

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

from the Office of the President



Together we serve.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer has arrived and there is plenty to celebrate at Broward College. First and foremost, I'd like to congratulate the incredible students who earned credentials during the Spring 2023 Commencement, and who can now proudly call themselves Broward College alumni. A well-deserved kudos is also due to the first group of students to graduate from our newly launched Broward College Truck Driving Program. These students are on their way to entering a high wage and high-demand field. I am also incredibly proud of the more than 150 nursing students whose completion of the program was recognized during our annual Candle Lighting Ceremony. We all owe a sincere debt of gratitude to these students, who will go on to ensure the health and safety of our community. Those are just a handful of the amazing things achieved by members of our Broward College family this month. Our faculty and staff were just as busy racking up awards, recognitions, and milestones. What a way to start the summer!

COLLEGE NEWS

More than 2,600 Certificates and Degrees Conferred as Broward College Celebrates Spring 2023 Commencement

Broward College hosted its Spring 2023 Commencement on Tuesday, May 9, at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This term, the College awarded more than 2,600 certificates and degrees, including more than 1,800 associate degrees, 833 technical certificates, and more than 200 bachelor's degrees. Graduates ranged in age from 16 to 72 years old. Lisa Lutoff-Perlo, former president and CEO of Celebrity Cruises, delivered the commencement keynote message. In her remarks, she emphasized the role of perseverance in her rise from a district sales manager to the first female CEO of the Royal Caribbean Group brand Celebrity Cruises. The ceremony also featured remarks from Broward College President Gregory Adam Haile, J.D.; College Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jeffrey Nasse; and Broward College Board of Trustees Chair Zachariah "Reggie" P. Zachariah.

Among the notable Spring 2023 graduates were Jean Saintgeorges, a first-generation Haitian-American student from Miami who was awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship; Harryson and Herbert Ferreira, identical twin brothers who received their associate degrees as graduates of College Academy, and who recently received fully funded scholarships to Williams College in Massachusetts; Karin and Marina Bertrand, sisters and Broward College employees who decided to pursue a career in nursing together; and Keith Priemer, whose decision to attend Broward College coincided with his decision to become sober after 18 years of substance abuse.

Read more about their stories [here](#).



Newly Launched Partnership Brings Commercial Driver’s License Training to Broward County

Through \$2.6 million in funding from the state of Florida, Broward College’s newest partnership established the Broward College Truck Driving Program, to meet the growing demand for licensed drivers. The first group of trainees in the program received their certificates on Tuesday, May 2 at an official launch ceremony at FLA Live Arena in Sunrise. The collaboration between the College and FleetForce Truck Driving School reflects the College’s ongoing commitment to providing students the economic mobility that comes with skills training and job opportunities in high-demand fields. Students who undergo the training are enrolled in Broward College and complete the commercial driver’s license (CDL) program in as little as four weeks. Students attend classes and receive on-site training through a lease agreement for the training course and classroom space donations from the Florida Panthers NHL Team at FLA Live Arena. The students use an outdoor course to learn how to operate a commercial vehicle fully and safely; properly back in the vehicle; drop and hook trailers; and practice defensive driving in high traffic and dangerous areas. Three additional groups of students are currently in training. These cohorts of about 8 to 12 students start every Monday. More than 270 people are waiting to participate in the program.



Left: Students from the first group of trainees in the Broward College Truck Driving Program show off their certificates of completion at FLA Live Arena; Center: Scenes from the launch event

Governor Ron DeSantis Highlights Broward College Achievements in Letter to Florida College System Members During Florida College System Month

In a memorandum published on Saturday, April 1, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis highlighted numerous achievements by the 28 members of the Florida College System (FCS) and extended his best wishes to all institutions observing April as Florida College System Month. In the letter, Governor DeSantis chose to spotlight Broward College’s ranking as Number One in Least Debt Acquired by Students in the Southeast Region by U.S. News & World Report, as well as the College’s recognition as a Top 10 Finalist for the 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence for the fifth time.



