

December 14, 2018

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One Week Left – Cheer on Your FIU Panthers at the Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl



There’s still time to secure your tickets to cheer on your FIU Panthers in the Bahamas! A limited number of travel packages remain. To purchase your travel package, please [click here](#). The travel package does not include a game ticket. Bowl tickets should be purchased through [FIU Athletics](#). Bowl game tickets will be available for pickup at the University Credit Union Box Office at FIU’s Riccardo Silva Stadium until Wednesday, December 19, 2018. You must have a valid passport to attend the game.

To stay up to date with the latest information, visit [FIUSports.com](#).

Questions? Contact (305) FIU-GAME.

Celebrate Excellence – Nominate Your Peers for the Service & Recognition Awards



We are counting on you to help recognize our outstanding FIU staff, faculty, and teams who have made a world of difference!

Nominations are now open for the annual FIU Service and Recognition Awards Ceremony this spring. To access the site where you can learn more about all the award categories, criteria, the nomination process, and/or how to submit nominations online, please visit nominate.hr.fiu.edu or [click here](#). You will need to sign in with your FIU AD credentials.

Nominations will only be accepted online until Thursday, January 31, 2019, 11:59 p.m.

Questions? Contact Trudy Fernandez, Director of HR Relations, at (305) 348-0101.

Lend a Helping Hand



The TLC Brigade needs you and we hope we can count on you!

We are currently assisting a family with children who are facing unforeseen challenges due to serious health issues. Due to certain special needs, we are asking for your support in the form of donations. **If you would like to view the preferred list of items, please [click here](#).**

Donations may be dropped off no later than Friday, December 14, 2018 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in PC-224 (MMC) or HL-320 (BBC).

Questions? Trudy Fernandez, Director, HR Relations and Director, FIU Retiree Association at (305) 348-0101.

Employee Benefits – Important Updates and Reminders



Medical Flexible Spending Accounts for Plan Year 2018

- The last day to incur eligible expenses for the 2018 plan year is Monday, December 31, 2018.
- If you have unused funds, a max of \$500 of unused funds will rollover to the following plan year.

- Filing deadline (use it or lose it) is Monday, April 15, 2019 for expenses that were incurred by Monday, December 31, 2018. For more information, [click here](#).

Reminder Regarding Your 2019 Benefits

- All changes made during the Open Enrollment period will be effective on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.
- Benefits premium deductions became effective on the Friday, December 7, 2018 paycheck.
- For 2019 Flexible Spending Accounts, the contributions will be deducted on the Friday, January 4, 2019 paycheck.

Dependent Eligibility Verification – If you have recently added a new dependent to your benefits plan, please [click here](#) for some **important information** regarding your dependent(s) eligibility.

Address Review & Update for W-2 Purposes – Have you recently changed your address? Don't forget to update your new address in the [PantherSoft System](#). In order to ensure you receive your W-2 via USPS mail in a timely manner, please update your mailing address no later than Friday, December 21, 2018 through [Employee Self-Service \(ESS\)](#). For more information, please [click here](#).

Benefits Fair Survey & Pictures – We thank all survey participants for your valuable feedback! All winners of the raffle will be contacted by Benefits Administration. For the event's pictures, [click here](#).

Winter Walk-In Sessions – Are you a new employee or have questions about your benefits? Join us at the upcoming Benefits Walk-In Winter/Spring Sessions to have all your benefits questions answered. To view the schedule and meeting locations, please [click here](#).

Seasonal Perks – [Click here](#) to check out a list of **NEW** seasonal perks.

Questions? Contact Benefits Administration at (305) 348-2181, or benefits@fiu.edu.

Tech Day Open House – January 25, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.



Do you know of a retiree or senior in the community who may be interested in staying up to date with the latest technology trends and taking their tech savviness to the next level? If so, invite them to join us on Friday, January 25, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in PG6-116 for a [Tech Day Open House](#) hosted by the FIU Retiree Association.

To RSVP and register a retiree or senior for this free event, please [click here](#) by Friday, January 4, 2019. Seats are limited.

Questions? Contact Trudy Fernandez, Director, HR Relations and Director, FIU Retiree Association at (305) 348-0101.

Get Your Discounted Tickets Today for the SOBEWFF 2019



The 18th Annual Food Network & Cooking Channel South Beach Wine & Food Festival returns to EAT. DRINK. EDUCATE. and benefits FIU from Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – Sunday, February 24, 2019. As a university employee, you can save 20% on tickets for the following events:

- [Barilla's Italian Bites on the Beach](#) sponsored by HCP Media and the Miami Herald Media Company hosted by Giada De Laurentiis
- [Beachside BBQ](#) presented by The National Pork Board hosted by Guy Fieri
- [BACARDI's Beach Carnival](#) hosted by Andrew Zimmern
- [Goya Foods' Grand Tasting Village](#) featuring MasterCard Grand Tasting Tents & Culinary Demonstrations.

Use promo code **FIUSTAFF19** at checkout!

Questions? Contact Terry Witherell at (305) 348-2517.

Professional Development – New Workshops



Check out our upcoming workshops by logging into our [professional development registration site](#). Click “Upcoming Training” to see a calendar of upcoming professional development workshops.

- **Office Employee Assistance** – Take a moment to relieve some holiday stress. Focus on your own balanced wellness over expectations of the perfect holiday. One way to relieve some holiday stress is to take a moment to take an anonymous online mental health screening provided by OEA. Join our upcoming mindfulness meditation session:
 - Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 12:00 p.m., MMC I GL-482
 - **Center for Leadership – The Leadership Lectures featuring Roddy Chong**
 - Wednesday, January 23, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](#) to RSVP. Questions? Contact the Center for Leadership at (305) 348-5323.
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Did You Know – Gift Policy



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that FIU has a gift policy? According to [FIU 140.131 Gift Policy](#), FIU employees are prohibited from using or attempting to use their position(s) in order to obtain special benefits or privileges for themselves or others. FIU employees, their spouses, and children must not accept or request anything of value if it might be perceived as influencing the employee's actions. For more information on this policy, please [click here](#) for a short video.

Questions? Contact University Compliance & Integrity at compliance@fiu.edu.

To provide feedback on this newsletter, please contact us at hradmin@fiu.edu