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# NSU ISSUES SEXUAL ASSAULT ALERT

By: **Keren Moros & Faren Rajkumar**

On Jan. 13, the NSU community was alarmed by campus crime alerts that gave details of a sexual assault incident that was reported at 2:30 a.m. that day.

According to the alert, two female NSU students were sexually assaulted off-campus and at an on-campus residence hall by two males they met for drinks at a local bar. The report also stated that their beverages were possibly drugged.

Director of the Office of Public Safety Jim Ewing said the office will not comment on the case, which is currently under investigation by the Davie police department.

“If any additional news comes out, we will alert the NSU community,” Ewing said.

NSU’s campus is open to community members and visitors and hosts community events. Students should be aware of how to stay safe with the measures NSU has in place to keep students safe.

These measures are headed by the Office of Public Safety, comprised of unarmed proprietary employees who use the support of the Davie Police Department and other contract security officers. Students may recognize these officially titled “protective care givers” in their uniforms or white labeled patrol cars around campus.

Public Safety offers many services to the NSU community that can be taken advantage of in case of an emergency or simply in case a student feels uncomfortable or unsafe. The department responds to the Blue Light system, tall telephone poles labeled “emergency” located around campus. This system is a fast and effective way to reach the department in case of an emergency.

But according to Associate Director of Public Safety Shane Lam, in case of an emergency, students should first call 911 to alert the local police, fire department or emergency medical service. After speaking to an operator, students should then call Public Safety from



The Office of Public Safety alerted the NSU community to a reported sexual assault on Jan. 13. TAKEN BY: F. RAJKUMAR

wherever they are.

To report non-emergency situations or an incident that has already occurred, students can also use the Blue Light system or contact the department. Public Safety maintains a list of Campus Crime Alerts, where students can read details about reported incidents as far back as 2007.

Public Safety also offers a 24/7 safety escort system, which makes a walking escort available upon request to anyone in the NSU community within property limits.

“The objective of the program is to provide a safe alternative to walking alone at night, or anytime a person for safety reason doesn’t want to walk to their destination alone,” said Lam.

To view campus safety alerts, including the sexual assault report, **SEE ASSAULT ALERT 2**

## NSU'S HOSPITAL FACES OPPOSITION

By: **Keren Moros**

NSU’s plan to build a hospital on campus has met with opposition from two hospitals systems.

On Jan. 8, the Memorial Healthcare System and Cleveland Clinic Florida contested the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration’s preliminary approval to build a hospital on NSU’s main campus.

In December, AHCA’s approved the Hospital Corporation of America East Florida’s Certificate of Need application to relocate 200 of Plantation General Hospital’s beds to NSU.

An administrative judge will now make the final ruling on the decision.

President George Hanbury

said, “If the administrative law judge reverses the Agency for Health Care Administration’s approval, HCA East Florida has committed to keep filing Certificate of Need applications with the state until they recognize that this hospital is essential for the health care, for the common good as well as evolving into a teaching and research hospital integrated into a doctoral research university.”

Hanbury also said the hospital could evolve into a destination research hospital for Florida, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

To learn more about NSU’s plans for the hospital, visit [nova.edu/president/initiatives.html](http://nova.edu/president/initiatives.html).

## GREEK ORGANIZATIONS UNIFY FOR GREEK WEEK



Members of NSU’s Interfraternity, Panhellenic and Unified Greek Councils demonstrate core values of Greek life COURTESY OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

By: **Li Cohen**

Beginning Jan. 24, NSU’s Order of Omega Greek honor society will host the first annual Greek Week — a series of events that demonstrate the core values of Greek life.

Order of Omega Vice President of Programming Belen Perez, senior environmental science major, said Greek Week is something that will create bonds between the different Greek organizations that are a

part of the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council and the Unified Greek Council.


“It’s a time for all of the Greek organizations on campus to come together as one to have fun and represent all of the values that are part of our organizations, such as friendship, brotherhood, sisterhood, service and philanthropy,” she said.

The week will kick off at the 2015 Leadership Conference on Jan. 24, which many Greek members attend to demonstrate the

importance of leadership within their organizations. The rest of the week will include complementary T-shirts for members of Greek organizations, karaoke night, service day, a field day and other events that will bring them together.

“Hopefully this will bring multi-cultural and social organizations together to create new relationships and have fun,” Perez said. “Greek life on campus is something that people really do take pride in. It really

**SEE GREEK WEEK 2**



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# U.S. HOUSE AND SENATE APPROVES KEYSTONE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

By: **Li Cohen**  
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On Jan. 12, the U.S. Senate passed legislation approving the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, which President Barack Obama has already said he will veto.

The Senate’s approval came after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill on Jan. 9. Even though the Senate voted 63 to 32 and the House voted 266 to 153 in favor of the bill, they are still lacking the two-thirds majority vote that is needed to overthrow the President’s veto.

The pipeline is a 1,179-mile extension of TransCanada’s existing Keystone Pipeline that would transport approximately 830,000 barrels of oil from Alberta, Canada to refining facilities near the Gulf of Mexico. The expansion will include a section that connects Cushing, Oklahoma to the Gulf Coast of Texas and a second section from Alberta to Kansas.

Emily Harrington, sophomore environmental science major, said that students should pay attention to the ongoing debate about the pipeline because it is their world and their lives and they have to deal with the consequences of whatever decision is made.

“If the project goes south, it’s not the people in charge of it right now



The proposed route for the Keystone XL Pipeline. LARIS KARKLIS AT THE WASHINGTON POST

who have to deal with it,” she said. “It’s going to be our responsibility and our mess to clean up.”

According to a poll of 1,011 American conducted by CNN from Dec. 18 to Dec. 21, 57 percent were in favor of the pipeline’s construction. Those who oppose the pipeline argue mostly environmental concerns.

The pipeline will extract crude oil from oil sands, which according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will create approximately 17 percent more greenhouse gases. The route of the pipeline will also cut through the Ogallala Aquifer, which extends from Texas to South Dakota. The aquifer supplies drinking water to the Great Plains and acts as an irrigation source for many farms.

“The building of the Keystone XL Pipeline would degrade the landscape and environment that we all share, risking not only the health of the people near the area, but all of us,” Harrington said.

ASSAULT ALERT from 1

visit [nova.edu/publicsafety/crimealerts.html](http://nova.edu/publicsafety/crimealerts.html).

For more information on personal safety or to report incidents or receive assistance, contact Public Safety at 954-262-8999 or visit [nova.edu/publicsafety](http://nova.edu/publicsafety).

For students who find themselves walking or traveling alone around campus, the Office of Public Safety offers these safety tips:

- Chemical sprays, such as pepper spray, may be carried in quantities of two ounces or less.
- Use the Shark Shuttle service instead of walking long distances across campus.
- Register your phone and email with the Emergency Alert System on WebSTAR to receive timely alerts on crimes, emergency situations and suspicious activity on and around campus.
- Report suspected criminal activity, thefts and injuries in a timely manner.
- Always leave home with your SharkCard and cell phone in addition to other forms of identification.

GREEK WEEK from 1

is an amazing thing that offers friendship and a way to better yourself as a person.”

Most events are scheduled at times students don’t have classes, in hopes that the events will have a better turnout. Although the week is primarily aimed at the unification of Greek life, non-Greeks are invited to attend as well so that they can see what Greek life is like.

“So many universities around us host a Greek Week, and it’s such a big thing that those students look forward to,” Perez said. “Here at NSU, we’re still trying to get our traditions together, so hopefully it can become a campus-wide tradition.”

NSU’s Greek life includes IFC members Beta Theta Pi, Kappa Sigma and Phi Gamma Delta, UGC members Iota Phi Theta, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Beta Sigma, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Lambda Theta Alpha and Zeta Phi Beta and PC members Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Delta Tau, Phi Sigma Sigma and Theta Phi Alpha.

Karanja Sekou, sophomore marine biology major, is the recruitment chair for Phi Gamma Delta and said there are a lot of mixed feelings about NSU’s Greek life, and they are going to come together to show the campus what Greek life can offer to benefit its members.