Governor Ron DeSantis

Broward College International Partners Convene for 2023 World Conference

The 2023 Broward College World Conference took place Tuesday, May 9, and Wednesday, May 10, at the Willis Holcombe Center, downtown, Fort Lauderdale. The event was attended by more than 100 representatives from 17 colleges and universities across the world, including nine active Broward College international centers and associates. Dr. David Moore, dean, International Education, presided over the events, which were also attended by President Haile and Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Jeffrey Nasse. Ms. Svitlana Ustychenko, from the Cherkasy State Business College in Ukraine, was a distinguished guest. Among the highlights, the World Conference featured the signing of a renewed agreement between Broward College and the International University of Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, as well as a new agreement between the College and the Phu Xuan University in Hue, Vietnam, which will lead to the development of the first bachelor’s degree offered by Broward College outside of the U.S. Several international guests also had the opportunity to participate in the College’s Spring 2023 Commencement ceremony, with several international partners featured on stage.



President Haile (third from left) and Dr. David Moore (third from right) pose for a photo after signing a new agreement with representatives from Phu Xuan University.

General Counsel Lacey Hofmeyer Appointed Chair of Educational Law Committee for Florida Bar

On Wednesday, May 3, Broward College General Counsel and Vice President of Public Policy and Governmental Affairs Lacey Hofmeyer was appointed Chair of the Education Law Committee of the Florida Bar. The appointment will be effective July 1, 2023, running through June 30, 2024. Vice President Hofmeyer also currently serves on the Government Advocacy Committee and previously served as Chair of a Grievance Committee for The Florida Bar for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.



Lacey Hofmeyer

More than 2,500 Reward Packs Filled by BC Cares Volunteers During Broward County Library Volunteer Event

More than 30 volunteers from Broward College participated in the BC Cares event at the Broward County Main Library on Saturday, April 29, during which they created rewards packs for children, teens, and adults who will participate in summer reading programs across county libraries. The rewards packs contained various items to promote literacy and learning across age levels, such as backpacks, pencil cases, puzzle boxes, tumblers, charging cables, and lunchboxes. Broward College volunteers packed more than 1,600 child rewards packs, 500 teen packs, and 500 adult packs which will be distributed across the 37 Broward County libraries.



Volunteers take a group photo before the start of the BC Cares Day of Service on April 29.

Apprenticeship Team Receives \$5,000 Grant from BOSCH

The Bosch Community Fund has awarded Broward College \$5,000 to support the College's Information Technology (IT) Apprenticeship and Pre-apprenticeship programs. The grant will assist in covering costs associated with training, examination and certification, student supplies and consumables, marketing and promotion, and graduation costs. Broward College established the first-ever IT apprenticeship program in the state of Florida in 2019. Using the Bosch grant and other funding, the College will expand its program to include cybersecurity by providing apprentices and pre-apprentices foundation training in IT, leading to certification and job readiness skills, as well as placement in an apprenticeship program with an employer sponsor. The Bosch Community Fund has been providing support to non-profit organizations and teachers in North America for the past 10 years. The Fund prioritizes teacher support and efficacy, hands-on and project-based learning, and sustainability. It is dedicated to providing teachers, students, and local communities the tools they need to create exceptional learning experiences and implement innovative approaches to education.



Broward College's Use of Microsoft Azure Machine Learning and Power BI Recognized at 2023 Microsoft CEO Summit

Broward College was showcased as a successful case study in the use of Microsoft Azure Machine Learning and Microsoft Power BI during the 2023 Microsoft CEO Summit in Redmond, Washington, on May 11. The case study explored how Microsoft AI programs such as Azure and Power BI could help harness the power of data to better understand student pathways, with the goal of decreasing student attrition rate and helping more students get to graduation. The case study revealed how the College was able to successfully use Azure Machine Learning and responsible AI to identify five key predictors of student attrition, leading to data-driven, actionable strategies to help more Broward College students reach their academic goals. Broward College's success story was also featured on the Microsoft.com homepage in the form of an online article and video. On May 23, the story appeared on the Azure.com page, and in June, it will be included in Microsoft's "What's New in Data & AI" blog.



[Watch the video](#)

STEM Pathway Advisor Jacqueline Gordon Receives Rising Star Award from Florida Academic Advising Association Conference

Jacqueline Gordon, pathway advisor, STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math), is the recipient of the Rising Star Award for the 2023 FLACADA (Florida Academic Advising Association) Conference. The purpose of this state-wide award is to recognize and honor a new professional advisor who has demonstrated qualities associated with the outstanding advisement of students. Nominees demonstrated excellence in their impact on students, their commitment to student success, and their support to the mission and philosophy of academic advising. The 2023 FLACADA Conference took place virtually on Friday, May 12. The association provides a state-wide community for academic advisors from around the world to implement first-class advising services for our students.



