Florida Atlantic University, Broward College Working Hand in Hand to Serve Broward Students

By Mary Jane Saunders and J. David Armstrong, Jr.

As the presidents of the two institutions of higher education that have established one of the most effective working relationships in the nation, we want to speak with one voice to affirm the continuation of the partnership between Florida Atlantic University and Broward College.

While FAU will vacate its two buildings in downtown Fort Lauderdale over the course of the coming year, none of the academic programs based at that location will be discontinued. Instead, they will be moved to other FAU locations, and the 569 degree-seeking students enrolled in them will be assisted by advisors to stay on track toward graduation.

BC’s downtown Fort Lauderdale center is currently serving more than 3,000 students and training thousands more through the college’s continuing education and workforce training center. Additionally, both FAU and BC are focused on the rapid development of online programs that offer special benefits to students in mid-career by facilitating accessibility to degree programs.

In Davie, FAU and BC stand at the heart of the South Florida Educational Center, where they occupy adjoining campuses and offer students the opportunity to move seamlessly from lower-division to upper-division work in more than 40 degree programs in fields that include business, education, nursing, social work and criminal justice. Together, the two campuses are now serving about 27,000 students.

The bottom line is that the FAU-BC partnership is strong as ever. The mission of our long-standing partnership goal remains the same: to offer a wide variety of higher educational opportunities to Broward students, who will take their skills into the workplace for the betterment of our entire community.

SACS, QEP “on the right track”

One focus of activity in the SACS reaccreditation process is the Quality Enhancement Plan. Associate Dean Matt Rocco, who is helping to lead the topic selection process, has spent the summer consulting with other local colleges who have recently engaged in QEP development. Additionally, a community advisory group has been working with Rocco and his team on the process.

Information on the three QEP proposals - Writing Across Communities, Critical Thinking and Information Literacy - is available at www.broward.edu/sacs/Pages/QEP.aspx. Please fill out the survey at the bottom of the proposals’ page.
News from Rigoberto Rincones-Gómez
Associate Vice President, Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness

As Broward College continues to work towards becoming Best in Class, each of us need to think and plan strategically about the best approaches for “getting there” and the most important elements needed to produce lasting changes and results. At Broward College, we have adopted two very important plans: the Strategic Plan and the Strategic Implementation Plan. Both plans try to address, at two very different levels, questions such as: What do we need to do? How can we do it? How do we know we have done it? And how do we know we have done it well?

In order to answer these strategic questions, each of us is working as part of a team within our division, office or department. At the Division of Institutional Research, Planning, and Effectiveness (IRPE), we have initiated our part of this process by re-organizing our areas of work. The figure shown, top right, depicts the four areas of the IRPE Division: Institutional Research (IR), Institutional Effectiveness (IE), Business Intelligence (BI), and Institutional Planning (IP). Although each of these areas have very specific responsibilities and functions, we all work together in a synchronized manner, emphasizing teamwork and collaboration to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

Institutional Research: Designs, implements, and sustains a comprehensive college-wide institutional research and evaluation agenda for all student success initiatives.

Institutional Effectiveness: Provides leadership and assistance in developing and overseeing outcomes (including student learning outcomes), assessment processes designed to enhance the effectiveness of all programs and services at the College.

Business Intelligence: Transforms accurate and valid data into actionable information to support institutional research, planning, effectiveness, policy development, and strategic decision-making.

Institutional Planning: Promotes integrated strategic solutions, facilitates informed decision-making across the institution, and brings quality planning expertise to the management of institutional initiatives.

For example, within the IR area, we continue to work collaboratively across the college to ensure all data reported by this office are valid and reliable. Within the IE area, we are helping campus personnel with their assessment plans as we start the 2012-2013 assessment cycle. Within the BI area, we are making sure that the SAS 9.2 implementation phase is completed without any difficulties. And within the IP area, we are making sure we facilitate better informed decisions at the operational and strategic levels, by having all elements in place within our SAS information system, to track our progress and transform data into actionable information.

The IRPE division currently consists of 14 positions, divided between the aforementioned four areas, with very knowledgeable, dedicated, collaborative, and friendly staff.

