Broward College Trustees Approve 2013-14 Budget, Tuition Rates Frozen for Second Straight Year

For the second year in a row, Broward College’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously to freeze tuition rates. The freeze was part of the college’s budget, approved at this month’s BOT meeting, and impacts the 2013-14 academic year. At $75.40 per credit hour for Florida residents for an associate’s degree, Broward College tuition is the second lowest in the state. “Broward College is committed to keeping higher education affordable and attainable for our students, and the action of our Board of Trustees emphasizes this commitment. Freezing tuition will allow students to continue their educational goals and prepare themselves for a bright future,” said President J. David Armstrong, Jr.

The announcement comes a week after Governor Rick Scott rejected a 3 percent increase for Florida colleges and universities. While Broward College could seek tuition hikes on their own, based on legislative authority, the college’s board voted to again give students a financial break. “Our Board of Trustees takes pride in keeping costs low for students and families,” said Board Chairman Sean Guerin. “We agree with our governor that students and their families need a break.”

In addition to freezing tuition, college officials reduced and reallocated departmental spending in an effort to continue offering an excellent education through a range of programs, degrees and certificates. The college was able to offset some of its needs for expansion of programs, including job training, using increased budget allocations from the Florida Legislature.

"We are grateful to our Broward Legislative delegation for their help in obtaining additional funding that is more equitable compared to other colleges in the state," said President Armstrong.

The BOT also approved the following funding as part of the 2013-14 budget:

- construction of a new science building on the South Campus
- continued construction of the Southwest Center in the City of Miramar
- operation of 42,529 additional square footage at the Willis Holcombe Center vacated by FAU, the new Lingua Center at Broward College and a "new business incubator" at the Cypress Creek Center.

President Armstrong Honored with Governor’s Business Ambassador Award While in Chile

Earlier this month Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr. was awarded the Governor’s Business Ambassador Award by Florida Governor Rick Scott during a visit to the U.S. Embassy in Chile.

Armstrong received the award for his continued efforts promoting higher education in Florida and ensuring students have access to higher education. He was one of three business leaders presented with the prestigious award. Armstrong traveled with nearly 100 Florida business and government leaders as part of a delegation led by Governor Scott. The purpose of the four-day trade mission was to forge ties with Chilean businesses and increase trade opportunities.
Aviation Institute Flies High, Spreads Word about Program, Broward College

Broward College’s Aviation Institute has been on the go in recent weeks.

Three days later, Transportation Dean Russell Mccaffery, Associate Dean Jan Shakespeare and recruiter Evelyn Ruiz flew to Montreal to take part in the Regional Airlines Association’s Annual Conference. Many colleges and universities participated in the University Commons area at the conference, but Broward was the only community college to take part. Broward’s program also was featured in the RAA’s Regional Horizons magazine.

On May 11, the Aviation Institute helped North Perry Airport celebrate its 55th anniversary with an open house and tours from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The family-friendly activities also included helicopter and discovery flights, vintage airplane displays and more than 30 aviation-related companies and organizations.

Supply Chain Symposium Attracts Government, Industry Leaders

“Profits and Perishables” was the topic of the day May 10 at the Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club when South Campus, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, sponsored a symposium on supply chain management and its relevance in business today — a timely topic now because retailers selling perishables are now more accountable for the sourcing and traceability of perishables more than ever before based on federal Food Safety Modernization Act.

The symposium also served as a kickoff event for Broward’s Bachelor of Applied Science in Supply Chain Management degree program. A panel of top-tier industry experts engaged the audience in how the college and industry can better collaborate to ensure student success, through facilitated table discussions led by a team of deans who collected valuable information for continuous improvements of the program.

Nearly 100 people participated, including many supply chain professionals from various parts of the industry as well as students currently enrolled in the program. Vladimir Diaz, regional director of the United States Department of Agriculture was the keynote speaker and he presented a $39,000 scholarship to one of our BAS students.

