



PALM BEACH STATE
COLLEGE

COLLEGE RELATIONS
AND MARKETING

4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461-4796

561-868-3122
561-868-3123

www.PalmBeachState.edu
crmarket@palmbeachstate.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Center for Bachelor's Programs Grand Opening Slated Sept. 21 at Palm Beach State College

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Sept. 10, 2012) – More than 1,000 students in Palm Beach State College's popular baccalaureate degree programs have a new home with the opening this fall of the Center for Bachelor's Programs on the Lake Worth campus.

The College will hold a grand opening celebration titled "Achieving New Heights" at 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 21. The event will include breakfast, remarks by College and student leaders, a ribbon cutting and tours of the College's newest educational facility.

"The center's opening marks the beginning of a new era for our students and faculty in a first-class environment for learning and collaboration," notes Dr. Anita Kaplan, dean of bachelor's degree programs. "Our students are thrilled to call this place their home at Palm Beach State."

The \$8.2 million, three-story building features 15 classrooms, a multimedia lecture hall, computer laboratories and faculty and staff offices, all connected by a soaring glass atrium and circular staircase. Its large window walls and third floor patio provide panoramic views of the campus commons area. The center also houses the offices of the Dr. Floyd F. Koch Honors College.



The 40,601-square-foot facility was designed by Song + Associates and built by Suffolk Construction. Reflecting the College's commitment to sustainability, it was planned from the earliest stages to meet LEED® standards for design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. The specific certification level will be determined by the U.S. Green Building Council after a full year of monitoring the building in use.

Palm Beach State offers Bachelor of Applied Science degrees in Information Management and Supervision & Management as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. Enrollment in the bachelor level programs has grown steadily since the initial program began three years ago. A total of 1,063 students were enrolled in the upper-division classes in 2011-12, an increase of 42 percent over the previous year.

Serving nearly 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's

first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Editor's Note: High-resolution photo attached.

Photo Cutline: The new Center for Bachelor's Programs at Palm Beach State College's Lake Worth campus.

Photograph: © **Barry Grossman**

Media Contact:

Dr. Grace Truman
Director, College Relations and Marketing
561-868-3122