

Facts About Broward Community College

Institutional Mission and Philosophy

Campuses and Centers

History of the College

District Board of Trustees

Equal Opportunity Policy

Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation

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Institutional Mission and Philosophy

Mission Statement

The mission of Broward Community College is to provide high quality educational programs and services that are affordable and accessible to a diverse community of learners. Supported by the Board of Trustees and the community, a dedicated faculty and staff fulfills this mission through its commitment to student achievement, lifelong learning, academic excellence, and the use of current technology.

Philosophy

As an institution committed to the ideal of the worth and dignity of the individual, Broward Community College recognizes the religious, racial, and cultural diversity of its students and staff and endeavors to provide equal educational opportunity for all students. Furthermore, the College fosters the value of lifelong learning as it strives through teaching excellence to enable students to appreciate knowledge and to acquire an education that will assist them in assuming positive roles in a changing society. Believing that educated people should be guided in their behavior by decency and civility, the College values honesty, integrity, and social responsibility among both its staff and its students. Furthermore, it aspires to empower students with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills, global perspective, clarified values, and creativity that will enable them to make moral choices and ethical decisions in all aspects of their lives. In addition, the College embraces a commitment to American democratic values and culture, the principles of responsible citizenship, life enrichment, and self-awareness.

Beliefs

- That all individuals, regardless of race, creed, or national origin, are able to learn and should be given the opportunity to succeed in their endeavors.
- That all segments of the community can benefit from lifelong learning.
- That all individuals should be treated with respect and dignity.
- That all individuals should have the opportunity to access affordable educational opportunities.
- That many educational experiences can take place anywhere and anytime through a variety of delivery systems.
- That the college is a resource for cultural awareness opportunities and community service.
- In providing the opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and administrators to develop and realize their personal goals through education.
- In promoting the highest expectations for students, faculty, staff, and administrators, and maintaining high academic standards.
- In preparing students to function successfully in a diverse, multicultural, and global environment.

- In supporting, promoting, and participating in the economic development of the community.
- In providing a safe and secure learning and working environment.
- In preparing for a sustainable future and embracing change that benefits the college mission.
- In the effective and fair use of all college resources.
- In preparing students to work effectively in an increasingly technological society.

Purpose

As it fulfills its mission, the college is committed to responding to the cultural diversity of Broward County as the area expands. In support of its open-door policy, the college provides a variety of delivery systems and instructional modes to enable students to prepare for the future in accordance with their own individual abilities, needs, and interests. The college is also committed to providing special academic support services to students with disabilities. In its role as an institution of higher education and in its efforts to be a premiere teaching institution, Broward Community College is dedicated to fulfilling the following major functions.

1. To serve as an entry point for baccalaureate degree programs by providing the first two years of a four-year curriculum through a program of general education that includes communications, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, science, mathematics, wellness, computer competency, and international/intercultural awareness.
2. To prepare individuals for employment through a variety of specific programs in the general areas of business, management, and office systems; the health sciences; the engineering, construction, and mechanical technologies; computer technology; human and public services; natural and environmental resources; and aviation.
3. To provide economic development and continuing education that meets the needs of business, industry, the professions, and government. To enhance workforce development opportunities for individuals seeking to upgrade their skills to maintain employment, advance within their current field, change careers, or enrich their lives through lifelong learning programs.
4. To provide college-preparatory instruction for those students who need to enhance their basic academic skills prior to attempting college-level work, and to guide students whose first language is not English to the mastery of communication skills.
5. To serve as a cultural center for Broward County by providing a wide variety of quality visual and performing arts programs and activities that educate, entertain, enrich lives, and elevate the human spirit.
6. To provide international and intercultural educational experiences to help students develop perspectives that will enable them to function effectively in a multicultural environment and in an

interdependent world. To pursue linkages with educational institutions and agencies in other countries in order to provide for an academic interchange and promote the improvement of higher education on a global scale.

The college

Broward Community College provides higher education and technical and occupational training for the citizens of Broward County, its district by law. As the first public higher education institution in the county, Broward Community College functions as the principal provider of undergraduate higher education for the residents of Broward County. As one of the 28 public community colleges in the Florida system, Broward Community College is designed to be a community-based institution that offers a comprehensive range of programs responsive to changes in the community and in technology. Where appropriate, these programs are articulated with the public school system, area vocational schools, and upper-level institutions to ensure that students can move smoothly from one system to another.

Through this wide variety of degree and certificate programs and continuing education courses, the college attracts a great diversity of students, including individuals planning to complete a bachelor's degree program, people seeking to acquire job-entry skills, employees desiring to upgrade skills for promotion or career change, and individuals seeking education for their personal enrichment. From high school students who enroll in a course to accelerate their college education, to retirees who return to education after decades devoted to other pursuits, a multitude of age groups is represented at Broward Community College. These culturally diverse students span the learning spectrum from developmental to gifted. The college's programs and services are designed to serve the community by meeting the higher education needs of all these individuals.

