

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

from President Gregory Adam Haile, J.D.



Together we serve.

COLLEGE NEWS

New Trustee Joins Broward College Board of Trustees

Akhil Agrawal has been appointed to the Broward College District Board of Trustees. He joins current members of the Board: Chair Gloria Fernandez, Vice Chair Matthew Caldwell, and Trustee Zachariah “Reggie” P. Zachariah, Jr. He is a co-founder and managing partner of the early-stage venture capital and middle-market healthcare investment company AMD Equities. Trustee Agrawal has played a vital role in funding dozens of successful capital investment ventures over the past 20 years. In 1993, he co-founded the medical supplies distribution company American Medical Depot and led the company as president from 1993 through 2020. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Florida and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Florida Atlanta University. Trustee Agrawal will participate in his first Board meeting on February 9.



Akhil Agrawal

President Haile Appointed to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s Board of Directors

Broward College President Gregory Adam Haile, J.D., has been appointed to serve as a Class B director for a three-year term from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2023. Class B directors represent commerce, industry, agriculture, labor, and consumers. The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s board of directors oversees the management of the bank’s operations and recommends changes in the discount rate. Board members also contribute to the formulation of U.S. monetary policy through the economic information they provide the bank’s president.



Gregory Adam Haile, J.D.

“I’m pleased President Haile agreed to serve on the board of directors for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta,” said Raphael Bostic, president, and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. “Our board members play a vital role in providing essential insights on economic conditions throughout the District and helping to inform monetary policy deliberations. Their invaluable perspectives help us as we work to ensure the economy works for all our citizens and communities.”

Interim Provost Announced

With the departure of Dr. Marielena DeSanctis as college provost and senior vice president (SVP), Academic Affairs and Student Services, President Haile announced that effective January 15, 2021, Dr. Jeffrey Nasse will serve as interim college provost and senior vice president. Under the college provost and SVP, Academic Affairs, the reporting and organizational structure remain the same, except Student Services. Janice Stubbs, vice provost, Student Services, will report directly to President Haile. The transition plan largely preserves the existing operational and organizational structure while allowing the President to work directly with VP Stubbs to support students’ needs.



Dr. Jeffrey P. Nasse



Janice Stubbs

President Haile Named Among South Florida’s Seven Most Fascinating People

In a one-hour special aired on WSVN (Channel 7) on Saturday, December 26, President Haile was featured as one of the 7 Most Fascinating People of South Florida. Produced and hosted by Kavita Channe, the special highlighted South Florida’s most impactful leaders of 2020, detailing their exciting background and work.



[Click to view recording](#)

Broward College Receives \$1.68 Million Grant from U.S. Department of Labor for Micro-credentialing in Higher Education Project



The U.S. Department of Labor's Strengthening Community College Training Grants program has awarded Broward College a grant of \$1.68 million. The Training Grants Program is focused on helping build community colleges' capacity to meet labor market demand for a skilled workforce. Broward College received one of 11 grants awarded to community colleges across the nation and the only grant awarded in Florida. Micro-credentials are short term courses of training in a particular field or area that allow students to gain qualifications or expertise.

The funding will support the Broward College Micro-credentialing in Higher Education (MicroHE) Project over four years through support for employees, including faculty, equipment, tuition, and fees. The MicroHE Project also aims to engage nine new employer partners, 1,240 students, enhance program maps, technological infrastructure, and articulation agreements for credits. The grant allows the College to expand Rapid Credentials, which has already received funding from the Florida Department of Education's Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) through the CARES Act funding for short-term workforce training to accelerate economic recovery.

Broward UP™ Mural Unveiled at HANDY Headquarters

On Saturday, January 23, Broward College, in partnership with Twenty6North Productions, unveiled the first of six murals it has commissioned in Broward County. The mural was designed by artist Nate Dee and includes Sammy the Seahawk's image. The pilot mural is located at the main headquarters of HANDY (Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth) in Fort Lauderdale. The goal is to have at least one mural in each of the six Broward UP zip codes. The murals reflect the College's plan to be permanently present and accessible to residents and designed with residents' input. They are intended to engage, excite, and inspire the residents of Broward UP communities.



