Broward College will be the focus of the entire state on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. when thousands of students, dignitaries, community members, reporters and politicians will attend the 2014 Gubernatorial Debate at Broward College. Held in the newly refurbished Bailey Hall on Central Campus, the candidates in this year’s governor’s race will spend an hour exploring the issues determining Florida’s future. The debate is presented by Leadership Florida and the Florida Press Association and broadcast throughout the state on local stations. Moderated by CBS 4 anchor Eliott Rodriguez, the debate will feature panelists Frank Denton, editor of the Florida Times-Union, and Rosemary Goudreau, editorial page editor for the South Florida Sun-Sentinel — as well as a first-ever social media panel comprised of Bob Gabordi (@bgabordi) of the Tallahassee Democrat, Manny Garcia (@manny_garcia1) of the Naples Daily News, Patricia Mazzei (@PatriciaMazzei) of the Miami Herald and Jeremy Wallace (@jeremyswallace) of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

The college is hosting nearly 50 events before, during and after the debate in which students and community members will explore various issues including marriage equity, the Florida Constitution, energy policy, the medical marijuana ballot initiative, healthcare and local politics. Voter registration drives are also underway on every campus. Some sessions will even explore the link between musical taste and political views as well as humor in politics.

Visit www.broward.edu/debate, explore all the issues at NextFLGov.org and follow #nextflgov.
Broward College students will have the rare and exciting opportunity to experience democracy firsthand by becoming active participants in the political process, working to increase voter registrations, and closely examining and addressing key issues of this election season.

“I’m very excited about the debate being held at Broward College,” said Stefan DaCosta, president of the Latin American Student Association on Central Campus. “Not many people get this kind of educational and civic opportunity while they are attending college.”

Student life organizations on each of the Broward College campuses will be partnering with the Broward County Supervisor of Elections Office and voter registration representatives in an effort to help register as many people as possible through a series of voter registration drives scheduled in September.

The night before the gubernatorial debate, Broward College’s speech and debate team will participate in a live mock debate, which will be filmed at the College’s television studio at Central Campus and streamed online.

“Intensive Visual Arts Program Opens Doors”

Broward College has launched the Visual Arts and Design Academy (VADA), the first of its kind in Broward County. The academy is housed at Central Campus and offers an intense, highly selective and competitive program limited to 30 students a year.

“This program will not only guide students on the process of making art, but it will also encourage them to analyze the content of their artistic creations, which will give them the knowledge, confidence and skills they need to move on to any prestigious art program to further their education,” said Scott Miller, associate dean of the college’s Visual & Performing Arts Department.

Students must complete the College’s traditional enrollment process and also submit a portfolio of 15-20 samples of recent artwork and an artist’s statement. Senior art faculty jurors select the incoming class each year. Students are placed into groups of 15 students to foster a collaborative and creative atmosphere. At the end of every year, students must resubmit their portfolios to prove their progression and remain in the program.

“Miramar West Opens”

Hundreds of students are now taking classes at Broward College’s Miramar West Center located just east of I-75 at Pembroke Rd. and SW 145th Ave. Focusing on accelerated options, supply chain/logistics and general education coursework, the new center offers flexibility for working adults, according to South Campus President S. Sean Madison. Tech-savvy students will find a fully wireless facility with latest in next-gen educational options -- including an advising system that allows student to use their smartphones for appointments. Visit www.broward.edu/mw.
Broward College Joins Ice Bucket Challenge

When President J. David Armstrong, Jr. threw down the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge (see video here), members of the Broward College tennis, baseball, softball and men’s and women’s basketball teams responded. The athletes joined with millions of others around the world to take the challenge, which was started by former Boston College baseball player Peter Frates, who now suffers from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — or Lou Gehrig’s Disease — a debilitating neurologic disorder. The ALS Association had raised more than $100 million through the ice bucket challenge to date.

