Five Palm Beach Community College professors honored for excellence in teaching

(Lake Worth, Fla.—Aug. 20, 2004) Four Palm Beach Community College professors and one adjunct professor have received the Gimelstob Professor of the Year Award for excellence in teaching.

Professors Edward Brecker, Maureen Cavallaro, Lori Crane, Joseph De Paolo and David Hale were chosen by their peers from a field of 205 nominations submitted by students, faculty and staff. They each received $500, gold engraved medallions, a certificate and lunch with PBCC President Dennis Gallon.

The nominees were judged on five criteria: delivers clear and easy-to-understand instruction; is well organized and manages time effectively; promotes interest, enthusiasm and active learning; uses various techniques, methodologies and technologies and engages in student and student success related activities.

The annual PBCC awards were renamed this year in honor of Herb and Elaine Gimelstob of Boca Raton whose generosity helped create the Gimelstob Faculty Award Endowment.

Dr. Brecker, a chiropractor, teaches biology in Belle Glade. He received his doctor of chiropractic from Life University in Marietta, Ga.

Professor Crane teaches speech communication in Lake Worth. She holds a bachelor's degree in speech communication and political science and a master's degree in speech communication from Ball State University.

Dr. DePaolo teaches education in Palm Beach Gardens. He holds a bachelor's degree from Providence College, a master's degree from the University of Hartford, an advanced certificate of graduate study from the University of Connecticut and a doctorate of education from Nova University.

Professor Cavallaro teaches mathematics in Boca Raton. She holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Florida Southern College and a master's degree in math education from Florida Atlantic University.
Professor Hale, an adjunct instructor of English, has taught at PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens every semester for 20 years. He’s also an English teacher in the international baccalaureate program at Suncoast High School in Riviera Beach, where he has taught for 15 years. He is no stranger to awards. He also was a 1992 recipient of the William Dwyer Award for Excellence in Education and a finalist last school year for Palm Beach County Teacher of the Year.

Editor’s note: For a high resolution photo of the professors, click on the link http://www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/poy04.jpg

From left to right: Edward Brecker, Lori Crane, David Hale, Maureen Cavallaro and Joseph DePaolo

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