“Greek systems build communities on campus, and that is what we are striving to do with Greek Week,” he said. “Coming together, talking and bonding only strengthens our organizations.”

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# NSU EMPLOYEES, UNITE AT THE TEAM 2020 CELEBRATION

By: **Alyssa DiMaria**

The fourth annual Team 2020 Celebration will take place on Jan. 27 at 8:30 a.m. in the Don Taft University Center Arena to recognize NSU employees.

The celebration for full-time employees will include breakfast, videos, skits, remarks from President George Hanbury, recognition of employee milestones, raffles, giveaways, surprise performances and an MC and small gifts for each attendee.

Executive Director of Community Engagement Barbara Packer-Muti said the event is generally regarded as a team-building and engagement event.

“It’s important to celebrate our employees,” she said. “We believe that an engaged employee is most likely to create a sense of engagement for our students.”

Packer-Muti said this year’s celebration will be different from past years because the theme is “NSU and our future.”

“With our theme in mind, all of the videos and skits have a future focus,” she said. “Also new this year, three employees will be recognized for their community outreach service.”

Mark Schuknecht, digital video solutions architect at the Office of Innovation and Information Technology, the videographer for the event, said a video bio has been created for each individual who has been with NSU for at least 25 years.

“It’s great that we can recognize individuals who have devoted years of hard work at NSU,” he said. “The



Celebrate with your colleagues at the Team 2020 Celebration.

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videos are shown at the live event and then placed on the Team 2020 website, so they can show friends and colleagues.”

Schuknecht said that three years ago the name was changed to the Team 2020 Celebration, and that’s when the video skits and recognition videos were created.

“It’s nice that the administration is recognized; it’s a lot of work but well worth it,” Schuknecht said. “The whole event is coordinated by employees and is a good example of NSU collaboration.”

Bill Adams, associate professor at the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences who serves on the Team 2020 committee, said the planning for the event takes an entire year.

“After each celebration, we meet and talk about what worked

and what didn’t work. Then, we brainstorm ideas to make it fun and worthwhile for folks to enjoy,” he said.

Adams said the Team 2020 Celebration Committee is comprised of energetic, hard-working and enthusiastic people all working towards one goal: a great event.

“The committee is a microcosm of the NSU workforce with members from regional campuses, arena staff, faculty, IT people, facilities – you name an area, and there’s a representative there,” he said.

One of the many entertaining activities at the celebration is karaoke, which Adams participated in last year’s event.

“I performed some very bad karaoke with several law

professors, and we became friends. Building bridges and learning what other people do at NSU is really cool,” he said.

The celebration will be broadcast to NSU’s seven regional campuses via videoconferencing. This is the first year the event will be streamed to the employees who can’t attend.

Packer-Muti said, “The employees are able to connect with their peers from other colleges and schools. Sometimes this is the only time that employees get to see each other.”

Adams said, “This is an appreciation event for all who keep NSU running.”

For more information about the celebration, contact Packer-Muti at 954-262-5398 or packerb@nova.edu.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### The connection between intestinal organisms and Autism

The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences will host a discussion on Jan. 22 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Cotilla Gallery in the Alvin Sherman Library about current research on intestinal organisms and their relation to autism. The discussion is part of the Faculty Lecture Series and will feature Assistant Professor Julie Garcia. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact James Doan at (954) 262-8207.

### Enjoy a free night of music

The Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences Division of Performing and Visual Arts will host a faculty recital on Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in room 309 of the Performing and Visual Arts Wing in the Don Taft University Center. The recital is free and open to the public and will feature the premieres of new compositions by the musicians. For more information, contact Associate Professor Bill Adams at 954-262-8025.

### Apply for the Juan Pablo Correa Memorial Scholarship

The application deadline for the Juan Pablo Correa Memorial Scholarship is Feb. 21 at 5 p.m. The scholarship is for international undergraduate students. To apply, visit NSU’s main campus page on OrgSync.com and search for “Juan Pablo Correa Memorial Scholarship.” Please direct questions to Graduate Assistant for Student Organizations Melissa Doreus at 954-262-7453 or md1899@nova.edu

### Become a part of SEA Board

Applications are available for the 2015-2016 Student Events and Activities Board. There are 10 open positions, which are detailed in the application on OrgSync. The application will close on Jan. 30 at 5 p.m. For more information, visit the SEA Board office in the Don Taft University Center. For the application, visit orgsync.com/42152/forms/129803.

### Newest issue of the “Farquhar Forum” is now available

The 2014-2015 issue of the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences “Farquhar Forum” magazine is now available online. The latest issue includes stories about the 2014 Student of the Year Desiree Kennedy, who now works at the U.S. Department of the Interior, a profile of NSU alumnus Dan Madden and information about research conducted by Farquhar professor Amy Hirons and her students. To see the magazine, visit fcas.nova.edu/arts/magazine.

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# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: AIMEE ZADAK



Aimee Zadak is an associate lecturer at the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences.

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*By:* **Trent Strafaci** .....  
Aimee Zadak, an associate lecturer in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences, specializes in grief and bereavement. Having

graduated from NSU with a master’s and a doctorate, she spent the last 18 years teaching. She said, “It is one of the greatest joys of my life.” Before beginning her

teaching career, Zadak spent 14 years in the corporate world, where she led special action teams in strategic planning. Zadak left to concentrate on her doctorate, teach and raise a family. During this

time, she wrote her dissertation “Psychosocial Effects of Grieving in the Workplace” and developed her monthly newsletter “The Countdown to Success.” “The one thing that makes me happiest is helping other people, and as a professor with four classes, I certainly have that opportunity,” Zadak said. Because she understands the stress many endure in college she enjoys teaching and finds the interaction with her students rewarding. Although she is practicing psychologist, Zadak said she loves “teaching more because I enjoy working with the students.” In addition to teaching, Zadak counsels adults and teens about obtaining their goals. She believes every individual has the potential for success, but the first step is to “take the time to know who you are.” In her practice, Zadak strives to create individualized processes for reaching a targeted goal. In her newsletter, she outlines a monthly strategy for success. “Life is not easy,” Zadak said. “You must make things work and find a solution. The first step is learning to like yourself.” In addition to the newsletter, Zadak also developed Count

Down to Goodbye, a program she began for grief counseling when she lost her mother. She learned a powerful lesson when her mother told her, “I feel sad for those I’ll leave behind. I don’t want them to be in pain.” This sparked her interest in helping others deal with the loss of a loved one and the grief that follows. Zadak said her mothers’ statement had a profound effect on her and helped her understand that “Death is not about you, but rather the people you leave in pain.” Through her work, she has noticed a lack of empathy as one of the world’s greatest problems, particularly in the U.S. “People have lost the ability to feel what other people feel and her work in grief counseling reflects her compassion for those in pain,” she said. Aside from teaching or working in her clinic Zadak likes horseback riding, reading and just thinking quietly. *Trent is a junior communication studies major who is minoring in sports management. He is part of First Tee of Broward County and plays competitive amateur golf.*

