Overcrowded WRC calls for expansion

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
News Director
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Juliana Santos said there’s a line of students who wait to use the equipment at the Wellness and Recreation Center. “Just coming here at certain hours of the day have the kind of schedule it out right so that it’s not too full,” said Santos, an FIU alumna.

With a new $19 million expansion plan for the center, the University hopes to better accommodate a growing number of students at the gym. The center would utilize 60,000/100 square feet, more than double the size of its existing building.

“There’s lots of things for people to do that they’re not able to do now [because] it’s very crowded,” said Robert Frye, WRC director.

New additions include a third floor with a 1/10 mile indoor track, a new south entrance to the center, two outdoor basketball courts, a sand volleyball court and more lounge space. There will also be an additional 3-court basketball/volleyball gymnasium and a small-group functional training/flex room.

The general contractor is led by the Moss brothers, with one of them being an FIU alum. They led the construction of the University of Miami’s College of Engineering and Science at MIT, the firm who designed the “green building.”

“We basically fund programs, so that’s a free weights between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. when it’s the most crowded,” said Del Valle.

“Bigger would be better,” said Hernandez. “Usually at 7 p.m. you get a big crowd here so anything that expands would be great so we don’t get too crowded.”

Duant Harvin IV said students take to social media to show their complaints on the lack of space. “You walk in, people are lifting. It’s kind of like a maze trying to get stuff,” said Harvin, WRC marketing and public relations graduate assistant.

“I’m in charge of the center’s social media accounts. He said students mostly protest through Twitter and Instagram. “We do a number of events, and when people are working out here but it’s just not as comfortable as it could be,” Harvin said.

Frye said for Spinning, staff will have to move in and out all day. With the addition of a room exclusive to Spinning, the center will be able to provide more Spinning classes.

“[The extra space] will offer more times for the clubs to come in and practice and use the facilities,” Prociuk said. “We’ll be able to close off different parts for different clubs so that they can have more opportunity.” He added, “A lot of our club leaders run their clubs from start to finish and to have an extra space, and let them grow individually as leaders is great to see.”

University launches United Way campaign, goal of $200,000

LESLIE OVALLE
Staff Writer
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The University’s partnership with Miami’s largest non-profit organization, United Way, is launching a year-long campaign with a goal of $200,000 dollars.

The non-profit organization focuses on improving education, financial stability and health in the community. According to the organization’s website, they believe that these three areas are the building blocks for a good life.

“FIU is about being a service to the community,” said Alexis Calatayud, president of the Student Government Association. “We are our community, so [United Way] is a service to us.”

This year’s campaign video focuses on Miami-Dade’s poverty statistics, stating that out of half of the Miami-Dade community, 29 percent are “one emergency away” from falling into poverty and 21 percent are already living in poverty.

“We basically fund programs in the community, to help those people who need that little boost,” said Norie Del Valle, vice president overseeing the organization’s fundraising efforts.

United Way has been a part of the Miami community for nine decades, claiming that their story is the story of Miami—as stated on their website. United Way has been involved in the community in different events, including the 1926 “Great Miami Hurricane,” and the 1940 war efforts, the Cuban migration and Hurricane Andrew.

The University’s fundraising efforts are reached with the help of students, faculty and staff, said Del Valle.

Faculty and staff have the option of donating through payroll deduction, but the options for pledging also include credit card, e-check, cash and check.

“We do a number of events,” said Sandra Gonzalez-Leyva, External Relations senior vice president and co-chair of the FIU United Way campaign. “We like students to actually participate in them! [SGA] is planning a number of events to get students to participate.”

These events will be going on throughout the year from Sept. 17 and through Dec. 11, the date of the United Way Auction and conclusion of the year’s campaign.

Some events include the passing of a donation bucket at the Homecoming Game on Saturday, Oct. 24, where a bucket will be passed around the audience and everyone pitches in as much as they’d like, said Del Valle.

All the money goes to United Way.

According to Calatayud the campaign will include a dunk tank, with student leaders and administrators and a Halloween-themed event.

The Homecoming Council will also be participating in this year’s campaign. All donations made for viewer’s choice during the “Unleash The Crow” pageant will be granted to United Way, said Robert Borgmann, Homecoming Council advisor.

