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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## It's official: Palm Beach State College

**The former Palm Beach Community College ushered in its new name with simultaneous celebrations on each campus today**

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Jan. 12, 2010) – PBCC is now Palm Beach State College. After months of anticipation, the College ushered in its new name today with a college-wide, action-packed celebration.

The District Board of Trustees met at 4 p.m. at the Lake Worth campus and issued a declaration designating Jan. 12 as the official launch of the College's new name. The board's action was Webcast live, allowing students, employees and guests at the College's Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade campuses to watch the board's action and the unveiling of the College's new logo, seal and the new "Your Pathway to Success" slogan. The meeting then recessed for a 45-minute celebration held simultaneously on each campus with music, refreshments and Palm Beach State College keepsakes.

The event marks a historic moment in the history of the College which opened in 1933 as Palm Beach Junior College and as Florida's first public community college. As its programs and course offerings expanded, the College changed its name to Palm Beach Community College in 1988. Expanded opportunities also are the basis for the current renaming. The College began offering its first baccalaureate degree, the Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management in fall 2009 with concentrations in business, health and public safety administration. Five hundred students were accepted in the fall and 340 enrolled in courses for the fall term.

"The energy and excitement that the name change has generated are remarkable," said Palm Beach State College President Dennis P. Gallon. "I'm so pleased with the new name and with the opportunities this new bachelor's degree will create for our students."

When College leaders first sought approval for the bachelor's degree, they were only expecting 100 students to enroll in the first three years. However, the demand for the program, which drew 667 initial applicants, has been much greater.

The College now is seeking approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in nursing and a B.A.S. in information management technology. To accommodate the growth of the program, the College plans to begin construction this summer on a new 36,000-square-foot, three-story building on its Lake Worth campus to house the bachelor's degree programs.

*Serving more than 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor's degree, 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.*

**Editor's note:** Please contact the Office of College Relations and Marketing for a high resolution copy of the official logo.

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