



## Membership Development Conference Set for July

*“Campaign FACC 2008”*

The 2008 Membership Development Conference will kick off “Campaign FACC 2008” on July 10 & 11 at the Melbourne Crown Plaza Oceanfront. This year’s conference will highlight the steps needed in developing a membership recruitment and retention campaign. Learn how to best utilize the new Association Membership System, and discover new information about the 2008 Convention!

Join us as several of our community college system leaders participate in a discussion or “Debate” if you will – about the future of FACC and our system. Join the “Caucus for Growth” as we develop plans for growing our chapters, design campaign strategies, and vote to determine the best campaign for 2008! A special presentation will close out the conference on Friday encouraging all participants to “Reflect on the Past, and Focus on the Future!” We’ll see you in Melbourne!

## Legislative Outlook

### 2008 Community College Funding Summary

With state revenues in severe decline, state appropriations followed a similar trend. Based on 2008-09 legislative appropriations, Florida Community College System will realize a decrease of \$156.3 million or 12.4% in state funding compared to the original level of state appropriations for 2007-08. Full-time equivalent students increased by 7% in 2007-08, and a similar enrollment increase is anticipated for 2008-09. This would result in a state funding level of \$2,849 per FTE student in 2008-09.

#### COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPERATING BUDGETS

- Based on latest 2007-08 State Appropriations, Total System increase of 0.2% in Community College Operating Budgets, decrease of 3.9% in State Support
- \$5.1 million for Operating Costs of New Facilities
- Performance Funding was maintained at 2% of State Support
- 6% increase in Student Fees

#### OTHER SPECIFIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPROPRIATIONS

- All approved Baccalaureate Degree programs were funded with recurring State Support
- No State Funding for the Dr. Philip Benjamin Matching Program, \$52.6 million in eligible private contributions were certified by the colleges. These contributions are eligible for \$44.7 million in state matching funds.

...BUDGET continued on page 8

## Institutional Advancement Commission Holds 2008 Spring Conference

The Spring Conference was an energizing few days in the wonderful setting of the Kight Center at IRCC April 10-11, 2008. Thanks to conference organizers, the Tech Commission and IRCC hosts, everything went off without a hitch. Chair-elect Chris Thomes (Gulf Coast) and former Chair Lisa Velasquez (IRCC) put together an eclectic and interesting series of workshops.

General Business:

- **Officer vacancies:** The IAC vice-chair and treasurer/secretary positions are vacant and candidates are welcome to become a part of the commission leadership team.
- **LeRoy Collins Awards:** The IAC, after consulting with FACC leadership, decided to postpone the LeRoy Collins Distinguished Community College Alumni Awards for 2008. Although the 2007 awards were outstanding in every way, the IAC board and FACC leadership agreed to take time to develop a plan for long-term financial sustainability and award oversight/responsibility. IAC also took into account budget restrictions being faced by community colleges this year as well as the desirability of rotating the award, thus allowing more time for colleges to develop an alumni base for nominations. IAC will continue working toward making the Collins an exceptional award experience for all parties. Hopefully, the awards will resume in full force next year.
- **IAC name change:** The proposal to change the commission name to the *Institutional Advancement and Communications Commission* will be brought to the FACC voting body at the fall convention. The name change of name will more accurately reflect current IAC membership which has a majority of public relations and marketing professionals, while not excluding any interested group. Jillian Krueger Printz (Broward) is coordinating the initiative.
- **2008 IAC Excellence Awards:** The call for entries will go out late July for an August deadline. Members are welcome to submit criteria/category changes to IAC officers for consideration. Chair-elect Chris Thomes is coordinating the awards.

Workshop Sessions:

- **WQCS-FM presentation and tour:** Station manager Madison Hodges, T.J. Barnes, web and operations coordinator and Joe Lenartiene, with the Radio Reading Service, treated IAC to a fascinating look behind the scenes at IRCC's radio station, including station progress on HD conversion and its thriving radio reading program.
- **PR Case Studies:** Public relations and media consultant Adrienne Moore led discussions about various public relations issues and cases drawing from her extensive media background and long-time affiliation with WQCS/IRCC.
- **Crisis preparedness, planning and PR:** IRCC officials gave a thorough and engaging presentation on campus crisis planning, response and communications. The session focused on lessons learned from an on-site exercise involving an armed student on campus.

IAC Executive Board members are Chair Trish Hinton (NFCC – [hintonp@nfcc.edu](mailto:hintonp@nfcc.edu)), Chair-elect Chris Thomes (GCCC - [cthomes@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:cthomes@gulfcoast.edu), and Past-chair Lisa Velasquez (IRCC - [lvelasqu@ircc.edu](mailto:lvelasqu@ircc.edu)).



Wayne Hodges, CCLA FACC Member and Bianca Rodriguez listen to guest speaker.

## Retirees Commission Continues On

Delegates at the convention heard both sides of the proposal to dissolve our commission and the majority vote was against the dissolution. The open debate was an opportune time for all to hear the challenges we have had not only communicating with our members but also performing as a credible FACC commission. With a new year, new approaches to meet those challenges are underway. The FACC Awards Committee will include a Retiree Member Activities section within the new Chapter of the Year award criteria. Including retirees in chapter-sponsored activities and aiding with communication to retired FACC members will help your chapter earn points towards that coveted award.

