

November 6, 2017

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Generations Ahead Scholarship – 7 DAY EXTENSION



There's still time to apply to the Generations Ahead Scholarship! This scholarship is designed for dependent children of FIU's benefits-eligible faculty and staff as well as full-time faculty and staff also enrolled as full-time students at FIU. For more information and to apply, please click [here](#). The deadline for submitting the application is Tuesday, November 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Employee Benefits – OPEN ENROLLMENT HAS BEEN EXTENDED



Open Enrollment is Here for the 2018 Plan Year! - Open Enrollment will end promptly on Friday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. Eastern time. All changes to your benefits may be made online in [People First](#).

[What's New for 2018?](#)

[Medical Plan Changes](#)

[Dental Plan Changes](#)

This year is considered an ACTIVE ENROLLMENT year due to several changes in benefits choices. As such, we encourage all faculty, staff, temporary (OPS) employees and adjuncts to:

- Take the time to review your Personalized Benefits Statement carefully as it shows what coverage you currently have, in addition to your options for the next plan year.
- Make changes online in People First or call the People First Service Center, Monday – Friday, from 8:00 am. – 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, at 888-663-4735 or TTY 886-221-0268.
- Feel free to change elections as many times as you would like during the open enrollment period. Elections become final at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 10th, the last day of open enrollment.

If you are eligible for benefits through the State Group Insurance Program, this is your once-a-year window to change your benefits outside of having a [qualifying life event](#). For more information, please click [here](#). If you have questions about this process, please call the People First Service Center at 1-866-663-4735.

FSA and HSA Advantage Accounts – Great News! “Live Chat” now available for your FSA and HSA Advantage with Chard Snyder Benefit Solution. For more information, please click [here](#).

NEW Perks! – The Division of Human Resources is excited to present to you FIU’s fantastic perks! Discover NEW savings on restaurants, housing, car rentals, entertainment, and more [here](#).



Applications are now open for the [Berta D. Villares Book Scholarship](#). This scholarship will provide a one-time cash award to an eligible faculty/staff member currently using the FIU tuition waiver benefit to pursue their degree. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 10, 2017 for consideration. To review the criteria and to apply, please click [here](#). Should you have any questions, please contact Trudy Fernandez, Director of HR Relations at (305) 348-0101.



We hope you all enjoyed the wonderful Homecoming festivities and had an opportunity to cheer on your FIU Panthers while they took on Texas at San Antonio and WON! Go FIU!

We would like to thank you for unleashing the spirit throughout Homecoming week and beyond. Your continued participation and support is just one of the reasons this time of the year is as fun and memorable as it is.

Scroll below for a look into the results of this year’s Homecoming competitions. Should you have any questions, please contact Trudy Fernandez at (305) 348-0101 or Ashley Ares at (305) 348-6099.

2017 Homecoming Faculty/Staff King & Queen



Please join us in congratulation your 2017 Homecoming Faculty/Staff King and Queen!

Juliette S. Saint-Louis | Academic Advisor II, College of Communication, Architecture + the Arts

Brocdyl J. Porta | Director of Student Services, Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

Panthers Got Talent

Angelique “Angie” M. Freire, Senior Strategic Events Manager for Community Relations and Special Events blew the audience away with her vocal performance and took the winning title for Panthers Got Talent Faculty/Staff.



Spirit Decorating Competition

With three categories, Gold Spirit, Blue Spirit, and Door, this year’s competition was fierce! Congratulations and thank you to all who participated and unleashed the spirit! The winning areas are:

Gold Spirit

College of Communication, Architecture + the Arts

Blue Spirit

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs – Dean’s Office

Door

Office of Auxiliary and Enterprise Development

In case you missed the big announcement at the Homecoming game on Saturday, November 4th, check out the images of the winners for each category by click [here](#).

Spirit Hashtag Competition

Social media was buzzing with FIU Homecoming news, images, and more – all thanks to you! Great job at getting the word out! The hashtag with the most shares, tweets, and likes is #FIUHCLibraries from FIU Libraries!

Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment



FIU faculty and staff who are currently uninsured can review options through the Health Insurance Marketplace during the Affordable Care Act's open enrollment period. The Open Enrollment Period ends December 15, 2017. Financial assistance may be available to qualifying individual and families. Those who enrolled last year should re-enroll in the Marketplace for 2017 Coverage. The Affordable Care Act is still fully in effect and you may be penalized if you do not maintain coverage throughout the year. FIU will be hosting several enrollment services during the 2017 open enrollment period at the following dates and times:

Wednesday, November 15th

BBC: 3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., Hubert Library Room 150. Click [here](#) to register.

MMC: 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., GC Computer Lab – Gold Room. Click [here](#) to register.

Saturday, November 18th

BBC: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Hubert Library Room 150. Click [here](#) to register.

MMC: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., GC Computer Lab. Click [here](#) to register.

Saturday, December 2nd

BBC: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Hubert Library Room 150. Click [here](#) to register.

MMC: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., GC Computer Lab – Gold Room. Click [here](#) to register.

Remember: Be sure to [review the list of required information](#) (SSNs, immigration numbers, employer information, etc.) to bring with you. Can't make it to either of these sessions? Click [here](#) to set up a weekday appointment with a Navigator. If you need assistance, or have additional questions, please call 786-708-0836 or email hshaheen@healthcouncil.org.

Submit Your Nominations for the Service & Recognition Awards Ceremony—Don't Delay!



The Division of Human Resources invites your nomination(s) for the 2018 Service and Recognition Awards Ceremony, where we will honor and recognize FIU's distinguished faculty and staff members for their achievements and years of service.

To access the site where you can learn more about all award categories and their criteria, nomination process, and/or to submit nominations, please click [here](#). The deadline to submit is Thursday, November 30, 2017.

Mindful Practices at Work Workshops



Join the Office of Employee Assistance for the Mindful Practices at Work workshops. To sign up for the workshops below, please click [here](#).

Thursday, November 16th, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., GL-322 | MMC
Wednesday, November 29th, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., GL-482 | MMC

Compassion in the Workplace Workshop



Join the Office of Employee Assistance for the Compassion in the Workplace workshop on Wednesday, November 22nd from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. in GL-220 at MMC. Learn how to practice compassion to

combat personal and occupational stress, and how to have meaningful social relations among co-workers and management. To register for the workshops below, please click [here](#).

Sign Up Today for the Service Excellence Workshops



The Service Excellence workshops are back for the fall! Brush up on your 'in-person,' telephone, and written customer service skills. The workshops will cover:

- FIU's philosophy on Service Excellence
- Professionalism at work
- Effective service over the telephone
- Managing written correspondence
- Techniques for delivering excellent service, even in difficult situations

Dates and Times:

Thursday, November 16th, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., CSC-1144A | MMC

Thursday, November 30th, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., CSC-1144A | MMC

Wednesday, December 13th, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., CSC-1144A | MMC

Space is filling up quickly. [Register today!](#)

EOPD Fall Training Series



Join the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs and Diversity for their Fall Training Series. To register for the workshops below, please click [here](#).

Dilemmas in Diversity Training

Wednesday, November 15th, 12:00 p.m.- 1:30 p.m., GL-220 | MMC

Sexual Misconduct Training

Wednesday, November 8th, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., WUC-223 | BBC

Wednesday, November 29th, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., GL-220 | MMC



[Click here to like us on Facebook!](#)

Lunchtime Workshops – Feeling a little stressed as the year is coming to a close? Join Isabel Alfonsin-Vittoria as she discusses the various ways that we can recognize, handle, and monitor our stress. This workshop will provide a little bit of mindfulness, meditation, and other tidbits to help reduce stress. Click [here](#) to sign up for the workshops below.

Tuesday, November 14th, 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m., GC-243 | MMC

Friday, November 17th, 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m., HL-319 | BBC

Save the date for our December Lunchtime Workshops as we discuss concerns about money and how it can lead to stress and impact productivity at work. Come listen as the Wells at Work program discusses ways to empower you and your financial wellness. Click [here](#) to sign up for the workshops below.

