New partnership opens doors at two schools

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The FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine’s adult autism program recently moved to Kendall, but with plans to move to a new location.

Their new partner Villa Lyan is a nonprofit school for children with special needs, currently located in the Hammocks in West Kendall, but with plans to move to a new location.

The University originally scouted the school because Yolangel Hernandez, former associate dean for Graduate Medical Education at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and chief executive officer of FIU Health, has a child enrolled in the school.

Because of this connection, the University visited the school and observed how they operated before offering a deal.

Villa Lyan’s system is designed on separating by age and need. During the school year, they have five teachers, all certified in special needs training.

They provide outpatient rehab, occupational, physical, speech and behavior therapy.

But it was their adult program that caught the eye of EMBRACE.

The adult day training program focuses on finding the niche of each individual and developing micro-businesses. They care for about 20 adults with various needs.

It’s an option for the children who graduate to learn applicable techniques for self-support.

Villa Lyan has an art program where some of the adults make and sell different trinkets decorated by hand, or design t-shirts alongside the students. Some of the things they have discussed is making jewelry and adults in Villa Lyan’s roster.

Villa Lyan will also refer the adults in their program to EMBRACE.

Garcia said a big part of the program will be students intern in occupational therapy and physical therapy working students and adults in Villa Lyan’s roster.

“Some of the things we have discussed is programming,” said current principal Carlos Garcia.

There will be students intern in occupational therapy and physical therapy working students and adults in Villa Lyan’s roster.

Garcia will be in charge of the adult program, and incoming principal Henry Cristobal will be in charge of the school.

Mercedes Sinnott, a 12 year old student at Villa Lyan, believes the new FIU affiliation is a win for both parties.

“She provides health on a large scale are a part of the population. However, she’s spent their entire lives with the same uniforms and health insurance. "SHS should set explicit targets for insurance coverage" and "evaluate, after one year of operations, options for subsidized coverage for students not qualified for Medicaid or other health care insurance."

CHESS proposed using the student health fee to reduce the cost of healthcare coverage, “subsidies should be self-funded by student health fee dollars.”

The health fee is one of several mandatory fees charged to all students as part of their tuition each semester. Every student pays $93.69 as part of the health fee regardless of the number of credits taken.

An aspect of the integration plan is to divvy up the money generated from the health fee, so that a portion remains with the university.

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When it comes to health decisions, it’s good to get a second opinion, especially before a major operation.

An operation such as the University’s merger of the clinical components of Student Health Services with FIU Health. If successful, SHS’ new model could maintain healthist students while simultaneously reducing uninsured rate among them.

However, it could require using student-health dollars and referring students who need ongoing care to FIU Health or off-campus providers to get it done.

Primary care will remain

Health economists from the University’s Collaborative for Health Economics and Strategic Solutions created a model. Its first piece includes treatment of minor conditions and its second includes referrals for more serious conditions. SHS managed the clinical aspects of its normal operations.

According to Oscar Loyoza, director of SHS, the Board of Trustees have approved the model, and integration began on July 1.

Vice President of Student Affairs Larry Lansford said that as of July 1, FIU Health manages the clinical aspects of SHS.

But students can still visit SHS to receive basic services - vaccinations, screenings or physical examinations - and for treatment of minor conditions, illnesses and injuries.

“Even though changes are occurring as integration moves forward, right now nothing specifically has changed and those with chronic conditions can still visit and will be seen,” Loyoza said.

For conditions that require ongoing care of more than 30 days, healthcare navigators will refer students to providers in the community, and FIU Health is an option.

A healthcare navigator - one at the Modesto Maidique Campus and one at the Biscayne Bay Campus – is a new position the University created for the integration. They will connect students who visit SHS and lack health insurance to healthcare providers in the community.

“They would be treated regardless but the navigators will connect them to the appropriate level of healthcare,” Metula said.

Amy Metula, former director of quality management for FIU Health, assured students in an interview with Student Media that the people who will vaccinate or test them for a minor illnesses will still be there even as the University merges its on-campus health providers.

