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# The Beacon, April 13, 2011

Florida International University

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## IVORY COAST

### Forces capture Ivory Coast strongman

Ivory Coast's elected president used his troops and French tanks and air power to oust strongman Laurent Gbagbo, ending their four-month standoff by pulling him from his burning residence.



## UGANDA

### Uganda arrests opposition member

Police have arrested Uganda's leading opposition figure and several members of parliament during a march to protest high fuel and food prices. Tear gas was fired on their supporters.



## LIBYA

### African leaders meet with Gadhafi

In a statement from Tripoli, the African Union says Moammar Gadhafi has assured the presidents of five African countries that he supports their efforts to bring about a cease-fire.

## Garcia signs extension, given extended role

**PHILIPPE BUTEAU**  
**IGOR MELLO**  
Beacon Staff

The University will no longer have an Athletic Director, instead that position will be transformed into Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment.

With his contract set to expire in October, the athletic department's head honcho has agreed to stay with the University for another five years with an expanded title and a \$16,000 raise.

According to school public records, Pete Garcia inked his signature on April 1, signing a five-year extension through 2016, worth between \$1.9 and 2.5 million, depending on incentives.

The deal will make him the highest paid athletic director out of the 12 institutions in the Sun Belt Conference. He is also the second highest

paid member of the athletic department next to head football coach Mario Cristobal, who is currently making nearly \$460,00 this year.

The deal begins at a base salary of \$345,264, a nearly \$16,000 raise of his previous base salary. Included in his deal, Garcia will receive an annual five percent increase and a retention bonus of 20 percent added to his base salary.

Garcia's salary is derived from several sources.

His salary is coming from the University's auxiliary funds, like the athletics fee, and contributions from the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, according to University Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell in a statement issued by the Office of Media Relations.

**GARCIA, page 3**

## YULE BALL



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

The Gryffindor Common Room Rejects, a Wizard Rock band from Jupiter, FL performed on April 9 in the GC Ballrooms at the Miami Yule Ball hosted by the Harry Potter Alliance

## University to host Worlds Ahead strategic plan town hall

**MELISSA CACERES**  
Staff Writer

Open to all University members, President Mark Rosenberg will be hosting a town hall meeting to discuss the implementation of the final version of FIU's Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan for 2010-2015, which will express the future goals and initiatives for the University.

The president, who is set to

address the community's questions and concerns regarding the plan, will have a meeting at both the Modesto Maidique Campus, on Thursday April 14 at 9 a.m. and at the Biscayne Bay Campus at 2:30 p.m.

"I would like to thank so many of you who have worked hard on our 5-year Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan," said Rosenberg in an email to the University. "For those of you who have been less involved in its devel-

opment, this Town Hall meeting is an opportunity to start thinking about how each and every one of us can contribute to the success of this plan and bring forward your comments and questions"

Every ten years, FIU's administration engages in "strategic planning," a process that involves identifying the desired future for the institution as well as deciding what actions should be made to reach that goal.

These initiatives, which are updated in order to fit the needs of the University for the coming decade, focus on key areas of University interests.

The Worlds Ahead Strategic plan has been in the works since fall of 2009, and has since gone through numerous draft revisions, committee discussions and other town hall meetings with the public.

Focusing on the first five years instead of 10, the finalized plan

calls for the University to work to "achieve enhanced student learning and academic excellence, enhance the quality, quantity and impact of research and creative initiatives, engage with the community in collaborative problem solving and revitalize and expand the University's infrastructure and financial base."

The University's last strategic plan

**TOWN HALL, page 2**

## Faculty members show off interactive teaching strategies

**NICOLE CASTRO**  
Asst. News Director

The Global Learning Blast, hosted by eight members of the University faculty and part of the Global Learning Initiative, closed a weeklong celebration for Diversity Week.

As the University's first Global Learning Conference, each faculty member demonstrated an innovative and interactive strategy that could be implemented as a model in the global learning curriculum.

The conference was opened to the FIU community and an estimated 30 professors within Global Learning attended to listen to the variety of strategies used in Global learning classes.

Dan Bentley-Baker, a full time instructor in the English department and supporter of the Global Learning Initiative, was the first to offer his technique through an exercise that demanded the audience to rate famous figures within a scale ranging from negative three to positive three in response to: How much do students know of the figure, what

they believe about them and how much they identify with them?

Baker explained that in a world with an array of individuals and their corresponding customs, coming to a conclusion that diminishing the ignorance of each other's cultures is the solution to hate and exploitation.

But in some situations, this is not the case.

"They may know a great deal of one another and still hate and exploit," said Baker.

With this exercise, Baker tried to emphasize the difference between the three aforementioned questions because whether one individual likes another will be determined by what they know about them and the type of engagement will result from that.

"I think that this scale can work for many classrooms and it's interesting to me because I feel that these are close to what our [Global Learning] outcomes are," said Baker.

Shifting into the realms of information technology, Sarah Mahler, instructor of the Gaining Global Perspectives course,

has used team-based learning for the large classes she has instructed.

Besides being applicable in areas such as medical and nursing school where it is a less expensive solution for large classes, team based learning develops 'esprit de corps' according to Mahler.

"For me it's been effective and fortunately my other colleagues in my department who have picked up team based learning find that in terms of engaging undergraduates it's just incredibly effective," Mahler said.

But two of the issues she encountered were how to teach a large course where students were accustomed to attending class only to be lectured and how to do team based learning without undermining team work.

As a solution, Mahler assigned projects that went beyond one class period and started using Wikis; a web based collaborative multimedia form that allows for synchronized engagement on one single project.

