description of the track may seem simple but in actuality its minimalism at its best.

Marshall does more with his bedroom, his own vocals and a few lines of honest lyricism than many artists do with an army of producers behind them. King Krule’s debut album then, a platform built with just such resources, was hoped for by many to be enough space for him to finally stretch his legs. His new album, “6 Feet Beneath the Moon,” was released statewide at the end of August 2013 and features five previously released tracks. Out Getting Ribs, Easy Easy, A Lizard State, Ocean Bed and Baby Blue are mixed in with 11 new songs flying seamlessly throughout with King Krule’s stark yet warm signature sound with only minor alterations.

New material or not, it’s these original five which stand strong on their own to this reviewer. “6 Feet Beneath the Moon” seems to me to be more of what I already consider to be a very good thing, but I truly think that a young man with Marshall’s talent can go further, and I’m already looking forward to it.

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Drug-resistant bacteria are common killers

LINDSEY TANNER AND MIKE STOBBE
AP Staff

Dr. Helen Boucher, a Tufts University expert and spokeswoman for the Infectious Diseases Society of America. “We’re facing a tious Diseases Society of America. “We’re facing a

A profile began to emerge of Alexis, who’d recently been hospitalized for skin or tissue infections. Some research suggests, for example, that MRSA drug-resistant bacteria are common killers. The result:

“His life over the past decade has been checkered.”

DAVID CRARY
AP Writer

Alexis searched his home, found a gun and ammunition in his room, and booked him into the King County Jail for malicious mischief. According to the police account, Alexis told detectives he had been “mocked” by construction workers the morning of the incident. Alexis also told police he was present during “the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001” and described “how those events had disturbed him.”

Brought to you by students, for students

His life over the past decade has been checkered.

Gunman in Navy Yard shooting was in Navy Reserves

In 2004, Seattle police said, Alexis was arrested in 2004 for shooting out the tires of another man’s vehicle in what he later described as “irrational anger.”

Fort the first time, the government is estimating how many people die from drug-resistant bacteria each year — more than 23,000, or about as many as those killed annually by flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the number Monday to spotlight the growing threat of germs that are hard to treat because they’ve become resistant to drugs.

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DR. HUGO SCHERER, a Tufts University infectious disease specialist, called the report “very provocative” but inconclusive.

“Right now the most acute problem is in hospitals and nursing homes,” Dr. William Schaffner, a Vanderbilt University infectious disease specialist, said the report “will have an impact” on hospitals and nursing homes.

It’s not clear that the problem is uniformly growing worse for all bugs. Some researchers suggested, for example, that MRSA drug-resistant bacteria are common killers. The result:

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Panthers struggle to 0-3 start, working on discipline for Louisville

RHY'S WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

University of Maryland quarterback C.J. Brown and Bethune-Cookman running back Anthony Jordan have something in common within the first three weeks of the 2013 college football season.

Each of the two players alone rushed for over 100 yards on the Panthers defense.

Brown had 105 in week one in College Park, MD and Jordan had 150 yards on 21 carries on Saturday in Miami.

These coming before what will possibly be the toughest running back the Panthers will face in Michael Dyer, a transfer into the University of Louisville from Auburn University.

Dyer previously was the most valuable player in the Bowl Championship Series National Champion-

ship game.

“We need to get back to the fundamentals. There were a lot of missed tackles and bad eyes against Bethune-Cookman,” Senior Marketh Russell said.

The team will also see Teddy Bridgewater, a Heisman candidate this season and former teammate of FIU quarterback E.J. Hilliard at Northwestern High School in Miami.

Kicking game changed in attempt to help Panthers

Going into Saturday, the coaching staff knew that the Wildcats would be rushing on every punt.

Attempts to prevent this from being an issue, Jake Medlock, starting quar-
terback for the Panthers, took a majority of the punts.

The style of punting that was used is called a rugby style, in which the punter runs to a side of the field before kicking the ball.

“He (Medlock), is better at that style and we thought that it would give us an advantage,” Head Coach Ron Turner said.

As for the placekicking, that was handled by true freshman Austin Taylor. Taylor made his first career start over Redshirt freshman Sergio Stronk.

“He competed in prac-
tice this week and was the one who came out on top,” Turner said.

Taylor went one for two on extra point attempts and neither team attempted a field goal on the night.

The average yards per kickoff was higher for the Panthers from Taylor than the Wildcats, but neither kicker had a touchdown on the day.

Discipline still an issue after turmoil filled offseason

“A lot of the guys have bought into and do what we tell them to do,” Turner said.

“It just takes a few to derail it and we have a few guys who still have some discipline issues. Isame Faciane, who was a captain in our first game, did not play in the first quarter against the Wildcats due to disciplinary issues.”

