University to offer degree in disaster management

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
News Director
adsuarezavila@fiusm.com

Ruben D. Almaguer has been present to help in disasters that have taken place locally, nationally and internationally.

As the assistant vice president of the Department of Emergency Management and the executive director for the Academy for International Disaster Preparedness, Almaguer has helped pave the way for a new master’s degree program in disaster management, which is expected to open in August of this year.

Having arrived at the University with a background in the fire service as a paramedic firefighter, Almaguer has also had experience working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance aiding in international rescue efforts.

According to Almaguer, working with FEMA and the U.S. OFDA allowed him to develop a passion working with relief efforts for disasters in order to coordinate rescue teams, among other responsibilities.

He cited that the reality of these situations makes an impact not just locally but internationally made his heart change and made him want to pursue other opportunities with helping communities.

A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

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Lecture to share the consequences of global warming

AMIN COLOMINAS
Contributing Writer
news@fiusm.com

A distinguished professor of meteorology will be coming to the University to discuss issues of global warming and the impacts it has on the world.

The lecture hopes to give the audience a stronger grasp on global warming and what its effects can mean for southern Florida, and many other parts of the world.

Michael Mann, climatologist and geophysicist, is one of the most foremost experts on the debate involving global warming. As the current director of the Earth System Science Center at Pennsylvania State University, Mann has made many and great contributions to the scientific understanding of historic climate change.

Through his work with theoretical models and observational data to better understand Earth’s climate system, Mann has pioneered techniques to find patterns in past climate change, and to isolate climate signals from “noisy data.” His research has shown the rise in global temperatures and their direct correlations to industrialization and the use of fossil fuels.

Mann has authored more than 170 peer-reviewed and edited publications, and has also published two books: “Dire Predictions: Understanding Global Warming in 2008” and “The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars: Dispatches from the Front Lines.”

Mann’s extensive and exhaustive pursuit of knowledge in the field of climatology has earned him numerous awards, going as far as making Bloomberg News’ List of the 50 Most Influential People of 2013.

The lecture aims to provide the community with useful knowledge.

This information is especially important for residents of Miami. Extensive research done into rising sea levels shows the possibility of the entirety of the southern portion of Florida being underwater.

This possibility is shown to be a nearly guaranteed future unless immediate work is done to reduce the use of fossils fuels. The United States Environmental Protection Agency has stated that the rising concentrations of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere can be expected to increase Earth’s average temperature, influence the patterns and amounts of precipitation, reduce ice and snow cover, raise the sea level and increase the acidity of our oceans.
NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

In Israeli elections, U.S. political consultants become an issue

Israeli advertising entrepreneur Nimrod Dweck was no stranger to marketing when he started Victory 2015 (V15), a campaign to unseat Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the elections March 17. Yet Dweck turned elsewhere for what he called invaluable advice: American political consultant Jeremy Bird, who was national field director in Barack Obama’s 2008 and 2012 presidential campaigns.

Syrians are deeply split after years of warfare, survey finds

As the United Nations’ special envoy for Syria is reporting progress toward a cease-fire in embattled Aleppo, a new survey suggests that divisions in the country have deepened and few civilians on either side see much hope in a negotiated settlement.

The sampling of views across the political spectrum may not encourage the efforts of U.N. envoy Staffan de Mistura, who told the U.N. Security Council on Tuesday that President Bashar Assad has agreed to suspend air and artillery attacks on Syria’s biggest city in a six-week truce. Opponents and backers of Assad said they favored a fight to the finish. “We must follow through and end the rule of this tyrannical regime,” said a 27-year-old Sunni opponent of Assad from Aleppo. A 55-year-old Damsacus woman who backs Assad had a similar sentiment: “The fighting must continue until the Syrian army takes its victory,” she told an interviewer.

Different views in Greece, Germany drive Europe’s latest financial crisis

Greece, perhaps at German urging, might decide to leave the eurozone—the group of nations that use the euro as their currency—as early as Friday afternoon.