She explained that this tool was best for continuous editing and at the end the

instructors will be able to attribute each edit to a student through the history tab.

Although her strategy is not specific to Global Learning, Mahler believes that the use of Wikis is applicable in any class.

Marine Biology Professor Ligia Collado-Vides incorporates the realization of our oceanic connection that came from the first photograph of earth taken in 1967 to relay global learning into her classes.

She focused on the idea that although "we have borders, whatever is happening in Japan will affect Florida," and the fact that one country is developed does not mean they implement better environmental practices.

To develop an environmentally conscious classroom, the crucial question she posed is what our country's position is parallel to the rest of the world and what it is doing to protect marine life. "Everything we do is global," said Vides.

The Conference ended with a small reception to honor the faculty and staff that have been involved or supportive of Global Learning for Global Citizenship.

# Dean seeks to engage students in academics, research

## DEANS, page 8

of the College of Arts and Sciences, is trying to engage one of the University's largest colleges. The difference between Harris and Hampton is that Harris' students are not graduating with a degree that leads to a specific job, but a liberal arts degree that can lead them to many other places.

Harris wants his students to engage in their academics. He wants them to know the importance of the University as a research institu-

tion and how getting involved with one of their tenured professors who are research active could lead them to great opportunities.

"Students have the ability to study with this research active faculty and even to work with them," Harris said. "Our students have so many demands on their time that, while there are plenty of opportunities and resources for them, they don't always take advantage of them."

Harris is trying to do more outreach to grab students' attention. He is eager for a new degree audit system that will highlight their degree

status when they log on to their FIU account through Panthersoft.

They are also working on developing new software that would highlight certain "critical markers" that alert students to problems and urge them to see an adviser. One thing he hopes the new system will allow them to do is check which students they need to reach out to.

Harris wants to see his students from their freshman year to their last year. Although he admits being assistant dean requires administrative work that can take up a lot of his time, he

wants students to engage with him, the faculty and advisers.

"I usually try to underscore there are many opportunities," Harris said. "Just coming to class and doing well and leaving might get you graduated, but you can have a richer experience if you make use of other opportunities."

*Bertha Alis, a senior journalism major graduate, produced this story in the JOURNAL 3303 Advanced News Writing course taught by Dr. Fred Blevens.*

# Plan to emphasize expanded enrollment for University

## TOWN HALL, page 1

was called the '2001-2010 Millennium Strategic Plan' and centered on improving institutional infrastructure, State University System governing systems and graduate and undergraduate education.

"We are really sharpening the focus to reach a point to where we're student centered. Student success is centered on retention and graduation rates, but there are other things," said Elizabeth Bejar, vice-provost of academic affairs and accountability to Student Media. "Our goal is to reach out to the students and understanding how the students are so we can provide them with the opportunities they need or are educationally appropriate."

According to the current strategic plan, the University's goals are to educate undergraduate students and graduate and professional students and to build a distinguished faculty and staff, excellent student support system, excellent financial base, excellent physical technological infrastructure and collaborative university/community relationships.

One of the main focuses of the plan that the president has emphasized is the growth of the University by expanding enrollment by

2,000 students per year. The 25% increase, according to Bejar, would include students off campus, online students, MMC, Biscayne Bay Campus students and Pines Center.

"We have been growing historically on an annual basis, the Strategic Plan just formally sets out the goal. It's more important that we understand that growth, and we're strategic about it, we can prepare to facilitate them," said Bejar, vice-provost of academic affairs and accountability to Student Media. "It's really more about the strategic piece of it than the actual 2,000."

Yet much of the faculty has questioned how the University will be able to handle such growth while keeping the student to professor ratio balanced and remaining financially stable.

"We're in a good position right now because we made some very tough budget choices. We developed a three-year plan and made some of the hard choices while anticipating tight revenue," said Steven Sauls, director of governmental relations, when asked about the University's financial position in this year's state budget. "But it still takes money to put a professor in the classroom, to put new technology in the classroom and to maintain the campus. So we're

in a good position in terms of our fiscal management but we have aspirations to be bigger and better."

When discussing the growth during one of their meetings, the FIU Faculty Senate was particularly concerned with the poor preparation of so many students coming from the local schools and how the University will be able to handle a greater surge of these students.

"Those of us who teach introductory courses have found that many of our students are not well-prepared at all with respect to writing skills, even reading skills and certainly math skills," said Alan Gummerson, Arts & Sciences senator and professor of Economics during the Oct 26 meeting. "And now we're proposing to admit an additional 2,000 new students each year. The strategic plan has to address how we are going to deal with that question."

In his email, Rosenberg stated that he looks forward to "a lively exchange about the future about our University."

The Town Hall meeting will take place in the Graham Center Ballrooms at MMC and Hospitality Management

135 at BBC. For more information on the Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan, visit stratplan.fiu.edu.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on

**Tuesday, April 12, 2011 BBC**  
WUC 157 at 11:30am

**Wednesday, April 13, 2011 MMC**  
East Ballroom at 12pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Athletic Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2011 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

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**4/21 @THE ROUND UP**

## SOFTBALL

# ULM shuts down Golden Panther offense in series finale



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Brie Rojas [above] helped give FIU the lead in the series opener against Louisiana-Monroe on April 9. FIU would win the game 5-2.

### MALCOLM SHIELDS Staff Writer

In a game where both starting pitchers were at their best, the fifth inning proved to be the deciding factor as the Golden Panthers lost the final game of a three-game series 1-0 on April 10 to Louisiana-Monroe.

Jenn Gniadek pitched six innings of four-hit ball in the loss for the Golden Panthers.