The team has lost two running backs due to disci-

plinary issues during the preseason; Kedrick Rhodes, who was arrested over the summer for shooting a firearm on campus while intoxicated and Jakhari Gore, who was arrested with multiple charges, are just a couple of the athletes gone for the Panthers.

The Panthers will come off of that bye week and go into Conference USA play for the first time at Southern Mississippi University against the Golden Eagles.

The Eagles go into week four of the season with a 0-3 record, which is the same as the Panthers.

Going into the game, the Eagles will be coming off of a game with Boise State University.

LOWDER EXPLOSION

OSCAR BALDIZON
Contributing Writer

The Panthers wrapped up the FIU Invitational on the Lime Court this past weekend with two convincing wins to pull the team back to a solid 5-4 record for the season.

After taking the Univer-
sity of Jacksonville Dolphins to a nail biting five set match, the Panthers faltered in the opening game of the weekend at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

FIU registered a season-high 18.0 blocks in the loss, led by Junior Silvia Carli’s season-high eight blocks.

Senior Kimberly Smith helped close up the middle of the net by adding six blocks as the Panthers out-blocked the Dolphins 18-10 for the match.

Four Panthers put up double-
digit digs, as FIU registered a season-best 73 digs on the night while redshirt Junior Ksenia Sukhareva notched a career-high 15 digs to go along with a career-
high-tying 20 kills, marking her second double-double of the season.

The Panthers would put the loss behind them quickly and come together the rest of the weekend to string together consecutive wins and help boost team morale.

“I’m happy about the progress and I’m confident in the team. There are still some positions to be figured out but we have solid point makers and we’re trying to assemble a winning team now,” Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett said.

Sophomore girls would pace the offense in the opening match of the second day with Adriana McLamb posting a career-high and team-leading two service aces as while Ashlee Hodgskin led the Panthers with 14 assists in their win against the Chattanooga Mocs.

Sukhareva would once again lead the team in kills and register her second-straight and third-ca-

reer double-double, with 10 kills and 10 digs.

“Our serves and passes were great from the start and once we got ahead, we really let go and played well together, but it’s just another step in the direction of where we want to go,” Hodgskin said.

Senior Jessica Mendoza led the Panthers defense, recording 14 digs while Smith directed the FIU blocking corps with three stops on the day.

Playing for the second time in one day, the volleyball team would not give up another set before the night was done. Led by dominant performances out of Sophomore Lucia Castro and Kim Smith, the Panthers would dismiss South Dakota State in three sets.

Castro would post 13 kills against one error in 21 attempts for a career-high hitting percentage of .571.

As a unit, the Panther offense hit .263 while the defense held the Jack Rabbitts to a dreary hitting percentage of .020.

“We established the middle early because there were a lot of one on one matchups which opened up our antennas and allowed us to get our passing right and play a smooth game.”

The Panthers are very optimis-
istic and ready to take on the rest of their schedule. They will be in action next w-
hen they travel to West Lafay-
te, Indiana for the Active Ankle Challenge, hosted by Purdue University.

On Friday, Sept. 20, FIU faces Northern Kentucky (4 p.m. ET) before going up against Syra-
cuse (10 a.m. ET) and the host Boilermakers (7:30 p.m. ET) on Saturday, Sept. 21.
Panthers bulldozed by Bethune Cookman duo, Wildcats rack up 300 rushing yards

I t started off as a beautiful day in the neighborhood at FIU’s Alfonso Field Stadium. Blue skies, sun in full effect, fans from both teams enjoying the tailgate festivities. But a 34-13 route of the Panthers would erase all of that off the board.

In came the matchup between the Panthers and the Wildcats of Bethune-Cookman. A Division I-AA team, but a highly talented one at that. The 22nd ranked team in the Football Championship Subdivision, the Wildcats came into Alfonso Field with the offensive prowess to run the table Saturday night.

The Wildcats did just that, to the tune of 311 yards rushing on 52 attempts. Compared to the 11 pass attempts by the Wildcats all night.

Consistency was going to be key for the Panthers defense if they hoped to stop the Wildcats, but it just wasn’t there. Allowing rushing touchdowns from running backs Anthony Jordan and Cary White, as well as quarterback Quinten Williams, the games second leading rusher.

Yes, even the opponent’s quarterback had more rushing yards, 84, than the Panthers three running backs combined, 69.

Mental errors also hurt the Panthers, as the shifting Williams and Jordan tandem were able to elude the defense like they were going up against friends in the backyard. Jordan finished the game with 150 yards, including a 58 yard touchdown run in the first quarter.

Senior inside linebacker Markelle Smith seemed to come into his own during Saturday’s matchup. Leading the team with 14 tackles, six ahead of big man Greg Hillman.

Though the stats may seem nice to some, Russell didn’t seem impressed. “Obviously we didn’t step up to the plate defensively,” Russell said. “We did some great things but not being consistent pretty much told the story.”