In the near future, as we implement our IRPE plans, I will share exciting news about specific projects that support and enhance the entire college.

40 Under 40

The South Florida Business Journal announced this year’s 40 Under 40 honorees, and Broward College’s Greg Haile was among the top young business talent from the tri-county area who was honored. The list includes CEOs, presidents, shareholders, partners and more from a variety of businesses and organizations. Haile, who joined the College in October as the General Counsel and Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs, oversees legal affairs and all local, statewide, and federal government affairs for the institution. Actively engaged in the community, Haile is a graduate of Leadership Florida’s Class XXX, served as the immediate past chairman of 211 Broward and is a board member of the Broward Cultural Foundation. To view all of the winners, visit www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/blog/2012/06/introducing-the-40-under-40-class.html.
Two Broward College Staff Members Appointed to Federal Funding Task Force

Two members of the Broward College Office of Grants Development have been appointed to the Federal Funding Task Force (FFTF), according to Rande Daykin, Western Technical College grants manager and chair of the 2012 FFTF, and Ellen Noguera Hill, dean of special programs for Northeast Louisiana Technical College and FFTF 2012 co-chair.

Kristin Holowicki and Merrie Meyers, grant development managers for Broward College, were selected by the Council for Resource Development (CRD) to participate in this prestigious group. “These appointments speak to how highly we in the grants community regard the expertise of Broward College,” said Daykin. Holowicki has served on the FFTF in prior years. This is Meyers’ first time as a member. "We are proud that our Grants Development Team has been recognized for their professional acumen,” said Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr.

This year, Holowicki will also serve as a team captain on the FFTF. “Team captains serve as stewards to other FFTF members,” said Holowicki. “We help train our colleagues to become advocates for higher education funding.”

The task force is comprised of 60 members with 15 members serving as team captains who meet in Washington, D.C., annually. FFTF members work collaboratively to visit with federal representatives and advocate for the essential role community colleges can play as drivers of their evolving priorities amidst a leaner and meaner national economy.

Members of the FFTF work hard to update the CRD’s annual Federal Funding to Two-Year Colleges report and get invaluable insights into federal operations, the new funding outlook, and have the opportunity to network with community college colleagues from across the nation.

Becoming part of the advocacy process offers grant managers from across the country a bird’s eye view to how federal funding decisions are made. Participants also have an opportunity to advocate for grant programs that their institutions see as high priorities. Task force slots fill up within the first few days after the openings are advertised to member institutions.

The CRD is the essential education and networking choice for all community college development professionals. CRD connects, educates, supports, strengthens and celebrates community college development professionals. An affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges, CRD serves more than 1,600 members at more than 700 institutions.

For more information, contact the CRD at info@crdnet.org.

President Armstrong Named Chair Elect of Leadership Florida

Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr., has been named chair elect of Leadership Florida. An advocate for community service, Armstrong constantly urges students, faculty and staff to participate in service activities for the betterment of the community. He is an alumnus of the Leadership Florida Class of 1999-2000, and previously served as a program chair and board member.

As president of Broward College, Armstrong leads a diverse, learning-centered community enrolling more than 66,000 students annually. Under his leadership, the College has transformed into an institution that offers two-year degree and career certificate programs, and baccalaureate programs in targeted areas. Currently, Broward College’s baccalaureate programs are in teacher education, supervision and management, information technology, and nursing, all areas that will provide great career options for students and support Broward business and industry. The College is also about to launch new degree programs in environmental science, clinical laboratory and bio-technology, and supply chain management and logistics.

Armstrong holds leadership positions in several statewide organizations, including the Florida Chamber of Commerce’s Board of Governors and Workforce Florida. Within Broward County, he is chairman of The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Economic Development Council and a member of the Broward Workshop, an organization composed of 100 of Broward County’s chief corporate and professional decision-makers. Armstrong also serves as a member of the Council on Competitiveness, a national organization of CEOs from mostly large corporations, and university and college presidents focused on business, education and workforce global competitiveness issues.
The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is Continuously Improving

Dr. Rigoberto Rincones Gómez, AVP of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness has announced some new developments and continuous improvement in IE.