Through the first two innings, both teams struggled to generate any consistent offense at the plate against Gniadek and ULM starting pitcher Stephanie Routzon, who made quick work of both lineups.

In the bottom of the third inning, the Warhawks had an opportunity to score the games' first run. Samantha Riojas reached base on a single and Miyuki Navarrete followed with a walk. Jessica Olguin then came up

with a two-out single that loaded the bases for Roxane Cassel, who grounded out to third base to end the inning.

The Golden Panthers best opportunity to score came in the top of the fourth inning. Beth Peller began the inning with a single, but on her attempt to steal second base she was thrown out. After an Ashley McClain single, Brie Rojas reached base on a fielder's choice which retired McClain at second.

A two-out walk put runners at first and second for Rachael Slowik, but she was unable to drive in a run as Routzon forced her to pop out to center to end the inning.

In the bottom of the fifth inning, the Warhawks (22-17, 9-6 SBC) broke up the scoreless tie. Navarrete reached base on a one out walk and put herself in scoring position on a steal of second base.

After a groundout by Brianna Love that advanced Navarrete to third, Olguin, who went 2-for-3 in the game, laced a double to left center field to bring Navarrete home to score the game's lone run.

In the sixth and seventh innings combined, the Golden Panthers (23-20, 9-6 SBC) were only able to put one runner on base as Routzon pitched a complete game, striking out three in the shutout. The win improved her record to 7-4 on the season.

The Golden Panthers struggled throughout the game at the plate as they were only able to collect two hits off of Routzon.

### FIU 5, ULM 2

The Golden Panthers jumped out to early leads in both games of a doubleheader against ULM on April

**SOFTBALL, page 4**

## TENNIS

# Golden Panthers look to finish season strong

### BRANDON WISE Staff Writer

The Golden Panther tennis team is heading into its final match of the regular season this Saturday. The match will be the finally for seniors Liset Brito and Maria Spenceley on their home court here in Miami.

The seniors are looking to finish off their careers with a win and give the squad some momentum heading into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament. If Brito can manage a win, she has the possibility of becoming No. 5 on the all-time wins list at FIU.

### LOOKING TO BUILD

Following their first home loss of the season to Southern Methodist University last Sunday, the Golden Panthers are looking to improve on certain aspects of their game this week against the University of Central Florida Golden Knights.

In all six singles matches against SMU, the Golden Panthers had a lead, but would eventually be caught as they lost 6-1. There were two positives that came from that match with Brito and Spenceley defeating a top ranked doubles team in decisive fashion (8-2) while freshman Guilietta Boha picked up a win in her match (6-1,6-0).

Other than those few positives, the team needs to rebound with a great match Saturday against UCF.

### SCOUTING UCF

On April 16, the Golden Panthers will battle a tough opponent in the UCF Golden Knights, who hold a record of 10-7. They have won three in a row and are also looking for momentum as they march toward

the Conference USA Tournament.

One player to watch out for this Saturday will be Jenny Frisell, who has won five of her last six singles matches. If her match up is against Brito in singles, it should be a great battle. Another person to watch will be the duo of Frisell and Alexis Rodriguez, who have won three of their past four doubles matches.

### TOURNEY LOOMING

The Golden Panthers will head into next week's Sun Belt Conference Tournament with lofty expectations. They are going to be a number one seed in the tournament and are expected to head to the regional of the NCAA Tournament.

The team has won four conference titles since 2005 and is hoping to add a fifth to that group. The toughest competition they will face in the tournament will be one of the only teams that they did not face in the regular season: Louisiana Monroe.

The ULM Warhawks are 15-1 on the season and have breezed through competition of late, winning fourteen consecutive matches. Another opponent to watch out for will be the Troy Trojans.

Although the Golden Panthers defeated Troy 7-0 earlier on in the season, the Trojans have won five matches in a row and have built up some momentum heading into next week's Tournament.

Visit our web site for the rest of this story and more content on FIU tennis and other sports.

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# Garcia eligible for many performance-based bonuses

### GARCIA, page 1

"I am very happy and honored that the FIU Administration has the confidence in me to continue to build what we started almost five years ago. This is not about me but a reflection of all the hard work and dedication of the entire FIU Athletic Department," Garcia said in a statement sent to Student Media.

Garcia will also be eligible to earn a string of performance based bonuses for football, men's and women's basketball and baseball.

Although there are at least 14 performance based bonuses, ranging from as low as three percent to as high as ten percent, their totals cannot exceed 15 percent.

Performance bonuses include a three percent bonus if the football, baseball and basketball teams each win a conference championship. A three percent bonus will also be tacked on if the football team reaches a non-BCS bowl game, five percent if they reach a BCS bowl game and ten percent if they win a National Championship.

As part of the performance bonus, Garcia can receive more incentives depending on the attendance for baseball, basketball and football in the upcoming season.

Garcia can receive up to a ten percent of performance based bonus if the football team can reach more than 16,000 fans per game in attendance.

According to the school's attendance record, FIU has averaged 16,545 fans during five home games last season.

Based on the success of the football and baseball teams last



IGOR MELLO/THE BEACON

Pete Garcia [above] was granted a five-year extension by the university that will run until 2016. Garcia was hired as Athletic Director in 2006.

season, if this contract had been in place last year, Garcia would have met the maximum total of performance based bonuses.

Alongside the retention bonus and the five percent annual increase, Garcia will also receive a \$6,800 recruiting allowance as well as an \$11,200 automobile allowance.

The new extension will also make him the Administrative Director of the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, an event started by the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Biscayne Bay Campus in 1997.

Garcia will receive three percent of the net proceeds received by the University from the festival. Over the last two years, HTM has made over \$2 Million in revenue.