The campaign will conclude with the United Way Auction, which is planned by the staff and student leaders.

According to Del Valle, the celebration that closes the campaign is worth attending for free.

New dean for Robert Stempel College

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Staff Writer
philippe.buteau@fiusm.com

A new dean for the Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work was announced by Provost Kenneth G. Furton at a Board of Trustees meeting September 10.

Tomas Guillarte, who is currently an administrator at Columbia University, will assume the role as dean January 2016. The Robert Stempel College has been without a dean since September 2014.

Guillarte was a Lehn Hess Professor and chairman of the Department of Environmental and Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health.

According to Del Valle, the celebration that closes the campaign is worth attending for free.

Research opportunities. Another of his mandates is to improve student success as the college seeks to enroll 200 doctoral students by 2020.

Guillarte is also a scientist in the fields of mechanism-based neurotoxicology and neuroscience. His approaches to neuroscience research has used behavioral, cellular and molecular testing and the application of brain imaging technology.

Guillarte has also done research on the effects of environmental chemicals on the central nervous system and on diseases that break down neurons.

He has worldwide recognition for his revelations of effects of low-level lead exposure on the central nervous system during development and for the therapies he developed to reverse research opportunities. Another of his mandates is to improve student success as the college seeks to enroll 200 doctoral students by 2020.

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NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

FAMU settles hazing lawsuit with drum major’s family

Florida A&M University on Friday settled a wrongful death lawsuit with the family of Robert Champion over the fatal hazing of the drum major for $1.1 million and an apology, according to documents obtained by the Orlando Sentinel. An insurance company will pay $800,000 to the drum major’s estate and the university will pay $300,000 through the Florida Department of Financial Services, the maximum allowed without a claims bill that would have required the Legislature’s approval.

Seven years later, Obama still mum on Keystone

When TransCanada applied to build the Keystone XL pipeline, John McCain had just picked a little-known Alaskan governor as his running mate in a desperate attempt to stop the presidential campaign juggernaut of a freshman senator named Barack Obama. Saturday marks seven years since the day TransCanada applied for its permit to build the pipeline from the Canadian oil sands, through the United States’ midsection and refineries in Texas. As Obama prepares to leave office in a year, there is still no sign of a decision from him on the pipeline.

Munich, beer festival near, glad to be at center of refugee crisis

The central rail station here these days is a maze of eager but confused young men with backpacks and plastic bags, and exhausted families with overstuffed luggage holding what’s left of their worldly possessions. They collapse against walls, squat on benches, or pace, trying to figure out how to navigate new lives in this medieval city.

Taiwan-China tensions on the rise as elections draw near

The Presidential Building in Taipei isn’t easily mistaken for other buildings—it’s an ornate Baroque-style structure that dates back to 1919 and is mistaken for other buildings—it’s Building in Taipei isn’t easily.

University to hold event promoting safe sex

University of Miami will hold event promoting safe sex.

TRIBUTE NEWS SERVICE

THE BEACON

E-BOARD AND PRODUCTION STAFF

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Assistant Director of Student Media
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Assistant Director of Student Media

STUDENT MEDIA

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STUDENT MEDIA

United Way kicks off at the University

WAY, PAGE 1

because all funds collected will go straight to United Way and the community.

Previously, the auctions have included rounds of golf or tennis, restaurant gift certificates, electronics, jewelry and gift baskets, among other things. “Different departments donate [gift] baskets,” said Del Valle. “Local businesses donate as well for a live auction.”

United Way kicks off at the University

There is an entrance fee of five dollars for those attending the event, which will include drinks and complimentary hors d’oeuvres.

The auction will be held on Friday, Dec. 11 at the GC Ballrooms from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

“Flu is unique because of the student participation,” said Del Valle. “As the university has grown we’ve been working hard to get the students more engaged.”
Technology is taking over our world

ARIEL WEINSTEIN  Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Every day, people walk through life not paying attention to the majority of what is going on around them.

Everyone is focused on his or her smartphones, texting and looking at Instagram and Facebook. When they have free time during the day, it’s all about procrastinating their to-do lists with Netflix and Hulu.

Hours upon hours are spent with their attention glued to some technological device but is this a healthy way to live through? Every hour spent on technology for leisure time is an hour that is lost to time. People isolate themselves into a world of virtual everything.