The line for Saturday’s game was more than a handful of points, with the Panthers as the underdog in their own stadium. But there was absolutely no way anyone could have predicted the beating they received.

It is known that the Panthers are a young and inexperienced team. They already were in the beginning of the year when Head Coach Ron Turner was first hired. Now with the losses of leaders to academics and off the field issues, the need to come together as a team is just as important as before.

Not to say that there is no talent on this Panthers team, because there is. But there is no one who will outshine the rest to help this team become victorious.

It will need to be a team effort. A team, according to Turner, that has not yet reached its full potential. “When we become a team, everyone’s pulling in the same direction,” Turner said.

To tough to tell early in the season if this is a conservative Towner giving the media the “politically correct” answer or if he truly feels that this team can come together as one.

“We’ve got guys thinking about other things besides what’s best for the team,” Turner went on to say. Allow me to recap. So the Panthers have, or had, players who failed to reach the minimum grade point average to stay on the team for such and such reason. Now the team is filled with young bloods filled with excitement for playing in college as freshman and inexperienced sophomores. Tough to see such a young, rambunctious bunch coming together to salvage an already tarnished season.

To add insult to injury, the same young and inexperienced group will be traveling for their game at Louisvile. The same Cardinals who are ranked seventh in the nation, and an even stronger team that dismantled the Florida Gators in the Sugar Bowl last season. A Cardinals team led by a young man by the name of Teddy Bridgewater who played with, and is friends with many players on the Panthers squad.

If you don’t think Bridge- water won’t have fun in that game, you’re clearly living in a state of delusion.

RICK NEALE AP Writer

Tentatively clutching the oblong-shaped football, WeiXiang Shi flung a fluttery pass resembling a drunken duck to hulking Florida Tech defensive lineman Shi flung a fluttery pass resembling a drunken duck to hulking Florida Tech defensive lineman Zhengxiang Shi, a Chinese freshman electrical engineering major who arrived in Florida last month.

Shi hurtled his next pass with all his might. And the football sailed end-over-end over Jack Harris Village housing complex.

Dozens of Florida Tech students from around the globe participated in a school-sponsored crash course on American football recently. They tried on bulky helmets and shoulder pads, threw “passes” and quizzed players about rudimentary rules of the game.

Florida Tech’s domestic and students/students across the Space Coast are pumped up about the Panthers’ inaugural football team, which deboned on the gridiron at the end of the season Saturday with a 20-13 win over the Stetson Hatters.

But Florida Tech’s international student population has skyrocketed 60 percent since 2008. Scholars from 118 countries accounted for 1,327 of the college’s 4,043 undergraduate and graduate students last fall, the most recent statistics available.

There is a similar football buzz among international students — many of whom don’t know a quarterback from a quarterback horse.

“Not so foreign to them, they aren’t really sure. They really don’t have a clue what it is. To most of them, football is soccer,” said Linda “Mom” Condon, who’s spent the past decade hosting foreign students via the International Friendship Program.

“It’s a sport that’s kind of uniquely American. So they’re interested, but they haven’t got a clue what it is,” Condon said, laughing.

The college hosted a “Football 101” barbecue for international students at Building C in the Harris Village housing complex. Many players weredered, wearing jerseys, shorts and helmets.

This is an attempt to immerse you in American culture. What’s American culture all about? Football, right?” announced Judy Saxena, director of international student and scholar services.

Athletics Director Bill Jurgens followed by assuring attendees that no one would suffer injuries during the outdoor football exhibition.

Gengbo Liu is a Chinese graduate student studying biomedical engineering. He remembers watching Madonna’s halftime show during the 2012 Super Bowl — but he confessed he was clueless about the New York Giants beating the New England Patriots, 21-17, in the actual game.

Liu asked Florida Tech football players whether the quarterback who allowed the ball to lie in his body to try to fake out would be tackled. The players replied yes.

Mohammed Al Habbi, a freshman software engineering major from Oman, said he had only seen two football games on television — “I don’t know the rules or anything.” He knew neither when the Panthers were playing nor where Palm Bay High’s Pirate Stadium was located.

Brooke Saxena is an Indian graduate student studying electrical engineering. Yelling, “My turn! My turn!” he got laced up in shoulder pads by Panthers tight end Daniel De Paz (6-3, 230 pounds) and offensive lineman Trey Lewis (6-3, 300 pounds).

Saxena then posed for cell phone photos, grinning and flashing thumbs-up to his friends.

“It was really cool. It was really exciting,” he summarized afterward. “I would love the chance to play with them — but they are too big.”

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Florida Tech teaches students football
Professor speaks on how to save amphibians

IRECH COLON
Contributing Writer

Different species of amphibians are becoming extinct, sometimes before being named, according to the latest research of Maureen Donnelly, Ph.D. and associate dean of Graduate Studies, and her students. Zoo Miami, which has recently partnered with FIU, will host the next Zoo FIU series, Amphibian Conservation in the New World Tropics, on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m.