Florida Blue Awards More Than \$370,000 to Broward College to Help Address Food Insecurity Among Students

The Florida Blue Foundation has awarded a four-year grant of \$377,000 to build three food pantries, called Seahawk Marketplace, on each Broward College main campus. The Seahawk Marketplace will offer food and hygiene products to students at no cost. The first Seahawk Marketplace will open on the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus in the fall of 2021, followed by North Campus, then the Judson A. Samuels South Campus in the following years. The grant builds on the College's efforts to address food insecurity among its students. In a spring 2020 climate survey at the institution, 28 percent of students indicated hunger or not having enough food impacted their academic performance. The College has responded with a comprehensive effort that supports students beyond the classroom, including assistance with food and personal items through a weekly food distribution drive-through, which began in September 2020.

[Read more about the grant](#)

Florida Department of Education Awards \$100,000 Perkins Grant to Broward College Entrepreneurial Experience (BCEX)

The Broward College Entrepreneurial Experience has received a \$100,000 Perkins Grant. The grant is part of the Florida Department of Education's Entrepreneurial Education and Training program and is the maximum amount awarded to support entrepreneur education and training. The grant will help Broward College students, faculty, and staff cultivate their entrepreneurial mindset and turn their ideas into reality by launching high-quality businesses at little-to-no cost. Started in 2018, BCEX helps participants innovate, create, and prepare for the future of work through mentorship, coaching, funding, and training. Participants in BCEX receive support through six main strategies: Campus Accelerators and Events at Broward College; Student Learning at Broward College; the Innovation Hub at Broward College; LaunchBC—the BCEX business accelerator; the J. David Armstrong, Jr., Student Venture Fund; and Partnership Opportunities with Broward College.

Florida's Perkins V State Plan commits to creating a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem through Career and Technical Education (CTE). The state recognizes the value of entrepreneurship and its improvements in Florida's economy and social mobility. CTE helps to create jobs of the future.

Special Townhall Presentation on COVID-19 Vaccines

The 20th town hall on Friday, January 8 offered employees a detailed look at the new COVID-19 vaccines. Broward College alumnus Dr. Peter Antevy presented on the vaccines. Dr. Antevy is the Pediatric Emergency Medicine (EM) physician at Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital, medical director at Davie Fire Rescue, and the founder and chief medical officer at Handtevy- Pediatric Emergency Standards, Inc. He offered insight into how the vaccine works and its effectiveness against the virus’s current and developing strains. Dr. Antevy, who has taken both doses of the vaccine, also shared his experience and encouraged everyone eligible to take the vaccine to do so.

The second part of the town hall offered updates on Student Services for the spring semester, including services that have returned to campus and those that remain remote, along with mental health resources available to our students.



Click to view recording

Safety and Security Gets a Boost with New App

The College’s effort to guarantee the safety of its students and employees continues with the upgrade of its safety app to the Everbridge Safety App. The Everbridge platform is used by most major cities and other higher education institutions to support emergency alerts. The app turns smartphones into a personal bodyguard that provides 24-hour protection while on campus. The College has discontinued the use of the Rave Guardian App. Everbridge delivers the same four main functions: an SOS panic button, the ability to place emergency calls to the Security Operations Center (SOC), a location check-in function, and Safe Corridor interval-based check-in. The app is available to all students, faculty, and staff and can be downloaded via Google Play or the App Store using their Broward College email. Everbridge is also now supporting the College’s emergency alert notification, known as BC ALERT.



Broward College Among Ten Colleges Selected for the Achieving the Dream and USC Race and Equity Center Racial Equity Leadership Academy

Broward College is the only institution in Florida selected to participate in the Achieving the Dream and the University of Southern California Race and Equity Center Racial Equity Leadership Academy (RELA), a year-long program scheduled to begin in summer 2021. The intensive program is designed to support teams of five individuals from each college in the development of a bold, strategic racial equity plan to implement actionable solutions at their institutions. Representing nine states, the ten colleges selected to participate in RELA are: Anne Arundel Community College (MD), Austin Community College District (TX), Broward College (FL), Chattanooga State Community College (TN), Columbus State Community College (OH), Kingsborough Community College (NY), Lee College (TX), Montgomery County Community College (PA), Mott Community College (MI) and Pierce College (WA).

The Broward College team includes President Haile, Dr. Jeffrey Nasse, interim provost; Janice Stubbs, vice provost, Student Services; Julia Philyaw, associate vice president, Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning; and Carmen Ludtke, assistant professor, Teacher Education Bachelor.