Each chapter has opportunities to increase their retiree membership and include them in all FACC communiqués via email or snail mail. Retirement season is approaching and an excellent gift from your chapter to a retiring colleague is a lifetime membership in FACC. The cost for retiree membership is only \$50.00 and the value received will outweigh the cost! Retired members have the same rights and privileges of all FACC members and they have the time and experience to assist in chapter activities. Take advantage and give the gift that will re-gift back to your chapter!

### Student Development Commission Sponsors Spring Conference

The FACC Student Development Commission held its 41st Spring Conference on May 14-16, in Miami. Miami Dade College hosted this year's conference themed "Forty Something, 1 year Later... Paradigm Shifts in Student Development." The conference was held on Miami Dade's Wolfson Campus.

Conference activities included a first-timers orientation, Exemplary Practice presentations, and several professional development concurrent sessions.

Registration included a "Meet and Greet" social on Thursday, awards breakfast on Friday, and a conference t-shirt. Student Development practitioners from all 28 community colleges were in attendance.

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## FACC COMMISSIONS - *Find the right one for you!*

<b>Administration</b>	Represent the interests of administrative and business affairs staff.
<b>Adult and Continuing Education</b>	Involve all interested personnel in the development, promotion, facilitation A&CE.
<b>Career and Professional Employees</b>	Promote professional growth and exchange of information amongst career and professional (non-administrative, non-faculty) employees.
<b>Equity</b>	Provide leadership, advice, counsel and vehicle for the professional development on EA/EO matters.
<b>Facilities</b>	Promote the interests and issues of community college's facilities planning and institutional services and to provide to its membership a collaborative environment for sharing ideas, experiences and successes in order to promote best practices and professional development within the multiple disciplines associated with the construction and management of our college's facilities.
<b>Faculty</b>	Promote quality leadership and professional service and seek solutions on matters relating to faculty.
<b>Global Initiatives</b>	Develop and coordinate programs related to international and multi cultural matters.
<b>Institutional Advancement</b>	Promote professional growth and development amongst commission members.
<b>Institutional Effectiveness</b>	Improve institutional effectiveness, planning and research.
<b>Instructional Innovation</b>	Provide for the effective participation of the faculties, administrators, and other concerned personnel in all areas relating to the curriculum.
<b>Learning Resources</b>	Represent the interests of Learning Resources personnel.
<b>Occupational and Workforce Education</b>	Represent the interest of Occupational and Workforce Education personnel.
<b>Retirees</b>	Represent the interests of Florida Community College System retirees.
<b>Student Development</b>	Actively involve members of the Student Affairs offices in carrying out the goals and objectives of the Student Personnel philosophy.
<b>Technology</b>	To promote effective participation in all aspects of technology planning, management, information sharing and innovation.
<b>Trustees</b>	Promote an understanding of the Florida Community College System amongst trustees and serve in liaison capacity to local and State offices and agencies.
<b>Rural Campuses (provisional)</b>	Provide an avenue to address the education, training and economic issues that are unique to rural communities; thus developing a much needed advocacy group, provide a network to share exemplary practices, possible solutions and provide a professional network for faculty, staff and administrators, and to deliver the same quality academic programming, engaging curriculum, enrollment increases, and strive toward sustainability just as large campuses and often times with less resources.

**Get your commission in the news! The next issue of *Current* will be published on August 1 and the deadline will be July 15! Be sure to email your articles and high resolution pictures to [publications@facc.org](mailto:publications@facc.org)!**

# Manatee Community College Hosts FACC Region IV Conference

Seventy-four people from all six community colleges in the region participated in the Florida Association of Community Colleges Region IV Spring Conference hosted by MCC at Lakewood Ranch on Feb. 29.

President Dr. Sarah Pappas welcomed participants. Workshops were conducted by Crystal Gambino, Instructor, Natural Sciences; Chris Stubenberg, Corporate and Community Development Adjunct; Daisy Vulovich, Executive Director, Corporate and Community Development; and Luci Frith, Professor, Speech. Dr. Mike Mears, Dean, Mathematics, Science, Business and Technology, and President of the MCC Chapter of FACC, presented a wrap-up at the end of the conference.

Members of the conference Planning Committee were Julie Darner, Dr. Tony Gambino, Cheri Kittrell, Eileen Jones, Michael Rogers, Heidi Schroeder, Stacey Sharples, Christine Sharrio and Dee Steverson.



Region V attendees learn about Going Green.



FACC President Carol Quinn and COO Marsha Kiner join host Chapter Miami Dade College for fun at the Region V meeting.

## Miami Dade College Hosts Region V Conference

Miami Dade College hosted the Region V Conference at its Kendall Campus. During this year of economical uncertainty, almost every community college within Region V sent at least two representatives (and in some cases more) which helped to make this conference a success. The theme of this year's conference was "Going Green" in looking at the 'hot topic' of conservation. Everyone was asked to dress comfortable for this conference since it entailed a presentation by the Earth Ethics Institute and two tours: the Environmental Center and the Natural Rock Museum.

Carol Quinn, FACC Statewide President welcomed everyone and introduced state officers attending the conference. Marsha Kiner, FACC Chief Operating Officer updated the group on legislative issues which are currently being negotiated during the legislative session and provided an update about FACC. Susan Thomas, FACC Chapter President thanked the College's Administration and her FACC Campus Vice Presidents for working so hard to put this conference together. She stated that "it has been a few years since Miami Dade College has hosted the regional conference, and we were certainly proud to have this opportunity." A big THANK YOU to conference sponsors: AIG SunAmerican (Retirement), Capella University, Publix, and Miami-Dade County Water Management. *(See photo gallery on page 23).*

## GOAL 10,000 – Developing A Plan of Action

An Action Plan is critical to reaching a desired goal. No matter the goal, if you don't have benchmarks and a plan to accomplish it, you will never meet with success. The Association set a goal of 10,000 members for 2008. How will your chapter meet its membership goals?