“It will be the same people with the same uniforms providing care,” Metula said.

Metula resigned from the University for unspecified reasons; Student Media interviewed her prior to her resignation and before receiving the reports associated with the integration plan.

However, her comments give context to the information the reports provide in lieu of an interview with Eneida Roldan, interim chief executive officer of FIU Health. Roldan was not available as of press time.

The University’s clinical faculty, from its health-related colleges, provide medical services to the community and will, under the plan, see students as well.

“Student Health will share efficiencies and resources and work with FIU Health,” Metula said.

Insurance enrollment and population health

The model separates student health into one piece for individuals and another for the population.

Promoting health insurance enrollment and managing student health on a large scale are a part of the population aspect.

In the model, CHESS proposed SHS will have an active role in getting students health insurance.

“SHS should set explicit targets for insurance coverage” and “evaluate, after one year of operations, options for subsidized coverage for students not qualified for Medicaid or other health care insurance.”

CHESS proposed using the student health fee to reduce the cost of healthcare coverage, “subsidies should be self-funded by student health fee dollars.”
Native fern crisis in Miami-Dade County

As the U.S. Congress kicks off a contentious debate over the Iran nuclear accord, hard-liners in the Iranian political system are gearing up for a battle of their own, targeting a key verification provision that they hope to defeat in an open parliamentary vote.

The issue is over inspections that would be conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency under the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the agreement on nuclear programs that Iran and 189 other countries have signed.

President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya acknowledged that a violent 2007 election and allegations concerning student health, and another chunk of it will go to FIU Health, according to Lounay.

Unlike the athletic and activity and service fees which are based on per-credit-hour, the health fee is by headcount.

In their model, CHESS projected that for a community and determine what factors contribute to different diseases and which students have certain conditions, according to Lounay.

An educational component then follows the survey to help the community remain healthy.

"Rather than improve the health of one person at a time, population health does so for a group of individuals, in this case it’s the student community," Metula said.

For more on the integration, such as the Affordable Care Act’s influence on college health, health care leaders gathered to University administrators visit fiusm.com.
Anti-GMO labeling bill favors food manufacturers, not consumers

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We all have a right to know what goes into our food and how it’s been produced, and though there is no solid proof saying Genetically Modified Organisms have any harmful effects on human health, there isn’t solid proof that GMOs are better for us than untainted foods, either.

The House of Representatives passed a bill Thursday, July 23, that bans state laws which require food producers to label products that contain GMOs. This gives the federal government more power to dictate which foods are worth labeling. The vote was 275 to 100. This is clearly a victory for food and chemical industries that lobbied for the ban, but it’s a blow to consumer choice and a seizure of states’ rights. Before the bill can become law though, it will be need to be approved by the Senate and signed by President Barack Obama. So far, the White House has not taken a stance.

Those in favor of the bill say that GMO labels will only cause an increase in food prices and confusion about the safety of genetically engineered food. Gregory Jaffe, Biotechnology Project Director with the Center for Science in the Public Interest, stated at a recent House committee hearing, that there were no known nutritional or safety issues linked to GE food, so labels would be unnecessary.

So far, three states – Vermont, Connecticut and Maine – have passed mandatory GMO labeling laws, however, all in Connecticut, they will not go into effect unless their surrounding neighbor states also pass similar laws. Vermont’s law, who has survived legal challenges so far, is set to take effect in 2016. The labeling requirement will be voided though, if the Senate passes the bill. Currently, companies can choose to voluntarily label their products “GE Free” or “GMO Free” and can also seek third-party verification. If the bill becomes law, those who label their food “GMO Free” will have to apply and be certified for that status by the Department of Agriculture.

The issue is not whether GMOs are safe or healthy, but how the bill denies Americans the right to know what is in their food and how it’s grown. Moreover, it gives more power to a corrupt government and its corporate partners.