The relationship between Athletic Department and the annual festival is nothing new to

the university.

According to Mohammad Qureshi, assistant dean of HTM, the Athletic department has been involved with the financial aspect of the festival since 2006.

"HTM handles the students and the work they do at and for the festival while Athletics handles all of the financials," Qureshi said.

The school is so busy with academics it does not have the capabilities to also run the financial side of the festival, according to Qureshi.

Garcia is also responsible for holding other events at any Athletic facilities, such as CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer matches on June 10 at FIU Stadium and Mixed Fighting Alliance bouts on April 16 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

*Jorge Valens and Chris Towers contributed to this report.*

## BASEBALL

# Offense propels FIU in series finale at Troy

ANDRES LEON  
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers traveled to Alabama to face conference leaders Troy, in a three game series over the weekend. The Golden Panthers would look to grab some wins as they head into the midway point of the regular season.

## TROY DEFEATS FIU 4-0

FIU (19-14, SBC 4-6) would go scoreless in a 4-0 shut out loss to the Trojans at Riddle-Pace Field on Friday, April 8. The Troy pitching staff would only allow five hits against FIU.

For the FIU pitching staff, Phil Haig earned the loss, pitching 5.1 innings of work.

Haig allowed two runs off six hits while striking out four Trojans on the night.

After getting two insurance runs in eighth inning, the Trojans would go on to win 4-0 in hopes of winning their eighth straight weekend series.

## FIU FALLS AGAIN TO TROY, 9-5

The Golden Panthers would change things up to get some runs against this Trojan defense. Unfortunately, the Golden Panthers would be put down again the following night, this time in a 9-5 contest on Saturday, April 9.



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Yoandy Barroso [right] went 1-for-3 with an RBI in a 12-4 win over Troy on April 10.

The Golden Panthers would take an early 1-0 lead off a sacrifice fly from Garrett Wittels that brought home T.J. Shantz.

The Trojans would go up by two runs later on, after an error by R.J. Fondon to allow the Trojan's Adam Bryant to reach first base of a bunt, giving the Trojans a 3-1 cushion.

Fondon would leave the game for the Golden Panthers after giving up the three runs. Left-handed pitcher Mason McVay would earn the loss for FIU, allowing four earned runs in only one inning after relieving Fondon.

In the bottom of the seventh,

FIU pitcher Mason McVay threw a low curveball to which Logan Pierce hit a grand slam to put Troy up 7-5. The Trojans would score two more runs off to go on to beat FIU 9-5.

## FIU TAKES FINAL GAME OF SERIES FROM TROY, 12-4

The Golden Panthers would get a consolation win when they blasted Troy 12-4 on Sunday, April 10. FIU (20-15, SBC 5-7) would improve their record against Troy (25-6, SBC 12-2) all time to 12-11.

Desimone would continue his strong pitching after winning Sun

Belt pitcher of the week honors, picking up his fourth win of the season, pitching seven innings and allowing four runs off eight hits and striking out five Trojans.

Rudy Flores and Pablo Bermudez would lead the Golden Panthers, combining for 6-11 from the plate with six RBI and three runs. Bermudez would continue to improve for FIU as a leadoff hitter,

Visit our web site for more on this story and other web-exclusive content on FIU baseball.

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# Golden Panthers drop road set at ULM

## SOFTBALL, page 3

9. FIU won the first game against the Warhawks, but in game two, the Golden Panthers blew a four-run lead entering the seventh inning to pick up the loss.

Jessy Alfonso led the way for FIU as she went 5-for-7 in both games combined.

Alfonso led off the game with a single to left field. After an Alfonso steal, Beth Peller reached base on a fielder's choice. Ashley McClain singled to right field, scoring Alfonso from third.

Brie Rojas followed, laying down a sac bunt towards second that scored Peller from third to give FIU a 2-0 lead.

The Warhawks added a run in the first inning due to untimely miscues by the Golden Panthers. Jessica Olguin collected a one out single and she was

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IN STITCHES

## Nail polish plays a big role in accessorizing



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON



In 2008, Leonard Lauder, the chairman of Estee Lauder Companies, proposed a theory in the New York Times about lipstick being a gauge for the economy.

COLUMNIST



ESRA ERDOGAN

“When it’s shaky, sales increase as women boost their mood with inexpensive lipstick purchases instead of \$500 slingbacks,” said the makeup master.

Recently a new shift has been noticed among girls across the university campus: the nail polish trend.

A new bottle of nail polish, with prices ranging from one to ten dollars (designer brands excluded), is an easy and inexpensive way to add the season’s trendiest colors to your wardrobe. Or just to brighten your mood.

When coupled with lighter colored, summertime-appropriate fabrics, brightly painted nails can touch up your look.

Earlier this year, Pantone (the self proclaimed “color authority” company that researches and develops colors, whatever that means) declared that “Honeysuckle” is the color of the year. The “dynamic, reddish pink” is inescapable this season, from jewelry to jeans. Naturally, pink nails are all the rage.

“If I’m wearing a black dress to go

out dancing, hot pink nails will usually stand out and give the outfit a zing,” says Nilufar Khan, a junior studying biology.

But it doesn’t stop there: an even newer trend noticed across campus is nail art. Students have been sporting multicolored French manicures, half-moon manicures and newly available nail decals.

With a little bit of patience and practice, most of these creative alternatives to a standard manicure can be done at home for very little cost compared to salon prices.

“I don’t usually have my nails done [at a salon] because it tends to be expensive. I definitely prefer to do it home because it’s cheaper,” says Khan.