Developing an Action Plan is simple. The plan should detail the essential actions needed, specify who will carry them out, set timelines, list resources required, and determine the necessary communication methods. A chapter with an Action Plan will have a blueprint for accomplishing its membership goals.



Begin by reviewing your membership numbers. Ensure that everyone is aware of the membership goal. Review your chapter activities and events. Do you have scheduled activities for the remainder of the summer semester? If not, why not? Did you provide opportunities to demonstrate FACC's value during this last legislative session? If you didn't get the word out to everyone via Perception, did you hold an after session college-wide debriefing? There were many bills affecting the system during this session unlike any in the past. How will these bills affect your institution?

Establish a timeline for benchmarks. When will your efforts begin and when will they end? Find those key areas of interest for your institutional culture and highlight them. Utilize your resources! Key people in key positions are critical to successfully meeting your goal. Celebrate your successes! Highlight new members and chapter events around campus. Everyone should recognize FACC and want to belong!

Remember your Action Plan is the blueprint for your success. Goal 10,000 is reachable with each of us working together toward our goal!

## SCC Working on Membership Development

The Seminole Community College Chapter has really been enjoying this FACC journey of membership recruiting and activities, and having lots of fun and meeting exciting people along the way. Where should the recap begin?

March 3, the chapter held a FACC General Membership and New Officer Induction. The special guest was Ms. Marsha Kiner, FACC COO.

April 9, the chapter held a "Legislative Update" with Donald Payton, SCC's Director of Governmental Relations which was broadcast from Tallahassee Community College to all four SCC campuses. Thank you TCC!!!

April 11, the chapter participated in the annual Relay for Life and passed out free water to all the participants, raising a substantial donation for the cause.

April 16, the chapter hosted a "New Employee Recognition" and Membership Drive. It was great meeting all the new SCC employees and signing up new FACC members.

...SCC continued from page 6

April 16, the chapter participated in the “Spring Lake Restoration Project,” spending all day transplanting native plants and pulling out the invasive torpedo plant to restore the ecosystem.

April 29, 30 and May 1, the chapter sold flowers and cameras at Graduation as a fundraiser. It was very successful and chapter members got to see all the successful students and families celebrating!

May 2, the chapter began a Membership Challenge. All new FACC members who signed up before May 22 had their names placed into a raffle for a chance to win a gift certificate.

May 8, the chapter held a Membership Drive at the SCC Heathrow Center.

May 15, the chapter held a Social Event at Habana Grill.

May 20, the chapter sponsored a “Legislative Wrap Up” with special guest Florida State Representative Chris Dorworth and presented by Don Payton, SCC Director of Government Relations. The event was broadcast to all 4 SCC Campus.

The chapter is having a great time building its membership. It is exciting to see SCC’s Chapter begin to become more involved and active with FACC. We are counting on the enthusiasm to continue.



Elizabeth Velazquez, Vernita Redmond and Lee Patrizzi at Graduation

## Seminole Community College Holds Legislative Wrap Up

SCC sponsored a very successful wrap up on May 20, 2008 at the SCC Economic Development Center at Heathrow, Florida featuring...



# Message from the President

The first few months of my term as president have gone by so quickly, but thankfully, so much has been accomplished. We have had another very effective legislative season even though the deep budget cuts and revenue shortfalls made it much more difficult to get everything we were seeking. Nevertheless, given the circumstances, I can tell you that we achieved a great deal on behalf of Florida's community colleges. I can most certainly say that our legislative consultants, staff and members worked very hard and should be commended for their efforts.



Carol Quinn  
FACC President

Now it's on to the challenges facing FACC. First and foremost has to be the goal I set forth when I took office to increase our membership. As I have just written, we were effective in Tallahassee this Spring, but imagine how much more impact we could make if our membership doubled, or if we could say that we represent 90% of every community college employee and leader in the state? That statement alone would give our efforts even more leverage and give us the tools we need to accomplish all of the advocacy, professional and even community service goals we have set.

Those of us who have been active in FACC for a while know very well that membership development is not done by mail. It's not achieved by sending out a letter, printing a fancy brochure or putting a link on our Web site. No, membership growth is accomplished at the grassroots level, one person at a time. One person asking another to join, a handshake and a smile, taking the time to communicate the value of FACC to someone else during a conversation. That's how it's done, and it is imperative that each of us take the time to contribute to this effort in 2008.

*"Those of us who have been active in FACC for a while know very well that membership development is not done by mail."*

Why is a growing membership important to you? Beyond the advocacy enhancements, there are individual benefits as well. The underlying purpose of FACC is the sharing of information, ideas and assistance, and I can attest to the fact that I have received much more than I have given in this regard. Imagine how many more new ideas and problem-solving suggestions might come your way if we had double the number of members in the association? I learn something every time I go to a FACC function and not only do I want to expand the knowledge base available to me, I would like to share that incredible resource with every person involved with a Florida community college.

*...BUDGET continued from page 1*

- \$2 million for First Generation in College grants – funded through the Office of Student Financial Assistance

#### FACILITIES FUNDING

- \$398.6 million in funding for the Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) including the Projects List, Sum-of-the-Digits Maintenance and two Joint-Use Projects. The PECO Projects List was \$58.6 million above the Community College System Allocation/Request. \$8.8 million in funding for the Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program (FECGP). The Systems Request for Facilities Match was \$46.2 million.