The industry panel consisted of leaders from Port Everglades, Florida East Coast Railway, DHL, Florida Department of Transportation and Seaboard Solutions Inc.
Faculty Spotlight: Prof. Benjamin Botero, Criminal Justice, Central Campus

Ben Botero couldn’t have been happier when he returned to Broward College in August 2011. Botero knew a lot about the place because he had taught there before as a member of the Broward Sheriff’s Office staff assigned to what was then the Criminal Justice Institute. Botero said he loved the law and working with training corrections officers, but he hungered to become a criminal justice professor.

“So I left Broward and went to North Carolina to become a professor,” he said. “I was there ten years. Then when they had an opening at the IPS, I applied to come back.”

Now he’s back from Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville, N.C., where he was named “Educator of the Year” in 2007. Botero’s hard-charging, fully engaged teaching style fits right into the energized atmosphere at the Institute for Public Safety. The place he thought he knew well was back — even better than ever.

“I enjoy being a member of the IPS family, but most importantly, I love being in the classroom with our diverse and vibrant student body and working every day with a wonderful and extremely supportive team of supervisors, peers and staff,” Botero said. “We have a state-of-the-art facility — lots of technology and all those computers. It’s fantastic the environment. We are our own little island. It’s a great place to be.

“To keep up with the new generation of students and to promote engagement in the classroom, I incorporate technology, the Internet, videos, iPad, documentaries, poster board exhibits done by the students, seminars, guest speakers, trips to the computer lab for online research and field trips to the police academy.”

Now, as a professor of criminal justice, Botero gets to introduce his students to the wide variety of careers possible in the field of law enforcement. He said he knows he’ll see many of those students again when they come back for their police, corrections or police aide academy training.

“I believe in engagement,” he said. “We use multimedia a lot; we bring in speakers and we take field trips to the police academy. We’re always doing something interesting.”

The speakers bring special immediacy and impact, Botero says. They come from different bureaus of BSO, local police agencies, the Secret Service, the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner’s Office and even the enforcement division of the Florida Department of Agriculture.

Soldier – and Broward Alumna – Makes Joyous Homecoming

Every day, some folks insist, is Mother’s Day. Recently a Broward College alumna made a joyous and emotional homecoming and Mother’s Day, returning from a deployment of 162 days in Germany with the U.S. Air Force. Savannah Hawes, an aerospace medical services craftswoman, walked into a classroom at Nova Blanche Forman Elementary School in Davie to surprise her sons Ke’Sean and Kean where Ke’Sean is a third-grader and Kean is a kindergarten student. Third-grade teachers Tanya Hutkowski and Francine Brown worked with kindergarten teacher Sandra Ribler to invite the kindergartners to their classroom for a performance of “Little Red Riding Hood.” When it was time for the Big Bad Wolf to knock on the door, it was Hawes—already tearing up—waiting at the other end.

Hawes’ father is Ed Key, Broward College’s associate dean for student affairs.
Soledad O’Brien Keynotes "I Am Change" Event at South Campus

CNN’s Soledad O’Brien delivered the keynote address at the #IamCHANGE Youth Town Hall co-hosted by Broward College, L.E.A.D. Nation and WEDR 99 Jamz earlier this month at South Campus.

The standing-room-only crowd at the Performing and Cultural Arts Theater heard O’Brien talk about telling “the story of the complexity of America” in her work as a reporter. The “town hall”-style meeting provided a platform for youth to organize and discuss issues in their communities and is a precursor to the annual South Florida Youth Summit this fall.

Medical Assisting Program Meets Review Goals

The Broward College medical assisting program has been informed by the Medical Assisting Educational Review Board that its 2012 Annual Report Form has been reviewed and determined to be meeting all outcome thresholds.

The form is an annual exercise in which applicants must achieve a minimum of 70 percent to meet thresholds in the areas of student retention, job placement, graduates and employer surveys.