Sally Hansen, the ubiquitous drug-store brand that I associate with kooky colors from my childhood, has made a line of nail decals with intricate prints that can be applied at home. An edgy lace pattern (pictured) can add the missing accessory to any outfit.

“This [season] I’ll probably wear bright solid colors like bright teal, pink and red. Anything spring-ish and flowery!” says Khan

Whether or not this theory is sound within the laws of economics, buying new nail polish remains an affordable alternative to this season’s it-bag or a new pair of shoes, and still ties an outfit together.

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# THE ART OF GIVING

## Art department thinks up project to help others

BY VANESSA PAREDES  
Staff Writer

Each year, students and faculty at the University dedicate a week to celebrate a plethora of cultures.

Formally known as “Diversity Week”, this tradition is meant to stir student creativity and create a special atmosphere on campus that acknowledges the theme, “Where Worlds Unite.”

This year, one of the main events, The Art of Giving (TAG), is brought to the university by the art department.

The TAG project proposes that students not only honor other cultures but actually create an impact for the greater good. TAG aims to help unfortunate children in Haiti.

The mind behind the project is Professor Jacek J. Kolansinski.

He proposed the art department do something with a useful end to it. He told his Art Thesis class to re-think what art is.

“[Art] can work on a larger scale. Students

are not only learning how to handle particular materials, but they’re becoming thinkers and opening up [to] different ideas,” said Kolansinski.

The class brainstormed and decided to create something with a greater value than anything they had created before.

“We wanted to be a part of diversity week,” said fourth-year art student Wen-Ju Chien. “Instead of doing posters, we wanted to do something that would actually help people. Our [art] professor brought up an idea of getting shoes, decorating them, then sending them to kids in Haiti.”

The class took the idea and ran with it. Art major, Eric Gonzalez led the group since he already had experience designing shoes.

“I’ve been painting shoes for a while,” said Gonzalez. “When they told me they wanted to do the project, I gave them a pair of shoes to photograph, and then I did the initial pair of shoes to take around and show as an example.”

The TAG team’s first event was hosted

during Diversity Week after the class had been working on the project for nearly three quarters of the semester.

The team set up tables in the Graham Center’s Art Gallery where everyone was encouraged to participate by designing a pair of shoes themselves and donating if possible. Any shoe can be used for this project, but the students found a special preference for Converse sneakers since they were the easiest to draw on.

Sororities and fraternities have shown immense interest in the TAG project as well.

“A bunch of my brothers and myself came to help out our community today,” said junior Pi Kappa Alpha member, Nicholas Chionchio.

He went on to say the fraternity might even host an event for TAG at their house and plan to continue being involved as much as possible.

There have been many new and used sneakers donated by students and Converse

recently jumped on board and donated 500 brand new sneakers for the cause.

In addition, Utrecht has donated art supplies as well as giving the organization major discounts to help out with the creation of the shoes.

Aside from the event held on the last day of diversity week, the TAG team plans to continue spreading the word with the hope that even more students will get involved and there will be a higher amount of decorated sneakers for the impoverished children in Haiti.

“We’re going to be working a lot with the Frost Art Museum, they have been fabulous in helping us,” said College of Architecture and the Arts Grant Specialist, Kelly Brady-Rumble.

With many events to come, the shoes will finally be displayed at the Frost for the Culture Fest before the final products are sent to Haiti.

“When the shoes are delivered to Haiti, the art project is completed,” said Kolansinski.



COURTESY OF KELLY BRADY-RUMBLE/THE BEACON

SGA-MMC President Helena Ramirez (left) and Vice President Alina Gonzalez (right) design their own shoes at The Art of Giving event on April 8 in the GC Art Gallery.

### THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2011

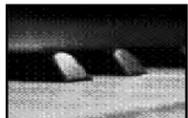
##### ALGEBRA GENERAL REVIEW

WHEN: 2-3 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC AC-1 160

##### CSO BANQUET

WHEN: 7-10 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

##### STUDENT RECITAL SERIES: MUSIC FOR PIANO



Students from the Keyboard Studies program perform.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public  
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

##### INTERNSHIPS 101

WHEN: 12-1 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC WUC 255

##### FIRST ANNUAL MAHAVIR JAYANTHI LECTURE

WHEN: 6 p.m.  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

##### SAVE509 SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

WHEN: All Day  
WHERE: FIU South

##### TARGET WEDNESDAY AFTER HOURS

WHEN: 6-9 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

##### SPANISH YOGA



WHEN: 2-3 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Farmer’s Market

##### “VISION OF THE CONQUEROR - JAIN ART”

WHEN: 6 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

##### STILL HOPE FOR HAITI FUNDRAISER NIGHT

WHEN: 6:30-10 p.m.  
WHERE: FIU South Faculty Club

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2011

##### NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

WHEN: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: BBC Panther Square

##### SPC MOVIE SERIES: TRON: LEGACY



WHEN: 3 & 7 p.m.  
WHERE: BBC WUC Theater

##### TWELFTH NIGHT



WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$15 for general admission; \$12 for seniors and FIU faculty/staff; and \$10 for FIU students and members of the FIU Alumni Association.

WHERE: Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center’s Black Box Theater

##### INTERMEDIATE MOON-LIGHT YOGA



WHEN: 6:30-7:45 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: The garden

##### SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR COLLEGE KICKSTART

WHEN: All Day  
WHERE: MMC ZEB, 3rd Floor, box near the elevators

##### FOOD BANK/ PET CARE SUPPLIES DRIVE

WHEN: All Day  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC DM 331/ Briarwood Animal Hospital

If you are interested in having an event featured in the calendar, contact: [calendar@fiusm.com](mailto:calendar@fiusm.com)

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

## Perricone’s offers fresh, tasty pasta, quaint locale

Pasta is the ultimate classic, fool-proof, if-you-don’t-like-it-you-have-no-soul comfort food that even the most elementary cook can whip up in no time. This humble food takes center stage at Perricone’s Marketplace and Café, 15 SE 10th St. Miami, a quaint establishment in Brickell.