As Scott Faber, senior vice president of government affairs for EIWG said, “This House was bought and paid for by corporate interests, so it’s no surprise that it passed a bill to block states and the FDA from giving consumers basic information about their food.”

More than 300 organizations, companies, and leaders in the food industry and of social justice oppose the bill, saying that labeling laws allow consumers the right to know if their food is genetically engineered. It was found that nine out of 10 Americans support GMO labeling, and with the recent passing of this bill, consumers seem to be setting House lawmakers willing to ignore the wishes of the people.

Proposing a solution to this issue, we should look more to our communities and ourselves. It’s not old news that we should strive to support and start more farmers markets and community gardens and farms. Rather than depending on the government, we should use our power as consumers to only support business and industries who have morals and principles similar to our own. It’s up to us, individually and collectively, to stay healthy. True power always lies in the hands of the people.

The University is changing how Student Health Services does its job and has given them new bosses to boot.

It is difficult for us, The Beacon’s editorial board, to have an opinion either way about an idea that goes back several years, because there is still so much ambiguity.

It is still unclear what inspired the idea for the University to merge the clinical components of SHS with FIIU Health.

We were told it goes back to as far as the establishment of the College of Medicine, that University administrators have wondered since then how SHS and the COM can work together.

The idea of faculty from the COM and the College of Nursing & Health Sciences seeing and meeting students sounds like something we would more than appreciate, especially considering that SHS already refers students who need ongoing care to community providers. We would rather stay on campus to receive medical services, but we will get to stay on campus.

The University’s clinical faculty who work for FIIU Health already provide their services to people in the community. Although the usage rate at the Faculty Group Practice is low, according to various reports, if the plan is to expand the University’s health care services we can only hope that it will be in the best interest of students.

It has yet to be communicated how the University will ensure students they will be the priority of its clinical faculty, or rather if they will be at all.

There is also the matter of whether the faculty will have time to see an extra couple thousand students.

According to their proposed model, the University’s Collaborative for Health Economics and Strategic Solutions estimated that 1,629 students would be referred to local community providers, including FIIU Health.

We were also told the Affordable Care Act influenced the integration, but to what degree.

The proposed model suggested using some of the money raised through the student health fee to reduce the cost of health insurance. But a proposal that so for everyone, and that there may be “affordable care” in the name doesn’t make it a reality.

The issue is what a piece of legislation already does? We understand that just because it has “affordable care” in the name doesn’t make it so for everyone, and that there may be some who still need financial assistance to pay for health insurance.

But instead of assuming, we would prefer high ranking people within University administration tell us and the rest of the student body.

We recommend that University administrators from the College of Medicine, Student Affairs, Student Health Services hold a panel to answer questions from students and to let us know exactly what is their goal.

Deep sea mining has yet to be proven safe

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The idea of mining the sea bed for ore first saw serious consideration in the mid-1960s. By the 70s, the idea had gained enough credibility to merit the attention of the U.N. It was the Cold War era, and people thought mining in the sea bed for ores first saw the reality of such plans may be shut down by the early 80s.

In recent years, interest in the sea bed and its metals has risen again. Countries like Papua New Guinea, Japan, New Zealand, and though there is no solid proof saying there are mining in Papua New Guinea, or especially in the Sea of Japan, or in the Sea of Indonesia, the islands, have to apply and be certified for that status by the Department of Agriculture.

The issue is not whether GMOs are safe or healthy, but how the bill denies Americans the right to know what is in their food and how it’s grown. Moreover, it gives more power to a corrupt government and its corporate partners.

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

‘Paper Towns’ inspires a generation of teens

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Every generation has a “Breakfast Club,” a “Clueless” and an “Easy A” - a teen-driven movie that defines what it means to be young, discovering who you are, and where you fit in the camp and in the audience, proving that with enough dedication, they too can be rockstars.

Young adult novelist John Green has mastered a rare talent of embodying the things teenagers in the modern age feel and want to hear. The second movie in his YA trademark, “Paper Towns,” is nothing short of brilliant. While last year’s “The Fault In Our Stars” was, rightfully, borderline existential, “Paper Towns” is a great place to start.

