Seminar to help foreign-educated skilled immigrants will be held at Palm Beach State College

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Jan. 29, 2013) Palm Beach State College is hosting a seminar to help immigrants who earned their college education or professional training in other countries transfer their credentials to the U.S.

The Pathways to Success® seminar, developed by World Education Services through its Global Talent Bridge initiative, will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 15 at Stage West at Palm Beach State in Lake Worth, 4200 Congress Ave.

The program will feature a panel of experts who will provide information and resources to help skilled immigrants pursue further education, obtain professional licensing or certification and find suitable employment in the U.S. The event is free and open to all current and recent immigrant students, members of the community, and college and community-based counselors and social services staff who work with immigrants.

Palm Beach State College is teaming up with World Education Services (WES) and the Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education (CCCIE) to hold the seminar. It is in response to Migration Policy Institute data showing that 2.7 million college-educated immigrants in this country are unemployed or under-employed. Foreign-educated immigrants often struggle to find jobs in this country that match their prior education and experience obtained in their home country.

Palm Beach State offers a variety of educational and career resources to assist skilled immigrant students and community members throughout Palm Beach County. The College’s Dr. Kathryn W. Davis Global Education Center (GEC) operates as a one-stop education and resource center providing scholarships, acculturation workshops, English language skills, community referrals, and assistance in navigating college programs and services. The GEC, established in 2007, has served over 1,700 immigrant students to date, representing more than 55 countries and including immigrants with varying degrees of formal and/or higher education, according to GEC
Director Jeannett Manzanero, who is coordinating the seminar. Information tables providing College and community resources will also be available.

Registration and information on the event is available at www.globaltalentbridge.org/pbsc or by calling the Global Education Center at 561-868-3973.

World Education Services (www.wes.org) is an accredited nonprofit organization with over 30 years’ experience evaluating foreign credentials so they are understood and fully recognized in the U.S. The Global Talent Bridge initiative helps skilled immigrants fully utilize their talents and education in the U.S. and provides technical assistance and resources to organizations that advise highly qualified immigrants.

Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education (www.cccie.org) is a national network of community colleges and other organizations committed to expanding and strengthening programs for immigrant students at community colleges nationwide. Activities include: raising visibility of immigrant education issues, sharing best practices, and advocacy. Palm Beach State College is a member of CCCIE.

*Serving 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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