Dr. Gail Wisan is the new district director, Dr. Amy Hyman Gregory is the interim director, and Ms. Mildred Foster is the accreditation and document analyst.

Three documents have been developed for the IE 2012-2013 Assessment Plan. They are:

1. A paper template for Academic Programs
2. A paper template for Student Support Programs, Administrative, and Community/Public Service Units
3. A step-by-step guide with directions on how to complete the templates

“The directions and templates are aligned with current TaskStream workspace categories so each unit’s designee can easily enter data/information from paper templates into TaskStream. Alternatively, units may choose to skip the paper template and enter their plans directly into TaskStream,” said Dr. Rincones Gómez. He added that, “The Office of IE strives to provide outstanding service and support to the college. To that end, we invite you to contact us at any time should you have any questions. Also, please consider contacting us to schedule sessions to help your team develop its assessment plan(s).”

Broward College has completed the renovations of its second, state-of-the-art Institute for Public Safety (IPS) building, providing students with the latest in training facilities, including a rifle range unlike any other in South Florida. The new facility, located on Broward College’s A. Hugh Adams Central Campus in Davie, is equipped to train and educate more than 5,000 students per year in a variety of law enforcement, corrections, fire science and criminal justice programs. The IPS also is a training center for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

“The newly renovated building offers advanced training opportunities for basic recruits, veteran officers and students,” said Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr. “It offers our students who train here unparalleled flexibility. It is a technologically sophisticated, multipurpose training center.”

The environmentally sustainable building is constructed to the U.S. Green Building standard of LEED gold certified. It contains classrooms, a computer lab, crime scene investigation evidence and simulation laboratories, a simulation-based shooting facility, and a defensive tactics gymnasium. It also features an indoor, fully contained 10-station, 50-yard rifle range, to augment the firearms training, which is the first of its kind in South Florida.

“This is a state-of-the-art training center for public safety agencies and our college’s criminal justice program, crime scene technology program and fire science program,” said Central Campus President Dr. Mercedes Quiroga. “This center also will play a key role in professional development programs, which offer advanced and specialized training through more than 125 courses for approximately 2,500 law enforcement professionals annually.”

IPS Dean Linda Wood said she’s happy to have the building ready for training “because it will benefit not only our students but officers from the agencies we serve.”

IPS Dean Linda Wood, right, with Lauderhill Police Chief Andrew Smalling.

Institute of Public Safety Opens Police, Science and Fire Training Building

IPS Dean Linda Wood, right, with Lauderhill Police Chief Andrew Smalling.
The following are the six entries from Broward College with summaries of the projects:

1. **Mapping Financial Aid** - Broward College Student Financial Aid implemented a process improvement program that resulted in 11 percent more applications for financial aid being processed this year over the same period last year, a 38 percent reduction in the number of summer staff needed and the elimination of long lines of students who are waiting for service. A process improvement team, comprised of representatives from each of the College’s three main campuses and the District Office, was formed. Three goals were established by the team, and all were met within six months.

2. **Using Data to Restructure Admittance to Health Science Programs** - The college has excellent outcomes on the NCLEX-RN over the past five years. The College’s 2012 first quarter pass rate was 96.99 percent, however, there were concerns of an attrition rate measuring 38 percent in the first nursing course. Students who do not meet the program’s persistence policy are allowed to return to the program after completing the prescribed remediation plan. Records indicate that most returning students fail to complete the program. In order to reduce attrition in the first nursing course and avoid students who will not persist to the end of the program, two studies that included current and prospective students were conducted.

3. **Building Partnerships Internationally** – For many years, there has been a focus on encouraging institutions around the world to offer courses leading to an associate’s degree in their own country, in English, modeled after the Broward College program. Students from these sites are better able to transfer to the United States to complete a bachelor’s degree and perhaps continue on for graduate studies, before returning home. By taking the first two years at home, students can save the equivalent of thousands of dollars in their own currency, have time to mature a little longer at home and receive a quality American-style education.