JASMYN ELLIOTT

Upon entering Perricone’s, the “marketplace” part of the equation is apparent. Displays of Italian specialty meats, cheeses, breads and desserts abound and tempt hungry customers while a wall of wines tempt budding connoisseurs. Of course, the marketplace has plenty of baskets filled with fresh Parmesan cheese. Each time I went there, I couldn’t resist picking up one of those coveted wedges and getting a whiff of that earthy, nutty, slightly sweet aroma that I’ve come to love. If one wanted to compile a DIY Italian-style picnic, then the marketplace would have all of the necessary fixings.

For those who would rather have a full fine-dining experience, the café is definitely for them. The space is split into two rooms: one a warm, intimate indoor space with plush banquettes and soft lighting, the other a breezy, yet covered, outdoor oasis complete with a fountain. Between the two areas, outdoor is the way to go. With fast, friendly service and light live music, even a bustling baby shower in their event space didn’t disturb the overall tranquil vibe. Furthermore, Perricone’s ditches the traditional bread basket with unlimited servings of fresh bruschetta, a welcome break from butter in favor of diced tomatoes seasoned with fresh cilantro, basil, garlic and the ubiquitous olive oil.

Our waiter highly recommended the baked brie as an appetizer, but even his rave reviews didn’t do it justice. The

mid-sized wheel came wrapped in golden puff pastry and, upon cutting into it, the creamy melted goodness was a sight for sore eyes. Paired with a variety of fruit, heart-shaped crackers and an incredibly sweet honey-marmalade glaze, it is what I would imagine is served in heaven. I could have made a meal out of this and the bruschetta alone.

As I said, pasta is the star attraction at Perricone’s. Two highly recommended pasta dishes are their whole wheat penne with salmon and their ravioli.

The whole wheat penne was cooked to perfection-no crunch, but it didn’t turn into mush either- while the salmon pieces, pine nuts and broccoli florets gave an overall freshness to the dish.

Furthermore, the coral-pink sauce added a tangy kick to the dish. Meanwhile, their ravioli is stuffed with generous amounts of spinach and creamy ricotta, also with coral-pink sauce and perfect for the resident vegetarian.

Another dish worth noting is their cioppino, a traditional Italian soup.

The citrus broth was home to generous amounts of tuna, salmon, shrimp, mussels and scallops with plenty of linguine to spare. A word of caution: the bowl was bigger than my head. If you order this dish, I suggest you either share it or come with a big appetite and a lot of time to kill.

Perricone’s could be a bit of a splurge, with pasta entrées costing between \$14 and \$20 and other meals costing more than \$30. However, every Thursday Perricone’s hosts a pasta night where pasta dishes cost a mere \$10, making everyone able to enjoy their food without breaking the bank. No matter the price, Perricone’s is definitely worth a try.

*Food for Thought is a bi-weekly column. Look for it every other Wednesday. Reviewers are not compensated for favorable reviews.*

## Lowering drinking age promotes mature habits

**GIOVANNI GONZALEZ**  
Staff Writer

Although the argument in favor of lowering the legal drinking age in the United States has been around for years, it should not be overlooked. Lowering the drinking age is very important to the safety of college students around the country.

Reducing the drinking age from 21 to 18 exposes college students to alcohol earlier and removes the need to obtain it illegally and hide it. Getting students used to the idea of alcohol earlier prevents binge drinking and overindulgence, especially in the first few years of college, where many students are on their own for the first time.

The intention behind lowering the legal drinking age is to make college students more responsible in their alcohol use by truly making them adults in the eyes of the law. In this country, 18 seems to be the age when a person becomes an adult. Those who turn 18

have new possibilities such as enlisting in the military and being able to sign legal documents for themselves, but strangely, the law says they are not mature enough to have a drink.

The current drinking age promotes crimes such as using fake identification cards and underage drinking in college campuses, whose consequences can turn out much worse than just a little partying. College students are going to drink no matter what, and drinking age laws affect college students more than any other demographic, so it makes sense to give all college-age students the lawful responsibilities that come with drinking.

The current drinking age also splits students on college campuses into those who can legally drink and those who cannot. This can prove to be difficult for college campuses who set up events and sell alcohol on campus, because 21 or not, underage students will probably get their hands on a few drinks anyway.

“Those who turn 18 have new possibilities such as enlisting in the military and being able to sign legal documents for themselves, but strangely, the law says they are not mature enough to have a drink.”

Internationally, having a lower drinking age seems to have little to no negative effect. Furthermore, America's strict age limit is not the norm. According to an article on binge drinking at Newsweek.com, college students in Germany, where the drinking age is 18, still drink just as much alcohol as college students in the U.S., just not as quickly or violently. As stated on Potsdam.edu, the U.S. has one of the highest drinking ages in the world, while the vast majority of countries reach a consensus within the 16 to 18 year old range.

Whether the drinking age is changed or not, college campuses will continue to be known for the drinking that goes on in them. Reducing the drinking age to 18 will simply put everything out in the open and maybe even promote more responsible alcohol use among college students.

Treat college students like children in the eyes of the law and they will probably act like children, but give them the responsibility that comes with being an adult, and they may actually act like adults.