# Diary of... girl without a country

*By:* **Michaela Greer** .....  
*Michaela Greer is a sophomore majoring in both communication studies and art. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, volunteering for different causes, writing and drawing. She hopes to continue traveling to new and exciting places while illustrating each place through words and art.* Typically, when getting to know people, one of the first questions you ask, especially if they have an accent, is “Where are you from?” It’s a simple enough question, but somehow, when people ask me that, I always find myself entangled in the grips of a white lie. Without fail, I say that I am from Montserrat, a lush, evergreen, volcanic, 39-square-mile span of land affectionately dubbed the “Emerald Isle of the Caribbean.” Most times, I am met with a confused expression and a barrage of questions usually relating to Montserrat’s proximity with what seems to be the best known island in the Caribbean: Jamaica. Rarely, I get a question about Haiti instead of Jamaica. Rarer still, I find someone who actually knows about Montserrat. I generally find myself whipping out the now

dog-eared map of the Caribbean that I started to carry around with me during my freshman year and give a short geography lesson, identifying other islands as I go along, which have also been “home” at one point or another. Of course it feels great to tell someone about home. Who doesn’t like representing the place that they are from? Only for me, after leaving the conversation, I feel as though I have committed a crime of stealing a country and passing it off as my own. A quick glance at my birth certificate would reveal I am not actually Montserratian, despite what I feel inside. Technically, I am Crucian, and I should call the beautiful tropical island of St. Croix “home.” But I moved from St. Croix when I was an infant, and I haven’t had the opportunity to visit my birthplace since. How could I identify as Crucian if I do not even know the first thing about St. Croix? This leads me to wonder what makes home, actually “home.” Perhaps, I am wrong, but I decide based on how I feel, despite what my birth certificate says. I am not denouncing any part of myself, but if home is where the heart is, Montserrat is home. I have moved on average every

three years. Besides other factors, I think my mom liked the excitement of a new job and new surroundings, so it was common for us to move. I have lived in St. Croix, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, Antigua and Florida; sometimes multiple times in these places. This is my second time living in Florida, and although I spent many childhood summers here, it still isn’t home. There’s just something about going back to a place where people know your name, and you know theirs in turn — where greeting people is normal and reciprocated instead of getting strange looks and being ignored. Montserrat is where I spent most of my life. It is where I played barefoot and climbed trees for fun and delicious snacks while gaining my “trophies,” which are what I call scars from rough outdoor playing. Instead of shoveling snow on snow days, I remember shoveling ash randomly deposited by our Soufriere Hills volcano, and just as these types of memories bring happiness for some, they do the same for me. Although my passport does not read Montserratian, that’s who I am. It is what I know, and I forever carry its unique rhythm in my heart. In the end, “home” for you may not be what is



Michaela Greer is a sophomore communication studies major.

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scrawled across your birth certificate, and that’s okay. Home should be where you feel safe and loved, and it’s the place that you love. I don’t know about

anyone else, but I know who I am. I am a proud Montserratian, and that is certainly not a lie.





# Career Corner

## The Importance of Internships

By: Emilio Lorenzo

You may have heard the famous quote by Albert Einstein: “The only source of knowledge is experience.” This quote can hold meaning for your own life as it highlights that the best way for you to understand the outside world is to experience it firsthand. This is one of the main reasons internships are a vital part of your collegiate journey and such an influential force in helping you reach your career goals.

Internships can be defined many different ways but essentially it is an opportunity to help you explore a certain career path and understand skills needed as a professional in such a field. It also provides professional growth as you become more marketable for future opportunities through hands-on experiences.

Let’s imagine for a second you are a senior business major about to graduate from college and are now starting the job search and looking for opportunities in the field of marketing. You probably have seen plenty of full-time to part-time job postings on websites through your

job search process which states that the organization is looking for an individual with a minimum of one to three years of experience.

Now here is the conundrum: How do you get a position after graduation when you have no experience and are a new graduate looking to transition into the field? This is why internships are so important in college because it provides an avenue to gain such experiences and exposure to your area of study without needing prior years of experience or a completed degree. You can’t wait until senior year to explore internship opportunities because, just like a regular job search, it requires time and preparation.

Meeting with your career adviser early on in your collegiate journey, or at least a semester prior to the time in which you would like to start your internship, would be a good game plan to obtain such opportunities and approach the process strategically. Internships can come in many different forms as they can be paid and unpaid as well as at times provide academic

credit.

In addition, internships can also be a great way to explore a certain major or career path as what better way to understand your fit within the field than to see it up close and personal. I mean deciding on a career can be tough at times and you wouldn’t go and buy a car without test driving it first, so why go into a career field without test driving it through internships? At the end of the internship, you’re going to leave with an experience that helped you develop key skills needed in the field, and if you decide it is the right profession for you, then you now have someone in your network who could potentially hire you upon graduation.

Overall, internships are a vital part of your college experience today and should be explored strategically as they can make you a more well-rounded student and professional upon graduation. Your career goals cannot be reached overnight but getting an internship can lay the foundation for your professional future.

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# ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: Danielle Robinson

By: **Randa Djabri**  
.....

Danielle Robinson grew up with the mindset that school is her job and report cards are her paycheck. Keeping this mindset through college has been the key to her success in both basketball and school.

“Since basketball and school intertwine, I use it as a motive,” said Robinson. “Since I love basketball so much, I have to get the grades to continue to play. At the same time, I found a new love for learning. That’s what I use education for.”

Born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Robinson is a senior pursuing a degree in education, but she is also interested in exercise and sports science.

Robinson began playing basketball when she was 9-years-old out of curiosity and following her brother’s lead.

“I just wanted to do what my brother did, and he played all the time,” said Robinson. “I used to follow him around. My mom started putting me in little camps and clubs for basketball.”

Robinson’s accomplishments at South Broward High School include averaging 15 points, eight rebounds, four assists and five steals per game. She was an MVP of the SheCanPlay.org Senior Showcase and was nominated as a high school All-American. She was also selected to the Miami Herald first-team and Sun-Sentinel second-team, as well as being named South Broward 2011 Scholar Athlete of the Year. In addition to playing basketball for all four years, she also ran track for two years.

At NSU, Robinson was named to the Women’s Division II Bulletin All-America Freshman team, selected as the SSC Freshman of the Year and named to the All-SSC Newcomer team. She averaged 13.2 points, 3.8 rebounds and 1.3 assists and shot 37 percent from the 3-point range that year.

As a sophomore, Robinson was named Co-Sunshine State Conference Defensive Player of the Year and was named All-South Region Second Team by Daktronics, Inc.

Robinson was the fifth in NSU women’s history to score 1,000 points. As if that wasn’t an accomplishment in itself, she has since moved to third on the list at 1,245 points and was ranked third on the team, all in her junior year.

I got the chance to sit down with Robinson to get to know her better.

**Do you plan on continuing to play basketball after college?**

“I would like to play basketball professionally overseas, maybe intern in the NBA, one day. More specifically, I would love to play in Barcelona or maybe even Italy, because of the food.”

**What’s your favorite part of the game?**

“I’m really passionate about the whole game, but just being able to get better and seeing the gradual improvements for myself and my team — that’s something I really like.”

**How would you describe yourself as a player?**

“I’m an aggressive player. I’m also very passionate and competitive. I play for the fun and enjoyment of the game, and I’m a team player. I like to win, and that goes with being competitive, too.”

**What’s the longest you ever went without playing basketball?**

“When I broke my leg, I was in a cast for 10 weeks, but as soon as they took away the crutches and gave me the boot, I started playing. So I would say a week, maybe.”

**What has been your most memorable moment playing?**

“It was probably cutting down the first net from one of the championships because it’s something I always dreamed about doing. It was a very special moment. I also remember when I got a ring for state championships, since I wasn’t able to get one in high school. Anything that is a result of working hard for the whole year is a memorable moment for me.”



Danielle Robinson hopes to play basketball professionally in the future

COURTESY OF J.FRAYSURE

**Do you have any special rituals before the game?**

“I take my nap, and I come in a little early to get mentally ready. I go to the training room and warm up, and then I say my prayers, and that’s how I get ready for the game.”

**How do you deal with losing?**

“Over the years, I’ve gotten better with it. I remember my first year at NSU was bad because I wasn’t used to losing, and being so competitive made it even harder for me at first. Now, I learned to use it as a motivational and learning tool. Instead of being so upset about it, I try to think about what I learned and how I can make myself and my team better. I think of losing as the toll that gets me closer to a higher level.”

**How do you celebrate winning?**

“I don’t know if I really celebrate it. I’m fine as long as I don’t lose. It’s all part of the journey. I learned to appreciate the wins more and take pictures to celebrate the moment with my teammates.