From the funds provided in Specific Appropriation 82A, school districts shall pay for instructional materials used for the instruction of public high school students who are earning credit toward high school graduation under dual enrollment program as provided in Section 1011.62(1)(i), Florida Statutes.

# Message from the CEO

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We all know that rising gas prices and the national housing crisis are having a negative impact on the national economy. Florida's economy has been further impacted by the high cost of home insurance, property taxes and fear of hurricanes. Consequently, there were significantly less tax revenues available to meet the state's needs during the 2008 Legislative Session. The Community College System saw a 3.9% reduction in state funding that was offset by a 6% increase in tuition. The System saw an overall increase of 0.2%. The System has already absorbed an additional 54,000 students. That fact combined with the reduction in state funding, equates to a state-wide average of \$2,849 per FTE.

Community college people know that when the economy weakens and the number of jobs in the state goes down that community college enrollment goes up. Further, when the economy weakens, there is a reduction in tax revenues and less available funds for community colleges and other state services. We have been here before. We will get through this as we have in the past by leaning on one another.

Another high profile result of the 2008 Legislative Session was the passage of SB 1716 that redefines the Community College System as the Florida College System. The Governor is scheduled to sign the bill at OWC on June 12, 2008. The bill names Chipola, Edison, Daytona Beach, Miami-Dade, Polk, St. Pete, Santa Fe, Indian River, and Okaloosa-Walton as participating colleges in the Florida State College Pilot Project. I have received many questions from members asking about the impact that this will have on FACC. My response has been that other than perhaps a name change, there should be little impact on FACC. In meeting with the presidents, I have been assured that it is still the intention that all twenty-eight colleges will remain together and institutional members of FACC. However, I am sure we will all need to make adjustments to accommodate the changes that are before us.

This is an emotional issue for many of us. However, I believe that as long as we stay true to the community college principles of providing access and special attention to student success, it doesn't really matter what they call us.

In case you did not read that last edition of *Perception*, let me take a moment to acknowledge some of the key contributors to our advocacy effort including Dr. Ed Massey (president of IRCC) for chairing the Policy and Advocacy Committee, Mr. Don Payton (SCC) for chairing the FACC Legislative Committee, Ms. Erin McColskey (PBCC) for bill tracking and her invaluable help with *Perception*, and Chancellor Will Holcombe and his staff at the Division.

I also want to encourage everyone to join me in saluting Representative Joe Pickens who has now completed his final term in the House. Joe is a true champion of education and has been a staunch supporter of community colleges. You can read about his long list of accomplishments as listed in [Perception 0809 by clicking HERE](#).



Mike Comins  
FACC CEO

*"Community college people know that when the economy weakens and the number of jobs in the state goes down that community college enrollment goes up."*

CEO Message

**Be sure to read the 2008 College Funding Summary in this issue!**

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Pamela Outram, PhD  
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\*ACCREDITATION  
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## What I Know For Sure:

- 1 - FACC offers numerous professional development opportunities – which is a great way to meet colleagues from all of the community colleges.
- 2 - FACC works toward making the Florida community college system the best it can be! Our dues contribute toward the funding of Lobbyists who work hard to represent the community college interests in Tallahassee.
- 3 - You can choose your level of involvement: you can get involved at the local level (chapters), regional level (regions), and/or the state level (commissions, committees, Board of Directors) or you can just offer your support by being an FACC member!
- 4 - FACC is the only organization that represents ALL community college employees.
- 5 - You will make GREAT FRIENDS across the state!!

*Laurie Ragsdale, Hillsborough CC*

## What I know for sure...

1. As a support staff employee, I don't have Faculty's Union Voice - FACC represents my interest in Tallahassee, and my voice is heard.
2. FACC also serves my needs at the College level with up to date information on the status of critical funding bills in the Legislature.
3. FACC has afforded me the opportunity to interact with my peers throughout the State, exchanging problem solving ideas that have turned into personal friendships throughout the years.
4. At an FACC Leadership Workshop, I had the biggest thrill of actually sitting in one of our Representative's desks inside the House Chamber, and now I look for "my chair" whenever the House Chamber is on TV.
5. FACC has allowed me to travel to other Colleges within the State and to be introduced to a City I love to visit at least once a year – Tallahassee.

*Maggie Wiggin  
Miami Dade College, Kendall*

## LCCC Gets A Word from Tallahassee

Marsha Kiner, chief operating officer, Florida Association of Community Colleges (FACC) met with the Lake City Community College chapter of FACC board members to discuss the new membership drive of the LCCC chapter. The chapter currently has 76 percent enrollment and is increasing its membership each month. Kiner also informed the board that the Tallahassee office is extremely busy staying abreast of all the budget actions and sessions.

The board was commended for the college's high enrollment and was encouraged to keep up the good work and attract more new members.



**Myrtle Kerce, admission specialist<sup>1</sup> and treasurer of LCCC chapter of FACC; Marsha Kiner; Amie Smith, senior staff assistant and chapter secretary; Toni Briley, academic advisor and chapter membership chair; Bethany Jenkins, public information specialist and chapter president elect; Kerry Hagler, audiovisual technician specialist and chapter president. Not pictured is photographer Barbara Lawson, desktop publishing specialist and publicity chair.**

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## SJRCC celebrates 50th anniversary

### *President McLendon announces retirement*

Faculty, alumni and friends of St. Johns River Community College gathered May 9 on the Palatka Campus lawn to celebrate 50 years of education and enrichment. Several days after the celebration, President Robert L. McLendon, Jr., Ph.D. asked the College Board of Trustees to begin the process of finding his replacement. McLendon will remain in office until a new president is appointed.