4. **Faculty Led General Education Assessment** - Since 2009, a faculty-led team of 15 General Education professors representing the five major academic areas has been responsible for General Education outcomes and assessment. Team members work within their disciplines college-wide to design assessment strategies, and follow up with information and training sessions, based on the results of Institutional Research reports each semester. In addition to greater cross-discipline collaboration at the College, the result has increased student achievement at the course and competency levels.

5. **Math Redesign** - Broward College’s Math Redesign project focuses on both course compression and heavy pedagogical reform designed to quickly move students through the developmental math sequence. Traditional lecture is replaced with a learner-centered model. Student learning is facilitated and multiple learning styles addressed through a variety of innovative pedagogical activities. Immediate and continual feedback is a key component in the model. Institutional research reports comparing redesigned vs. non-redesigned course retention and student success rates over the past two years have documented statistically significant (5 percent level) differences for both developmental level courses.

6. **Assuring Quality in Distance Education** - Broward College has embarked on a multi-year project to provide affordable or free high-quality e-textbooks and digital resources for all students through the learning management system (LMS). The College is currently in Phase I of a three-phase approach. Phase I: Building Awareness and Strategy for Broward College was completed this year. A taskforce was commissioned to coordinate the initiative and a kick-off event, “E-Textbook & Digital Content Symposium” was held for the Broward College community and invitees from Nova Southeastern University, Barry University and Florida Atlantic University. Presentations included faculty innovators, and leading publishing and other vendors. This event increased awareness and provided a basis for the College to strategically manage the growth and adoption of e-textbooks and digital content. A strategic, three-phase approach to e-textbook and digital content provisioning was also developed.
Recent Graduate Earns Prestigious Fellowship

Broward College May 2012 graduate Sahar Z. Naqvi, of Davie, has been named a recipient of the Pearson Fellowship for Social Innovation. The fellowship is an international program that supports promising social service projects created by a network of youth leaders.

The program awards recipients $10,000 over two years.

“This is a tremendous opportunity for me,” said Naqvi. “I come from a middle-class background, and having been named a Pearson Fellow will allow me to complete my Ph.D. and dedicate time to causes that are near and dear to my heart.”

While at Broward College, Naqvi was as busy outside the classroom as she was inside it. She was a member of the Central Campus College Ambassadors, the Robert “Bob” Elmore Honors Institute, Phi Theta Kappa, the Competitive Edge Leadership Program, and also served on the Town of Davie’s Green Energy and Environmental Committee. Before graduation, Naqvi was named a Coca-Cola Community College Bronze Scholar and a member of the 2012 All-Florida Academic Team. Naqvi begins classes at Florida International University in August. She will pursue a double major in international relations and religion. She is the second Broward College student in two years to receive recognition from the Pearson Foundation.

Phi Beta Lambda Students Fare Well at National Conference

Broward College students Alejandra Belisario and Megan Mackey recently won first prize in the Emerging Business Issues event at Phi Beta Lambda’s National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Belisario and Mackey won $1,000 in prize money.

Joining them was the team of Paola Campodonico, Bradley Cassidy and Francine Coker, who finished third in the Integrated Marketing Campaign division. Together with Esmerald’s Trattoria, a Davie restaurant, Broward College’s Printing and Graphics Department and Broward College graphics student Benautil, the team created new menus and print pieces. Additionally, they helped the restaurant establish a social media campaign. They won $100 in prize money.

Natalie Lopez and Chris Cormio finished tenth in the Digital Video Production category with a film parody encouraging business and industry to sponsor Phi Beta Lambda members in leadership and competitive activities.

Hispanic College Quiz

Representing Broward College in the national Hispanic College Quiz were Prof. Claudia Sahagún, member of the Central Campus Communications Department and LASA (Latin American Student Association) advisor, and student Michael Sandoval.

According to the HCQ website, “The Hispanic College Quiz featured Hispanic undergraduate college students answering a series of multiple-choice questions on Latino history.

The show was taped in Chicago the week of July 23. This year’s series consisted of four half-hour quiz shows that will air across the country during Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15-October 14, 2012.”

Students representing the different Hispanic Serving Institutions.