Greek officials have submitted a proposal to extend the repayment terms on their most recent European bailout, and Germany appeared to be leaning toward rejecting it. So Greek officials countered that it was a “take it or leave it” proposition. The European consensus is that if Germany sticks to its guns, Greece will be forced to exit the eurozone, a “Grexit,” as some pundits put it. The departure would likely be destabilizing to the European Union’s currency— but devastating to Greece.

The actual magnitude of these changes will be dependent on many factors, including the rate at which levels of greenhouse gas concentrations in our atmosphere continue to increase, how strongly features of the climate respond to the expected increase in greenhouse gas concentrations and natural influences on climate and natural processes within the climate system.

The EPA predicts these changes will impact our food supply, water resources, infrastructure, ecosystems and even our own health.

New degree coming to FIU

DEGREE, PAGE 1

around the country, he knows of none in the state that provide the specific focus that the University’s will provide in the fall.

He added that two other Florida universities provide similar programs, but only as specializations within another discipline.

Almaguer cited the University of South Florida as having a master’s degree in public health with a specialization in disaster management, and Florida State University a graduate degree in public administration with an emergency management track.

He expects that the design of the degree program will attract candidates from Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. He sees, perhaps, the possibility of hosting the program online partially or in the classroom in other countries as demand increases in the future.

Students shared their thoughts on the program.

“FU is really stepping it up,” said James Fairfield, a freshman majoring in sociology. “Although I’m not interested in the program, it seems like it will do a lot to help prepare people who actually are interested in working to help people deal with natural disasters.”

“Disasters have happened, and will continue to happen,” Almaguer said. He added that, as such, it’s important to fill the need for formal education in the field of disaster management.

A key factor of the program that he wishes to emphasize is the quality of the faculty members who will teach the courses in the curriculum. According to Almaguer, the professors are trained professionals with actual field experience.

“The objective of these meetings is to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Activity and Service fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2015 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

Lecture to raise awareness for South Florida

LECTURE, PAGE 1

“This is such a specialized field that we’re actually looking for anybody who’s got a heart to better prepare the community for disasters,” Almaguer said.

Lecture by Jonathan Almaguer will be held in Graham Center Room 140 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Activity and Service (A&S) Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. in Graham Center Room 140 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

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Ashley Planas, a freshman biology major, sees this lecture as a major learning opportunity. “When it comes to climate change, you never really get one clear story,” she said. “Some see global warming as the end of the world. Others think it’s a hoax. I really get one clear story,” she said. “Some see global warming as the end of the world. Others think it’s a hoax. This lecture is definitely not sensationalized the whole topic. It’ll be refreshing hearing all the facts from a definitive qualified source.”

Jonathan Ghazal, junior finance major, shares a similar sentiment. “It’s pretty clear that the world as a whole needs to come together to tackle the global dilemma of climate change.” he said. “While it may not be our most immediate problem today, it can grow to nearly insurmountable proportions for future generations.”

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies and the School of Environment, Arts and Society.

The lecture will take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. in Graham Center Room 140 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

The Beacon – Monday, February 23, 2015

The Beacon – Monday, February 23, 2015
Do transgender women have an unfair advantage in sports?

JESSICA FERNANDEZ
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

LGBT equality issues and rights have become a huge topic in recent times. As a country, we have made significant strides towards more equality and acceptance of the LGBT community; however, there are still some issues that have not been completely figured out yet, when it comes to transgender or transsexual people.

One of those issues is whether transgender athletes, specifically women, should be allowed to compete in sports with the gender they identify with, rather than the gender that they were born as. Some pose the question of whether or not this will present unfair physical advantages when playing sports.

Over the last 20 years, members of the LGBT community have been able to express their sexuality more freely. Great progress has been made when it comes to gay marriage as well; about 37 states have approved gay marriage, including Florida. When it comes to transgender people, many people accept acknowledging them by the gender that they identify with.

Most professional sports where people are competing against each other are separated by gender. Men and women never compete against each other in these sports. Basketball has the National Basketball Association for Men and the Women’s National Basketball Association. The UFC also separates men fighters from women fighters. They are segregated in a sense because men and women are born with different bodies that possess different abilities. If men and women played against each other, men would have an unfair advantage against the women.