President Robert L. McLendon Jr., who has served 36 years as SJRCC president and is the senior president in the Florida community college system, welcomed more than 350 guests to the sold out event. The evening included dinner, special presentations, recognition of alumni and performances by Florida School of the Arts students.

McLendon acknowledged former student body presidents in attendance - Judge Ed Hedstrom (1958), Ron Brown (1968), Carl Motes (1969), Ed Hudson (1974), Dr. Robert Risch (1987), Joe Perry (1996), Lacie Silcox (2008) and Federal Judge Steve Merryday (1970).

Merryday returned to SJRCC to give the anniversary address on the importance of an education and its role in the nation's future success. Merryday also gave the address during the College's 25 anniversary reception.

Palatka Mayor Karl Flagg, also an alumnus, presented a proclamation designating February 25 - the day the College opened for organizational purposes - as SJRCC Day. Former 1960s faculty member Cleo Higgins, Ph.D. presented the College with her doctoral dissertation and spoke of the integration of African-American faculty into the College.

Vice President Caroline Tingle thanked event sponsors Georgia-Pacific, Beck Automotive Group and Armstrong Contracting Services, Inc. Special guests included Mike Comins, CEO of FACC, and State Rep. Joe Pickens.

Regarding his retirement announcement, McLendon, the most senior president in the Florida Community College System, said the timing of his announcement coincides with the end of the fiscal year and the College's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. McLendon said the anniversary has given him a chance to reflect upon the College's progress and its future plans. "The vital signs are excellent," McLendon said. "Things will continue to look good for the College." Named the College's third president in 1972, McLendon, in his 36 years as president, oversaw the addition of Florida School of the Arts, campuses in Clay and St. Johns counties, the Criminal Justice Center at the St. Augustine Campus, the Thrasher-Horne Center for the Arts and the \$13-million Health-Sciences Building at the Orange Park Campus.

McLendon extended his gratitude to board members and administrators. "I deeply appreciate having had the opportunity to be of service to St. Johns River Community College. I have had the support of an outstanding Board of Trustees, and the College has been greatly helped by certain loyal and powerful legislators. We have also been blessed by exceptionally well-qualified faculty, staff and students who are a huge part of our success."

The Marianna native has been in the Florida Community College System for 44 years, having begun his career as an instructor at Brevard Community College. He began his career at SJRCC as the Dean of Academic Affairs in 1966.



**President McLendon**



Special guests attending the SJRCC 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reception were Linda Pickens, State Rep. Joe Pickens and Michael Comins, FACC CEO.



President Robert McLendon addresses an audience of 350 alumni, faculty and friends during SJRCC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reception.



SJRCC President Robert McLendon accepts a proclamation from Palatka Mayor and SJRCC alumnus Karl Flagg declaring February 25 "SJRCC Day."



1970 graduate and guest speaker Federal Judge Steve Merryday poses with 1960 graduate Circuit Judge Ed Hedstrom. Hedstrom was a member of the first class to attend and graduate from the College.



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## John Grosskopf named acting president of NFCC

North Florida Community College Vice President John Grosskopf was named acting president of the college during the NFCC District Board of Trustees meeting on May 20. Grosskopf will assume the position later this summer at the retirement of current NFCC President Morris G. Steen Jr.

The Board's unanimous vote to appoint Grosskopf as acting president was made after the Board was unable to produce a majority vote favoring one of the four presidential candidates interviewed on May 2. Those interviewed included Clyde Cruce, Dr. Brian O'Connell, Dr. Harry Rotter and Dr. Jessica Webb.

The Board tasked Grosskopf with providing a site survey of the college by November 2008. The survey is intended to provide an unbiased, institution-wide analysis of NFCC that will assist Board members in making decisions in January 2009 about what type of leader will best serve the college and how to proceed with selecting NFCC's eighth president.

Board members are Chair John Maulstby of Madison County, Vice-Chair Albert Thomas of Jefferson County, Verna Hodge of Hamilton County, Debra Land of Lafayette County, Brantly Helvenston of Suwannee County, Lester Padgett of Taylor County and Linda Gibson and Mikey Wilson both representing Madison County.

For more information, contact the NFCC College Advancement Office at 850.973.1613 or email [news@nfcc.edu](mailto:news@nfcc.edu).



(Above) Judge August Aikens, class of 1969, says NFJC gave him confidence to go forward.

(Right) Elmer Coker, first SGA president and 1960 graduate of NFJC



## Alumni celebrate North Florida's fiftieth year in style

*Submitted by NFCC College Advancement*

Former students and retired employees of North Florida Junior College, Suwannee River Junior College and NFCC gathered in the NFCC Student Center April 25 to renew acquaintances and

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**It was great to see everyone last year at FACC events. We are excited about 2008 and look forward to serving you!**

...NFCC continued from page 14

share memories during NFCC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary alumni luncheon. The event celebrated the fifty year anniversary of the college which was established in 1958. NFJC cheerleading outfits, sports jerseys, and photo posters of students and staff from long ago adorned walls and tables.

President Morris G. Steen, Jr., an alumnus of NFJC, welcomed guests and shared recent accomplishments of the college, which was one of six community colleges originally set up by the Florida legislature in the late 50s.