Watching Netflix and Hulu, you see the relationships other people form and how others deal with it, when you could be out there forming your own relationships and friendships.

Talking to someone over text, it’s difficult to tell what the emotion and meaning is behind some of what that person might be saying in his or her message. Words and comments can have such a different meaning when you can physically hear the comment being made. This enables you to have a more productive and higher quality conversation when you can hear them out face-to-face.

Society as a whole has become more and more comfortable in talking to others over a text than doing so in person. If we stop texting so much and allow ourselves to meet up in person more often our levels of comfort in talking to others face-to-face will improve drastically.

Not only do they miss out on having fun with friends but they miss out on gaining social skills that can take them much farther than an invite to a party or night out.

When people put away their technology they are much more likely to meet new faces and make new friends. This calls for becoming more outgoing, leading to feeling more comfortable in talking to strangers in general.

When it comes to Instagram and Facebook, it’s safe to say that people lose sleep at night to scroll through pictures, posts and tweets that are much less essential to life than sleep.

If you add up all the minutes per week you lay in bed before finally agreeing to take a toll on your body and health.

Then there is the toll technology takes on learning. Not every class you take is all fun and games, and there probably hasn’t been a class any student has taken since elementary school that has been all fun and games.

So how do students deal with boredom in class? They resort to technology. This is a serious issue because instead of keeping up with the material being taught, they must learn it on their own time, which is also spent being distracted by their technology.

The technological world is by far one of the most beneficial and impressive worlds humans have created. However, we need to be careful that we’re not making the technological world our whole world.

HEATHER WILKINS  Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Whenever you hear the teacher or professor say the words ‘group’ and ‘work’ together or even ‘team’ and ‘work’ together, you know your day just got worse.

Even though most businesses have teams or groups and some law enforcement organizations have groups of two or more to help with investigations, there are just days where you don’t want to work in a group but you have to show up with a smile on your face anyway.

Group members usually receive more complaints than the actual group itself. Some members assume the group needs a leader and voluntarily become the lone wolf. This is a serious issue because instead of keeping up with the material being taught, they must learn it on their own time, which is also spent being distracted by their technology.

The technolgical world is by far one of the most beneficial and impressive worlds humans have created. However, we need to be careful that we’re not making the technological world our whole world.

Working in groups is easier

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FIU graduate students at major conferences not
conferences so that these emerging scholars can
present their research at national and international
degree students. He encourages FIU students to
take ownership of their projects and
his students, displaying a genuine interest for the
students are tomorrow's decision-makers and
program. His efforts speak to his belief that today's

Wertheim College of Medicine professor,

Luther G. Brewster Jr., Ph.D.

in the development of innovative
evironmental chemistry, is an expert
in the development of innovative
technologies for drinking water purification. He
has written more than 100 peer-reviewed publications
and his papers have been cited a total of 2,678
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Excellence in Research and Creative Activities

Kenneth J. Feeley, Ph.D.

Erik Bishop-von Wettberg, Ph.D.

Eric Bishop-von Wettberg is a noted
plant evolutionary biologist and ecologist.
He develops new varieties of crops that
have the stress tolerance of wild plants and the
cultural characteristics favored by small farmers in
the developing world. His interdisciplinary
approach to ecological studies has inspired significant
collaborations among FIU scholars. His understanding
of the issues in modern plant breeding and
conservation have earned him acclaim in the scientific and
cultural communities.

Excellence in Librarianship

Marisol Florén-Romero, Ph.D.

Marisol Florén-Romero is adept at
conducting research and locating legal
scholarship (no matter how elusive the
text or material) as the College of Law's international
reference librarian. Her specialty is investigating
information pertaining to foreign and international
law, she also provides assistance to faculty and
students researching U.S. state and federal laws.
In 2011, she began digitizing special foreign law
collections and providing this content to Digital
Library of the Caribbean.

Excellence in Research and Creative Activities

Kenneth J. Feeley, Ph.D.

Biological Sciences

College of Arts & Sciences

Associate Professor

A respected U.S. tropical biologist, Kenneth Feeley has 71 peer-reviewed
publications. His research is at the leading
edge of studies concerning the role of climate change
and deforestation on the persistence and distribution of
Amazonian forest species. In 2014, he was awarded the
National Science Foundation's prestigious Career Grant.
An active member of FIU's Biology department, he has
headed a successful lab of graduate students.