This is where the issue arises: Transgender women are born male, and therefore have the genetic makeup of a man, so would it be fair for transgender women to compete against women? A male who identifies as a woman—a transgender woman—still has the biological makeup of a man. Transgender women who have sex-reassignment surgery may argue that they are now physically a woman, but sex-reassignment surgery does not change their genetic makeup or physical abilities. When it comes to the UFC, for example, it would be completely unfair for a woman to fight against a transgendered woman, even if she had sex-reassignment surgery. The transgendered woman is clearly stronger and could really hurt the woman she is fighting against, probably wouldn’t have gotten as hurt had she fought against a woman who was born a man. Basically, she is fighting with a man who had physically changed her gender on the outside, but on the inside, she possesses just as much strength and agility as a man. The same problem can arise in any sport, such as basketball or tennis.

So how far does gender acknowledgement go when it comes to sports? It will be interesting to see how professional sports associations handle this issue on transgender women. They may accept transgender women competing against other women depending on the sport that it is. They may come up with a way to compensate for the advantage that transgender women have over women in sports. It is important for sports associations to find a way to include transgender athletes who want to compete in a fair way.

 Losing calluses, gaining experiences

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer
rhys.williams@fiusm.com

All of my calluses are gone.

In my thought all these things hinder us from being able to stay in shape if we have to devote a larger amount of time to school and work. I know this goes both ways though. Some people eat nothing during the entire work day because they are so focused on their jobs or people eat more calories than they can burn from just sitting at a desk or doing most other jobs.

Not to mention a large amount of the people that I know would rather sit around drinking and on their phones in the middle of the day than go out, maybe throw a football around, go to the pool, or shoot something cheesy about meeting new people but if you do, you do.

That experience helped me to realize that we, as millennials, are getting less and less time to be ourselves due to the college life.

That may sound strange, but in a way it explains everything.

We get to college and try new things to see if we want to do them. For me, that involved working on a political campaign in 2012, beginning my career working at FIU Student Media and even purifying. Of course, not all of those things are long term but they add up. I’m not saying to not try new and different things.

Add in time for classes and studying, sleeping and other necessary things, and the amount of hours we need in a day increases; this doesn’t even include the pressure to find an internship for most, if not all, degree programs in order to become more employable.

All of these things take away from letting us be free and they are weakening our generation in my opinion.

FRANK AND IRENE

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinions@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.

Healthy Diet on a Budget

I’m not rich enough to be healthy...
University sponsors new fitness studio near MMC

KRISTAL PUGH
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

People are calling him the newest fitness sensation. The name everyone’s talking about – Jamie Bernard. Jamie Bernard is the director of the new fitness studio, 360 Fitness, located a few blocks south of the campus.

Bernard has built an insurmountable reputation in the fitness community throughout Miami. He travels and instructs different fitness classes. Almost every class he instructs reaches a capacity of 150 students.

Students come to enjoy his remarkable fitness aura and technique. Bernard who is also referred to as JRB offers a wide range of classes such as: JRB Bootcamp, JRB Hip-Hop dance, JRB Sweat workout, Late Night Salsa, Belly Dancing, Mommy and me workout, KidzFit and many more.

A schedule of the different classes and studio hours is available on the website. Students can also download Bernard’s fitness app, Jamie Bernard Fitness, for latest updates and information regarding the studio and helpful fitness tips.

Bernard is among other ambitious personal trainers and instructors at the fitness studio who is putting in the work in efforts to uplift the community and instill healthy habits for happy living. “My favorite thing about what I do is simple; watching people’s faces as they leave the studio. No matter what, it’s almost always with a smile,” said Bernard.

One of our very own panthers Ms. Gissell Sotolongo, director of continuing professional education, Bernard.

He was instructing a class that Sotolongo attended at LA Fitness. Sotolongo enjoyed his class and wanted to introduce him and his classes to our panther family.

The fitness studio earned the name in honor of being more than just a gym; It is a fitness community. Students can go to 360 Fitness, work out and even sign up for sessions with personal trainers. Sessions with personal trainers will include detailed information such as fitness goals and how to reach them, making healthy eating habits and how to maintain these efforts outside of the gym.

“It’s not just for trained dancers, it’s an actual gym. I mean, we have bootcamp every morning,” said Bernard.