Student Paul Morrison Gives the Best Present of All to His Mom

As Mother’s Day presents go, Broward College graphic design student Paul Morrison’s is a lifesaver. On April 30 at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, he donated a kidney to his mother, Gloria, of Pembroke Pines. Gloria Morrison had been ill with kidney disease since 2001, but began to severely worsen in 2010 and was put on dialysis. She was given a three-year window for transplant. Family members were tested, but only one member was a prime donor, her son Paul. The family waited for Paul’s 21st birthday for the surgery.

“Basically it felt good to be able to do this for her,” he said to the Miami Herald’s Rene Rodriguez. “It felt good to give back to her. I was pretty nervous at first, but she’s my mom and I would do anything for her,” he said.

Physicians at Jackson Memorial estimate Morrison’s gift to his mom will give her a minimum of five to 10 more years. Both mother and son are recovering well.
The 26th annual edition of the SHARP Broward College Golf Classic, held May 9 at the Fort Lauderdale Country Club, was packed with as many thrills and fun as the tournament had provided in the quarter-century of events before it.

In its first 25 years, the tournament yielded two hole-in-one luxury car winners: Dr. Sheldon Warman and Dr. David “Skokie” Jackson. The 2013 tournament came tantalizingly close to adding a third.

“We almost had a hole-in-one on the last shot of the day,” said hole-watcher Sandra Gans. “Nothing else came close. On the last shot the ball stopped less than a foot from the hole.

The rest of the tournament was marked with good times, good fellowship and good fun. One hundred percent of the tournament’s proceeds go toward support of student scholarships. To date, more than $1 million has been raised to support scholarships. The tournament gives the Broward College Foundation the chance to show off the students who benefit from the foundation’s efforts. Some of those students took the time to chat with the golfers as they passed out golf towels out on the course.

“They’ve been very friendly and they do so much for us,” said Jessica Figueroa, of Davie, a member of the 2013 All-Florida Academic Team and a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation finalist who graduated from the college on May 4, but was out on the course a few days later saying thanks. She’ll be heading off to FIU’s honors college with a full scholarship. “We’re here to pass out chips, towels and drinks to them, just to say thanks for what they do for us.”

The tournament winners were: On the North course (15 holes results)
1. Ken Stiles, Dwight Rogers, Michael Carpenter and Jack Melnicoff (-13)
2. Jamie Tidwell, Mike West, Sean Guerin and Jim LaBate (-10 tiebreaker)

On the South course, the winning teams were:
1. Lindsay Goldstein, Charles Bucknell, Connar Quale and Larry Stein (58)
2. Keith Arnold, Adam Hawkins, Michael Pecchia and Jason Sundermeir (59)

Better than Birdies: Broward College Employee Volunteers

Great events like the Golf Classic don’t just happen. They are the result of beautiful weather, generous community partners, detailed planning…and volunteers. More than 40 Broward College employees, students and alumni volunteered at the event.

Signature events such as the Golf Classic do more than generate private financial support. They help increase awareness of Broward College’s important role in our community. This fall, staff members from the college’s Office of Advancement will be working on three signature events: the Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Alumni Network’s 5-K Run and the American Dream Luncheon.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering for signature events or if you know of a student we should contact, please email events@broward.edu.
Bryan, Proctor, Walsh-Portillo Assume New Roles

As Broward College continues to move ahead in identifying strategic opportunities and new programs supporting student success, a number of administrative changes have taken place. Dr. Barbara J Bryan, who has served as president of North Campus for seven and a half years, has been named vice president of strategic initiatives. She returns to the administrative headquarters in downtown Fort Lauderdale, where she previously served in various roles, including the college-wide associate vice president for student affairs. Dr. Bryan earned her baccalaureate, master’s and specialist’s degrees at the University of Florida and her Ph.D. in higher education administration and leadership at Barry University.