Excellence in Research and Creative Activities

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Chemistry and Biochemistry

College of Arts & Sciences

Professor

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Excellence in Teaching

Uma Swamy, Ph.D.
Chemistry and Biochemistry
College of Arts & Sciences
Senior Lecturer
For Uma Swamy, being a great teacher means being a lifelong scholar – constantly learning and innovating. To make chemistry engaging, Swamy designs courses with simple explanations and examples for difficult concepts; she links concepts to phenomena or applications from everyday life. David Chatfield, chair and associate professor of chemistry, says the department is leading the way in the university-wide effort to promote active learning thanks to her endeavors.

Gagani Athauda, M.D.
Cellular Biology and Pharmacology
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Assistant Professor
Dr. Gagani Athauda designs lessons to meet her students’ individual needs even though some classes can be as big as 120 students. She also supports her students outside of the classroom, serving as a mentor to many of them. For Athauda, minimizing the gap between students and faculty creates a comfortable environment that is conducive to active learning and student engagement. Her students say her courses are of the highest quality.

Hector Huerta, OTD, M.S., OTR/L
Occupational Therapy
Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences
Assistant Professor
Hector Huerta creates learning environments where students are energized and invested as drivers of their own education. He creates a supportive learning atmosphere where errors are transformed from being perceived as negative to being valued as essential opportunities for professional development. His students describe him as knowledgeable, creative and generous and consider him one of those professors who will leave an indelible mark on their lives.

Joanne Sanders-Reio, Ph.D.
Leadership and Professional Studies
College of Education
Senior Instructor
Joanne Sanders-Reio gives students practical tools for the real world and the knowledge to understand when it is appropriate to use them. Her effective teaching methods empower students to achieve their academic and professional goals. As a former writer and editor, she focuses on communication skills, recognizing how a lack of writing skills can jeopardize careers.

Jill Weiss, MS
Computing and Information Sciences
College of Engineering & Computing
Senior Instructor
Jill Weiss is an in-demand instructor. Weiss makes her courses engaging by connecting with her students through humor and lively interactions. She shares her extensive knowledge of the field with 700-800 students per semester, and, remarkably, takes the time to support and mentor many of them. Weiss is also a strong advocate of Panther Life, a program designed for students with intellectual disabilities.

Excellence in Adjunct Teaching

Ivanna Arostegui, MS
Religious Studies
College of Arts & Sciences/Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs
Lecturer
Ivanna Arostegui encourages students to open their minds, explore possibilities and break down cultural barriers. She also creates learning environments built on mutual respect; her students are motivated to ask challenging questions about complex topics. Because she believes learning is a two-way street, she asks her students to discuss their own personal and lived religious experiences.

Jeffrey H. Greenfield, Ph.D., PE
Civil and Environmental Engineering
College of Engineering & Computing
Lecturer
For Jeffrey Greenfield, the most successful engineers build systems combining technological acumen with innovative thinking. Mirroring that dynamic, he strives to bring a technological and creative approach to all his courses. Greenfield’s students say his lessons are transferable to real-world situations. Greenfield says every classroom presents a unique community of learners who will build on the concepts learned in his classroom to make society more vital.

Marcos Alan Kerbel, MBA, CPA/CFF/CPA/MIL
Finance
College of Business
Lecturer
Marcos Kerbel has been engaging students in the study of finance for 35 years. As the chair of the Education and Training Committee of the Florida International Bankers Association, he stays informed of proposed banking legislation and regulation. He challenges his students to present and debate related topics from a variety of perspectives, including cross-cultural and global viewpoints, inspiring them to participate in dynamic discussions about important finance and business issues.