This summer semester here at FIU we will be able to call Mr. Bernard one of our own Golden Panthers as he will join the panther family and study with personal trainers. Sessions with personal trainers will include detailed information such as fitness goals and how to reach them, making healthy eating habits and how to maintain these efforts outside of the gym.

“It’s just in my blood to communicate and be around all people,” said Bernard.

If Bernard is half as great as a student as he is fitness instructor, he will be a roaring panther making big noise.

Major plot twist causes turmoil for characters

“The Flash” [Spoilers]

I’ve never had a show that made my brain hurt more than “The Flash.” I mean, science talk, extreme plot twists, new villains and backstabbing left and right.

I don’t know how much more this show can make my brain keep guessing what will happen next.

This episode picks up exactly where we left off last week after Firestorm’s massive explosion once Barry and Caitlin attached that atomizer device to his chest in hopes to split Ronnie and Dr. Stein back into two.

Turns out that plan worked and each man had their own bodies and minds back in proper fashion. Of course, watching all this go down is the military general we all know and hate, General Eiling.

Eiling has already caused trouble in the past and he’s back to dish out some more.

He wants to take control of Firestorm’s powers and use it for weaponry and to “eliminate nuclear warfare.”

We can all assume that he’s, of course, lying. But he’s officially been killed by the hands of our great and furry friend, Gorilla Grodd.

Yes, I said it, Gorilla Grodd. At the end of this week’s episode, Dr. Wells became the Reverse Flash for a bit, kidnapped the general from his base and basically fed him to Gorilla Grodd inside the sewers.

Just seeing Dr. Wells remove his Reverse Flash mask and reveal himself made my heart sink.

It further cemented in my mind that he is the man in the yellow suit, and that bothers me because he’s portrayed as a dark character that could have this better side of him.

But alas, he’s the man in yellow, the Reverse Flash. I’ll still be that guy who sticks to the belief that things are not what they may seem. Also, to end this Flash piece, time travel is officially a thing.

I can’t wait to see how Barry will tap into the Speed Force and go into the future or into the past.

I’m already seeing the Flashpoint paradox come into play and I’m very excited.

“Arrow” [Spoilers]

On “Arrow,” if you watched the first two seasons, this would have been an episode full of nostalgia. It was for me. This was an episode that I could never miss because of Slade Wilson.

Wilson, also known as Deathstroke and played by Spartacus star Manu Bennett, made his return to “Arrow” for the first time in nearly a whole year.

He wreaked havoc on the island where Oliver and Thea were staying and made their time there a living hell.

And who released him? Well, of course, none other than Malcolm freaking Merlyn.

Coming from a Manu Bennett fan’s perspective, this was an awesome decision by Merlyn because I got to watch Manu Bennett be a cold and ruthless mercenary,
Most raunchy comedies follow a formula that’s plagued the movie industry for years: make a crude, slightly stupid comedy, score big at the box office then milk the success as long as possible by making sequels. The formula has been tested and, often, failed miserably, with sequels rarely living up to their predecessors and becoming more of a nuisance than comedy gold.

This was my expectation when I sat in the theater to watch “Hot Tub Time Machine 2,” the sequel to the cult hit about a hot tub that allows its drunken enjoyers to travel through time. Sadly, I was not disappointed, and true to other films following the tradition, the second installment is an offensively raunchy, almost-there attempt at comedy gold.

To continue, Ollie and Thea wind up fighting Slade Wilson/Deathstroke and I love that character. I’ve missed his character. Slade Wilson’s voice sends shivers down my spine. Then, I saw him move on to “Arrow” to play Slade deathstroke. This shook her up, allowed her to start believing the good person that she actually is.

When the two siblings defeated Slade, Thea grabbed Slade’s gun and held him at gunpoint, leaving her with a massive decision: be the killer she believes she is or be the good person that she actually is.

While the decision seems obvious, it was a pivotal moment in the episode because of what was at stake. Next week, we’ll only be having a new episode of “Arrow.” Then, we have to wait until March 17 for new episodes.