There was an overwhelming response to the application, and schools were selected based on a rigorous review process. The college teams selected for RELA will convene virtually for an initial orientation during DREAM 2021 on February 19, 2021. RELA has received financial support from The Kresge Foundation and Greater Texas Foundation. Achieving the Dream (ATD) leads a growing network of more than 300 community colleges from 45 states committed to helping their students, particularly low-income students and students of color, achieve their goals for academic success, personal growth, and economic opportunity.

Five Broward College Employees Named Recipients of the Annual National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Awards.

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Awards has since 1989 recognized men and women each year who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues. The award is the largest and most inspiring gathering that recognizes community and technical college faculty, administrators, and staff’s contributions and achievements. The recipients will be recognized during NISOD’s annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, being held virtually April 28 to 30, 2021.

The Broward College awardees for 2021 are:

- Dr. Amoy Reid, associate dean, Academic Affairs, Speech – Arts, Humanities, Communication and Design Pathway, A. Hugh Adams Central Campus
- Dr. Nora Powell, dean, Health Sciences – Health Sciences Pathway, North and A. Hugh Adams Central Campuses
- Brock Burbach, associate professor – Music – Arts, Humanities Communication and Design Pathway, A. Hugh Adams Central Campus
- Bruce Hill, instructor, Emergency Medical Services – Health Sciences Pathway, North Campus
- Marjorie Loring, district director, Workplace Learning, Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning

Broward College Named a Finalist in all Three Categories of the Bellwether Awards

Broward College was a finalist in all three Bellwether Award categories. This is the first time the College has been named a finalist in all three categories. The last time the College was a finalist for any category was 2015.

The Bellwether Award is the preeminent award for innovative programs across community colleges. The awards are focused on highlighting programs and practices which can be replicated across member institutions. Annually, the group selects 30 finalists, ten in each category, from applicants in the U.S. and U.S. territories. The applications undergo a rigorous selection process with two rounds of judging by peers and academicians in the field. The selected finalists then participate in a day-long event with other contenders for the Bellwether Awards at the Community College Futures Assembly held this year on January 25 and the awards ceremony on January 26.

The submissions and presenters who were named finalists are:

- **Planning, Governance and Finance** – This category recognizes programs or activities that improve efficiency and effectiveness in the community college. The Broward College submission was RAPID - Remote Adaptation and Preparation for Instructional Delivery presented by Dr. Julia Philyaw, associate vice president, Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning and Dr. Monique Blake, dean, Libraries and Academic Success Centers. [View a synopsis of the presentation](#)
- **Instructional Programs and Services** – This category recognizes programs and services that foster or support teaching and learning in the community college. Our team submitted Avatar Simulation presented by Dr. Sara Turpel, dean, Nursing; Dr. Nora Powell, dean, Health Sciences and Dr. Elizabeth Molina, dean, Education. [View a synopsis of the presentation](#)
- **Workforce Development** – This category identifies strategic alliances that promote community and economic development. The College submitted Broward UP™ (Unlimited Potential) – An Innovative Community-based Workforce Education Model to Holistically Increase Economic and Social Mobility presented by Karen Torres, associate vice president, Grant Development and Jennifer Saint Louis, district director, Broward UP Commission and Community Impact. [View a synopsis of the presentation](#)

Grateful Thank You from Parents of Recent Graduate

In a personal letter to President Haile, Dr. Frances Boyd, a Columbia University professor, and Mr. Carlos Velazquez expressed gratitude to the Broward College family for supporting their son. They thanked President Haile for the letter he sent to graduates, including son Alex Velazquez who completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in summer 2020. They shared that their son, who initially enrolled in fall 2004 and dropped out of college, was given a chance to complete his academic journey. Both parents and Alex wanted to share their sentiments with the college community.



MLK Day of Service Project Supports Efforts to Address Food Insecurity

Broward College held a small volunteer event on Monday, January 18 to pack 300 bags of non-perishable foods to support community members and students facing food insecurity. The items donated by LifeNet4Families were made into food packages by College volunteers, including President Haile. Each bag contained canned items, rice and pasta, with 180 to be distributed to community members through LifeNet4Families, and the remaining 120 for students at the weekly food distribution event on campus.



President Haile Sends Welcome Back Message to Students

Each term, to thank students for choosing Broward College as the place for their academic journey, President Haile has sent a welcome back message. For the spring term, which began on Wednesday, January 6, President Haile as part of his message shared the different course options and resources available to ensure students' success.