“It was an excellent experience for everyone involved,” said Prof. Sahagún. “Although we did not win this time, Michael’s performance showed commitment and determination. He was second in his group, and he is a fine example of what Broward College students can accomplish when they have goals and find the support to work towards them.”
The inaugural cohort of 250 students has successfully completed the initial segment of the Broward College Academy for Excellence (BCAE), an innovative initiative to help individuals get ready to do college-level work and empower them to take control of their lives. The conclusion of the summer-bridge program was celebrated with an event to which family and friends were invited, featuring presentations on social-justice topics and the awarding of certificates. The A. Hugh Adams Central Campus in Davie and the Willis Holcombe Center in downtown Fort Lauderdale hosted celebratory events on August 2.

Groups of students collaborated on researching and discussing projects on a range of subjects, including domestic violence, health care, police brutality, illegal immigration, drug abuse and racial discrimination, and offering solutions to some of society's most horrific challenges. The students spoke about where they envisioned themselves in the year 2037, 25 years hence, in relation to the social issues, as well as personally and professionally. BCAE Coordinator Prof. Mary F. Di Stefano Diaz said, “The future will be different as we see ourselves making a difference as agents of change.”

The presentations were capstone projects for the students who will enroll for the fall term, which begins on Aug. 24. They will participate in learning communities, with a linked-course design created by four faculty members working together. The BCAE program was developed by the California-based Academy for College Excellence, founded by Diego Navarro, a full-time faculty member at Cabrillo College in California. The Gates and Hewlett Foundations recently awarded ACE $3.6 million to expand the program throughout the country and Broward College is now part of this national effort.

More than 250 attend “Career Launch: A Day at Broward College”

For the second consecutive year, Broward College welcomed a large group of teens from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County to tour and familiarize themselves with Broward College.

The 2012 “Career Launch: A Day at Broward College, hosted by the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus,” brought more than 250 students ages 13 to 18 from more than 20 Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County.

The students attended breakout sessions covering programs in the visual arts, allied health and more. They learned the do’s and don’ts of social media. Among the guests addressing them were Dwayne Wade, Sr., father of the Miami Heat guard, and C.J. Jones, who spent four years playing wide receiver for the New England Patriots and Cleveland Browns.

The day’s activities helped make the students feel comfortable in a campus setting, acquaint them with college and career possibilities and allow them to realize that with focus, dedication and hard work, a college education is within their grasp.

“We achieved what we had set out to do, to expose the students to a campus setting, a place most of them were new to and we shared information on possible career options with them,” said Danielle Flowers, Broward College’s outreach coordinator for career and technical education. Students were given backpack goody bags, lunch, snacks, a certificate of completion and other giveaways.

The Career Launch is a national initiative of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and Broward College’s partnership with this initiative has led to future collaborative projects. North Campus was the program’s home its first year and it will move to the Judson A. Samuels South Campus in 2013.
Faculty Spotlight: Erick Perez

Once Erick Perez found he was enjoying his part-time job in the classroom far more than his full-time one in an office, he did what seemed most natural and right. He became a full-time professor and says it’s made all the difference in his life.

Perez had a secure, full-time job but he came to notice something was lacking in his life. He decided to give teaching a try. It was an idea that had occurred to him on and off since high school in the Dominican Republic, where he had been born and raised. “I was motivated by a professor I had there,” Perez said. “He was fantastic, the way he taught. I was so captivated by him.”

He now teaches a full schedule of classes in microeconomics and macroeconomics at the Judson A. Samuels South Campus. “Now I’m going into my third fall at Broward and I’m really passionate about it,” he says. “Most of all, I just enjoy the interaction with the students. I love being a mentor and I love seeing their faces when they get the concept I’ve been trying to teach them.”

Perez, who earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Florida International University, also has become active with the South Campus chapter of DECA, the international organization for college students preparing for careers in marketing, merchandising, management, entrepreneurship, advertising, sales, hospitality, culinary arts, criminal justice and other business and marketing-related areas.

Perez serves as an adviser to the campus’ DECA program and as statewide chair of the state’s board of directors. He also has been named Advisor of the Year for the Florida Association of Collegiate DECA the past two years.