Tuesday, December 12th, 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m., GC-243 | MMC

Wednesday, December 13th, 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m., HL-319 | BBC

PAWScast – Episode 2 of our PAWScast is out now! Listen to [“PAWScast: Check up with Alicia”](#) as Nathan and Giselle follow up with Alicia Pena, Benefits Specialist, as she shares with us some updates on her story of breast cancer. Enjoy!

“The Wellness Wire” November Newsletter – This month’s issue of “The Wellness Wire” is now available! View calendars of events hosted by vendors of State Group Health Insurance, learn about common warning signs for Alzheimer’s disease, and understand the power of volunteering. Click [here](#) to view the newsletter. Enjoy!



Drug-Free Campus Workplace Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy: 1705.002

It is important for FIU to provide a safe, productive, and drug-free education and work environment for our faculty, staff, and students. To accomplish this important goal, you are required to review and adhere to the Drug-Free Campus/Workplace Policy and the Annual Notification. You will receive an email from Convercent directing you to the Policy and Notification. Please read and review both the policy and notification, which

contain important information. Upon completion of the review, you will be asked to attest that you have completed this essential task. Thank you for your time and helping making FIU campuses safe drug-free environments.



Join us at the 25th annual Children's Holiday Celebration on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.! This annual tradition serves as a connecting bridge between underserved children in our local community with programs and services as offered through the Office of Student Access & Success. During this festive occasion, we invite children from Miami-Dade County Title I public schools to experience first-hand the value of higher education. In addition to fun and educational workshops for the children, guests enjoy a holiday spirited luncheon and entertainment, along with an opportunity to make a difference through a fun scholarship fundraising activity.

For ticket information and more details about this event, please click [here](#). For further information, you may contact Mari Vila, Executive Assistant, University Advancement, at (305) 348-2009 or by email at vilame@fiu.edu.

Parent and Family Day is Back On!



Calling all faculty, staff, & retiree parent/guardians of current FIU students! The previously postponed Parent and Family Day has been rescheduled! The Division of Student Affairs invites you to join the festivities on Saturday, November 18th at MMC. Join Student Affairs for a day full of events, including brunch, a trivia contest, an FIU Symphony Orchestra concert and more! To purchase your tickets, please click [here](#). For more information, please click [here](#).

RSVP Today for Graduate Virtual Open House



Connect with us during your lunch break from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. on November 9th or November 28th for a Graduate Open House and find out how to set your future in motion. Make a change for the better with a master's degree from FIU Online. As an FIU staff member, do you know that you qualify for a tuition waiver and FIU Online scholarships? Register and log on to get your questions answered. Begin your program as soon as next term! Click [here](#) to RSVP today!

Conflict Within Crisis Webinar



There's bound to be conflict within organizations – especially during a crisis. Do you know what to do? Internal conflicts can halt production, derail growth and damage the brand, while leaders scramble to repair things. Learn how to create a comprehensive and thoughtful communication plan to fix what's broken and repair the brand, from two FIU experts Aileen Izquierdo and Raquel Perez. Also learn about the fully online master's degree in Global Strategic Communications and how you can earn it in as little as 12 months. Click [here](#) to RSVP for the "Conflict Within Crisis" webinar on November 15th from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Worlds Ahead Lecture with Peter L. Scher



Join the Center for Leadership for The Worlds Ahead Lecture with Peter L. Scher, Global Head of Corporate Responsibility at J.P. Morgan Chase on Tuesday, November 14th at 9:30 a.m. in the Graham Center

Ballrooms. Listen as Peter discusses the Role of Business in Society and how companies can lead in addressing complex societal issues and better serve as a force for progress and opportunity in communities around the world. Click [here](#) to register for this lecture. This lecture counts towards 2 hours of professional development. For more information, please click [here](#).

Cycling Under the Stars



Join FIU Wellness and Recreation as we support the FIU United Way Campaign and take our cycling class outdoors on! Bring a \$5 minimum donation for the United Way of Miami-Dade! Once registered, you'll receive donation options via email one week prior to class. To register for the times below, download the PantherFit Mind Body app and jump to November 9th to register. For more information, please click [here](#).

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