Obama proposes two-year law school, College considers options

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, supports Obama’s idea. “It would be a good idea for students who are working full time and are doing the best they can,” said Miranda.

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.

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.

MARCIO L. MIRANDA
Assistant Professor
Psychology

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.

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

“Absolutely agree that financial stress affects cognitive ability because it affects your ability to focus part-time and going to school full-time. More people, they 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.

“We 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 spaces to be sure 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.

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Student finances creating mental stress affecting school work

Lecture to spark discussion about Cuban Revolution

Kieron Williams

Contributing Writer

Luis Martinez-Fernandez, a professor of history at University of Central Florida, is hosting a lecture based on his study of the Cuban Revolution. The difference between this interpretation and others, however, is in perspective.

He will discuss seven windows of analysis and interpretation. “Many Cubans, ‘an island on horseback,’ ‘the longest ninety miles,’ ‘the pendulum revolution,’ ‘the art of triangulation,’ ‘the revolution’s third man,’ and ‘the persistent plantation.’”

His latest book on the history of the Cuban Revolution, “Frontiers, Plantations, and Walled Cities: Essays on Society, Culture, and Politics in the Hispanic Caribbean (1800-1945),” discusses the seven windows of analysis he will talk 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 have given eight years of my life,” said Martinez-Fernandez. Martinez-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 Cuba Studies, Latin American Research Review, and Revista Mexicana del Caribe.

He has written five books. He is also an editor of the 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 Martinez-Fernandez.

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

Margaret Maisel

Director

FIU College of Law Clinical Program

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

Student finances creating mental stress affecting school work

FINANCES, PAGE 1

If you are worried about more pressing issues, said Tarantelli.

Daniel Fonseca, a junior majoring in Finance, said that he has been stuck since January 2012. But progress has been made.

“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 have to make sure that I prioritize with school and work, allowing other obligations to take a backseat,” said Miranda.

He has had to become extremely organized to keep track of due dates, but admits that working affects his ability to perform.

“I have to work 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.
Inconvenient rise in population

LAUREN BANA
Staff Writer

Since the beginning of the semester, the lines to purchase our favorite brain foods have been seemingly longer than last semester. Even places that other students wouldn’t normally frequent are busier. Every single parking garage on campus is always filled at any time of the day. My only understanding of why this would consistently occur is the obvious rise in student population.

According to The Sun Sentinel, our university’s president, B. Rosenberg increased the enrollment limit after hearing complaints from many qualified students that were rejected due simply to limited spaces at the university. The State University System had instructed schools to cap their enrollment just a few years prior since the tuition fees were too low to serve more students. However, with closer examination, the nature of chemical warfare is truly horrifying.

Chemical warfare is also insidious. Instead of blunting, maiming an appendage or creating a visible abstractions, but rather to see the faces, words as “chemical warfare” as visages, blind gazes, blistered burns, and human beings to not view the effects chemical weapons have to the school’s population. This is the obvious rise in student population. And for those that think Stand Your Ground is too young or uncertain to defend an entire semester’s worth of course material. The University System had instructed that chemical weapons were introduced into the Stand Your Ground curriculum, let’s realize that chemical weapons were introduced into the Stand Your Ground law to defend their actions.

“Stand Your Ground law to defend their actions. In the seven years since it was enacted, the law has not only become an effective defense, but a hot topic of discussion and debate in the community. The topic itself is of great importance, and it only seems appropriate for universities to facilitate conversations about such hot-button issues. Without such courses, we know what we know about topics like Stand Your Ground is merely what we see on TV. Instead, it is important for universities to evolve their curriculums based on these topics and serve as a forum for discussion and debate. And for those who protest, you are not forced to participate in an elective course. It would, however, benefit students to have the option; not only law students, but those of any major.

The topic itself is of great importance, but courses that facilitate respectful, organized debate are a great learning experience for all students. If our University does decide to take on the Stand Your Ground curriculum, let’s just hope it is not during FAU’s unruly hours from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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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 bachelor’s 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.

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.

Aldous, he continues, 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 engrossed 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.

Album Review: Bosnian Rainbows’ self titled album

DIEGO SALDANA
COLUMNIST

Trippy, psychedelic, experimental indie rock. These words best describe the self titled debut album by band Bosnian Rainbows.