My overall grade: A.

The Thursday premiere was part of a special event called “Night On The Towns,” which featured a live Q&A screening with John Green, producer Wyck Godfrey, director Jake Schreier and four actors of the main cast - including Nat Wolff and Cara Delevingne. If you took to Twitter and did a #NightOnTheTowns, you could ask the cast and crew questions about the movie.

It’s about how important your friends are,” Delevingne said. “Grab life and realize how lucky you are.

The session was followed by performances by Saint Motel, Nat and Alex Wolff and a video of John Green’s travels during the “Get Lost Get Found” tour for the movie’s promotion.

The movie came out this weekend and stands tall with generally glowing reviews. If you’re looking for a good movie to fill the gap between summer blockbusters and upcoming fall releases, John Green’s “Paper Towns” is a great place to start.

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My overall grade: A.
How to bounce back to a healthy diet

A summer vacation starts to quickly wind down for most of us and we realize that perhaps it was those late night meals after partying? It may have been too hot to run outside or do physical activity. Whatever it was, you’re snapping back into reality and after indulging for the past three months, you’ve noticed your jeans a little tight. You can’t wait for that number on the scale to tick upward. It’s tough to get back into the habit of having healthy food. But just how your body got used to disturbed meal times and high-calorie indulgences, you can get back on track to balanced meals and healthy choices. It’s not going to be easy, but it’s not impossible.

Quench your thirst

A lot of times hunger can be confused with thirst. Eliminate sodas and other home the better because you have more control of how your food is being cooked and what you are putting in it. Stop eating out and buying unhealthy snacks all the time. Put your lunch in a non-disposable container and carry it with you. Stop eating out at restaurants every day. Even if you’re busy or hungry, make it easier for you to remember to drink water.

Cook more meals at home

ORANGE COUNTY

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How to bounce back to a healthy diet

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How to bounce back to a healthy diet
Florida native becomes ninth verbal commit

The verbal commitments keep on coming even though this football season has not yet begun. This will be FIU’s ninth verbal commitment in the recruitment class of 2016 and it is an interesting one. Jadarious Byrd from Jacksonville, FL, who has played all three years at Ed H. White High School, will be playing his final season at Cedar Creek Christian as a starting cornerback.

Byrd originally committed to Oregon State until a recent switch to FIU. On his twitter page, Byrd confirmed his change of heart to the Pac-12 school. Byrd said, “I would like thank Oregon State’s coaches and fans for all the love, but I will be de-committing and committing to Florida International University, GoPanthers.”

It is safe to say that Byrd probably wanted to stay closer to home since FIU is only five hours from Jacksonville. Byrd, at 5'8 and 155 lbs, is a pragmatic athlete on and off the field. His press coverage skills are top-notch and he can interrupt a receiver’s route before they make their first step, catching them off guard and off balance. Byrd also, as a defensive back, will refuse to let any receiver pass or go over him. He is the type of corner who does not need safety help during a pass. He is also someone to watch on special teams because he is not afraid to take out a player that stands in his way by laying them out. This head-hunting term is known as a “crack back.”

Byrd will be the third commit to come out of Jacksonville, after Doug and Dallas Connell. He will be making his on-campus visit July 25.
**SPORTS**

**Kickabout coed soccer game deemed a ‘success’**

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On July 24, more than 25 FIU students came together to participate in a “Kickabout” coed soccer game on the recreation field at MMC.

The players came from different FIU campuses and were divided into two teams that competed in the heat for 90 minutes in a game that began at 5:30 p.m. At the end of regulation, the final score was 5-1, but what mattered more than the score to the players, was the opportunity to meet new people and have fun.

The match was organized by University student Drew Branch. For Branch, this event stems from a class assignment he was given that allowed him to lead various constructive projects. That involvement resulted in him creating this coed soccer game. He believes that a coed soccer game is the perfect environment for student participants to learn about “mutual respect” through teamwork. By all accounts, the “Kickabout” game was a success.