Asanyah Davidson: Continuing Education Instructor Creates Buzz

Take a look at one of Broward College Corporate and Continuing Education’s outstanding instructors, Asanyah Davidson, who teaches our Fashion Design, Interior Design, and Home Staging courses. Davidson and her work were featured recently in The Miami Herald and South Florida Times newspapers. A native of Jamaica, the multi-talented, creative professional has been an instructor at Broward College since January 2009. Last year she appeared on NBC 6’s South Florida Today to showcase her swimsuit collection.

Davidson is also an adjunct professor in the fashion design and accessory design department at Miami International University of Art and Design in Miami. She holds a master’s degree in design studies from Central Saint Martin’s College of Art and Design in London, and a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing for fashion industries from the Fashion Institute of Technology in N.Y.

For a full schedule of courses offered by Broward College’s Corporate and Continuing Education visit www.broward.edu/academics/ce/Pages/ce.aspx


Eastern Airlines Project Offers Service Learning Opportunity

Eastern Airlines may not exist any longer, but much remains from the many years that the Miami-based company was in operation. Now Broward College students will have an opportunity to earn service learning credit while archiving the fascinating Eastern Airlines artifacts and information that have been stowed away for years. In a unique partnership made up of the Broward College aviation department, service learning, and archives and special collections, the Eastern Airlines Retirees Association and History Miami, this ambitious project has begun. “It’s gearing up for fall semester,” said Andrew Dutka, Archives and Special Collections Librarian at the University College Library on Broward College’s Central Campus in Davie.

Broward College students began working with Dutka to process the collection last February. They sorted and arranged historic Eastern Airlines publications, operations manuals, photographs, posters, and pilot and stewardess uniforms, “This is a multi-year project to process the Eastern Airlines Retirees collection,” Dutka explained. “The collection consists of more than 1,000 square-feet of materials and includes both archival resources (photographs, memorabilia, promotional materials, business records) and three-dimensional artifacts including airplane models, uniforms and the chair of World War II flying ace Eddie Rickenbacker.”
College bids farewell to longtime employees

The District Board of Trustees wished fond farewell to three longtime members of the college family who are about to begin retirement.

Dr. Kathy Jackson, the dean of continuing education and workforce development for health sciences, has been a Broward employee since 1977, coming here after spending five years as a nursing instructor at a hospital-based nursing school in Michigan. One project she’s become especially close to is the SIM Center, which is currently under construction and is expected to be complete in fall of 2013.

Senior procurement specialist Gail Banner has worked at the college since 1995. She has been recognized widely for her work in her professional community, most recently as the 2011 Buyer of the Year by the Southern Florida Minority Supplier Development Council. She also received a 2002 PTS Outstanding Achievement Award.

Analyst buyer Jeff Margolies, has worked for the college since 1993, when he came to Florida after retiring from the U.S. Air Force. At Broward College, he first worked as material services manager until 2007.

Incoming Broward College Student is honored

Tomas Lopez, the Hallandale Beach lifeguard fired for leaving his designated zone while rescuing a drowning man, received a key to the city on Monday, July 9 from Mayor Joy Cooper and gratitude from the man he rescued. One month later, Lopez was recognized with a proclamation by Broward College’s District Board of Trustees as he prepares to begin classes now in the fall. “It’s unusual for Broward College to recognize students who have yet to begin classes here, but you are clearly a special case,” Board Chair Sean Guerin told him. “Usually proclamations and other recognitions come at the end of something special, but Tomas, the way we see it, yours comes at the beginning.” Lopez says he plans to study business administration at Central Campus. "It's a big honor, an amazing feeling, knowing that none of this was in vain,” said Lopez. “But, all I did was what I was supposed to do.” After the incident the lifeguard company offered Lopez his job back. Lopez declined, telling the company he needed to get on with his life, and going to college was a big part of that.

Board member elections

The Broward College District Board of Trustees unanimously re-elected Chair Sean Guerin and Vice Chair Sean Alveshire to their respective positions for another one-year term.

Guerin has been a member of the trustees since 2007 and was re-appointed in 2011. He has served as chair since 2009. Alveshire has been a trustee since 2009.