The El Paso, Texas based group consists of Mars Volta guitarist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez and Drummer Deantoni Parks with vocals by The Butcherettes lead singer Teri Gender Bender, the stage name for Teresa Suarez and Nicci Kasper on Synthesizers/Keyboards.

Two minutes in and the kick of the bass drum enters into play to combine with the filtered wailing of an electric guitar.

By three minutes in all elements come into play to form a colorful, harder hitting chorus. The same themes are present for tracks “Worthless,” “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.

Tracks with copious amounts of in your face, crowd moving garage rock sounds are “Always on the Run,” “Torn Maps” and “Turtle Neck.”

Slowed down drum beats, the return of psychedelic guitars and synths are what close the album.

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.

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Drug-resistant bacteria are common killers

LINDSEY TANNER AND MIKE STOBBE
AP Staff

For 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.

Finally estimating the problem sends “a very powerful message,” said Dr. Helen Boucher, a Tufts University expert on hospital infection control and prevention.

Bacteria are acknowledged as the most important cause of death worldwide, and the potential economic impact of the problem is enormous.

The estimated annual 23,233 deaths from drug-resistant bacteria culminated in a 2014, and today dozens are used to kill or suppress the bacteria behind illnesses ranging from strep throat to the plague. The drugs are considered one of the greatest advances in the history of medicine, and have saved countless lives.

But as decades passed, some antibiotics stopped working against the bugs they previously vanquished. Experts say their overuse and misuse have helped make them less effective.

In a new report, the CDC tallied the toll of the 17 most worrisome drug-resistant bacteria. The result: Each year, more than 2 million Americans get serious infections and at least 23,000 die.

Of those, the staph infection MRSA, which causes aureus, kills about 11,000, and a new superbug kills about 600. That bacteria withstand treatment with antibiotics called carbapenems — considered one of the last lines of defense against hard-to-treat bugs.

Germs like those have prompted health officials to warn that if the situation gets much worse, it could make doctors reluctant to do surgery or treat cancer patients if antibiotics won’t protect their patients from getting infections.

“If we’re not careful, the medicine chest will be empty” when doctors need infection-fighting drugs, said CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden.

It’s not clear that the problem is uniformly growing worse for all bugs.

Some research suggests, for example, that MRSA rates may have plateaued and a separate CDC report released Monday in JAMA Internal Medicine found that serious MRSA infections declined 20 percent between 2005 and 2011.

MRSA bacteria have been the target of many hospital infection control efforts. These germs often live without symptoms on the skin, but also can cause skin or tissue infections, and become more dangerous when they enter the bloodstream.

Serious, invasive MRSA declined in all settings for a total of 80,461 infections in 2011, the journal report found. Most were linked with health care in people who’d recently been hospitalized or received other medical treatment.

But for the first time, the more than 16,000 infections picked up in community settings outnumbered the 14,000 infections that began in the hospital.

A 2005-2010 study in the same journal suggests that pig manure might be a cause of some mostly less serious MRSA infections in people living near fertilized farm fields.

The study is based on patients from Danville, Pa., and Central Pennsylvania Geisinger Health System. It found the only way MRSA spreads is from contact with an infected person or sharing personal items used by an infected person.

Drug-resistant MRSA is “very provocative” but inconclusive.

Asked generally about antibiotic use in farm animals, the CDC’s Frieden said it’s an important problem, but he added, “Right now the most acute problem is in hospitals and other health care settings.”

Frieden said his study estimated that living near pig manure-fermented fields may have accounted for about 11 percent of MRSA cases.

But how the germs might spread from pig manure to people with no close animal contact is uncertain, the study authors said.

Close contact with an infected person or sharing personal items used by an infected person is the usual way MRSA spreads.

Dr. William Schaffner, a Vanderbilt University infectious disease specialist, called the report “very provocative” but inconclusive.

“Germs have been with us forever. The problem is how to control them,” Schaffner said.

Gunman in Navy Yard shooting was in Navy Reserves

DAVID CRAZY
AP Writer

Aaron Alexis seems a man with a checkered life over the past decade.

His life over the past decade has been checked.

Then, on May 5, 2007, he enlisted in the Navy reserves, serving through 2011, according to Navy spokesman Lt. Megan Shutka.