Serving as the principal entry-level institution for higher education in its district, the college is also: a source of cultural enrichment; a resource for community development, business, and industry; and an avenue for continued skill upgrading enhancement and retraining. As a public comprehensive community college, the college serves well its role as a significant segment of America's higher education effort.

The college's District Board of Trustees, the legal governing body for the operation of the college, serves as a corporate body with all powers necessary and proper for governance and operation. Trustees are appointed by the governor, approved by the State Board of Education, and confirmed by the Florida State Senate. The college operates under statutory authority and rules of the Florida Board of Education. The Division of Community Colleges, which is subject to the overall supervision of the Florida Board of Education, is responsible for statewide leadership in overseeing and coordinating the individually governed public community colleges. State appropriations and student fees provide

operational funding for college programs. Construction and building maintenance funds are provided through statewide capital outlay bonds, not through local property taxes.

The campuses and centers

A. Hugh Adams Central Campus

The A. Hugh Adams Central Campus is located west of the Florida Turnpike and south of Interstate 595 on Southwest Davie Road in Davie. Central Campus is situated on 150 acres in a traditional style college setting equipped with an aquatic complex and sports facilities. The campus has 27 buildings including the Buehler Planetarium and Observatory, the Ralph R. Bailey Concert Hall, the Fine Arts Theatre, the Institute of Public Safety, and the Student Affairs Center. In addition, the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus offers students the University/College Library, a research facility jointly funded by Broward Community College and Florida Atlantic University. The A. Hugh Adams Central Campus hosts two educational partners on site: Florida Atlantic University, Davie Campus; and the College Academy @ BCC, a high school associated with Broward County Schools.

North Campus

North Campus, which is adjacent to the Florida Turnpike at Exit 67 and south of Coconut Creek Parkway in Coconut Creek, covers approximately 113 acres. North Campus has 13 buildings that include the multipurpose Omni and the Broward Community College/North Regional Library. The newest facility is the 65,000 square-foot Student Services Building, which opened in the fall of 2000.

Judson A. Samuels South Campus

Located just west of the Florida Turnpike on Hollywood/Pines Boulevard at 72nd Avenue in Pembroke Pines, South Campus offers a full spectrum of college credit, community education, and technical education classes. The campus' 12 buildings sit on 103 acres. The campus also operates three partnership satellite centers: the Pines Center in the Academic Village at 16957 Sheridan Street, the Weston Center at 4205 Bonaventure Boulevard, and the BCC Automotive Training Center at Miramar at 7451 Riviera Boulevard. In addition, the campus is home to the Aviation Institute and the joint-use Broward Community College/Broward County South Regional Library. The Aviation Institute, located adjacent to North Perry Airport, offers seven FAA-approved curriculums and four degree programs. The program prepares students for FAA certification and employment in the aviation industry.

Pines Center

The Pines Center is located approximately two miles west of I-75 on Sheridan Street in the Academic Village in Pembroke Pines. The center is part of a 77-acre Jeffersonian-inspired educational complex that includes the Southwest Broward Regional Library and the Pembroke Pines Charter High School, as well as an athletic/aquatic complex and a wetlands nature reserve.

The center offers a wide spectrum of credit and non-credit offerings designed to prepare diverse learners for numerous educational and career opportunities.

Weston Center

The Weston Center is located on the second floor of the Weston Branch Library and offers a wide spectrum of credit and non-credit courses. An 18-month fast-track Associate in Arts degree in Business Administration is also offered onsite to accommodate the busy lives of working adults.

BCC Automotive Training Center at Miramar

The BCC Automotive Training Center at Miramar covers approximately 23 acres on Riviera Boulevard adjacent to the Florida Turnpike near the Broward/Miami-Dade county line. The center provides classrooms, administrative offices and work bays and serves as home to the college's automotive programs.

Willis Holcombe Downtown Center

The Willis Holcombe Downtown Center is located in the heart of urban Ft. Lauderdale. Together in partnership with FAU, the BCC Holcombe Center forms the Higher Education Complex on East Las Olas Boulevard. The Willis Holcombe Downtown Center houses the college's district offices as well as over 210,000 square feet of high-tech classroom space consisting of wired classrooms, science and technology labs, and a full array of student services. The Willis Holcombe Center is surrounded by a rich array of cultural and municipal resources, including the Broward County Main Library, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, the Museum of Discovery and Science, the Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Art, and the Riverwalk complex of shops and restaurants.

Institute for Economic Development

The Institute for Economic Development is located in the heart of downtown Fort Lauderdale within the Willis Holcombe Downtown Center at 111 East Las Olas Boulevard, Room 408. The institute offers a variety of continuing education courses, corporate training services, customized workforce development resources, and support groups and training for women transitioning into the workforce.