Click to view recording

President Haile Hosts Real Talk with Students

On Tuesday, January 26, President Haile hosted his fourth Real Talk with students. The in-person discussion with students started in 2018 is designed to give students direct access to President Haile in an informal setting. The event was held virtually and covered topics such as returning to campus safely and President Haile's college experiences, upbringing, and music interest. More than 50 students joined the Real Talk. Other senior leaders who participated were Interim Provost and Senior Vice President Academic Affairs Dr. Jeffery Nasse and Vice Provost, Student Services Janice Stubbs.



P'anku and The Observer Win Multiple Awards at Annual Florida College Systems Press Association Conference

At the 61st Annual Florida College Systems Press Association (FCSPA) Conference on Saturday, January 29, held virtually this year, P'anku, the College's literary magazine and The Observer, the student newspaper, brought home several awards.

The awards for P'anku were:

First Place

- General Excellence: fall 2019
- Art: Caitlin Pazmino, Art, fall 2019
- Artworks: Jorge Manzanares, Claudette Golco, and Daniel Otero, fall 2019
- Two-Page Spread: P'an Ku Editors, spring 2020
- Photographs: Justin Culley and Ivar Fandel, fall 2019
- Contents Page: Alexander Miller, Contents Page, spring 2020

Second Place

- General Excellence: spring 2020
- Poem: Isabella Marcon, spring 2020
- Poetry: Joshua Reid, Shirleen Groves, and Maria Isabel Cruz, spring 2020
- Nonfiction: Madeyn Gibson, fall 2019
- Photography: Sebastian Francois, fall 2019
- Photographs: Justin Culley, Raphael Liy, and Jasmine Mohamed, spring 2020

Third Place

- Two-page Spread: P'an Ku Editors, fall 2019
- Photography: Raphael Liy, spring 2020

View the [P'an Ku Fall 2019](#) issue and the [P'an Ku Spring 2020 issue](#).

And The Observer also won awards in the following categories:

Second Place

- Sports photo: Jovan Subrath
- Picture story: Michelle Castano

Third Place

- Feature photo: Jeffery Reyes
- Feature story: Anabel Sanchez
- Illustration: Mackenzie Carter
- The Observer website

[Read the latest from The Observer](#)

The students also had the opportunity to participate in workshops focusing on different journalism topics such as starting a newsletter, layout techniques, podcasting, and hearing from author and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Dave Barry.

More Than 150 Students Participate in Fall Nursing Processional

On Wednesday, December 16, about 166 cars participated in a processional on the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus, as part of the nursing graduates' recognition. Dean Sara Turpel led a brief program with all of the cars on the parking garage roof. Graduates stood beside their cars and recited the Nightingale Pledge before the start of the processional. During the procession, faculty and administrators stood along the route to provide each graduate with a candle and their pin. This celebration is an important milestone for many students, especially for the 100 students who had their graduation delayed due to the pandemic.



Nursing Students Participate in Historic COVID-19 Vaccinations

Students in the Associate of Science in Nursing program are a part of the local COVID-19 vaccine efforts underway in Broward County. The students who are supporting Broward Health are assisting with administering vaccines on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays as part of their clinical training.



First 80 Students Receive Free Laptops from Florida Power and Light Grant

The first group of students to benefit from the Florida Power & Light (FPL) grant, which provided free laptops to students enrolled in the Rapid Credentialing program, received their laptops on Saturday, January 9. Almost 80 students enrolled in the short-term in-demand workforce/career and technical education credentialing and certificate programs during the spring 2021 semester participated in the drive-through distribution. Most of the students are from Broward UP zip codes. The FPL grant, announced in December, provided a \$1 million donation to four local colleges to buy more than 1,600 laptops for students to obtain the skills they need to get back to work amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The donation provided 400 laptops to Broward College. Other colleges have benefitted from the grant are Miami Dade College, Palm Beach State College, and the State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota.

[Learn More about Broward College's Rapid Credentialing program.](#)



Broward College Brain Bowl Teams Qualify for National Championships

On Saturday, January 23, the Broward College Brain Bowl teams competed in a group of nationwide online sectional tournaments hosted by the National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) organization. For the seventh consecutive year, the College was invited to the National Championships. This year the competition will be held online on Saturday, February 27. For the fourth year, the College fielded two teams, and both have qualified for nationals. The top four teams at the National Championships will progress to the International Championships in April. The Broward College A team achieved fourth place in the national rankings, its highest placing since reaching third place in 2015. That team also recorded the highest "Points Per Bonus" score of any team across the country, the top metric for "Breadth of Knowledge."

