Paul Harvel Earns Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship; Broward Tied for Tops in the Nation with 13 Awardees

Broward College student Paul Harvel was awarded a Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship this month. He was one of just 85 finalists selected from 3,705 applications and will receive as much as $30,000 a year for up to three years to complete a bachelor’s degree at an accredited college or university. With Harvel’s naming, Broward College now has 13 recipients of the national most prestigious community college scholarship — tied for most in the nation with one other community college.

Harvel, 36, came to Florida as a young man from North Carolina. After a few years in the state, he made some mistakes that resulted in his arrest. “Clearly I changed my life at that point,” Harvel said. “I was so unsatisfied with how my life was going.”

He enrolled at Broward College and despite a chronic health condition, he continued with his studies. After some time, he decided he wanted to be a writer. “Coming to Broward College totally changed my life,” he said. “I took some classes online but the rest I took at the Holcombe Center, right near my home. I love this campus.”

Harvel says he’s undecided about where he’ll continue on for his baccalaureate and master’s study, but he wants to explore short story writing. “You know, I’d like to write Southern fiction in a Gothic-y vein,” he says. But he does so now knowing the JKC Scholarship has given him a larger set of options … and a fresh start.

Encalada Receives Goldwater Scholarship, Hurtado Named Coca-Cola Scholar

Francisco “Frankie” Encalada (left) was named a 2014 Barry Goldwater Scholar. Encalada is an active Honors Institute student who has a passion for astronomy and physics. In June, he will pursue research at Northern Arizona University and the Lowell Observatory. The Barry Goldwater Scholarship — valued at $7,500 per year — aims to alleviate a critical current and future shortage of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers.

Valerie Hurtado (right) was named one of 50 Coca-Cola Silver Scholars nationally receiving a $1,250 scholarship and a medallion for demonstrating academic excellence and intellectual vigor combined with leadership and service that extends education beyond the classroom to benefit society.
Eight outstanding educators representing the subjects of English and reading, mathematics, social and behavioral science, business administration and nursing were named recipients of Endowed Teaching Chairs earlier this month. For the past 23 years, the College has provided endowed teaching chairs to its outstanding professors, who receive a stipend of $10,000 to improve classroom excellence and efficiency and for professional development.

The 2014 recipients are:

Dr. Richard Bernstein (Donald and Reba Schaffer Endowed Teaching Chair) is an associate professor of social and behavioral science at the Judson A. Samuels South Campus.

Professor Oyinka Coakley (William D. Horvitz Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of business and teaches courses in accounting at North Campus.

Professor Jeffrey K. Guild (Emil Buehler Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of mathematics at the A. Hugh Central Campus. This is his second award.

Professor Jennifer Lunny (Craney Fischley Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of nursing and program manager for the nursing program on North Campus.

Dr. Nicolas Mansito (Bank of America III Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of English at the Central Campus in Davie.

Professor Laura McDermott (Wells Fargo Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of English at the Samuels South Campus.

Dr. Dianne Ruggiero (Robert Elmore Family Endowed Teaching Chair) is an associate professor of English for Speakers of Other Languages, Reading and Successful Learning Strategies on the Central Campus.

Professor L. Jacob Skelton (Sensormatic Electronics Corporation Endowed Teaching Chair) is an assistant professor of English for Academic Purposes, Reading and Successful Learning Strategies on the North Campus.
Commencement Set for May 7

Broward College will hold its Spring 2014 Commencement Ceremony on May 7 at 3 p.m. at the BB&T Center in Sunrise. Some 3,317 students are eligible to participate in the spring ceremony. The graduating class includes graduates representing 85 countries, from as near as the Bahamas and Canada to as far away as Pakistan and Vietnam.

The oldest graduate is 65 years old and two graduates will earn their A.A.’s at the age of 16. Thirteen of the graduates are over 60 years of age and 101 graduates are over 50. Nearly 2,500 graduates will receive associate degrees and 110 will receive bachelor’s degrees, including the college’s first graduate in Supply Chain Management. Broward attorney Eugene Pettis, president of The Florida Bar, and the first African American to serve in that position, will address the graduates.

For more information, visit www.broward.edu/graduation.

Earth Summit Held

Students for a Greener Earth and the Office of Volunteerism and Leadership got the jump on Earth Day by holding the first Earth Summit at the University/College Library on April 9. Broward College students presented research findings and literature reviews. Top speakers on the subjects of sustainability, clean energy and green living appeared, including Dr. John Van Leer from the University of Miami; Jason Leichty, Broward County’s environmental projects coordinator; Buck Martinez, from the Office of Clean Energy; Liz Barraco, from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Peter Harlem, from Florida International University and Dr. David Serrano, Broward College’s Environmental Science Program coordinator.