**What aspect of basketball do you feel**

**is missing in other sports?**

“In basketball, you can start out by being the worst player and become the best player on the team. I don’t think that other sports have this. For instance, if you run track, you’ll get faster, but at some point there’s a limit; you won’t get any better. I feel like it’s something you can always get better at. There are pros who are still trying to perfect their game.”

**Who’s your favorite basketball player?**

As a male player, I like Dwayne Wade, and as a female, I’d say Becky Hammon.”

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be?**

“I’m working on getting my passport now, so the first place I would want to go is Barcelona. I want to go to Italy too, but the first place I think I’m going to is the Bahamas, maybe on a cruise.”

**If you had the choice to play another sport at NSU, what would it be?**

“I would say softball, but I just

like to do the chants. I would sit in the dugout and chant.”

**If a movie were to be made about your life, who would you want to play your role?**

“I would play myself; I’m a very different person, and no one can act like me.”

**Did you have a coach who influenced you?**

“I would say my second high school coach; he helped me a lot as I was transitioning from my first high school. He believed in me and gave me the courage. I got more confident during that time.”

**What would you like to say the NSU community?**

“The NSU women’s basketball team is very thankful for the support of the students here and the administrators. This year, I’ve seen the numbers grow. I don’t know if they know how important it is to us that they come and support us, but we appreciate it.”



## ON THE BENCH

Commentary by: **Nathalie Moreau**

In the two and a half years I’ve attended NSU, it was rare for me to see support for our fellow athletes at their games. As a commuter, it was rare to see any games promoted, and students never talked about them. It wasn’t until this year, when I moved on campus that I attended my first game. When you live on campus, it’s hard to miss the sounds of sneakers hitting the basketball court in the arena and the ticket booth workers inviting you to check out the game. This year, there has been a major shift in school spirit on campus. NSU has also made big improvements toward increasing school spirit at games.

I graduated from a very sports-focused high school, St. Thomas Aquinas, where the stands were always packed with fans ready to cheer the football team on Friday nights. Coming from this, I had a hard time attending games where the stands were nearly empty. I found it hard to believe that people were barely showing up to support their teams.

Extracurricular activities are supposed to provide a setting where students get involved and interact with other students, thus leading to increased learning and enhanced development. It’s widely known that the more students get involved and show school spirit, the more they excel in their academics.

Boosting school spirit by having non-academic outlets, such as attending sports games, can also help increase the retention rates of schools and universities, in conjunction with the academic curriculum. School spirit is a great way to connect with other students and it helps the student body feel like one NSU. Lack of involvement and initiative often leads to disjunction and hard feelings among the students and their peers.

This year, I noticed that people are crowding the bleachers at both the soccer field and the competition swimming pool. In fact, a lot of athletes from other sports teams have been attending games to support their fellow

athletes — and it’s not just one or two players. The whole team comes out to show support. With more athletes showing up at the games, it has been noticeable that a lot more people are stopping by and checking out the games.

Finatics, the official spirit crew at NSU, have done a great job getting the crowd going with their chants. Their members are always excited to show school pride and it rubs off on the rest of the crowd. Another organization that has made their presence known at sports games is the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. They continue to support NSU athletics as much as they possibly can, with events like shark nights

and pink out games, games that support breast cancer awareness.

With support coming from so many places, it is no wonder there has been a spike in Shark spirit. If NSU keeps this up, we will be known, not only for our academics, but also as the small school that is big on spirit.

*Nathalie Moreau is a junior communication studies major. She is a residential senator for Undergraduate Student Government and a member of the Sharkettes.*



# ON DECK

## MEN’S BASKETBALL

Annual Alumni game  
Alumni against current team  
Jan. 24, 10 a.m.

## WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

vs. Florida Tech  
NSU Arena  
Jan. 24, 2 p.m.

## BASEBALL

Annual Alumni game  
Alumni against current team  
Jan. 24, 10 a.m.

For more game information, visit [nsusharks.com](http://nsusharks.com)



## Women’s Basketball

The women’s basketball team ran their winning streak to six games, three in conference play, defeating Florida Southern 86-69.



## Men’s Basketball

The men’s basketball team lost to the Florida Southern Mocs 77-74.



## Swimming and Diving

The swimming and diving teams welcomed the Florida Southern Mocs for a dual meet in which the women won 157.5-104.5 and the men lost 143-119.



For more results, visit [nsusharks.com](http://nsusharks.com)

# Coach’s Corner

## Lyle Robelot



COURTESY OF M.CALLAHAN

Robelot is the assistant swimming and diving coach

By: **Randa Djabri**

Growing up with his grandfather’s stopwatch and coaching towel, assistant swimming coach Lyle Robelot couldn’t be expected to have a career far from the pool.

“Swimming has been in my family for a couple of generations,” said Robelot. “My grandpa was a swim coach in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, so I was very involved through him. My brother is a collegiate coach at Virginia Tech, so it’s really in my family.”

With this background, it’s no surprise that Robelot got his first coaching job at the age of 14. He coached kids at a summer league for the first time and got the opportunity to develop his skills. Starting at a young age helped shape his unique personality as a coach.

“I was never that great of a swimmer; I did it to stay in shape, and I loved the sport. I’ve always been a better coach than a swimmer,” said Robelot.

Although Robelot spent his summers coaching summer leagues, he resolved that coaching was his dream career once he was in college. His first real job coaching was at a swimming club called Crawfish Aquatics in Louisiana.

“I also got a head coaching job for the summer league and kind of worked my way up from there,” said Robelot.

He then got another head coaching job at St. Joseph’s Academy, a Catholic high school in Baton Rouge, where he led the team to a state championship. He was also named the CCSL Coach of the Year while coaching there.

After gaining enough

experience, Robelot decided he had enough clout to become a volunteer student assistant at Louisiana State University, where he continued to learn and gain experience. He also earned his bachelor’s degree in exercise sciences from LSU.

“I volunteered and continued to coach at the club. I absolutely loved it, and it was especially close to my heart, since I graduated from LSU,” said Robelot.

Outside of coaching, Robelot sings and plays the trombone, as he was part of a band during college.

“I played since I was a little kid. My band developed, and we traveled all over the country,” said Robelot. “So I was coaching, going to school full time, and I was playing probably a 100 shows a year.”

Growing up, Robelot also played soccer because it was a much better sport for his body type. His team voted for him to become the captain his senior year of high school.

“A lot of my work ethic came from that period of time. I was determined to work on being a leader. I had coached, so that had something to do with it. It made me study coaching and motivation, so that was definitely a turning point in my career,” said Robelot.

Robelot emphasized a caring and motivating approach throughout his career. He is a role model for student athletes because he believes that coaching is all about being there for the athletes and actually wanting to be there.

“I definitely can’t swim [as well as] some of the athletes on our team. This is where I want to be. I never want to get the morning off; I’d rather be at practice on the deck with the athletes,” said Robelot.

To Robelot, it’s harder being the

swimmer than being the coach. He is inspired by what the swimmers are able to do.

“Sometimes, I’d say to them ‘Of course you should be able to do this,’ but in my head I’m like, ‘Wow, this amazes me,’” said Robelot.

Robelot’s coaching style can be described as peer-driven and ruled by motivation. His relationship with the swimmers is not built on the basis of fearing the coach, but rather on the basis that the swimmers don’t want to disappoint their coach.

“I guess my coaching style is pestering them to perfection,” said Robelot.

Robelot also motivates his swimmers by building their confidence through positive feedback.

“Feedback is not only about what to say, but also about when to say it. Even when I say something negative, I usually say it in a positive way because I found that they respond better that way,” said Robelot.

As for his future goals, Robelot has insight and a great satisfaction when it comes to his career. It’s not out of the question that every assistant coach dreams of becoming a head coach someday, but it’s all about how to reach that level.

“I want to be moving forward. It’s not about being the head coach; when you’re a head coach you have more headaches. You don’t get to coach as often as the assistants. You’re doing much more administrative work,” said Robelot. “My job is less pressure, and I get just as much reward. It’s not always like this everywhere, so I consider myself to be very lucky. I get the best of both worlds.”