The movie’s take on time travel has all the essentials of a macho-comedy, replete with technology specific to the male genitalia and half naked or barely dressed women. There is also offensive mocking of homosexuality (including a scene involving two members of the quartet being forced to have sex with each other on national television) and dressing in a traditionally feminine manner (men wearing skirts and capris)

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Greg Moss will now be in charge of the defensive backfield for the Panthers. He got the promotion from defensive quality control assistant to the defensive back position.

Miami Heat make noise on historical NBA trade deadline day

The Miami Heat have gone from being the favorite to reach the finals in the last four seasons, to hanging on for a playoff spot this season by a thread.

This, and a slew of chemistry problems, and lack of general production brought the Heat into the All-Star break below .500, a mark that hasn’t even been a concern for the team since the 2009 and 2010 season, before Lebron James came and went.

As the trade-deadline on Thursday neared, the 22-30 Heat were hanging on for dear life to the eighth seed in the Eastern Conference, they needed something big, to make a big push in their last 30 regular season games to try to secure a playoff spot.

Goran Dragic was a high, not the most highly sought after match, or at least near that mark that match, with the Heat, and Whiteside’s guarding position this season, a position that Miami has in desperate need of for five games now.

The Heat got their man via a three team deal, sending Norris Cole, Shawn Marion, and Justin Hamilton to the New Orleans Pelicans. The Pelicans sent University of Miami alum John Salmons to the Phoenix Suns, while the Suns also received two first round draft picks and Danny Granger from the Heat. In turn for all this movement, Miami not only got Goran Dragic, but also his brother Zoran.

Pat Riley and the Heat are hopeful that these moves can help secure a playoff spot, as well as coincide with the emergence of new Heat star Hassan Whiteside, and hopefully take them to their fifth straight finals. Goran was third team All-NBA last season, and averaged 20.3 points and 9.9 assists per game. He’ll have to make sure to at least near the mark that match, with the Heat, and Whiteside’s

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Boxing Club fighting to make a name for itself

PETER HOLLAND
Contributing Writer
sports@fiusm.com

When you think of collegiate athletes, you think of football, basketball, baseball or soccer players. FIU holds twenty-eight different sports clubs provided by the recreation services. There’s one specific club that’s trying to resurrect their sport since it fell off the radar for most viewers, the FIU Boxing Club.

The Boxing Club was resurrected by current president Kittiya Harris. “I just want to bring back boxing and put FIU on the map,” Harris said.

The Boxing Club was resurrected by current president Kittiya Harris.

“J just want to bring back boxing and put FIU on the map,” Harris said.

Julian Martinez, another club member and their top fighter, joined the club as soon as he heard about it. Martinez comes from a family of boxers in Chicago, where he’s from. According to Martinez, his grandfather fought professionally, and his dad and uncle fought as amateurs.

“I believe my dad’s record was 52-2 with at least 37 knockouts, and my uncle finished 67-3,” said Martinez. “I want to put FIU on the map for boxing; you can look at other Florida schools like FSU, UM, UCF, Nova; they have boxing as a collegiate sport, and we just want to be a part of it.”

Each member has their own unique reasons for joining the boxing club, whether they want to fight professionally, are looking for competition or just want to train to stay in shape.

“I believe my dad’s record was 52-2 with at least 37 knockouts, and my uncle finished 67-3,” said Martinez. “I want to put FIU on the map for boxing; you can look at other Florida schools like FSU, UM, UCF, Nova; they have boxing as a collegiate sport, and we just want to be a part of it.”

Everyone can join as long as you are able to commit and stay discipline as a member,” Harris said.

The boxing club is currently training in preparation for the United States Intercollegiate Boxing Association tournament, held at the University of Michigan on Thursday, April 9. They are planning fundraisers so they can make the trip to Ann Arbor, Michigan.

“We haven’t decided on a date yet for our fundraiser. We are still working on the details, but what we are planning to do is to have people find some old clothes, shoes or things they are not using and donate to the FIU Boxing Club,” Harris said.