What made this event so successful for Branch was that players felt it to be a relaxing environment where any student who wanted to play could join. It was a game where past experience wasn’t necessary and the score didn’t matter in the end. What mattered was that students were able to come together.

Many of those students said they haven’t had the opportunity to play a soccer game for years and that this event allowed them to do so while meeting new people at FIU.

**MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**

**Panthers creating a buzz in the minor leagues**

**COLUMNIST**
**LUIS DIAZ**

The University is no stranger to success on the clay diamond. At the collegiate level, the Blue and Gold currently wear the belt as Conference USA Baseball Champions.

At the professional level, FIU created a hero to any Miami baseball fan and MVP of the 2007 World Series, Mike Lowell.

However, much like any middle-aged Dolphin fan sleeping in his Dan Marino jersey bragging about the 1972 perfect season, clinging onto the past can get embarrassing.

Thankfully, for all of the Panther baseball fans, there are a few alumni making their way through their respective farm systems on their way towards giving FIU one more name to be proud of.

After a stint with the Texas Rangers’ farm system and utter domination of the Australian Baseball League (yes that’s a thing) pitcher Jorge Marban signed with the Boston Red Sox and is tearing it up for their Double-A affiliate, the Portland Sea Dogs.

Marban has a 4-1 record in addition to his five saves, while maintaining an ERA of 0.81 after 44.2 innings pitched.

His time in Australia has definitely paid off because he’s working his way to the top, shutting things down while he’s on the mound.

Another pitcher creating a buzz is Mike Franco, seventh round pick in the 2014 draft by the Tampa Bay Rays.

Franco has been one of the Charlotte Stone Crabs’ more reliable relievers by cashing in on four of his five save attempts.

He’s worked his way to an impressive 1.65 ERA while holding his opposing batters to a minuscule .223.

Michael James Franco has been a nightmare on the mound for whatever team is attempting to make contact against him, striking out 55 batters in only 49 innings pitched.

Yes, his name is similar to Hollywood star Franco, but if that actor wants to put on a pair of Miami gloves this season, he’s sure to be a little more like Mike.

The 52 overall pick of the 2014 MLB Draft, 2014 Conference USA Player of the Year and a 2014 All-American is none other than former Panther Aramis Garcia.

Catcher for the Augusta GreenJackets, Class-A affiliate to the San Francisco Giants, Garcia has definitely giving FIU a good name. Batting average respectful and managing to trot the bases quite a bit this year with 14 home runs while also driving in 58 RBIs.

The 6’2” Hialeah native has been playing good old fashioned baseball not only his “abuela” can be proud of, but his entire alma mater can be proud of.

The players that were just mentioned are only a fraction of the outstanding products FIU has been gracing the MLB with in recent years. And with the talent level only increasing, there are sure to be more names to add on to this list of eye popping performances in professional baseball.

It’s about time the FIU community puts their Lowell 19 jersey back in their closet and starts buying some new ones, because in a few years, everyone else will already be rocking them.

**SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT**

**Welcome to the Space Jam... again, maybe**

**COLUMNIST**
**LUIS DIAZ**

The song “Welcome to the Space Jam” is most probably recognized by the sound of children’s feet sprinting towards a television following those first lyrics. A movie that saw one of the greatest performances by one of the greatest of all time, “Space Jam” showcased the world famous Bugs Bunny alongside basketball player Michael Jordan.

Space Jam is one of those films that most ‘90s kids brag to their little brothers and sisters about. But after a new partnership was created, today’s elementary school kids have something to look forward to as well.

And yes, it could just be another partnership like SpringHill Entertainment made with Disney XD and Starz but there was another piece of evidence that rang loud and clear in the hearts of all of the ‘90s kids around the world.

On that same day, Warner Bros. renewed their trademark of the phrase “Space Jam.” The entertainment company renewed their rights as being the sole beneficiary of putting those words on lunchboxes, backpacks and maybe, even movie posters.