## Gas prices affecting college class attendance, recreation

**KATRINA BRUNO**  
Contributing Writer

The see-saw phenomenon of gas prices has college students stressed and pinching pennies. Many students who commute on a daily basis are spending hundreds of dollars on gas, in addition on their tuition, just to get an education.

As if we were not already paying fees for University services we do not feel benefit us completely, we now have to pay close to \$4 dollars per gallon to even make it here.

I believe that these rising gas prices will significantly affect the college experience. The stress of the economy has encouraged me and other students to keep out of the classroom and stick with online courses. The \$199 extra fee for an online course seems like chump-change next to the hundreds upon hundreds of dollars I would spend in gas driving to school. It is unfortunate because many students who find themselves more engaged in a classroom environment might no longer have that option.

Allan Pasos, junior, psychology, explains: “Rising gas prices have definitely affected my daily driving route. I live by [the University of Miami], work in Kendall and take classes at [the University]. I drive at least 40 miles a day. Also, I drive an SUV that takes premium gas. I spend \$50 just to

fill half the tank.”

That is a sad reality for those students enrolled in commuter schools. The University is located in a beautiful city, a metropolitan oasis with so many exciting places to go and so many fun things to do. Our students live in the city that never sleeps, but we will be hitting our beds earlier because we are not in the position to sacrifice what's in our wallets.

Monique Rodriguez, junior, journalism, has been forced to cut spending money on things she wants and enjoys in order to afford getting around town. “Before, miscellaneous funds that I would have used to occasionally splurge on a pair of shoes or dinner with friends, I now have allocated towards gas money.”

Personally, I've always loved to travel and I do try to take a road trip every few months. However, with the sizable increase in gas prices, my traveling days seem to be numbered, at least while gas is \$4 a gallon. Many may argue that it is beneficial for students to be placed in a position where they learn the ropes of budgeting. Others might express that this change is beneficial to the environment.

While I do agree, I also believe that the opportunity to travel, learn and experience new things is something that cannot be beat, especially during your college years. It is really disap-

pointing to see so many students struggling to hold on to their hard-earned money.

On a positive note, we as students can take this opportunity to be more resourceful with our fuel and funds. We can also look towards those students at the University who are already finding alternative ways to still

As if we are not already paying fees for University services we do not feel benefit us completely, we now have to pay close to \$4 per gallon to even make it here.

have fun, get around town and have that “college experience.”

Perhaps our University will soon see the stress these outside forces cause and in turn will think of some novel ideas to help relieve our students, be it through others modes of public transportation, additional bus times and extended bus routes or by even just encouraging the school-wide carpooling campaign.

## Confession app a modern take on religious practice

**KELLY MALAMBRI**  
Staff Writer

With the advent of the application “Confession: A Roman Catholic App” for the iPhone has come many claims that the sacrament of reconciliation has lost its sacredness. Despite many uneducated perceptions about it, the app does not invalidate its sacredness, but respectfully enhances modern day religious experiences.

Although it does not claim to absolve users of their sins or imitate the sacrament of reconciliation, the app has inspired strong opinions. *New York Times* writer Maureen Dowd said, “Nothing is sacred anymore, even the sacred. And even that most secret ritual of the Roman Catholic faith, the veiled black confessional box.” Misguided opinions such as these will only hamper the positivity apps like the new Confession app can and will add to the Web.

The app takes users through the 10 Commandments and asks questions based off of age that might apply in order to help prepare for confession by making a list of sins and helping the user think of ones they may not have before. It is meant to act as a guide, not the priest, and enables participants to get more out of the sacrament. Sorry, Ms. Dowd, but all is still holy in “the veiled black confessional box.”

Doing nothing to take away from the sanctity of this practice, the app rather positively engages Catholics who may claim to be too busy with

things like work and other day-to-day activities to practice their religion consistently as well as those who have simply lost interest in the very traditional religion's less than modern services.

By appealing to Catholics through a medium used by many, the app is a positive modern approach to religion, which in many cases may be needed in order to inspire others to take part in such religious practices and return to more traditional ones.

According to *BBC News*, the Pope has encouraged Catholics to embrace the electronic realm, and this was apparently the inspiration behind the creation of the app. The Pope also warned that electronic communication is by no means a substitute for face-to-face interaction, therefore not approving of the app as a device for reconciliation itself.

The Catholic Church does not intend to compromise the sanctity of its sacrament, but rather wishes to enhance the experience for its participants through electronic communication like the app. Without intruding on sacred religious territory, the app draws Catholics in and through its subject matter it serves as a positive addition to the many negative features of the electronic world.

Rather than put down the app, people of all faiths should embrace and acknowledge the good that can be done by promoting religion and positivity in general by way of respectful communication such as the iPhone app.

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## HAITI

### US company blames Cuba for barge loss

A U.S. housing company is blaming Cuba for the loss of a barge loaded with supplies to build shelters for displaced earthquake survivors in Haiti.



## PERU

### Leftist ex-officer tops vote, heads to runoff

Voters will choose between an ex-army officer who vows to redistribute the nation's wealth and the daughter of President Alberto Fujimori when they vote for a new president in a June runoff, unofficial results show.



## HONDURAS

### Army to support police in fighting drugs

Honduras' defense minister said Friday that the country's armed forces will join the police for the first time in the fight against drug trafficking.

## STUDENT PROGRAMMING COUNCIL

# Spring fling continues with glow party, popular DJs

DEBORAH SOUVERAIN  
Staff Writer

Foam pit, paint war and a glow party are all coming in time to end the spring semester with a bang.