Hosted by the NFCC Foundation, the event treated guests to a luncheon, program of alumni memories, and exhibits of memorabilia featuring hundreds of photographs chronicling the college's history.

The highlight of the gathering was alumni memories shared by Elmer Coker, NFJC class of 1960, Elesta Pritchett, SRJC class of 1963, Judge Augustus Aikens, NFJC class of 1969 and Ted Ensminger, NFJC class of 1972.

Coker of Perry said, "It's hard to believe that 50 years have gone by. Those were good days and I made a lot of good friends." The first Student Government Association president at NFJC, Coker said he rode a bus from Perry to Madison to attend those early classes. In the first years before buildings were on campus, Coker and other students attended classes in area churches.

Pritchett said, "I achieved my goals through SRJC. SRJC - you were at my disposal when I needed you most. Thank you." She also fondly remembered a former instructor, Mrs. Walden, who told her to grab opportunity when she had the chance. "I never stopped dreaming," said Pritchett. Getting an education is "the best thing that has happened to me," she added. A retired educator, the Greenville resident is a former member of the NFCC District Board of Trustees and currently a NFCC Foundation Board member.

Leon County judge, Augustus Aikens, relayed that he was around nine years old when SRJC and NFJC were created and remembered when the two institutions merged into NFJC. He said that NFJC had a very positive impact in Madison in the late 50s and early 60s bringing in new opportunities, ideas and people to the area. He shared what an instructor once told him - "If you can make it at NFJC, you can make it anywhere" and "that's true" said Aikens.

Aikens assisted the NFJC grounds crew the summer before he entered college and became very familiar with the campus and employees. He was also editor of the NFJC college newspaper. "I left NFJC with a feeling of confidence. I could be successful in any endeavor. NFJC encouraged me to go forward," said Aikens.

Ensminger, associate publisher with Greene Publishing, Inc., said, "I tried other colleges, but I found a home at NFJC. It truly changed my life. He noted that at NFJC "There were people that believed in me." Ensminger commented that the school was amazing back then and said, "It still is. Not one day of my life has this school been out of my heart."

The NFCC Foundation, Inc. hosted the luncheon. Alumni also toured the campus that afternoon.



**Elesta Pritchett, a 1963 SRJC graduate, offers thanks to her alma mater.**



**Ted Ensminger, class of 1972, shows off fraternity paddle given him by club brothers at NFJC.**

## Congressman Cliff Stearns Holds Town Meeting at CFCC

Rep. Cliff Stearns held a town meeting at the CFCC Ocala Campus on Saturday, April 12.

Stearns has been in office since 1989 and was recently voted the top tax-cutting member of the house. Stearns took questions from the audience and covered a wide range of topics during the well-attended town meeting.

The FACC CFCC Chapter provided information and refreshments for participants.



**Congressman Cliff Stearns (left)  
with CFCC Chapter  
President Dan Figler**

## First CFCC Citrus Campus Nursing Class Recognized

CFCC has graduated its first class of nursing students from the Citrus Campus. Twelve students received the Associate in Science degree in Nursing and were recognized in a pinning ceremony at the Ocala Campus on Thursday, May 1.



**Members of CFCC's first nursing class pose for photograph**

“CFCC began offering the ADN program in 1963 and the first class graduated in 1965. Since that time CFCC

has educated thousands of excellent nurses to meet the health care needs of our community,” said Dr. Gwen Alcorn, associate dean for Health and Human Services at CFCC. “Consistently the CFCC nursing program graduates have a 92 to 98 percent pass rate on the registered nurse licensing examination – above state and national averages.”

CFCC began offering nursing program clinical experiences in Citrus County in 1987. The full ADN program began at the Citrus Campus in 2006.

## FACC CFCC Chapter March of Dimes Spirit

Members of the FACC CFCC Chapter got in the spirit of the “Babies of the Caribbean” in support of the Saturday, April 26, March of Dimes March for Babies. The spirit station provided water, crackers and fruit for walkers and a “doggie bath” for the canines. There was also a courtesy limousine donated to pick up stragglers along the way and a pirate on hand to greet the walkers. CFCC staff, faculty and students walked in support of Weston Charles Hofer, born prematurely at 2 pounds and 1/2 ounce to CFCC employee Kelli Hofer. CFCC employees raised a total of \$12,000 through the walk and other fundraising activities for March of Dimes.

## FKCC Holds 42<sup>nd</sup> Commencement Ceremony

Ninety-five students walked across the stage at the Tennessee Williams Theater to receive degrees and certificates during the 42<sup>nd</sup> commencement ceremony of Florida Keys Community College. This year's ceremony marked the first over which the new College President Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle officially presided. Boyle began in August of last year.

"This is the most exciting time of the year for us," remarked Dr. Landesberg-Boyle. "Everything we do at FKCC leads up to this special moment: graduation. This night marks the success of our students and the culmination of all our efforts," she said.

For the academic year 2007-08, more than 176 students graduated from FKCC. Some completed graduation requirements as early as August of last year, however not all participate in the May commencement exercise. Of this year's graduates 30 are from nursing; 18 from business and data processing; six from marine sciences, 14 from computer technology; 11 from corrections and criminal justice and 97 received the associate in arts degree for university transfer.

Graduate De Anne Bardell was the keynote speaker and received dual degrees; an associate in science in computer information technology and a certificate in business data processing. She addressed her fellow graduates, but not for the last time. Bardell plans to stay at FKCC where she'll pursue two more degrees before she and her husband, who is with the Coast Guard, relocate to central Florida. "I'm going to stay here another year and earn an associate in arts in business and an associate in science in computer programming and analysis," says an ambitious Bardell.