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Broward College Welcomes Shanghai Second Polytechnic University

President J. David Armstrong, Jr., faculty and administrators met with representatives of the College’s newest international affiliate, the Shanghai Second Polytechnic University, earlier this month.

Four members of the university’s administration traveled to South Florida to begin learning about American-style college education. This is Broward College’s second affiliate Chinese institution; the first was Wuxi South Ocean College, which has been an affiliate for two years.

Soledad O’Brien Visits Broward College

Harvard-educated broadcast journalist Soledad O’Brien met with a packed room of students, faculty and staff to share her experiences earlier this month. "Micro impacts. Little things make a difference," she said. "Everyone can do something."

Later that day she lectured and answered questions as part of the 2014 Broward College Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series. O’Brien is an acclaimed journalist and former host of CNN’s “Starting Point.” She leads Starfish Media in the production of documentaries focusing on the divisive issues of race, class and poverty. O’Brien’s works include “Who is Black in America?” “Latino in America,” “The Women of 9/11,” “Don’t Fail Me: Education in America” and the Emmy Award-winning “Crisis in Haiti.”

The series wraps up on May 21 with marine explorer, educator and filmmaker Jean-Michel Cousteau. As the son of famed ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau, Jean-Michel has dedicated himself to protecting our “water planet” for the last four decades. Cousteau founded Ocean Futures Society, a conversation and educational organization, and serves as its spokesman. He has produced over 80 films, earning an Emmy Award and a Peabody Award for his work.


National Association of College Stores Supports American Dream

The Broward College Foundation recently received a $5,000 donation from the National Association of College Stores (NACS) for the Louis I. Hahl Memorial American Dream Scholarship thanks to George Masforroll and his service as president of NACS. Hahl was the director of bookstores at Broward College from 1976 until 1998.

Masforroll, Broward College’s associate vice president of auxiliary services, succeeded Hahl at the College and as president of NACS was able to identify which nonprofit would receive the organization’s donation. The scholarship helps full- and part-time students with tuition, fees and book expenses. Masforroll (pictured at left), who is also an alumnus of the college, presented a ceremonial check to John P. Hart, Chair of the Broward College Foundation Board of Directors (right) during the Broward College Foundation’s annual meeting.
Aviation Students Assist with Eastern Airlines History Project

A group of students in the College’s Aviation History classes have spent Friday afternoons working on cataloging memorabilia provided by the Eastern Airlines Retirees Association. Many residents of South Florida and Broward County had been Eastern employees since the airline was headquartered Miami. Working with the retirees, the International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading Foundation and History Miami, Broward College students are undertaking the cataloging effort as an academic service learning project under the guidance of Jan Shakespeare, associate dean for aviation operations, Professor Mark Bergau and Faculty Librarian for Archives and Special Collections, Andrew Dutka.

Student Deandrea McIntosh said working on the project helped affirm her decision to go into the aviation industry. “This program allowed me to have a visual experience of what Eastern Airlines was like back then,” she said. The first exhibit will be a display case in the Aviation Institute’s lobby and eventually, the plan is to create several glass display cases at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood and Miami International Airports.

Study Buddy Selfies

Some recent submissions to the College’s Study Buddy Selfie Contest through our social media.

Check out more #StudyBuddySelfie #BrowardCollege
News From the April Board of Trustees Meeting

Dr. Marielena DeSanctis Joins Broward College

Dr. Marielena (Marie Pesola Wright) DeSanctis was introduced as the College’s new VP for Student Affairs and Enrollment. She earned her bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech, her master’s degree in teaching from NOVA South-eastern University and her Ph.D. in education leadership from Florida Atlantic University. Additionally, she is involved in many leadership roles with a number of state and national organizations, and is a Certified Project Manager. Most recently she was director for curriculum, instruction and interventions with Broward County Public Schools, where she implemented a number of important initiatives including Common Core, STEM initiatives, and technical schools.

Saluting Safety

Campus Safety Officer Derek De la Torre and Universal Security Officer Yves St. Louis were recognized for their bravery and heroism in overpowering and detaining a dangerous criminal at the Willis Holcombe Center earlier this year.

Nursing Students Travel to Ecuador

Earlier this year, Dr. Linda Washington and Professor Claudia Sahagun led a service-learning spring break trip to Guayaquil, Ecuador. Eleven Broward College RN-to-BSN students participated. The students, each of them already registered nurses, found conditions more rustic and challenging than they anticipated.

“There were no gloves for any of the exams, except for the ones we brought,” Washington said. “We ended up working with 340-plus kids in our four days there.” Students screened youths for a variety of conditions, from cardiovascular anomalies to skin rashes.

Student Dawn Jackson, who came to the U.S. from Jamaica at 16, said the experience reminded her that not every clinical situation will be ideal.

“I think it helped to build my understanding that no matter what happens, you have to be flexible,” she said.