Students Develop, Plan and Attend Internship Fair

by Student Correspondent Natalie von Cieminski

Phi Theta Kappa, MuMu Chapter (Central Campus’ student-run branch of the official honor society for two-year institutions) hosted the Broward College Internship Fair on Nov. 19 at Central Campus. More than 200 students who are interested in receiving hands-on experience in their field of study through the Internship Edge program, participated. They were able to connect with employees of 15 various local companies that offer college credit or paid internships. Due to the excellent turn-out and strong feedback, planning is underway to make the internship fair a biannual event.

Biden, Perez Visit — Highlight Supply Chain Management Programs/Grant

Second Lady Jill Biden and Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez joined South Campus President S. Sean Madison and more than 100 invited guests, local politicians, business leaders and students for a roundtable discussion about the college’s new $24.5 grant in support of supply chain management (SCM) programs across the country and at Broward College.

"It’s great to be here at Broward College — again," noted Dr. Jill Biden, having been the college’s commencement speaker in 2012. The roundtable discussion focused on Broward College's crucial role in leading a consortium of 12 schools, including university partners Georgia Tech, Rutgers and Northwestern, in developing the structure for industry certification programs in SCM featuring traditional, hybrid and online instruction as well as industry-approved internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job training.

Supply chain management jobs are expected to grow at double the rate for all careers over the next decade. The current median salary is more than $70,000. The grant — the largest in the school's history — is part of a U.S. Department of Labor effort to expand training programs for unemployed workers, especially those impacted by foreign trade. Biden and Perez also toured the college’s Aviation Institute.

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Right to left: Second Lady Biden and Secretary Perez discuss aviation training with Dean of Transportation Russ McCaffrey and flight instructor and Broward College alumnus Brian Gascoine.
Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Meets with Students

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., spoke to a Performing and Cultural Arts Center crowd of students at South Campus last month. A founder of the Riverkeeper movement and passionate environmentalist, Kennedy spoke about how crucial the current generation of students are in being part of the economic opportunities coming from the transition to a green-energy economy. In questions from students, he described good environmental policy as identical to good economic policy when we measure the economy in a sustainable way.

Named a *Time* magazine “Hero for the Planet,” Kennedy spoke later that night as part of the college’s Fort Lauderdale Speakers Series. The series continues in January, with two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist Bob Woodward. Find out more at www.fortlauderdalespeakerseries.com

College Programs Help Reduce Student Loan Debt

Broward College has helped its students reduce student loan debt by $11.5 million over a two-year period by initiating a comprehensive default management program and participating in a federal experiment aimed at limiting unsubsidized federal student loans. The college successfully decreased the number of borrowers of unsubsidized loans, lowering student debt from $14,490,009 to $2,954,814, a decrease of $11.5 million to date.

“Broward College took an aggressive step in reducing student loan debt after observing high loan volumes and excessive borrowing by first time borrowers without a true educational need,” said Angelia Millender, vice president of student affairs and enrollment management. The comprehensive debt management program implemented by the college is designed to focus staff actions on raising student awareness of their borrowing practices, managing their personal finances and budgeting more appropriately to manage their financial priorities.

ROTC Students Support Veterans

Last month, cadets from Broward College and all universities and colleges under the command of Lt. Col. Sonny Vo, Professor of Military Science, FIU Army ROTC, assembled at FIU for a Ruck (a.k.a. March) to Honor Veterans. More than $10,000 was raised and will go directly back into local organizations that support veterans.

The college also hosted a number of Veterans Day events highlighting veterans and their service to our country and communities.
Ed DaSilva: Alumnus, Professor, Geographer

North Campus adjunct professor Dr. Ed DaSilva says he loves the diverse, cosmopolitan atmosphere in Broward County and at Broward College.

“I thrive in this global interaction with students from different parts of the world,” he says. “As an avid geographer, having students from all around the world enhances their understanding of this increasingly important subject for locating places, world biomes, physical landscapes, learning about people and languages, the study of the environment, economics and political systems.”

DaSilva, who teaches World Geography, became an adjunct faculty member at Broward College in 2004. He’s taught at Central, South and the Holcombe Center, and now calls North Campus home.

DaSilva is a native of southern Brazil. After earning his first degree at Catholic University of Minas Gerais, he moved to the U.S. where he attended Broward College and earned his associate degree with honors. His baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees are all from Florida Atlantic University, being named FAU’s Doctoral Student of the Year for 2007-08. In addition to his work in the classroom, DaSilva also has worked as an academic author, contributing chapters to several geography texts and to peer-reviewed journals.

Quality Matters at BC

Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Yaping Gao, district director of Instructional Technology, Broward College has been internationally recognized in a case study by Quality Matters titled "Broward College Case Study Using the Quality Matters Program." Quality Matters is the gold standard for quality assurance in the design and delivery of K-12, higher education, and corporate blended or online learning globally.

Also Dominique Charlotteaux, associate professor of Education & Psychology at South Campus since 2001, has been named to the 2014-16 Quality Matters Higher Education Rubric Committee. Dr. Charlotteaux has had nine of her online courses recognized nationally by Quality Matters since 2009; has received QM training and become a QM Higher Education Peer Reviewer, Higher Education Publisher Reviewer, K-12 Peer Reviewer, K-12 Publisher Reviewer, and Master Reviewer for Higher Education, K-12, and Publisher Content (Higher Ed and K-12); and has chaired and/or participated in 18 QM course reviews at the national level (reviewing courses from different universities and colleges; publisher content; and/or K-12 courses). The selection process was based on significant experience with QM, thoughtfulness, creativity and open-mindedness.