While all of this still remains speculation, and maybe Warner Bros. and LeBron James could just be getting our hopes up, the idea of this being a possibility, which it is, should bring excitement and some anxiety in the homes of every fan of the first film.

And just a reminder to all of those still debating to which basketball player is better and which movie will be better, nothing beats the original.

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**PHOTO GALLERY**

Welcome to the Space Jam... again, maybe.
Kayaking after sunset at The Bay

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It’s the middle of summer and water activities are high in demand—at least for students based at the Biscayne Bay Campus. However, this wasn’t always the case.

“Kayaking has always been here at BBC campus. A lot of people just didn’t know about it. Participation has picked up where two to three years ago we couldn’t even fill 20 seats,” said Jonathan Torrey, department coordinator and recreation specialist.

Kayaking at the bay has become a more popular activity in recent years at FIU.

The day kayaking trip last Saturday, July 25, the night kayaking trip, July 16, and the upcoming night trip, August 13, are all vastly different.

During the day trips, which begin at 10 a.m. and usually end around 12 p.m., the guests are taken out onto the kayaks with their life vests and bring over onto the kayaks and kayak back to campus.

With the night time trips, in addition to kayaking through the mangrove trails of Oleta River State Park, the guests are also taken to an island. The island is called Sandspur Island. It’s a tiny island where boats can set up and where a cluster of people are already relaxing and enjoying the water. There is also a forest of palm trees and you can also view an abundance of coconuts on the ground as well as on the trees.

In regards to kayaking, if it would be your first time, a little patience and if there aren’t enough boats, you have the option of swimming around the fire.

This is done depending on how many people would prefer to stay on the island, and if there aren’t enough people to stay on the island, the fire is then set up and a cooler and graham crackers where you have the option of making s'mores around the fire.

The next kayaking trips—both day and night will end by October and start up again in Spring. The night time kayaking trips take place only once a month.

If plan has no changes, health services will be referred out

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The University’s plan to merge clinical operations of Student Health Services into FIU Health could spell bad news for students who use Student Health Services at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

An aspect of the plan is to refer students who need ongoing care to FIU Health or off-campus providers.

While students at the Modesto Maidique Campus have access to FIU Health clinics, BBC students would have to leave campus for their chronic medical conditions if the plan, approved by the Board of Trustees, moves forward without any changes.

But the BBC Health Care Center could remain open, according to Larry Lunsford, Vice President for Student Affairs.

Therese Boyd, Director of Student Health Services at BBC, is on medical leave and directed Student Media to Assistant Director, Kathleen Adams, who was unavailable for comment.

Interim CEO of FIU Health Eneida Phillips-Buteau was unavailable for comment.

Lunsford said that the model that the University’s Collaborative for Health Economics and Strategic Solutions created is under evaluation and a decision will be made at a future date.

“The model that MMC students have.”

The collaborative estimated that about 600 students would have been referred in the 2014-2015 academic year.

CHESS noted the lack of options for students at BBC in their report that accompanies the model.

“FIU-HCN-SHS,” the acronym used for the integrated model, “will seek to improve health outcomes for students at BBC in their report that accompanies the model.

A row of kayaks await occupants on shore on the night of July 16. The next evening kayaking trip offers only twenty student spots, is $5 and takes place on August 13. Registration is available at active.com.

The last kayaking trips—both day and night will end by October and start up again in Spring. The night time kayaking trips take place only once a month.

“My goal is to get everybody who hasn’t had a chance to get out here and come and at least experience the trips once before they graduate. My hope is that next year we get more days because it seems to be the case that the feedback that I’m getting,” said Torrey.

If you’re looking to go on a kayaking adventure, the price is five dollars for FIU students and ten dollars for faculty, staff, guests, and alumni. Registration is at active.com and closes as soon as the 20 seats are full. If they are full, you can always still try to get a seat if you arrive on site at least 15 minutes beforehand in the case that there is a no show.