FIU Live, a week-long extravaganza the Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus is hosting, kicked off on April 11 with the stuff-a-bear event allowing students to build their own teddy bear all-the-while enjoying an open candy bar. Later that evening, SPC-BBC hosted a comedy show featuring comedians Jim Tavare and Ronnie Jordan.

The following day magician Peter Boie performed magic for non-believers in the Wolfe University Center Theatre.

Students who attend at least three of the major events during FIU Live will receive an SPC prize pass and give them the opportunity to enter into a raffle. The winner receives a package worth up to \$150.

The events during FIU Live are for University students only. Entree is free for all events with a ticket. Tickets are available at the Campus Life office in room 141 of WUC.

The weeklong affair continues on Wednesday, April 13, with FIU Live Panther Palooza, a day of food, music, foam and paint. Students are advised to not wear their Sunday's best to this event, as paint may stain their clothing.

The foam pit, music and paint party begins at 3 p.m. and will take place on the field area behind the BBC pool.



PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

Graduate officer Albertha Jones (left) stuffing a bear and enrollment service officer Sharon Jackson (right) puts hers in a box provided by the Student Programming Council on April 11. Taking place in Panther Square, FIU Live offered students snacks in the open candy bar and stuffed bears as part of the events taking place throughout the week.

Thursday, April 14, is t-shirt time! The event takes place between 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Panther Square. T-shirts and supplies will be provided for students' creative needs. Following the t-shirt decorating event is a showing of the science-fiction blockbuster "Tron." The movie will be shown at 3 p.m. and again at 7 p.m.

Wrapping up the week is the FIU Live glow party. The biggest event of the week, the glow party will feature DJ Zog, radio personality and house DJ on Power 96 FM. For

12 years, DJ Zog has hosted the "5 o'clock Traffic Jam" on Power 96.

SPC-BBC hopes to get large attendance at these events to help with their overall funding for next year.

"We are working on increasing attendance to our events so we can show [SGC-BBC] we can get people to our events and get a larger budget for next year," said Tanha Dil, SPC-BBC president and communications major.

Although SPC-BBC was able to get through all the planning,

Dil said the council had some competition.

"It isn't easy ... because we have organizations putting on events, like [Bay Vista Housing]," Dil said. "I'm not saying they shouldn't program, but they should collaborate with us, after all, we are the Student Programming Council."

DJ Cato K, who is also hosting the glow party, has been a fixture in South Florida radio since 2003. He began spinning on 93.1 and now DJ Cato K can be heard every

## T-SHIRT TIME

### Customize your own t-shirts

- Time: 12 p.m.
- When: April 14
- Where: Panther Square

week on Miami's Y100.

In past years, SPC would host a Spring Fling concert, however, due to a lack of attendance the council suffered a budget cut and could not afford to host a concert for the 2011 spring semester.

As a result, FIU Live was created. Giving students a wide array of different activities to partake in.

Despite a relatively smaller budget, Dil said SPC-BBC is expecting a great outcome.

"We decided to do it different this time because we didn't have a large enough budget to start off with," Dil said. "Staging, fencing and set-up would have been \$25,000 alone."

Despite being a commuter University, SPC-BBC wants to give the campus feel like a traditional university.

"Our goal is to give this campus more of a college feel," said Sean Russel, a nursing student and member of the Student Organizations Council.

# University deans take steps to directly engage students

BERTHA ALIS  
Contributing Writer

Walking into any dean's office can be intimidating.

For some students, it brings back memories of days in elementary school when their name was called through the loud speaker and they walked nervously into the main office to speak to the principal.

Several deans at the University are making it a point of turning such fear into more student engagement.

"We are anxious to have input," said Mike Hampton, dean of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. "The more input I have from students, staff, team members and from other outside parties the better I can be at decision making because now I

have perspective."

The University is considered a commuter school; a lot of its students attend classes on campus and leave after they are done. They have jobs to go to, family activities, hobbies and homework.

The hospitality dean, the dean of the Honors College and the assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences are trying different approaches to inspire students to become more engaged in their academics and community. They are using new technologies like Facebook and Twitter to communicate with their students and finding partnerships with companies to offer internships and hands-on experience.

If you meet the criteria to get into the University's Honors College, Interim Dean

Lesley A. Northup will make a point of letting you know her school's motto of "Explore, Engage, Excel." Her students are required a minimum of 10 hours of community service per semester where they are given the opportunity to work with the Sweetwater partnership or the Overtown Youth Center.

"There are students who drop out of the Honors College because they don't want to be involved, and we are all about involvement," Northup said.

Northup makes sure she sets aside time every week on both campuses for office hours. Whenever she is in her office, her door is open for discussion. Whether you want to do the Honors College study abroad program, join their annual A&V Art Exhibition or need to speak

to her about school or personal issues, she wants to hear from her students.

"If I still didn't get a chance to work with students, I would hate this job," Northup said.

If you look for Hampton on Facebook you will find a majority of his friends are his current and past students. He has a Twitter page he posts on regularly.

He goes around classrooms in the beginning of the semester to pass out his card with his mobile number for texting. If you want to speak to him, he will make the time to set up an appointment or you could just walk to his office where his door is usually open.

"I try to reach out through as many channels as possible," Hampton said. "The message of getting students involved and engaged is not just a matter of

'go do something.' It is that you are involved because there is a purpose behind it that it is going to have an impact on the way you position yourself career wise and personally."

Hampton encourages students to get involved in clubs and organizations and to take a leadership role. He wants them to build not only a resume but a portfolio to show to a future employer what makes them so special.

"The objective is that by the time the student graduates they are not out looking for a job, but that they have already found one as a result of the network they have built during their last two years in college," Hampton said.

Kenton Harris, assistant dean