History of the college

In 1959, the Florida Legislature authorized creation of the Junior College of Broward County and members of the community began work on making the college a reality. An influential group of Broward supporters lobbied Washington to provide land at the former Forman Field in Davie, a training site for World War II Naval aviators. A local advisory board was assembled in October 1959 and guided by the State Board of Educational Regulations, began developing programs and hiring staff. The college's first president, Dr. Joe B. Rushing, vice president for administration at Howard Payne College in Brownwood, Texas, was appointed March 17, 1960. He reported for work on April 7.

The following autumn, the Junior College of Broward County opened its doors to its first class, 701 students, in buildings that were formerly part of Naval Air Station Junior High on the western portion of the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport property. Dr. John Allen, president of the University of South Florida, addressed the college's first graduating class, 73 students, at War Memorial Auditorium on June 10, 1962. Among its members was Parris Nelson Glendening, who went on to serve two terms as Maryland's 59th governor. The Junior College of Broward County's first permanent building was completed in Davie at the former Forman Field site in August 1963 and the college officially moved to the Central Campus.

Dr. Rushing resigned in 1965 and was succeeded by Dr. Myron Blee, director of the Office for Emergency Planning in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Blee was in turn succeeded by Dr. A. Hugh Adams, who assumed his duties as president on April 15, 1968.

Florida's junior colleges originally were governed by its Boards of Public Instruction, who also governed elementary and secondary instruction in each county. In 1968, the same year the JCBC changed its name to Broward Junior College, the Florida Legislature removed the junior colleges from the county school boards' purview and turned the colleges' advisory boards into district boards of trustees.

In September 1970, the District Board of Trustees changed the college's name to Broward Community College, a change that better reflected the comprehensive nature of the college's programs and its crucial role in the community. Also in 1970, the South Campus got its start in temporary headquarters adjacent to Memorial Hospital in Hollywood. North Campus, in Coconut Creek, was dedicated in 1972.

Dr. Adams served as president for 19 years. After he announced his intention to retire on December 31, 1986, the District Board of Trustees renamed the Central Campus the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus in his honor.

Named to succeed Dr. Adams was Dr. Willis Holcombe, executive vice-president at Brevard Community College, and a protégé of Dr. James Wattenbarger, the architect of the state community college system. Dr. Holcombe had gone to Brevard from Broward, where he had served as a professor, executive assistant to President Adams, Central Campus academic dean, and then Central Campus provost. Dr. Holcombe served as president for 17 years, from 1987 to 2004. He initiated efforts that led to significant growth in enrollment, facility and program expansion. Dr. Holcombe also was instrumental in creating a variety of innovative partnerships to benefit the college, its students and the community at large.

Dr. Holcombe retired in January 2004. Succeeding him as the college's fifth president is Dr. Larry Anthony Calderon, an expert in strategic planning who served as president of California's Ventura College for the nine years preceding his appointment to BCC.

Beginning with a small university-parallel program, Broward Community College has expanded to serve the area's needs by expanding its curricula to include a wide variety of technical and healthcare programs which, in turn, help assure the viability of Broward County.

Equal Opportunity policy

Broward Community College, as an institution of higher learning, is dedicated to the inculcation of the highest ideals of citizenship in a free society. The college seeks to set a proper example by complying with all relevant laws enacted at every level of government. Consistent with the American ideals of equality of citizens and the dignity and worth of each person, the college hereby states that equal employment opportunity and advancement, as well as participation in programs and activities, are guaranteed consonant with appropriate laws without regard to race, color, age, national origin, religion, gender, marital status, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation or any other such factor.

All members of the faculty, staff, and student body are expected to assist in making this policy a practical reality. The college president is empowered to implement this policy through appropriate personnel and by use of effective procedures.

The vice president for financial and human resources shall monitor college salary schedules and recommend to the president changes necessary to ensure no discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, religion, gender, marital status, disability or sexual orientation in the granting of salaries to employees.

The equity coordinator is designated to coordinate compliance with civil rights protections. The equity coordinator for Broward Community College is the associate vice president for staff development and employee relations. Questions pertaining to educational equity, equal opportunity or equal access should be addressed to Patricia Senior, (954) 201-7371, psenior@broward.edu, 225 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Room 605, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

Policy prohibiting discrimination, harassment and retaliation

Federal and state laws protect employees from discrimination and harassment based upon membership in a protected status. Federal and state laws also protect employees from retaliation based upon their opposition to discriminatory conduct and/or their participation in certain protected activities. BCC affirms its commitment to ensure that each member of the college community shall be permitted to work in an environment free from any form of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, religion, age, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Please see Broward Community Policy 6Hx2-3.34 for further details.