

## COLLEGE RELATIONS AND MARKETING

4200 CONGRESS AVENUE, LAKE WORTH, FL 33461-4796  
561-868-3122 tel  
561-868-3123 fax



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 6, 2004

## **PBCC professor to teach in Eastern Europe**

Psychology Professor Michael Miles is taking a break from Palm Beach Community College this fall to help Vilnius University in Lithuania implement a new graduate program in special education that could help teachers and children throughout Eastern Europe.



Dr. Miles is a licensed psychotherapist and department chair of psychology, education, human services and the Certified Addictions Professional program at the Lake Worth campus. At Vilnius University, one of the oldest universities in Eastern Europe, he will teach special education courses to teachers and conduct applied research with children and adolescents who have learning and behavioral disorders.

“In Europe, especially Eastern Europe, it is only recently that they have started to implement special education programs for children with disabilities. These are all new initiatives to train teachers at the universities. It’s a great honor to go there and do this,” Dr. Miles said. “The concept of educating people with disabilities even in this country is relatively new,” he added, noting the passage less than 30 years ago of the Education of All Handicapped Children Act of 1975.

Dr. Miles, a resident of Delray Beach, was invited to come to the university after inquiring early last year about a one-week seminar through the American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education. His background in psychology and special education caught the attention of the organizers of the seminar who put him in contact with university officials.

Dr. Miles, whose father and grandparents were born in Lithuania, said the trip is even more special because he has long desired to explore the country of his ancestry. “This opportunity would not only fulfill this desire but will allow me the privilege to contribute to the development and success the Lithuanians are starting to enjoy,” said Dr. Miles. He also has been asked to be one of the speakers at Vilnius University’s 425<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in September.

Dr. Miles, who was granted a sabbatical for the Fall Term, will leave for Lithuania Aug. 20 and will return in December.

Dr. Miles is in his 16th year of teaching at PBCC. Prior to joining the faculty, he worked for the School District of Palm Beach County for about nine years as a behavioral psychologist, teacher and crisis intervention personnel. He holds a bachelor's degree in social psychology from Florida Atlantic University. He also holds a master's degree in clinical psychology and a doctorate in educational psychology with an emphasis on children with learning disabilities and behavioral disorders from Nova Southeastern University. He co-owns a private practice in Boynton Beach.

***Editor's note: For a high resolution photo of Professor Michael Miles, visit <http://www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/miles.jpg>.***

**Contacts:**

Professor Michael Miles, Ed.D  
(561) 868-3332

Tabatha McDonald  
College Relations and Marketing Specialist  
(561) 868-3127