Assuming the interim role of president at North Campus will be Dr. Avis Proctor, who has most recently served four years as the college-wide associate vice president of academic affairs with responsibility for accelerated learning programs, K-20 articulation, curriculum services, academic policy and bachelor program development. Prior to this district administrator role, Dr. Proctor moved from faculty to associate dean of the North Campus mathematics department where she provided progressive and collaborative leadership for faculty to redesign mathematics curriculum to improve student learning and progression from developmental to college-level mathematics courses. She joined the college as a full-time mathematics faculty member in 2000 and earned her doctorate in education from Florida International University in 2011.

Dr. Joyce Walsh-Portillo will take over the position of associate vice president of academic affairs. Dr. Walsh-Portillo joined the faculty of Broward College in 2000 and was named a master teacher in 2006. In 2007 she was awarded the Causeway Lumber Company Endowed Teaching Chair, followed by a Classroom Research Award in 2008. In 2011, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development awarded her its Excellence Award. Dr. Walsh-Portillo completed work on her doctorate in education at FIU in 2011 and currently serves as the district director of teaching, learning and assessment.

Broward Salutes Mazzochi’s 25 Years on the Job

Broward College wished a fond farewell to quarter-century employee Leith Mazzochi at the May board of trustees meeting. Mazzochi came to Broward in October 1987, accepting a position in the public relations department at the Holcombe Center. After a year, she moved on to Central Campus to provide administrative support in the Open College. She moved across campus a year later to work in the social sciences area, a position she stayed in for a decade. Her final move was in May 1999 to South Campus, where she worked as an Administrative Specialist III for several associate deans.

During her years at Broward, Mazzochi earned a teaching certificate through the TEP program as well as an online Master of Educational Technology degree from Boise State University.

“I wish I could turn back the clock,” she said. “But it’s time for me to go. I’m going to miss it here.”
Drotzer Named to Governor’s Board

Ellyn Drotzer, the interim vice president of career and technical education and associate vice president for resource development and strategic planning for the Broward College Foundation, has been appointed by Governor Rick Scott to the Governor’s Commission on Jobs for Floridians with Disabilities. Drotzer’s term began on May 8.

Haile Lauded as Community Partner

Gregory Haile, Broward College’s general counsel and vice president for public policy and government affairs, was among the honorees at a 2-1-1 Broward breakfast on May 2 recognizing eight community partners. 2-1-1 Broward is a 24-hour helpline and support service that helps provide individuals and families seeking crisis intervention services as well as human services in Broward County. Joining him as honorees were Marcia Barry-Smith, Jen Klaassens, Berger Singerman, Broward County, the City of Fort Lauderdale, the Patriot National Insurance Group and the South Florida Sun-Sentinel.

Knight Named to Leadership Seminar

North Campus reading professor Thea Knight will represent Broward College at the Chancellor’s Leadership Seminar this summer, joining faculty from a variety of disciplines from other state colleges. Dr. Knight was a member of the 2011–12 President’s Leadership Academy and the CLS represents an exciting leadership development opportunity for faculty who aspire to leadership positions.

Bashford Addresses Graduates

Dr. Joanne Bashford, associate vice president for developmental education and student success, was the guest speaker at Eastern Gateway Community College’s 44th annual commencement on May 18 in Steubenville, Ohio. Dr. Bashford, who joined the Broward College’s administration in September 2012, has worked with Eastern Gateway since 2005 when the college joined the Achieving the Dream national reform movement to enhance student success in community colleges. She acts as a data coach for the college and provides guidance on initiatives the college uses to help students complete their programs of study.

Toski Named to PGA Hall of Fame

Longtime PGA member Bob Toski, of Boca Raton, who helped create the Toski-Battersby Golf Learning Center on North Campus in Coconut Creek, was recently named a member of the PGA Hall of Fame. Toski, 86, played on the PGA Tour until he was 30, when he became a teaching professional to players on the PGA and LPGA tour as well as amateur players. Among the golfers he taught were Tom Kite, Judy Rankin and Bruce Fleisher. Toski, who still teaches golf, estimates he has given more than 100,000 golf lessons in his lifetime.