## FKCC Hosts Community at "Cultural Campus Day"

Florida Keys Community College held a "Cultural Campus Day" on April 23 in celebration of diversity and educational advancement. The event, sponsored in partnership with The Raytheon Company, was open to the community free of charge. Attendees toured the "nation stations" and enjoyed ethnic food samples at various college departments as they learned about degrees and credit classes. Participants could apply on the spot, register for summer courses, find out about scholarships, and meet employers at the job fair.

The event took place at the Key West Campus. "Island Learning" is for EVERYONE at Florida Keys Community College!

## LSCC Sponsors Arts and Crafts Exhibit

On Thursday, March 6, 2008, Lake-Sumter Community College's FACC Chapter held an Arts and Craft Exhibit to showcase the talents of LSCC's staff and faculty. The talented staff displayed pottery, needlework, paintings, quilting, crocheted blankets, scrapbook albums, cards, beading and much more. The exhibit, which lasted the entire day, gave employees the opportunity to socialize and take a break from the day to admire their colleagues' work. One of the most commonly expressed sentiments was wonder at the creative and diverse talents of LSCC employees. The day was topped off beautifully with the camaraderie of a potluck luncheon.



LSCC members look over arts and crafts

# Representative Boyd Speaks to FACC

Lake City Community College hosted the 2008 Legislative Breakfast in the LCCC Conference Center with the Lake City-Columbia County Chamber of Commerce. Guest speakers included: North Florida Regional Director Adele Griffin representing U.S. Senator Mel Martinez; House of Representatives, District 10 Will Kendrick; House of Representatives for District 11 Debbie Boyd; and Nathan Riska, district representative for U.S. Congressman Ander Crenshaw gave all attendees an update from Tallahassee and information from their districts.



**Pictured l-r: Chuck Hall, president LCCC; Karyn Congressi, assistant to president; Representative Boyd; Amy Kennedy, district secretary for Rep. Boyd; and Kerry Hagler, audiovisual television specialist and FACC chapter president.**

After the breakfast Boyd attended the LCCC Chapter of the Florida Association of Community College's (FACC) meeting held in the Administration Board Room to update members about recent session agenda items. She stated that since the dollar has been so tight, she feels that this may be the worst budget year in the past 30 years for funding. Boyd also added that things may not get better any time soon. Boyd related an interesting event about the "day" the House was in session from 10 a.m. until the following morning at 2:30 a.m.

The audience was excited to hear about all the work going on in Tallahassee and appreciation was expressed by President Chuck Hall and FACC members of Boyd and her office taking time to inform LCCC how current budget items will affect the community college system.

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## PHCC Chapter Busy with Fundraising

The PHCC Chapter is gearing up for its biggest fundraiser of the year, the annual Employee Appreciation Day and Carnation Sale. This fundraiser comes on the heels of the Performing Arts Center concession stand fundraiser and the Valentine's Day balloon bouquet sales.

The PHCC Chapter members once again operated the concession stand at the Performing Arts Center on the West Campus for the 2008 season. The show season began on January 26 with the sold-out Gaelic Storm performance. This is the second year the chapter has participated in this successful fundraiser. Last year, the chapter raised around \$1,500 by running the concession stand throughout the show season. The chapter receives 100 percent of the profits from concession stand sales. Chapter volunteers operate the stand before the show and during intermission.

In February, the PHCC Chapter hosted Meet 'n Greet sessions on each campus for FACC members and potential members. These campus events offered members and potential members the opportunity to meet the FACC Officers, grab a bite to eat, find out the latest in state legislation, and place a Valentine's Day balloon order. As a result of the Meet 'n Greets, the chapter received five new member applications. The chapter also took orders for Valentine's Day balloon bouquets. Over 125 balloons and balloon bouquets were sold.

The Chapter also participated in the Annual Employee Appreciation Day on April 23 which coincided with the carnation sale. This event offered faculty and staff the opportunity to show appreciation toward their co-workers for all the work they do.

Photo caption: The PHCC East Campus Meet 'n Greet was held on February 8. Pictured are Rosa Vella-Murray, financial aid advisor, and Georgia Coleman, bookstore manager, both won Valentine prizes during the Meet 'n Greet.



**The PHCC East Campus Meet 'n Greet was held on February 8. Pictured are Rosa Vella-Murray, financial aid advisor, and Georgia Coleman, bookstore manager, both won Valentine prizes during the Meet 'n Greet.**

## FACC and CPEC Sponsor Employee Appreciation Breakfast

The FACC and CPEC hosted an appreciation breakfast at the CFCC Ocala Campus on Tuesday, April 15. The senior administrative team of the college served up a full buffet breakfast. In addition to a warm welcome from Dr. Charles Dassance, president of CFCC, recognition of employee degree achievements and door prizes, employees enjoyed a motivational speech by the humorous Gaye Martin.

## PBCC Volunteers paint their hearts out for Riviera Beach homeowners

For the first time in its eight-year history, Palm Beach Community College volunteers for the annual community service event **Paint Your Heart Out** went on the road to help two homeowners spruce up their homes.

Sponsored by the PBCC Chapter, 34 volunteers, including PBCC President Dennis Gallon, spent three hours on the morning of April 26 painting the homes of Dineen Hillard and Toby and Laura Bivins in Riviera Beach, Florida. The Solid Waste Authority (SWA), through Paint Your Heart Out, provided recycled paint for the task, and volunteers provided the muscle.