If you love what you do, you have to start somewhere. Sometimes you have to start underground before you can turn mainstream. Even current professional boxers like Floyd Mayweather or Manny Pacquiao didn’t have a silver spoon in their mouths when they picked up gloves.
New BBC housing approved

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
BBC Managing Editor
camila.fernandez@fiusm.com

Waiting anxiously at the Board of Governors Meeting, the University finally received approval Thursday, Feb. 19 for new housing construction at the Biscayne Bay Campus. According to Jim Wassenaar, Director of Facilities Planning and Operations at the Division of Student Affairs, construction for Bay View Hall will commence next month and is expected to be completed by fall 2016. The approval allows the private developer, Servitas, to sell the bonds to fund the project. Servitas was chosen by housing committee last year for its affordable rental rate and it produced a product that was conducive to FUIS’s culture.

In order for those visions to be realized, it was important to deliver to this type of amenity so that we can attract the students that will ultimately become a part of enhancing this wonderful campus and our academic programs. Jim Wassenaar
Director of Facilities Planning and Operations of Student Affairs

Affair of the Arts Week opens with the Chinese New Year of the Goat at Affair of the Arts Week

SUDYEN NAVARRETE
Contributing Writer
bccc@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus will be celebrating the many faces that art has to offer with the Affair of the Arts Week -- created for students, professors and faculty to explore and enjoy the arts. The Affair of the Arts Week is an event celebrated annually by the Student Programming Council of BBC bringing together different types of arts, such as music, culture and paintings.

The five-day event will open with the Chinese New Year Celebration -- since it has approached.

The Arts Week is providing students with information about the Chinese New Year, in which they’re welcoming the Year of the Goat which begins on Febr. 19, 2015 through Feb. 9, 2016.

The Chinese-theme event comes along with dragons, cultural food, entertainment and festivals. “Tibetan Buddhist monks will construct a Mandala Sand painting, which includes a breath-taking opening and closing ceremony,” said Michael Aquino, Cultural and Fine Arts Director of SPC. According to Franco, the tunnel will be very interactive and the Wolfe University Center Ballroom is going to be designed into a tunnel with different rooms covering different topics, such as LGBT rights, to demonstrate that oppression is something that must be addressed, but only society can put an end to it. Then there’s “Motown: The Musical,” a Broadway hit that will entertain and tell the story of Berry Gordy, a music and record producer from Detroit, Michigan whom rose to the top with his record label and associations with artists such as Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and Michael Jackson. According to Aquino, the Arts Week started in 2011. It launched as a single event and from there it has grown into a one-week art celebration. SPC has been able to involve students into these events by making it fun and exciting along with food and great giveaways.

“The timing of the project was very tight, and instead of rushing that process forward, we took a pause, revaluated the business plan, as well as the building solution,” Wassenaar said. Rather than providing over 600 beds, there will now be a 400 bed solution for better interest rates in terms of cost. “Our goal was to, it’s been a number of years, but that ultimately we generate the most cost-effective solution we could,” he said. He also said that new student housing is an opportunity to transform the image of the campus and give the campus’ academic programs the recruitment tool that would help them grow and expand.

“We want to be able to target every student as much as we can,” said Kaytien Franco, a graduate student of public relations and SPC collaborator.

For SPC it is important for FIU students to open their minds to different cultures and diversity. SPC will host the Chinese New Year celebration along with other events that will expose students to the performing, visual, experimental and musical arts. According to Aquino, students will be able to learn how to dance bachata, salsa, komba and belly dancing, and experience the first ever Tunnel of Oppression. The Tunnel of Oppression will be a challenging experience for students to open their minds. According to Franco, the tunnel will be very interactive and the Wolfe University Center Ballroom is going to be designed into a tunnel with different rooms covering different topics, such as LGBT rights, to demonstrate that oppression is something that must be addressed, but only society can put an end to it. Then there’s “Motown: The Musical,” a Broadway hit that will entertain and tell the story of Berry Gordy, a music and record producer from Detroit, Michigan whom rose to the top with his record label and associations with artists such as Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and Michael Jackson. According to Aquino, the Arts Week started in 2011. It launched as a single event and from there it has grown into a one-week art celebration. SPC has been able to involve students into these events by making it fun and exciting along with food and great giveaways.

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Kaytien Franco
Graduate Student Public Relations

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“FIU-BBC is definitely worlds ahead with their varied forms of programming,” Aquino said. The Chinese New Year Celebration will be held at BBC Panther Stage from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 23. It’s free for students, professors and faculty.