# NSU STREET STYLE

The Current will be incorporating a new weekly fashion segment featuring three stylish students around campus. Photos will be posted on all of our social media sites as well as in the newspaper. NSU students using the hasting #NSUStreetStyle will be incorporated in our online/social media version of this section.

**Instagram:** @TheCurrentNSU  
**Twitter:** @TheCurrentNSU  
**Facebook:** facebook.com/TheCurrentNSU

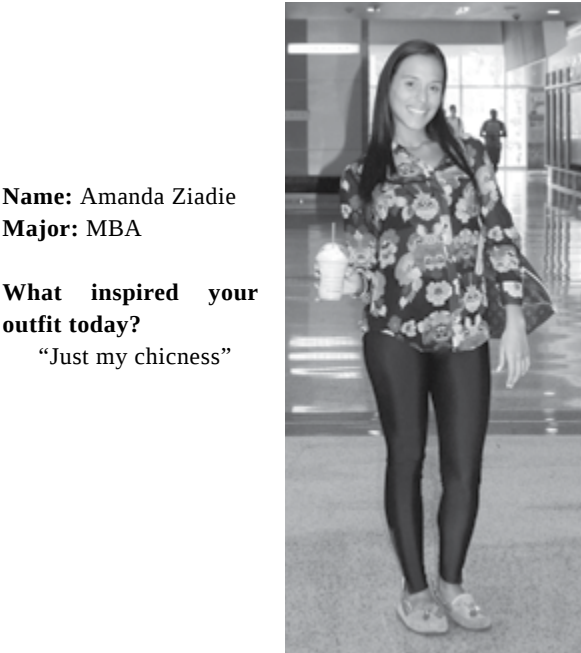
**Name:** Danielle McCalla  
**Major:** Communication Studies and marketing

**What inspired your outfit today?**  
“It was kind of cold today, and I needed to get out of my room in 15 minutes, so I just put on a dress and scarf and kept it going.”



**Name:** Jessie Grevin  
**Major:** Marine Biology and biology

**What inspired your outfit today?**  
“Well, my sorority Phi Sigma Sigma is going through recruitment and the theme is Tiffany and Co. I decided to wear the colors.”



**Name:** Amanda Ziadie  
**Major:** MBA

**What inspired your outfit today?**  
“Just my chicness”

# AUTHENTIC GREEK OR GRIFFEN?

By: **Christa Barone**  
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Greeks believe that there are two people: Greeks and those who wish they were Greek. This statement even applies to restaurants. As a Greek-Italian American, I am constantly on the search for authentic Greek cuisine. Many restaurants across Broward County claim to be Greek, yet their food fails to take my taste buds back to my grandparents’ — yiayia and papou’s — kitchen.

However, My Big Fat Greek Restaurant, presumably named after the hit movie *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, stands out among the crowd, serving items that could easily be mistaken for being made in a Santorini kitchen of an arthritis-stricken yiayia.

On a Saturday night, my family and I drove to My Big Fat Greek Restaurant, located at 3445 Griffin Road in Fort Lauderdale, to embark on a journey to our heritage. To begin the tour of the Mediterranean,

hummus and freshly baked Greek bread tantalized our taste buds as hints of garlic and the unique texture of the chickpeas paraded through our mouths. Next, we ordered a round of avgolemono soup (\$3), a chicken soup with a lemon broth. A thing of greatness, is the only description for this. Put another way, my mother, who grew up eating avgolemono soup made in her yiayai’s kitchen and is therefore overly critical about others’, tells everyone the avgolemono soup at My Big Fat Greek Restaurant is as close as it gets to yiayia’s soup. As any Greek knows, making food even closely comparable to yiayia’s cooking is no easy feat.

From here, the table became overwhelmed with delicious dishes. The keftedes (\$8), or Greek equivalent of meatballs, were seared to lock in juices and flavor. Whole snapper (seasonal pricing), baked, served with Greek peas and potato wedges tasted as if it had jumped from the ocean,

into the oven and onto my plate. The mouthwatering lamb kabobs (\$30) were served off the skewer, with roasted onions and green peppers, over a bed of rice. The meat was perfectly seasoned and cooked exactly medium-rare. The stuffed peppers and tomatoes (\$12) were filled with a Greek rice and beef mixture and served with vegetables and potatoes. Flavor oozed from every bite. For dessert, the rice pudding (\$3) was sweet, yet not overpowering, and surprisingly light — exactly what you want after a heavy meal.

As if the outstanding meal was not enough, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights are loud and exciting, just like the Greeks. The waiters and waitresses dance to traditional Greek music, and, if you catch him on a good night the owner will throw plates on the ground. Shouts of “opa!” can be heard throughout the entire restaurant. The entertainment does not end there. A belly dancer wanders through the restaurant, paying extra attention to those with dollars in their hands. On any given night you may even see a yiayia or two get up and join her. I know mine has on more than one occasion.

My Big Fat Greek Restaurant is not just for show. The walls are lined with murals of Santorini, traditional outfits, and keepsakes from Greece, and the food is scrumptious to the last bite. If you are looking for authentic, look no further than My Big Fat Greek Restaurant.

*Christa is a junior communication studies major and a member of FitWell.*

# ANIMATED ROYALTY BROUGHT TO LIFE

By: **Destinee A. Hughes**  
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“The Lion King” is one of the few animated Disney films that has been brought to life on Broadway.

From Jan. 7 to Feb. 1, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts will host the highly popular Broadway musical, “The Lion King.”

The show opened with Rafiki, played by Tshidi Manye, chanting the introduction to the well-known song “Circle of Life.” This familiar tune brings back memories of an innocent childhood in which this movie played on the big-screen living room TV. During the opening song, the stage was filled with elephants, giraffes, gazelles, birds and other African wildlife. It was impossible to watch the opening act and not feel as if you were completely engulfed in the African culture.

While the opening song was breathtaking, the one thing that caught the audience’s attention was the incredibly imaginative, elaborate and meticulously detailed costumes. Some performers were clad in camouflaged outfits, riding bikes ordained with leaping gazelles; others were on four stilts gracefully walking as a giraffe would. And the lions were regally dressed in golds, burgundies and greens, with capes and a lavish mask as a headdress.

After being absolutely immersed in the show for half an hour, it was impossible to not notice how incredibly similar the show is to the actual movie. It’s common for Broadway shows to mix and match a few lines here



“The Lion King” comes to live on stage at the Broward Center.  
COURTESY OF NEWYORK.COM

and there, but this performance was spot-on. The were lines verbatim from the movie, down to the infamous “Uuuuuuuuglyyyy” said by the vapid hyenas played by Rashada Dawan, Keith Bennett and Robbie Swift.

However, while there were a considerable amount of small gestures and expressions taken from the original movie, there was a small part of the second half of the performance that wasn’t in the original film. Luckily, the minute changes don’t take away from the film at all, and they actually add to the uniqueness of the show and make it its own performance. But the one thing that didn’t change, and still sets heavy in viewers’ hearts, is Mufasa’s death.

Witnessing Simba try to revive his dad in real life is much more difficult to watch than in animation. This musical produced a whirlwind of emotions in a much more dramatic way than the movie ever could. Physically seeing the actors show their emotions of happiness, sadness, courageousness, pride and many others, allowed the audience

to connect with the characters on more emotional level.

While the actors did an incredible job portraying their emotions to the audience, they also managed to woo with their flawless singing. Elton John’s timeless “Can You Feel the Love Tonight?” sung by Timon (Robbie Swift), Pumbaa (Ben Lipitz), Simba (Jelani Remy) and Nala (Nia Holloway) was mesmerizing to watch and showed much more affection than most productions are able to capture these days.

Throughout the musical, the actors were also surrounded by graceful dancers in flowing costumes. The dancers appeared in 12 out of the 20 scenes, and each time they graced the stage, they left the audience speechless.

The Broadway musical of “The Lion King” is one of the most creative, emotional and dynamic shows to grace the Broadway stage. Within two and a half hours, it was easy to recognize that the only thing better than “The Lion King,” the movie is “The Lion King,” the musical.