Jacqueline Gordon

Nursing Program Holds Candle Lighting Ceremony

The Broward College Associate of Science in Nursing program hosted a Candle Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, May 4, at Bailey Hall on the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus. The candle lighting ceremony is held in the spirit of the 19th century English nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, who would take her oil lamp late at night to care for the sick during the Crimean War. During the ceremony, more than 150 students from the College's nursing program were recognized for their academic success. The program recently reported a 95 percent licensure rate.



INFORMING THE COMMUNITY

President Haile Delivers Address and Leads Q&A at Strategic Forum Meeting at Nova Southeastern University

President Haile was a featured speaker at the Strategic Forum Meeting at Nova Southeastern University on Friday, May 19, sharing lessons learned from his journey as a leader and his vision for the role of community colleges in South Florida. Approximately 50 people attended the event. The Strategic Form Meeting is a gathering of local entrepreneurs, business leaders, MBA students, and thought leaders for the purpose of expanding knowledge, exchanging ideas, and networking. President Haile spoke for roughly 15 minutes and participated in a five-minute Q&A session. With a focus on networking and education, the Strategic Forum offers members powerful resources for growth and advancement. The Forum achieves its goals through regular meetings, member-to-member communications, and guest speaker events.

President Haile Addresses Community Youth for Boys & Girls Club of Broward County Role Models Who Inspire Program

On Wednesday, May 10, President Haile was featured as a distinguished guest speaker as part of The Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County (BGCBC) Role Models Who Inspire program in Deerfield Beach. The Role Models Who Inspire program brings high-achieving, inspirational leaders to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County to discuss how they overcame their challenges and met their goals. In a 20-minute talk with students, President Haile shared his story of growing up in Queens, New York, during a time of almost unprecedented youth violence, only to go on to become the first member of his family to graduate from college. Approximately 50 teens from across Broward County attended the event. Previous speakers included Jessica Cager, a prominent Black female pilot; Evander Holyfield, a former heavyweight boxing champion; Rick and Rita Case of Rick Case Automotive Group; Julie Durda of Channel 10 News; Bob Moss of Moss & Associates; Mark Strickland, a former NBA player and real estate developer; and Shawn Wooden, a former NFL Player. Upcoming speakers include Commissioner Robert McKinzie and former NFL football player and current FOX Sports analyst Brady Quinn.



President Haile takes a photo with teens at the Boys & Girls Club of Broward County in Deerfield Beach.

President Haile Participates in Raising the B.A.R Panel Discussion on “Data to Drive” in Washington, D.C.

On Monday, May 1, President Haile participated in a panel discussion hosted by the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. The panel was part of the Raising the Bar: Bold + Action + Results in College Data to Drive Summit, which convened to create an engaging environment where institutional leaders shared experiences and learned from one another. President Haile participated in a leadership panel titled “Using Data to Identify Effective Interventions to Improve Student Outcomes,” which also featured panelists Sonny Ramaswamy, president of Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and Jeffrey Tinley, director of institutional research at Roane State Community College. The panelists discussed how data helps identify evidence-based and cost-effective interventions that can effectively improve outcomes for student success. The panel was moderated by Karen Stout, president of Achieving the Dream, and facilitated by Ed Pacchetti, director of consumer analytics at Federal Student Aid, U.S. Department of Education. The panel presented in front of approximately 70 guests, including college presidents, association leaders, and national experts.



President of Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Sonny Ramaswamy (left), President Haile, and a panel moderator discuss data solutions in higher education during the Raising the B.A.R. Summit in Washington, D.C.

STUDENT NEWS

Broward College Student Jean Saintgeorges Awarded Prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship

Jean Saintgeorges, a spring 2023 Broward College graduate, has been awarded the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship. He is one of only 60 community college students in the country to receive the award. The highly competitive national scholarship aims for scholars to complete their undergraduate educations with as little debt as possible. The award, which is last dollar funding after all institutional aid, can be as much as \$55,000 per year. Along with financial support, new Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholars will receive comprehensive educational advising to guide them through the process of transitioning to a four-year college and preparing for their careers. Saintgeorges, who earned his Associate of Science degree in Accounting, plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and a master’s in Business Administration. During his time at Broward College, Saintgeorges served as the president of Phi Theta Kappa, a Student Government South Campus senator, and president of Greatness in the Making. He was also a Florida All-Academic team member and a four-time member of the president’s list, graduating with a perfect 4.0 GPA. His career goal is to become a certified public accountant.



Jean Saintgeorges was awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship, which will fund his undergraduate studies for up to \$55,000 per year.