The team members are:

Broward A: Francis Orozco (College Academy, North Campus); Alex Bluth (College Academy, A. Hugh Adams Central Campus); Mitchell Bennett (North Campus); Simone Rodriguez (captain, North Campus)

Broward B: Deandre Nelson (A. Hugh Adams Central Campus); Isabella Borges (captain, College Academy, North Campus); Lindsay Martin (College Academy, A. Hugh Adams Central Campus); Connor Schemel (College Academy, A. Hugh Adams Central Campus)

WLRN Features Florida Blue Food Security Grant to Broward College

Esmeralda Sweeney, associate vice president, Student Success, was interviewed by WLRN on Thursday, February 4, on the College's Food Security Grant from Florida Blue and programs to help students face food insecurity. | [Read the article](#)

Inside Higher Ed Podcast Explores Rapid Credentials and Broward UP

Episode 34 of the new Inside Higher Education podcast, on Friday, December 15, featured President Haile as one of two interviews with higher education presidents. The discussions focused on how institutions are serving students through innovation.

[Listen to the podcast](#)

Professor Kevin Walsh Featured on WIOD

Broward College Political Science Professor Kevin Walsh, has been making the interview circuit as a subject matter expert on politics since the general elections. In his latest interview on WIOD on Friday, January 15, Dr. Walsh shared his expertise on the latest developments in politics including the transition to the new administration. | [Listen to the interview](#)

Upcoming Events

Dinner at the Square #2 | *Have We Done Enough? America's Long Overdue Awakening to Systemic Racism*

Moderator: Doug Lyons, journalist, former columnist and opinion writer who now runs Doug Lyons Media, LLC, a writing and media consultant company in Florida.

Panelists: Germaine Smith-Baugh, Ed.D., president and CEO, Urban League of Broward County; Keith Koenig, CEO, City Furniture; President Haile

Wednesday, February 24, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | [Click here to RSVP](#)

FOUNDATION NEWS

33rd Golf Classic Scheduled for April

BROWARD COLLEGE



— 33rd Annual —
GOLF CLASSIC

This year the tournament will be played on the renovated North Course at the [Fort Lauderdale Country Club](#) on Monday, April 12 from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. Since its inception, the annual Golf Classic has raised more than \$2.7 million to support the educational environment at Broward College, ensuring our students ultimately succeed in life and make our community a better place to live. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the [Empowerment Fund](#).

For the players' safety CDC guidelines will be in place along with the following additional measures:

- Temperature checks will be conducted upon arrival
- Hand sanitizer and face masks will be provided to each player; masks are required
- First floor locker room and restrooms will be open
- and available
- Boxed lunches will be provided
- Dinner and award ceremony will take place outside in a safe environment

[Sponsorship opportunities](#) are still available, and [individual and](#)

Broward College Alumni and Friends Resumes Webinar Programming



The [Alumni & Friends Network](#) will resume its popular programming next month with *Thriving in the New Normal* on Wednesday, February 24 at 5 p.m. Christine Ramirez of Dale Carnegie Southeast Florida will inspire participants with an interactive presentation. Topics will focus on resilience, relationships while social distancing, and how to present oneself in the virtual environment. The Network's January webinar – *Leveraging LinkedIn* – was the most popular to date with more than 240 registrants. To suggest a topic for a future Alumni & Friends Network webinar, [email Jill Horowitz](#), your Alumni Engagement Officer.

[Register for "Thriving in the New Normal."](#)

New Student Trustee

Michelle Brenes, Student Government President for the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus, is the first student trustee to sit on the Board of Trustees for the spring term. Brenes, who is pursuing a degree in Health Sciences, thanked the Board for the opportunity and said she was grateful to represent her peers. The Board approved the Student Trustee Initiative in April 2019. It allows for one student government campus president to sit on the dais of its meetings and workshops. As part of the initiative, each of the student government presidents from the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus, North Campus, and the Judson A. Samuels South Campus participate in an orientation conducted by the College's General Counsel. Student Trustees are non-voting members, allowed to participate in discussions and presentations.