# TRENDING AFRICAN AMERICAN BODY PARTS

By: **Destinee A. Hughes**  
.....

When you look at a black woman’s face, you gaze at a pair of deep-set of brown eyes, a rounded nose, full lips and bronzed mahogany skin. When you look at a black woman’s body, you see a physique with voluptuous curves, full breasts, rounded hips and a derriere to make any man weak at the knees.

While black women have had these features since the beginning of time, we have become the poster child for ridicule. Yet the ones ridiculing us are the same who imitate us. Over the last 20 years, black women’s body parts have been trending around the world: tanning for darker skin, injections for fuller lips and most recently, implants for a considerably larger butt.

Recently, one of the youngest of the Kardashian clan, Kylie Jenner, revealed her new set of inflated lips on Instagram. Whether or not her lips are surgically enhanced or the work of masterful makeup techniques, her goal was to achieve fuller lips. After her viral post, many bloggers were going crazy creating tutorials on how

to achieve the look. Articles were posted online about which products to use to temporarily enhance your pout or make your lips appear larger.

While Kylie’s full lips have seemed to start quite a trend within the beauty world, I can’t help but wonder where her idea of full lips stemmed from. Women of color are notoriously known for their full set of lips; however, we haven’t exactly received the same attention for them as Kylie has.

Kylie’s sister Kim is another great example of how black features are trending. Kim Kardashian is famous for her remarkably large butt. Women all over the world are putting their lives in danger attempting to surgically enhance their body in hopes of having the dream derriere Kim has. But while her body is quite enviable now, her bottom half wasn’t as nearly as desirable when black women were sporting it centuries ago.

In the 1800s, Sarah Baartman, a black woman from South Africa, was captured and forced to tour around the world as a “freak” in a freak show because of her considerably large assets. She amused onlookers and was subjected to many “examinations” by several



Kylie Jenner’s enhanced lips have caused a stir in the beauty world.



COURTESY OF EXAMINER.COM

professors. For a large portion of her life, she was looked at as a sideshow act rather than an actual human being, simply because of the shape of her body — the same shape that is currently trending today.

We live in a society where the standard of beauty changes

constantly, but the stereotypical model has remained, and probably will always remain, the same: a Caucasian woman. Minorities are constantly told that they are not the archetypal symbol of beauty, and yet their features, body parts and skin color are. Black women’s skin

is too dark, Asian women’s hair is too straight and Hispanic women are too curvy. Yet, when these specific cultural traits are featured on Caucasian women, they are deemed beautiful. It’s time to start acknowledging the beauty in all women, rather than one specific race.

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## PEDOPHILIA... REALLY?

By: **Rafael Brazon-Di Fatta** .....

Leave Sia alone! With the recent wave of criticism against Aussie singer-songwriter Sia, I feel like Chris Crocker defending Britney in 2007 every time I go through my Twitter timeline.

The artist’s latest music video for “Elastic Heart,” has sparked much controversy in a short time. Less than one week from its release, the video has more than 47 million views on YouTube and more than 48 million on Vevo, still increasing by the minute. The video features 12-year-old reality star Maddie Ziegler and 28-year-old “Transformers” actor Shia LaBeouf both in nude leotards. The pair is seen dancing and rolling inside a cage, fighting to get out, with no sexual content whatsoever.

Sia expressed in an interview that her intentions were to “create some emotional content, not to upset anybody,” yet critics claim the choreography is too suggestive, intensely focusing on the age gap between the dancers. Others joined the commotion on Twitter, calling the video “creepy,” “sickening” and “full of pedo[philia] vibes.” In our day and age, we have so many outlets in which to express our views and opinions, one the most popular ones being Twitter. Yet, some people just use this medium to take something out of context and blow it out of proportion, hoping to get some attention and their 15 minutes — more like 15 seconds — of fame.

All of these outbursts have pushed the artist to apologize for the video. However, her apology tweet said, “I apologize to those who feel triggered by ‘Elastic Heart,’” and “triggered” is the perfect word to use. The pop star is not sorry for this video; she is sorry for those feeling uneasy when they watched it. Reading her apology, a term I studied in a psychology class came to mind: trauma trigger. Psychologists define this as an action or experience that triggers a traumatic or repressed memory. I recall that we discussed that a trauma trigger could also prompt a suppressed want or desire.

Considering all of this, this video does not bother me or make me feel uneasy. I feel anyone who is, lacks artistic appreciation. The two dancers represent different personalities trying to escape Sia’s mind, represented by the cage. All of the struggles between the dancers represent how difficult it is for us to make a decision when we have conflicting ideals in our brains, also known as cognitive dissonance.

The choreography is not sexually charged; it actually seems more like a brother-sister interaction, if anything. It is rather sad that so many people cannot see past the age of these dancers and enjoy the mesmerizing beauty of a performing art without having to somehow relate it to a sexual act. What is even more upsetting is that so many of these “critics” cannot seem to find their own identity to form an opinion but, rather, jump to conclusions, following what others are saying in the Twittersphere.



# THE R-WORD HAS NO PLACE IN OUR VOCABULARY

By: **Jazmyn Brown**  
.....

“That’s retarded.”

So, you’re telling me that whatever inanimate object you’re calling “retarded” lacks intellectual understanding due to limited mental development? Last I checked, that word only applied to humans.

And when we do apply it to humans, it doesn’t become any nicer of a word. We often forget the seriousness of what we’re saying and that it can have a lasting impact on someone else.

I get it. We all get frustrated with life, and one of the most human things we can do to vent our anger at the world is name-calling. The word “retarded,” or the R-word as I’ve come to know it, is one of those words that we use all day, every day, without thinking about its offensiveness.

The R-word used to be the term for people lacking the mental capacities that others do at the same age. Mental retardation, now called intellectual disability due to the stigma of its previous name, often causes physical impairment and a lack of social development. Examples of genetic disorders that cause the symptoms associated with intellectual disability are Down syndrome and fetal alcohol syndrome.

I’m guilty of using the R-word

myself. If something isn’t fair to me or doesn’t make any sense, I’m probably the first one to spit it out. But the instant I say it, I immediately regret it because I don’t know if there are people around me who have family or know someone who suffers from an intellectual disability. I don’t know if they’ll think I’m insulting them indirectly. My offense is directly followed by apologies to everyone in the vicinity for my thoughtlessness.

It’s really easy to forget that people with intellectual disabilities are still, in fact, people, and that using their condition to talk down to something or someone else isn’t right. Talking down to someone just because they aren’t as smart as you are is cruel, unjust and mean. Using the R-word to further degrade them is insulting to the person, as well as to the people who have to actually deal with mental impairments.

I’ve been around long enough to know that as a society, we’re really freaking insensitive. You can’t go around calling things and people retarded for basically no reason. There’s no logic behind calling an idea, place, object or person the R-word, especially when they haven’t been diagnosed as such.

There are people out there who have different lives because they

were born genetically different. But just because they live what we consider to be less than normal lives doesn’t mean they are any less of a person. I have a lot of respect for someone who has mental disabilities and still achieves their goals. The thing that makes life harder for them is what, ultimately, makes them a stronger person.

There are plenty of other words we can use to describe the things that displease us. Using the R-word is just an indication that you need to expand your vocabulary. A teacher in high school once told me that using foul language means you lack the knowledge to come up with your own words to describe the situation. Using the R-word is no different. It’s unimaginative, base and ignorant.

Don’t take someone’s condition and use it to describe something you don’t like. It’d be nice if we could build people up instead of tearing them down, especially with such an insensitive word. The mentally handicapped are some of the kindest among us; they surely can’t appreciate their condition being used as a derogatory word.

The R-word started in medicine and died there, and it’s time we buried it and removed it from our everyday vocabulary.



Shark Speak:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was on Jan. 19.  
Do you think King’s dream has been fulfilled?