Upcoming Events

Juneteenth (College closed) | Date: Monday, June 19 | Location: All Campuses

Seahawk Summer Academy/Learning Communities Start | Date: Thursday, June 29 | Location: All Campuses and Online

Independence Day (College closed) | Date: Tuesday, July 4 | Location: All Campuses

Broward College in the News

Making It Impossible to Miss Out on Community College for People Who Need It

In an article on Thursday, May 4, the online publication Governing featured an interview with President Haile about the power of proximity to help underserved populations complete their dreams of higher education. | [Read the article](#)

State Attorney Expands Efforts to Give Non-violent Offenders A Second Chance

The New Pelican published a story on the Court to College Diversion Program, a partnership between the Broward Public Defender and Broward College, on their website on Sunday, May 7. The article describes how the pre-trial diversion program is designed to help non-violent, first-time offenders receive educational opportunities that can help them find employment.

[Read the article](#)

Department of Labor Grants to Strengthen Nursing Pipeline

In the Reporter's Notebook section of their website, Community College Daily posted a news story on Broward College and three other colleges that received federal funding to help address local nursing shortages. Broward College received \$3 million from the Nursing Expansion Grant Program, which aims to support innovative partnerships and strategies to expand and diversify the pipeline of qualified nursing professionals. | [Read the article](#)

Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom: Teachers Debate Challenges, Benefits of Using AI

NBC 6 Miami featured several Broward College experts in a story about artificial intelligence in higher education on Tuesday, April 18. Priscilla Suarez, interim dean, Online Campus and E-Learning; Laura McDermott Matheric, associate professor, English; and Rick McCawley, professor, Graphic Design, were featured in the video segment sharing what they have learned about the impact of AI in the classroom. | [View the story](#)

FOUNDATION NEWS

State of the College: Investor Forum Held at BBX Capital

On Thursday, May 18, President Haile hosted the 2023 State of the College Investor Forum at BBX Capital to celebrate the impact of Broward College in the community and highlight opportunities ahead. Jarett Levan, who serves on the Broward College Foundation Board and is the president and CEO of BBX Capital, opened the evening by welcoming the group and thanking everyone for their commitment to a high level of engagement in ensuring the success of the College. Among the highlights of the event, Broward College Board of Trustees Chair Zachariah "Reggie" Zachariah and former Broward College trustee Gloria Fernandez shared the positive impact of philanthropic contributions made by supporters of Broward College. President Haile provided philanthropists and investors in attendance with a vision of the path forward for the College guided by the principles of the Social Enterprise Plan. An engaging forum discussion took place on how individuals and organizations can collaborate with Broward College and provide financial support to uplift our students, and the whole community.



Mike Jackson (left), President Haile, and Alice Jackson pose for a photo at the State of the College Investor Forum at BBX Capital.

Broward College Hosted the Only Pat Tillman Honor Run/Walk in Florida

On Saturday, May 20, Broward College hosted the only Pat Tillman Honor Run/Walk in Florida, which took place on the Judson A. Samuels South Campus. Proceeds from the registration will benefit Broward College student veterans. This event celebrated the legacy of the late Pat Tillman, who left his NFL career to enlist in the U.S. Army after 9/11. Unfortunately, he lost his life in the line of duty in 2004. The 4.2-mile course honored Tillman's jersey number 42, which he wore as a member of the Arizona State University football team.



L to R: Participants at the starting line; President Haile among runners during the event; winners display their medals.

Advance Auto Parts Foundation Visits South Campus Auto Technology Training Program Students

On Thursday, May 18, the Office of Advancement hosted a media tour at the Judson A. Samuels South Campus for the Advance Auto Parts Foundation (AAP) Senior Vice President of Communications and Investor Relations Elisabeth Eisleben. During the visit, the AAP Foundation presented the Broward College Foundation with a check highlighting their commitment of \$300,000 in philanthropic investments to ignite Broward College students' enthusiasm for the study of Automotive Service Management and Supply Chain Management. This investment will support the College's role in job creation and laying the foundation for expanded enrollment and sustainability of two of the institution's most important programs leading to careers, which are vital to the Broward College community.



Dean of Transportation Russell McCaffery (seated in the center) and Elisabeth Eisleben (second from right) display the check presented. They are joined by representatives of the Broward College Foundation, faculty, staff and students.