BC Joins Ice Bucket Challenge

Soccer Season Kicks Off New Era

The Broward College men’s and women’s soccer teams have kicked off a new era in Seahawk athletics as coaches Vicky Ruiz-Rosario and Munga Eketebi become the first full-time coaches hired by the College. Ruiz-Rosario, who began work as a part-time coach last year, graduated from FIU and coached high schools and elite teams there. Eketebi returned to Broward from Miami by way of College Station, Texas, where he operated a youth soccer program at Texas A&M University. Eketebi, a native of Zaire, also played and graduated from FIU. The women’s volleyball team has also started its season.

Broward’s soccer teams play their home matches at the South Campus soccer complex; the volleyball team plays at Central campus. Visit www.broward.edu/athletics for schedules.

Broward College’s aviation programs were on display at Fun Day at the Runway earlier this month at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport’s new 8,000-foot south runway.

The event gave people a chance to walk on the new runway before it opened to the airplane travel. The event also featured food trucks, bounce houses for kids and airplane displays. Prospective students and interested visitors were able to experience the College’s portable gas-powered flight simulator.

Broward College Joins ‘Fun Day on the Runway’
Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) Prepare Students

Broward College Online’s new MOOC (massive open online course) College Readiness courses debuted this fall. Free to students and covering more than 60 competencies in the areas of reading, writing and math, the courses were developed by the College with grant money from the Department of Education. The self-paced approach of these courses allow students to improve their skills through material such as lessons, self-assessments, tests, videos and game-based technology. The College plans to share these courses statewide in the near future, including working closely with high school principals to make the courses available to high school students so they are better equipped and prepared for college.

New Faculty Welcome

The annual Welcome Back Faculty meeting at the Omni Auditorium on North campus was held last month and brought together new and returning faculty collegewide. The 2014 Endowed Teaching Chair recipients — who receive a $7,500 program stipend and a $2,500 professional development stipend — were also recognized. The event gives attendees a chance to meet and mingle with their colleagues from all campuses and learn more about the college by strolling through the Marketplace, a showcase for departments, programs and college services.

From the Socials...

Pop Up Listening Posts

President Armstrong checks in with BC students

Chat with the Chancellor

Florida College System Randay Hanna stopped by earlier this month to chat with Broward College students about the many issues and concerns they face.

Welcome Back Students!

More than 45,000 students joined faculty and staff in kicking of the Fall term

Let’s Go #Seahawks

Suggested by Broward College
Broward College: One of the Top 10 Communities
Celebrating Alumni: The Hall of Distinction Breakfast

Broward College’s Hall of Distinction ceremonies earlier this month recognized the College’s Distinguished Alumni and our most recent class of Endowed Teaching Chair (ETC) recipients. President Armstrong welcomed a capacity audience to the Renaissance Plantation Hotel. Catalina Avalos, a former county judge and 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, served as emcee. Awardees included:

ALUMNI MERIT AWARDS
• Franklin Adderly, chief, of the Fort Lauderdale Police
• Dr. Joshua Lenchus, president of the medical staff of Jackson Health Systems
• Bob Saxon, president of International Yacht Collection

SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE AWARD
• Sharry Kimmel, an alumna, professor at the college and recipient of two Endowed Teaching Chair Awards

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD
• Nancy Tanner, director of the Victim Advocate Unit at the Broward State Attorney’s Office

EMERGING LEADER AWARD
• Rick Mijares, owner of American Social Bar & Restaurant

Broward College was the nation’s first community college to create an Endowed Teaching Chair program and the program has become the model for other programs in the state and nation. This marked the 23rd year Broward College has awarded Endowed Teaching Chairs.

This year’s recipients are:
• Dr. Richard Bernstein (Donald and Reba Schaffer ETC)
• Professor Oyinka Coakley (William D. Horvitz ETC)
• Professor Jeffrey K. Guild (Emil Buehler ETC)
• Professor Jennifer Lunny (R. Irene Craney Fischley ETC)
• Dr. Nicolas Mansito (Bank of America III ETC)
• Professor Laura McDermott (Wells Fargo ETC)
• Dr. Dianne Ruggiero (Robert Elmore Family ETC)
• Professor E. Jacob Skelton (Sensormatic Electronics Corporation ETC)

Since 1983, Broward College has recognized alumni who have made outstanding contributions in professional, civic, public and philanthropic arenas and have demonstrated how their lives were positively enhanced by their education at Broward College.