“It’s wonderful to see people this giving,” said Toby Bivins, a Palm Beach County firefighter disabled from an injury on the job. “I’ve spent my life trying to help others, and it’s nice to be helped in return.”

“This is a great program,” said Dineen Hillard. “There was no way I could have done this all by myself. I’m just so thankful for everyone coming out to help me.”

As it turns out, both homes have a PBCC connection. Hillard said she bought the home eight years ago from Burt Reynolds’ aunt, and Reynolds grew up in the house next door to hers. Bivins said both homes and several others in the neighborhood, formerly known as Plumosa Park, were built by Reynolds’ father. (Burt Reynolds being one of PBCC’s most notable alumni!).

### Ardease Johnson Retirement Reception at PBCC

Dressed in her signature color purple, Ardease Johnson made her way around the room, stopping for hugs, posing for pictures. The James L. Wattenbarger Conference Center at the Lake Worth campus was packed with current and former PBCC employees, Johnson’s family and friends to celebrate the woman with the 100-megawatt smile as she turns the page on more than three decades in the Office of Human Resource at Palm Beach Community College.

Although she officially retires June 30, Johnson’s retirement reception, organized by her Human Resources colleagues, was held April 24 — exactly 36 years to the day she began her career at PBCC.

That was 1972. Gas was 36 cents a gallon. *The Godfather* was playing in theaters. Watergate was only a hotel. And the late Dr. Harold Manor was president of Palm Beach Junior College, as it was then known.

...JOHNSON continued on page 22



PBCC members volunteering!



PBCC President Dr. Dennis Gallon greets family members of one of the homes.

...*JOHNSON continued from page 21*

“There are not too many individuals who stay at one place and work for 36 years,” said President Dennis Gallon, one of several speakers at the reception. “I think that speaks volumes to this institution. A lot of institutional memory is going to leave here. To lose you now is going to be a big loss for me. Your fingerprints and your footprints are all over this institution that you’re leaving behind.”

Dr. Ellen Grace, director of human resources and Johnson’s supervisor, moderated the reception. A multimedia presentation was shown spanning Johnson’s life, from her roots in Live Oak, Fla., to her dual roles as employment manager and assistant to the president for equity programs. In the video, HR staff each spoke about the impact Johnson had on them and how they will miss her.



**Ardease Johnson new  
Life Member**

Johnson came to PBCC from the School District of Palm Beach County to work as secretary to the director of personnel. In 1978, she was promoted to personnel representative and to personnel coordinator three years later. She was named human resources coordinator in 1988 and promoted to employment manager the following year. In 1998, Dr. Gallon gave her the additional duty of assistant to the president for equity programs. Johnson was praised for her work not only in the areas of equity and diversity at PBCC, but also for her work in the Florida Association of Community Colleges where she chaired the Equity Commission. She organized PBCC’s first Multicultural Day in 1999 and the College’s first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Breakfast in 2000. It was while Ardease Johnson was President of PBCC’s FACC Chapter in 1999 that PBCC began the community volunteer effort—Paint Your Heart Out. During her retirement reception, the PBCC Chapter of FACC awarded Ardease Johnson with a Lifetime Retirement Membership—thereby, hopefully, insuring that she will remain active in FACC. She was also presented with an engraved matching pair of coffee mugs for her and her husband—for her soon to be long “coffee break” (retirement). However, we hope to see her at the next annual convention! Congratulations, Ardease!

## **CPEC Innovators Exemplary Practice Award Contest and Announcement!**

What was the first year for the CPEC Innovators Exemplary Award?? If you know, or were awarded the first Innovators Award, please let us know! There will be a \$50 prize for the winner. If no one gets the correct answer, the answer submitted that is CLOSEST to the correct answer will win! Submit your answers to [reddym@pbcc.edu](mailto:redm@pbcc.edu).

The CPEC Innovators Exemplary Practice Award has grown since its inception. Monarily and in content. However, it has always been an honor. And it has become more so as the years progressed. The monetary amount is now \$700 for the first place; \$200 for the second place, and \$100 for the third place award. The Innovators Exemplary Practice award highlights the achievements of career and professional employees in the State of Florida’s Florida Association of Community Colleges—all 28 of them! The career and professional employees play an important part in the growth, management, and perception of our community colleges. Submit your CPEC Innovators Exemplary Award application to show your contributions in helping shape the future of the community college system. Your ideas could be one that improved on a process, implemented a new program or process, brought honor or note to the college, improved morale of your community college staff, or in some way helped guide the students you come in

...CPEC continued from page 22

contact with. The presentations can be made by a speech, with powerpoint, in a video, or with a group, or singly. You can get help in setting up your presentation from your own media technology department or IT department. There are a tremendous number of career and professional employees that have “made a difference” at their community college.

Please submit your application by October 1. The application form and instructions can be found on the CEPC Web site, [http://www.facc.org/facc/Career and Professional Employees.asp?](http://www.facc.org/facc/Career and Professional Employees.asp) Step up and be recognized!

## FACC in pictures...



Region 1 members handling registration at Leadership Conference.



Region 1 folks from the reception during Leadership Conference.



Chipola FACC President Pat Barfield (right) presents retirees Mary Lu Andrew and Harrell Glisson with FACC lifetime memberships.



Staff working Concessions at Chipola College during the State Basketball Tournament.



Pensacola's Annual FACC Spring Picnic, a fish-fry, this year in honor of Dr. Delaino's (College President) and Dr. Brigham's



FCCJ faculty and staff gear up to paint!

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About FACC

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