Shutka said he received the reserves that a neighbor in a gun and ammunition found a gun and ammunition in his room, and booked him into the King County Jail for malicious mischief.

"He was a very nice man," the reserve's spokeswoman Melody Bradley said. "We had no idea that there was any kind of a problem, but he added, "Right now the most acute problem is in hospitals and other health care settings.“

"It kind of blows my mind away, I wouldn’t think anything bad at all." A former acquaintance, Oui Suthametawalakit, said Alexis lived with him and his wife from August 2012 to May 2013 in Fort Worth, but that they had to part ways because he wasn’t paying his bills. He described Alexis as “a nice guy” but said they had some differences.

Suthametawalakit said Alexis had converted to Buddhism and was prayed at a local Buddhist temple.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, which offers online courses in aviation and aerospace, confirmed that Alexis was enrolled as an online student via its Fort Worth campus, started classes in July 2012 and pursuing a bachelor’s in science in aeronautics.

“We are cooperating fully with the authorities,” the university said.

His life over the past decade has been checked.
Panthers struggle to 0-3 start, working on discipline for Louisville

RHY'S WILLIAMS  Staff Writer

University of Mary-

land 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
in our first game, did not
faciane, who was a captain
in multiple charges, are
firearm on campus while
who was arrested over the
disciplinary issues."

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.

Attempting 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 Sroka.

“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 touchback on the day.

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Panthers from Taylor than the Wildcats, but neither
kicker had a touchback on the day.

Discipline still an issue after turmoil filled offseason

“...A lot of the guys have
bought in and do what we
tell them to do...”

Turner said. “It just takes a few to
delay it and we have a few of
the 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 season, Keedrick 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
face South Carolina before going up against Syra-
cuse (10 a.m. ET) and the host
Northern Kentucky (4 p.m. ET)
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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 Panthers 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. Yet, 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 shifty 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 Markeshell Ford seemed to come into his own during Saturday’s matchup. Leading the team with 14 tackles, six ahead of big man Greg Hickman. 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 a mere three and a half 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 man 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.

“Once we become a team, where everyone’s pulling in the same direction, I’m not saying totally believing in one another and totally believe in one another and totally a team yet,” Turner said.

Tough to tell early in the season if this is a conservative Turner 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 had, or have, 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 diminished season.

To add insult to injury, the same young and inexperienced group will be traveling for their game at Louisville. The same Cardinals who are ranked seventh in the nation.

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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 Ron Jackson.

“This time I’m going to speed it up!” declared Shi, a Chinese freshman electrical engineering major who arrived in Florida last month.

Shi hurled his next pass with all his might. And the football, instead of the ball, ricocheting off his hands as he leaped high into the air.

So is there a similar football culture all about? Football, right? announced Judy Brooke, director of international student and scholar services, kicking off the event.

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 was allowed to hide the ball behind his body to try fake out would-be tacklers. 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 said she hopes the “Football 101” gathering becomes an annual event. Georgia Tech hosted an “International Football Clinic” in April. Similar events take place at USC, Vanderbilt, SMU, and Colorado State and elsewhere.

Vaiibav 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 inches, 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

Patrick Chalvire

COLUMNIST

Florida Tech’s domestic and international students participate 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 student and scholar 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.

So is there a similar football buzz among international students — many of whom don’t know a quarterback from a quarter horse?

“No. It’s 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.

“They call soccer ‘football.’ So, 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. The players practiced, 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 Brooke, director of international student and scholar services, kicking off the event.

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Students toast to Friends of Wine at first meeting

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, warning students and the 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.

“By spreading the word about 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.

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.

COLUMNIST

DANIELA 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 for the tastings.

The officers themselves also conduct some of the tastings, which allows students to receive the knowledge 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 Linaver and Marketing Director Oswaldo Limongi as well as the ambassadors: Cortessa, Juan Carlos Santana, Huvenda 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, it’s 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 very 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.

Students and members of Friends of Wine gather on Sept. 10 for the first meeting of the semester.

Drinks and music at Reggie Night

CIDNY CHAPARRO
Contributing Writer

Campus Life’s next event involves DJ Warbear from MIXX 96.01, who will be playing reggae music at Reggie 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-