Read more at http://bit.ly/1iPDBBj

Student Recognized for Holiday Card Art

President Armstrong continued a tradition dating to 1997 by naming graphic arts student Kristina Bograkos (center) winner of the College’s holiday card competition. Each year, students in Professor Leo Stitsky’s (left) Graphic Design II class submit designs; the winning design is used as the President and Trustees’ official holiday card.

Bograkos, who is headed on to a four-year program at FAU, receives credit on the card and a check.

The design (left) emphasizes the College’s international student body, outreach and programs by depicting a brightly wrapped holiday gift with paper displaying the word “education” in a variety of languages.
American Dream Luncheon a Success

Broward College’s American Dream Scholarship Luncheon, held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, raised more than $300,000 for scholarships. The luncheon gives dozens of currently enrolled students and scholarship recipients a chance to meet with guests and share their success stories as students dine at each table.

Francheska Luizarys Rosso Santana, a formerly homeless waitress, spoke about rebuilding her life thanks to the opportunities available at Broward College.

A number of speakers addressed the importance of a Broward College education, including Francheska Luizarys Rosso Santana, a formerly homeless waitress, who spoke about rebuilding her life thanks to the opportunities available at Broward College. Guests also heard from Kris Ishmael, a veteran of the United States Army and an alumnus of the college; Terri Justice, who is both an alumna and a recently retired long-time employee of the college; Pamela Stephany, a member of the Broward College District Board of Trustees; and John P. Hart, Chair of the Broward College Foundation Board of Directors.

Midway through the program, currently enrolled Broward College students joined guests at their tables to share their personal stories about the power of higher education.

Broward College Student Ambassadors, nursing students who demonstrated patient simulators, dancers from the Visual & Performing Arts Department and members of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society were also in attendance.

All contributions made during the luncheon will support scholarships because all costs associated with producing the event were completely underwritten, thanks to the generosity of Presenting Partner BB&T, Educational Partner Florida Power and Light, Silver Partners AutoNation and Fastrack MCI, Leadership Partner ACAI and Corporate Trustee MEP Structural.

In addition, fundraising efforts were jumpstarted thanks to significant leadership gifts from the Leo Goodwin Foundation and the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Broward College Alumnus and veteran of the United States Army, Kris Ishmael, with the Honor Guard from Broward College’s Institute for Public Safety.
Non-Union Employees Receive College’s First ‘Pay-for-Performance’ Increase
Executive Director for Human Resources Denese Edsall reported that all non-union represented employees who qualify for the College’s first “pay for performance” increase will start receiving the across-the-board 1.5 percent salary bump, retroactive to July 1, in December. The increase was approved by the President and Board of Trustees based on the College’s successful performance and achievements related to strategic planning goals approved by the Board. College-wide improvements were made in all of top performance areas including an increase in:
• Completion rates for developmental education students in the winter 2013 term
• First Time in College (FTIC) enrollment for fall 2013
• Success rate for FTIC students, including retention rates for all FTIC students this fall and increased success (retention) in the top 15 “gatekeeper” courses.

Two Honored for Service
Two North Campus employees retiring this year — Nahid Meshkati (left) and Jim Rogge — were recognized by the BOT for their many years of service. Meshkati, a Broward alumna, began her career at North Campus at the open computer lab. She later became the lab director, where she helped teach students computer skills. Rogge came to Broward College as an adjunct professor of reading, became a full-time faculty member in 2000. In 2003, he took part in creation of the campus’ first Campus Read program, and has remained an active participant.

Fernandez Officially Welcomed, Board of Trustees at Full Strength
Gloria Fernandez was recently appointed to the Broward College District Board of Trustees by Governor Rick Scott. The Dec. 3 meeting was her first as a sitting a Board member. Fernandez, 52, of Dania, is the senior vice president of finance and acquisitions at Ross Realty Investments and previously served as a member of the Nova Southeastern University Real Estate Advisory Board and on the board of trustees for the Chaminade-Madonna Preparatory School. Fernandez received her bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from the University of Miami. She fills a vacant seat and will serve through 2017.

Broward College Board of Trustees, December 2013: (l to r) new BOT member Gloria Fernandez, Chair Sean C. Guerin, Elizabeth Tonkin, Vice-Chair John Benz, Pamela Stephany.

College Earns Awards at State Convention
The Broward College chapter of the Association of Florida Colleges — a statewide organization founded in 1949 to advocate for Florida’s public colleges representing all employees, presidents and trustees — received a number of honors and accolades at the group’s annual convention last month. Dr. Xiao Wang, professor of English at Broward College won the Vivian Dillinger Award as an Outstanding Faculty AFC member, North Campus Audio-Visual Specialist Travis Jordan won the chapter’s Unsung Hero Award and the chapter itself won an AFC Broward Silver Chapter Award.

The College’s Department of Public Affairs and Marketing earned five awards for its outreach efforts. The Broward College Brochure and a jump drive in the shape of a key containing the college’s new promotional video earned first place awards, while the President’s Monthly Update, a “tweet chat” with author Jon Meacham and the new promotional video earned second-place honors.
Colors Presented at Florida Panthers Game

Broward College Army ROTC students served as the color guard for a Florida Panthers NHL hockey game earlier this season.

From Social Media....

New Commercial Now Running

A new Broward College commercial is now running on local TV stations as well as cable channels. It focuses on the college's affordability, quality and value. Or check it out on our YouTube channel.