BOARD NEWS

Broward College Presents American Association of Community Colleges Outstanding College/Corporate Partnership Award to Bank of America

During the monthly Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 23, Dr. Mildred Coyne, senior vice president, Workforce Education and Innovation, presented the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Outstanding College/Corporate Partnership Award to Lori Chevy, Fort Lauderdale market president for Bank of America. Broward College was initially recognized for this award during the AACC Awards Gala in April 2023. The AACC cited the College's partnership with Bank of America as a model of the collective impact of partnerships that bring together business leaders and educators to ensure their strategies are aligned. Since 2016, Broward College and Bank of America have partnered to create access to workforce education, specifically for at-risk youth, the formerly incarcerated, the unemployed, and those living in marginalized communities. AACC lauded Broward College and Bank of America for their ability to provide training in strategic growth and development to staff. Bank of America was also an early investor in Broward UP™. After receiving the award plaque, Lori Chevy and Vice President Dr. Coyne posed for a photo with President Haile and members of the Board of Trustees.



Lori Chevy, market president, Bank of America, accepts the AACC Award for Outstanding College/Corporate Partnership from Dr. Mildred Coyne, senior vice president, Workforce Education and Innovation, during the Board of Trustees meeting on May 23.

Broward College Foundation Announces the LaBate/Linnell Forgiveness Fund

Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the Broward College Foundation Nancy R. Botero publicly thanked Mr. Jim LaBate for being the lead donor to establish the innovative LaBate/Linnell Forgiveness Fund at Broward College during the Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 23. This fund targets Broward College students who owe the College \$350 or less and have completed 75 percent of their degree with a 2.0 GPA or higher for re-enrollment. Students must pay their debt and then be enrolled on the last day of the drop/add period to receive this forgiveness fund to reimburse their debt. Dr. David Kenton, dean, Student Services on the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus, developed this new strategy to boost enrollment and help students finish their degrees. A local businessman and former chair of the Board of Directors of the Broward College Foundation, Mr. LaBate supported this idea enthusiastically and immediately decided to make a philanthropic investment. In addition, he also arranged to have his contribution matched annually by the Judith Linnell Fund held by the Community Foundation of Broward County. During the Board of Trustees meeting, VP Botero shared the story of Broward College student Naia McKnight-Patterson, who was 90 percent finished with her associate degree when she stopped attending classes. She is the first recipient of this scholarship.



Jim LaBate (center) poses with members of the Broward College Board of Trustees and representatives from the Broward College Foundation after receiving recognition for the establishment of the LaBate/Linnell Forgiveness Fund.

Board of Trustees Receives Legislative Update from General Counsel and Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs Lacey Hofmeyer

General Counsel and Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs Lacey Hofmeyer provided an update on the most recent legislative session, including updates on the state budget, higher education project funding, and legislative policy. In her presentation, VP Hofmeyer made note of \$12.7 million in additional funding approved for Broward College as part of the state's Program Fund. In her presentation VP Hofmeyer also highlighted policy proposals including several bills relating to college agreements with foreign countries, prohibitions of applications on government-issued devices, servicemember family benefit requirements, and employee organizations representing public employees.

Legislative Update: A Budget Summary

Program Fund	FY2022-2023	Final	Difference
Education Enhancement Trust Fund	\$ 240,982,664.00	\$ 273,875,796.00	\$ 32,893,132.00
Program Fund	\$ 1,155,603,729.00	\$ 1,200,400,110.00	\$ 44,796,381.00
Broward College	\$ 96,020,411.00	\$ 109,560,003.00	\$ 13,539,592.00
Total	\$ 1,796,606,803.00	\$ 1,954,266,108.00	\$ 157,659,305.00
Performance Funding			
PIPELINE Performance Funding	\$ 40,000,000.00	\$ 40,000,000.00	\$ -
Broward College	\$ 3,600,000.00	\$ 3,600,000.00	\$ -
State	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 17,000,000.00	\$ (3,000,000.00)
Broward College	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ -
World Trade	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ -
Broward College	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 998,000.00	\$ (2,000.00)
Other Funds			
Broward College STEM Center	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 15,000,000.00
Industry Certifications	\$ 14,000,000.00	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00
Open Door Grant Program (PNS)	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ -
LINE Grant Program	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ -
Dual Enrollment Scholarship Fund	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ -
Pathways to Opportunities Grant	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ -
Post Secondary Library Network	\$ 14,476,322.00	\$ 11,078,199.00	\$ (3,398,123.00)

BROWARD COLLEGE

Policy Changes

There were no policy changes presented at the May Board of Trustees Meeting.