“I feel like his dream has been fulfilled to an extent because we have abilities as American citizens to do things that we weren’t able to do in the past. However, I do believe that in our day-to-day lives we still come across instances where people are still prejudiced. People still take race into consideration which really shouldn’t be the case, but I do think that still affects employment and other things it really shouldn’t affect.”

**Nicole Almeida**  
Sophomore business administration major



“His vision could be applied to lots of different things but I think what he wanted to use it for has been realized, which is racial equality. Even though you can’t get rid of all racial inequality, there’s definitely justice for all races I think.”

**Loraine Sanchez**  
Freshman biology major



“I think his ideology has had a chance to pass through the minds of the people of his era along through the generations that followed afterwards. Now, has it been implemented or has it been fully adopted? No. But if he or others hadn’t fought for the same cause, I think it would be a lot worse.”

**Ezana Assefa**  
Senior behavioral neuroscience major

“I don’t believe that we’ve reached his dream yet. I think we’ve definitely progressed since we’re still able to talk about it openly. I think that we’re on our way but there needs to be a lot of reconciliation before we actually reach the dream that he spoke so eloquently of.”

**Brant Granger**  
Doctor of osteopathic medicine student



“I think even though society has come a long way to accept different cultures and backgrounds, a lot of people still have judgments of a certain race or color of skin and that does unfortunately, often influence relationships. I think there’s still a lot of work to do to fulfill that dream.”

**Jessica Rodriguez**  
Freshman business administration and dance major





# Letter to the editor

## GIVE PATIENTS AND ADULTS SAFER ACCESS TO CANNABIS IN FLORIDA

*This letter is a response to the article “Wouldn’t have changed a thing” that ran in The Current’s Nov. 18 issue.*

To me, it’s upsetting that Amendment 2 for legalizing medicinal cannabis in Florida did not pass. As emphasized in my previous opinion piece for The Current, the amendment required a supermajority vote of 60 percent to pass. Amendment 2 was just short with only 58 percent. This unusual supermajority requirement was instituted by Florida voters in 2006 — ironically at a percentage less than 60 percent. None of this helps our state’s stereotype of having extremely indecisive voters.

Still, medicinal cannabis received one of the highest percentage of votes received in Floridian history; it was higher than any governor in Florida has attained for the past 40 years and more than any presidential candidate in 30 years. It also received a better vote than in a large portion of states that have legalized some form of the plant in the past. Without a doubt, many Floridians think legalizing medicinally in Florida makes sense. And, although many could call me an extremist for this, I think it should eventually be fully legalized in this state.

Being a bit of a “canna-biz” geek, I foresee that Florida has one of the biggest medical and recreational markets for cannabis. With such a great proportion of older residents coming to Florida to retire, the need for the flower could grow if the negative stigma pervading it decreases. All it takes is for older individuals to be a little more open-minded to the possibilities of the plant as an alternative medical treatment for others or possibly even themselves. I am slowly seeing this occur with some of my own older relatives, one of whom now swears by a cannabis lotion he uses for his pain. He claims that it has worked better and has less side effects than any medication a doctor prescribed him, many of which were opiate-based pills. As time goes on and more information about the plant is revealed, perhaps more current and incoming seniors would want to try it for certain ailments. This would provide a huge in-state market in Florida while providing seniors with helpful medicine.

How did the majority of senior citizens vote

this past year? An NBC exit poll reported that every age group voted extremely close to or over 60 percent, except for those aged 65 and over (38 percent voted yes). If you are an individual who already supports legalization, I urge you to find ways to persuade your parents, and especially grandparents, about sensible reasons to legalize. Change can only come if we target this key weak spot in our voter demographics.

Why recreational? I think it’s because this state has potential to be one of biggest recreational markets in the country due to our sizeable population. Not to mention the fact that our state has some beautiful, exquisite year-round weather, which puts us at the top for tourism. That means an even larger recreational market, definitely larger than Colorado’s, especially if tourists are accounted for. Colorado was rolling in the greens from both medicinal and recreational cannabis last year. Though initial tax projections were off, the state’s revenue department reported that, through October of last year, about \$45 million in tax revenue was collected. Where is all that money going? Right back into state programs. Colorado voters already voted to earmark \$40 million in cannabis tax revenue to go straight to public schools.

And that’s just one state. Our population is quadruple that of Colorado! Think of how much more tax revenue our state would have if we taxed similarly. This could support us in other areas, such as education. Our system is currently sub-par compared to its sizeable population. There are definitely some kinks that need to be worked out. In Cypress Bay High in 2011, I remember the Broward County School District cut jobs for 1,400 teachers that year. A few of those happened to be Cypress Bay current or former teachers. Many of us students were frustrated, and some of us missed class to protest outside the school. Why not bolster tax revenue to support education, so instances like in that in 2011 won’t occur in the future? Cannabis could even bring change locally with increased business and tax revenue, should cities decide to enact an extra

tax. Florida politicians should realize that our state will benefit more than Colorado if we legalized cannabis.

A previous opinion piece in The Current titled “Wouldn’t Have Changed a Thing” stated, “And for those who voted yes, I hope it was not for selfish reasons. I hope you said yes because of the benefits it may have had for those who are chronically and painfully ill, not because of the incorrect belief that it would somehow lead to increased availability of marijuana for recreational use.”

Actually, sorry to upset the author, but I did vote yes for both of those reasons. I won’t mind an increased availability for recreational use. Many accuse us cannabis activists as using the medical argument as a guise to aid our own agenda, if we happen to be users. I would counter and say these are actually hybrid cannabis advocates merely killing two birds with one stone — doing it for the patients first and then themselves. So what if personal use is what may have initially drawn people to being pro medical cannabis in the first place? Anyone can agree, without a doubt, that there are people who desperately need the plant for their ailments. And if the flower is legalized medically, it can help decrease the unjust taboo surrounding the plant, should people gradually see the benefits. But before that happens, the patients who desperately need the plant are more of a dire issue to me.

A patient in a state without legalization such as ours would presently have to go to an illegal seller, quite possibly in a unsafe location, to purchase raw cannabis that he or she may not necessarily want to ingest by smoking. In addition, who knows whether this illegal cannabis from a probable stranger could be laced with toxic substances? The seller could also choose to distribute to any individual, regardless of age. Legalization would help to ensure a good portion of cannabis is kept off the streets and placed into regulated facilities that will only accept qualified individuals to enter. Current

dispensaries in some states are required to have inspection on all flowers to ensure both legality and purity before being sold. Patients can even purchase healthier forms of cannabis, such as food, creams and even capsule form, in these locations. Why not allow patients, and even sensible adults who would like to alter their minds with something more natural than alcohol and tobacco, less dangerous and more appropriate to access while simultaneously reducing the black market?

People mistakenly think Charlotte’s Web, the non-psychoactive strain of the flower that lawmakers approved last year, is sufficient to cover medicinal use in Florida. However, this strain only helps a limited number of people with certain ailments particularly children who suffer from epileptic seizures. But, state officials just announced that legalizing the use of this strain could be months away; they need to rewrite the majority of the rules to gain lawmaker approval, which makes those who can benefit from it to have to wait longer. Florida needs to legalize it as soon as possible, at least medically, so this nonsense can stop. Perhaps a bill in 2015 would even work. After Amendment 2, incoming Florida Senate President Andy Gardiner, a Republican, told the Florida Channel the night of election, “I think what people are saying is it’s time for us to work together and come up with some good solutions.” I hope he sticks to his words and that change is made because no one in our state who currently needs medicinal cannabis, including those epileptic kids, actually have safe and proper access at the moment.