Excellence in Adjunct Teaching

Ebru Özer, Ph.D.
Landscape Architecture
College of Architecture + The Arts
Associate Professor
Ebru Özer’s students have won many competitive design awards and prestigious scholarships, bringing national recognition to the landscape architecture program at FIU. She keeps her students up to date on cutting-edge research, teaching ecological sustainability in landscape as well as addressing some of the most important issues facing the world – climate change and economic disparity. Many of Özer’s students have gone on to successful careers in top design firms.
Panthers split first day of FIU Invite

STEFANO RIVERA
Contributing Writer
sports@fiusm.com

The women’s volleyball team played its first home game since Aug. 29, as they hosted the FIU Invite. The event began on Thursday, Sept. 17, which saw the Panthers play two games. The first, was a 1 p.m. match against Bethune-Cookman University, the second was a 7 p.m. match against Stetson University of Central Florida. The team came into this double-header fresh off a sweep in the Stetson Invitational, beating Stetson University and Mercer University. The team got started on a hot note, as they defeated Bethune-Cookman 4-1, with a score of 25-19, 19-25, 25-23, and 25-19. After splitting the first two sets, the Panthers took the third set and held the Wildcats to a .116 hitting percentage. In the final set, the Panthers used a .303 hitting percentage to finish the match. The team was led by seniors Licia Castro and Gloria Levorin. Castro finished with 14 kills and 10 digs, collecting her fifth double-double of the season. Levorin also finished with 14 kills and added with a hitting percentage of .565 and 7 blocks, giving her 37 for the season. Senior Adriana McLamb and freshman Maria McLamb managed to combine for 25 digs throughout the match to help the Panthers defensively. This victory marked the fourth straight win for the Panthers and improved their record to 24-0 versus the Wildcats. The team improved to 7-2 for the season. The Panthers looked to bring their momentum into the match against UCF for the 7 p.m. start. However, the team fell short, losing in straight sets 12-25, 12-25, and 22-25 and snapping their four-game win streak. During the match, the Panthers committed 17 errors, while only having 25 kills and a .071 hitting percentage. The Knights tallied 30 kills and managed to finish with a .309 hitting percentage and 5 aces. After two sets being one-sided affairs, the Panthers kept up with the Knights in the third set but fell short to what ended up being the deciding set.

STEFANO RIVERA
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The women’s volleyball team played its first home game since Aug. 29, as they hosted the FIU Invite. The event began on Thursday, Sept. 17, which saw the Panthers play two games. The first, was a 1 p.m. match against Bethune-Cookman University, the second was a 7 p.m. match against Stetson University of Central Florida. The team came into this double-header fresh off a sweep in the Stetson Invitational, beating Stetson University and Mercer University. The team got started on a hot note, as they defeated Bethune-Cookman 4-1, with a score of 25-19, 19-25, 25-23, and 25-19. After splitting the first two sets, the Panthers took the third set and held the Wildcats to a .116 hitting percentage. In the final set, the Panthers used a .303 hitting percentage to finish the match. The team was led by seniors Licia Castro and Gloria Levorin. Castro finished with 14 kills and 10 digs, collecting her fifth double-double of the season. Levorin also finished with 14 kills and added with a hitting percentage of .565 and 7 blocks, giving her 37 for the season. Senior Adriana McLamb and freshman Maria McLamb managed to combine for 25 digs throughout the match to help the Panthers defensively. This victory marked the fourth straight win for the Panthers and improved their record to 24-0 versus the Wildcats. The team improved to 7-2 for the season. The Panthers looked to bring their momentum into the match against UCF for the 7 p.m. start. However, the team fell short, losing in straight sets 12-25, 12-25, and 22-25 and snapping their four-game win streak. During the match, the Panthers committed 17 errors, while only having 25 kills and a .071 hitting percentage. The Knights tallied 30 kills and managed to finish with a .309 hitting percentage and 5 aces. After two sets being one-sided affairs, the Panthers kept up with the Knights in the third set but fell short to what ended up being the deciding set.

The team needs to win this final game of the FIU Invite in order to have a shot at winning this weekend’s event. With the series of Invites, Challenges, and Classics the Panthers have participated in coming to an end, the team is set for its Conference USA home opener on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 1 p.m. The team will face off against Florida Atlantic University, which has a current record of 8-3. The Owls recently defeated Florida Gulf Coast University 3-1 and is set to take on Ohio University before traveling to FIU. The Panthers, 7-3 (1-0 C-USA), have tied last year’s win total, and a win against their rival, FAU, would be a spark to what has already been an impressive season so far.
Everglades, Frost exhibit both works of art

There is an unprecedented beauty about the Everglades that makes it one of the most magnificent natural ecosystems in the world. There is a freshness to it. An atmosphere that shouldn’t be tampered with by the hands of man. Within it, you will find splendors hidden about the area that harbor a brilliance that hasn’t been regarded by the eyes of many.