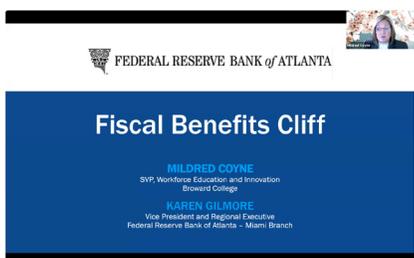
Newly Appointed Trustee Akhil K. Agrawal Participates in First Meeting

During the February Board meeting, Chair Gloria Fernandez formally introduced and welcomed the Board's latest appointee, Akhil K. Agrawal. In his response, Trustee Agrawal, who has been meeting with President Haile and other members of the senior leadership team since his appointment, said he was honored to have the opportunity to serve on the Broward College Board. "This institution is an absolute jewel in our community," he said. "The job that we do and will continue to do is critical for the fabric of Broward County." Trustee Agrawal also received an official welcome from President Haile.

Board Receives Another Update on Enrollment Trends

In the latest update, Janice Stubbs, vice provost, Student Services, told the Board that there continues to be a national decline in college enrollment. Data from the National Student Clearing House indicates that enrollment is down across U.S. colleges by ten percent. She explained to the Board that compared to the same period in spring last year, the paid and unpaid headcount were down by 14 percent. She shared several factors that affect enrollment, including job loss, fear of infection of COVID-19, and remote learning challenges. VP Stubbs noted that for sessions three and four combined, the College saw an eight percent increase in enrollment, indicating that most students were waiting until later sessions to register for classes. She said the most significant increase in enrollment was in the shortest session, which offers courses over eight weeks. She added her team would be doing a further assessment to see what makes this session attractive and determine how best to adjust to students' needs.

Board Approves Memorandum of Understanding Between the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and the College for Fiscal Benefits Cliff



The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) following a presentation on the Fiscal Benefits Cliff and how it will be used to benefit students and the

community. Dr. Mildred Coyne, senior vice president, Workforce Education and Innovation, shared the MOU's objectives between Broward College and the Atlanta Federal Reserve Board. This partnership includes an emphasis on building strong support tools for employers and educational institutions as well as policymakers. Through the MOU, both parties will collaborate on:

- The Career Ladder Identifier and Financial Forecaster Dashboard will allow the College to identify benefits cliffs by analyzing how public benefits interact with in-demand pathways and specific Broward College career ladders.
- Partnership on advising and career coaching resources guides for staff to confidently and competently use the personal planner with students in the career decision making process.
- Collaboration on the Economic Mobility research and the interception of the benefits cliff and economic mobility for Broward County and Broward College students.
- Collaborate on developing training models for the toolkits for educators and employers while piloting the training at Broward College.

General Counsel Provides Update on Legislative Items

Lacey Hofmeyer, general counsel and vice president, Public Policy and Government Affairs, presented a legislative update to the Board of Trustees regarding the state budget and its impact on higher education, a breakdown of the three legislative priorities of the Florida College System Council of Presidents, and the relationship between general revenue and funding for the Florida College System (FCS). VP Hofmeyer also focused on the bills that affect higher education, the six percent holdback from the Governor, and the three percent cut to FCS and the State University System (SUS). She also explained that the Governor did not allocate any funds towards maintenance and repair to the FCS. She will provide another update to the Board at the end of the legislative session.

The College Continues to Identify Ways to Close Budget Gaps

Caleb Cornelius, vice president, Finance, in his presentation explained some of the factors that have contributed to the current gaps in the College's budget for the fiscal year. He said that while there was a projection for a four percent decline, there is currently a gap of 11 percent. Part of this is attributed to a decline in enrollment and the state's final budget decision to withhold six percent of its approved funding for colleges due to the impact of COVID-19. This decision was also made after the College had approved its budget. VP Cornelius said the College is actively finding ways to address the shortfall and was optimistic this could be done. He said the College has saved about half a million dollars per month through the fall term through reduced costs such as electricity, water usage, and office supplies. He said through the mid-year budget review, the College continues to look for opportunities to reprioritize funding and redirect funds to other initiatives or other programs that may generate more income. He is optimistic the College will identify ways to close the gap.

Policy Revisions

During the February Board meeting, the following policy revisions were approved:
[Policy 6Hx2-3.49](#), Supplemental Positions and Additional Duty Assignments for Administrators and Staff
[Policy 6Hx2-4.22](#), Awards and Graduation