Sahib Singh  
Accounting Major



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CONTACT OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, KEREN MOROS AT [NSUNews@NOVA.EDU](mailto:NSUNews@NOVA.EDU)



# Help Wanted

*All students should contact the Office of Student Employment Website to apply for these positions:*  
[http://www.nova.edu/financialaid/employment/how\\_to\\_apply.html](http://www.nova.edu/financialaid/employment/how_to_apply.html)



<b>Administrative Assistant-(1096)</b> <b>Job ID: 5399</b> <b>Hours: 10 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Assist with filing, data entry, reports and other office duties. Help with special events.	<b>Student</b>	textbooks, software/videos, and solutions manuals.	Collection & Bibliographic Services. Sort and distribute incoming mail. Print call numbers for new materials. Photocopy and distribute materials as requested, shelve materials, maintain catalog of Novacat. Other duties as assigned.	networking equipment. Assists in trouble-shooting network outages. Gather and compile information for special projects.	for the Residential Life and Housing staff. In addition, assist the Assistant Area Coordinator with all duties associated with front desk management.
<b>Graduate Student Assistant-(086)-(LD)</b> <b>Job ID: 4519</b> <b>Hours: 15 hrs./week to 25 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$11/hour</b> Assist coordinator with various on-going projects within the ESS Financial Aid department.		<b>Head Lifeguard-(1007)</b> <b>Job ID: 4847</b> <b>Hours: 10 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$12.50/hour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Effectively communicate with staff lifeguards and monitors their actions</li><li>Assist with the delegation of maintenance and clean up duties</li><li>Assist professional aquatic staff with the planning and setting up of all events and training sessions</li><li>Responsible for making sure all opening and closing procedures are performed for assigned shift</li><li>Act as the primary contact for all facility and programming inquires in the absence of a professional aquatic staff personal</li><li>Report to Aquatics Director and/or Coordinator any incidents, rescues, problems or equipment in need of repair</li></ul>	<b>Student Library Assistant-(045)</b> <b>Job ID: 4494</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Shelving, answer phones, copying, filing, etc.	<b>Group Exercise Instructor-(550)</b> <b>Job ID: 4608</b> <b>Hours: 5 hrs./week to 10 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$14/hour</b> Create and lead safe and challenging group exercise classes.	Essential Job Functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assist in the general operations of office procedure and functions</li><li>Offer assistance to residents and general NSU community</li><li>Work with resident advisors, clubs and organizations in scheduling rooms in the commons utilizing Ad-Astra database</li><li>Print out and e-mail daily schedules of classroom availability in respective hall</li><li>Assist with scheduling and facilitating front desk staff meetings</li><li>Answer and respond to inquiries via phone, in person, e-mail and by mail</li><li>Able to effectively communicate information pertaining to all office functions and present this information during orientation, tours and other scheduled presentations</li><li>Perform inventory and replacement of front office supplies</li><li>May be required to commute to other campus offices, conference rooms and on occasion, to off-campus sites to attend meetings, workshops and seminars, etc.</li><li>Follow proper procedures when an incident occurs; as well as accessing the necessary emergency information in a confidential manner</li><li>Other duties as assigned</li></ul>
<b>Administrative Student Assistant-(HPD89)</b> <b>Job ID: 5039</b> <b>Hours: 15 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$10/hour</b> Assist in the day-to-day operations in the academic and special events area of the department.		<b>Lifeguard-(165)</b> <b>Job ID: 4542</b> <b>Hours: 10 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$10/hour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ensure the safety of all swimmers, patrons and user groups</li><li>Communicate and enforce pool rules/regulations in a professional manner</li><li>Provide emergency care and treatment as required until the arrival of emergency medical services</li><li>Maintain a professional appearance and attitude at all times and carries out a high level of customer service</li><li>Conduct simple water test to determine water quality</li><li>Perform various maintenance duties as directed to maintain a clean and safe facility</li><li>Assist with the setting up and breaking down of events/competitions</li><li>Attend scheduled staff meetings and in-service trainings</li></ul>	<b>Program Assistant-(891)</b> <b>Job ID: 4776</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$8.50/hour</b> Students assist with the overall operation of programs and services related to the office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement including, but not limited to: leading campus initiatives and events, maintaining databases, designing and posting publicity, answering phones and taking students to event locations.	<b>Administrative Student Assistant/Proctor-(732)</b> <b>Job ID: 4692</b> <b>Hours: 5 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$10/hour</b> Responsible for administering the Child Care Exams at exam site. Set up room for testing, admit persons to testing site, verify person, test and date, maintain security of exams, validate inventory prior to and after the exam. Ensures that the room is prepared and materials are distributed and returned; maintain integrity of the tests. Schedule may be for every other weekend.	
<b>Graduate Student Assistant/Student Advisor-(355)</b> <b>Job ID: 4973</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9.25/hour</b> Assist international students with check-in process, general questions regarding F1 visas, common application procedures and questions (OPT, CPT, Reduced Course Load, required documentation, etc). Create new student files, maintain existing files. Establish contact with incoming and current students regarding office processes and requests. Mail and track official documents to students and government agencies. Other related duties as assigned.			<b>Desktop Computing Assistant-(039)</b> <b>Job ID: 4487</b> <b>Hours: 15 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Assist full-time technicians with the daily installation and maintenance and support of personal computer hardware and software. Troubleshoot technical issues relating to faculty and staff desktops. Assist OIIT logistics in the pick-up and removal of surplus equipment.	<b>Administrative Student Assistant-(752)</b> <b>Job ID: 4700</b> <b>Hours: 15 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Assist Imaging System Administrators in the office and field. Set up and troubleshoot computer workstations, scanning equipment and imaging-related software: Ascent, DPO, Unisearch 32, Netsearch XL and Unisearch Interactive. Perform routine maintenance, hardware/software installation and assist in moving heavy equipment.	<b>Student Worker-Front Desk Customer Service-(861)</b> <b>Job ID: 4765</b> <b>Hours: 10 hrs./week to 15 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$8.75/week</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Schedule tutoring appointments for NSU students over the telephone and face-to-face using web-based tutoring database system</li><li>Provide excellent customer service to students, faculty, staff and other members of the NSU community both over the phone and face-to-face</li><li>Answer multi-line phone system</li><li>Complete basic office tasks, such as filing, scanning, faxing and emailing</li><li>Replenish, restock and prepare tutoring rooms throughout the day</li><li>Complete other special projects as assigned by the Assistant/Associate Directors</li></ul>
<b>Math/ Science Tutor-(67)</b> <b>Job ID: 4509</b> <b>Hours: 12 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$8.25/hour</b> Work with students in one-on-one tutoring session both live and online. Discuss learning, test-taking, and study strategies while assisting with course work assignments and questions. Maintain familiarity with all courses that you are responsible for tutoring by reviewing		<b>Tutor (Accounting)-(1012)</b> <b>Job ID: 5156</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$10/hour</b> Provide individual and small group tutoring to accounting, finance or economics students in the Huizenga School undergraduate program.	<b>Phonathon Caller-(500)</b> <b>Job ID: 4588</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> The Phonathon Caller primary functions involve contacting alumni, parents, and friends of Nova Southeastern University to learn about their experiences, build rapport, provide updates about new developments at NSU and most importantly raise support for the NSU annual fund. Callers are expected to act professionally at all times while strengthening relationships between the University and its constituents. Working with the Phonathon team is a great opportunity to improve your communication, fundraising and public relations skills.	<b>Facility Supervisor-(785)</b> <b>Job ID: 4721</b> <b>Hours: 10 hrs./week to 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$10/hour</b> Manage recreational facilities in conjunction with and in lieu of a professional staff member. Supervise other student staff through training, supervision and evaluation. Open and close the facility, attend to injured patrons, supervise all behavioral control incidents, prepare shift reports, supervise all facility reservations, set-ups and breakdowns.	
		<b>Student Library Assistant/ Tech. Services-(046)</b> <b>Job ID: 4496</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Support activities of	<b>Network Specialist-(503)</b> <b>Job ID: 4590</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$11/hour</b> Assists in the installation of	<b>Student Assistant/Front Office Staff/ Security Supervisor-(809)</b> <b>Job ID: 4753</b> <b>Hours: 20 hrs./week</b> <b>Rate: \$9/hour</b> Assist in training, scheduling and supervising 20 – 30 front desk assistants. Serve as primary customer service representative	