However, the Everglades is only a glimpse, a remnant of a pure land that stands firm amongst the litter and pollution that plagues the very ground we walk on.

Jim Couper, founding director of the Art Museum at Florida International University, has recognized the decline of the once pure natural ecosystem. “My work is a humble acknowledgement of the wonder that has been taken from us,” Couper said. He has harnessed his artistic abilities to properly convey the beauty of the Everglades through the eyes of a witness who has stood before its elegance, and has witnessed its slow deterioration. It is for this reason that his paintings do not feature people, but rather a first person depiction of the spectacles that are visible within the national park. Therefore, it is amongst the freshwater, amid the untouched wilderness of the Everglades that Couper is able to craft his astonishing works of art. They act as a sanctuary from a world that lacks the care necessary to preserve an ecosystem that is often taken for granted.

One aspect of Couper’s painting that he successfully accentuates is his surreal and pristine use of color. When visiting the Everglades, one’s eyes may venture off into the setting of the sun, when the sky releases hues of navy and crimson that seem to envelop the atmosphere. If you have witnessed such occurrences, then many of Couper’s works may seem vaguely familiar. This comes to show the sheer prowess of Couper’s skills. His paintings accurately capture the utter beauty that one may recognize as a result of their own experiences in the national park.

When perusing the exhibition, one is not simply viewing a painting etched onto a canvass. Instead, one is looking through a window that offered a remarkable view of unblemished nature. Couper’s painting “Night Sky” displayed a unique view of the heavens that can only be witnessed in an atmosphere where lights are absent. It was by far the largest and most detailed portrait in all of the exhibition. Although Couper’s paintings are truly breathtaking, they are not merely an idea placed in a museum to be witnessed and glorified. These paintings portray a natural beauty that is in need of preservation and protection.

The Everglades is in need of our assistance, for we are the only ones who can purify its soiled waters, littered grounds, and the endangered wildlife that depend on its wide expanse. This is what Couper encourages us to dwell on as we examine his incredible exhibition.
Shaun T brings Insanity to BBC during expo

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Students determined to work up a sweat met their match when the creator of popular exercise videos visited the WUC Ballrooms. “Insanity” creator Shaun Thompson led students, staff and even community members into shape on Sept. 16 as part of 2015 Rec Expo.

The 2015 Rec Expo took place this past Wednesday, Sept. 16 opening up with a vendor fair where students could buy anything to satisfy their exercising needs but the main event was the workout session with Shaun T.

The fitness guru came out clapping and jumping from a door behind the crowd. The mob quickly turned and cheers filled the ballroom.

“People, this is not about looking good in the mirror or to others,” said Thompson. “It’s about coming out better than when you came in.”

Then it was workout time, starting with a simple warm up that gradually augmented in intensity. Half an hour passed and the first signs of dismay started to appear amongst those that were giving their all to keep up with Thompson. But Thompson noticed the whining strength of the class and jumped from the stage to join the crowd hoping to renew their energy.

“Come on people! There is always a reserve! Build up your energy to be the best that you can be,” said Thompson.

The minutes turned into hours and the crowd refused to give up, jumping higher and higher, punching faster and faster. Thompson walked around the crowd correcting and mentoring those that needed it and giving words of encouragement to the ones that were falling behind.

“He does all of his work out without any equipment, and in my PE class we don’t have the resources to get any equipment either so I draw most of my workouts from him,” said Caron Schiffman, a 60-year-old physical education teacher at Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School.

Schiffman brought her Insanity videos to the workout expecting Thompson to sign them. She even brought with her a video of a mass workout session in where almost 150 high school students could be seen working out to Thompson’s rhythm in a big screen in the school gymnasium.

“He is so down to earth. Not like other celebrities that think that they’re better than others,” said Michelle Perez, an Insanity instructor who works for a company called Core Fitness that works with Thompson. She was more than excited to see Shaun T in person again.

“Believe in yourselves, and if you do that you will succeed in whatever you set your mind into,” said Thompson, ending the 2015 Rec Expo.