FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wachovia Bank donates $15,000 to PBCC’s First Generation in College Fund

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Dec. 13, 2007) Wachovia Bank has donated $15,000 to the Palm Beach Community College Foundation to provide scholarships for students who are the first generation in their families to attend college.

This is the second year that Wachovia has supported the foundation’s First Generation in College Fund, which in its first year helped 400 PBCC students pay for their education.

The PBCC Foundation established the need-based scholarship program in 2006 after the state legislature appropriated $5 million to Florida’s 28 community colleges to match, dollar-for-dollar, private contributions to create the funds. Last year, PBCC raised $101,000, which with the matching grant equaled $202,000.

The legislature allocated $2 million this year to help the colleges continue raising money and building their funds. PBCC raised $110,000 this year, which with the state match will equal $220,000 for the First Generation in College Fund.

“It is rewarding to see the community support this effort to help the most needy students accomplish their dreams,” said Suellen Mann, executive director of the PBCC Foundation. “Wachovia has been a great partner with PBCC in supporting our students.”

About Palm Beach Community College: Serving more than 45,000 students annually, Palm Beach Community College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. Florida’s first public community college, PBCC offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.
Editor's note: A photo is attached. From left are PBCC President Dennis Gallon; Elizabeth Arevalo, vice president of Wachovia Bank; PBCC students who have benefited from the scholarship fund- Stacey Marquez, Jessica Rodriquez, Kristen Wade and Brandon Webb; and Suellen Mann, executive director of the PBCC Foundation.

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