During the lecture, Donnelly will take a stand on the importance of amphibian conservation, major aspects of the decline of the species and also the activities of the three different laboratories and prospective solution to the issue in the tropics.

The purpose of the lecture series is “to bring together the resources of two institutions to provide greater opportunities for students while enhancing Zoo Miami’s mission,” wrote Michael Heithaus, executive director of School of Environment, Arts and Society, in an email to Student Media.

It aids significantly in shedding light on conservation implications of biodiversity by allowing students and the public to understand amazing species like amphibians, and to learn how protecting them can guarantee their survival.

Besides, warnings and student public on the current extinction, the Zoo Miami offers internships to students where they can collaborate on research projects.

According to Donnelly, such projects are about the effect of tea cultivation on the amphibian community structure in India, the loss of glaciers affecting the high elevations for amphibians in the Andes and forest fragmentation in Costa Rica.

Each of the explorations handled by doctoral students; Justin Nowakowski, Lily M. Eluvathingal and Kelsey Reider.

“My spreading the word of these events and having students stir up research in other countries, we are one step closer in saving the lives of many organisms and preventing serious threats to animal development. In order to save it, we need to understand it.” said Donnelly, referring to the way the ecosystem works.

Donnelly also believes the best type of help is done inside voting booths.

Knowing the policies of animal and environmental causes when voting for politicians is just as crucial as taking the time to attend the lectures and learning about the problem. Heithaus agrees that the lecture series also highlights the species at Zoo Miami and the people who share a deep care for them.

The upcoming lecture will be taking place in the zoo’s newest exhibit: Amazon and Beyond at Zoo Miami. Pre-register at seas.fiu.edu.

Students toast to Friends of Wine at first meeting

COLUMNIST
DIANELA WALTER

Friends of Wine hosted its first meeting of the semester at Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. FOW is a student club that meets weekly with the intention to promote wine and educate students and aficionados through tastings, seminars, and by bringing wine industry speakers.

Amanda Bates, current president of FOW, explained that Friends of Wine was founded by Chip Cassidy, assistant director of Beverage Research and Lab Operations, in 1973 and brought to FIU in 1989.

In its starting years, it was referred to as Les Amin du Vin. Bates said that for this fall semester, FOW is focusing on being an independent, student-run club where the officers are responsible for utilizing their own network resources and recruiting professionals in the industry to speak at the seminars and sponsor the club with wines and seminars.

The officers themselves also conduct some of the tastings, which allows students to develop the Roberts and share knowledge with their peers in creative ways.

During the meeting, Bates welcomed each guest with an appetizing glass of Rose. All of its officers were present: Vice President Nicole Linares and Marketing Director Oswaldo Limongi as well as the ambassadors: Cortessa, Juan Carlos Santa, Huverda and Alise.

The officers did an amazing job on introducing while explaining the main characteristics of the corresponding grape and wine presented in the evening.

In total, there were six wines. The second wine of the night was my favorite white: a Sauvignon Blanc from Russian River Valley, CA. The producer is Hanna Winery & Vineyards and the vintage is 2011.

It had a light body with a pale golden color. Its scent was grassy with hints of lime, guava and white pepper. On the palate, its pleasantly crisp acidity surprised me and it ended with a medium-short finish.

Great buy for only $19 and 13.2 percent alcohol. Usually a wine that is high in acidity should also be paired with a food that has high acidity as its main ingredient; the best example would be the use of lemon in ceviche, which goes well with this wine.

The third red and last wine of the night was a Zinfandel from Paso Robles, CA. The producer is Rosenblum Cellars and the vintage is 2008. It had a brick color, already showing signs of age; as red wines get old, they come lighter in color.

The 18 months it aged in oak barrel contributed to a medium body with scents of blackberry and black pepper, although its minerality added balance to this unique wine.

The finish was long and you can pair it very well with any meat dish. You can find this wine for $30. If you would like more information on FOW please check them out on Facebook: Friends of Wine FIU.

Here are some of the next meetings you should not miss: the Wine and Food Pairing Dinner Experience held on Sept. 24 and the Quintessa Block Tasting featuring Master Sommelier Larry Stone held October 1.

-Daniela W. Walter is a Teaching Assistant to professors Chip Cassidy and Bill Hebrank of the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management.

Drinks and music at Reggae Night

CIDNY CHAPARRO
Contributing Writer

Campus Life’s next event involves DJ Warbear from Mixx 960, who will be playing reggae music at Reggae Night on Sept. 19. The event will provide refreshments as well as music.

“I attended last year and had a blast and I can’t wait to attend again,” said Joshua Carrasco, Student Program-