

Contact

FOR THE FRIENDS
OF PALM BEACH
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOL. 16, No. 2 WINTER 2008-2009

Sweet!
Sugar Technology Institute
stirs up success

Obama holds high-powered
jobs summit at PBCC

Math & Science Institute
opens students' eyes to
new opportunities

Going green, saving green



Challenge:

Serve more with less



Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.
President

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." The opening line of Charles Dickens' classic novel "The Tale of Two Cities" is an apt description of Palm Beach Community College's operational challenges at the mid point of the 2008-09 academic year.

PBCC, along with other community colleges in Florida, is experiencing a two-year trend of dramatic increases in student enrollment, due in part to the state's growing unemployment rate. Last term, we posted our highest fall credit headcount in the College history, and the overall annual unduplicated headcount is approaching the 50,000 mark. All of our campuses have significantly more students in their classrooms and laboratories. Distance learning enrollment also is at an all-time high.

Unfortunately, higher demand for educational programs comes at the same time that financial allocations are shrinking, again due to a stagnant economy. Now more than ever, the Florida College System is in need of positive funding from the state as well as community support. State budget reductions hinder our ability to expand instruction and services. Ironically, many of our occupational programs address immediate workforce needs by providing individuals with the skills set that will get them back to work.

Despite competing and contradictory enrollment/budget trends, PBCC is committed to responding creatively to the education and training needs of our large and diverse community. In this issue of Contact, you will read about new academic initiatives that will help to create the best environment for excellent teaching and learning. Our Math & Science Institute, for example, has a new physics track for 2009, thanks to support from Pratt & Whitney. PBCC's Sugar Technology Institute, the only program of its kind in the country, is training skilled technicians for immediate opportunities. The program soon will be housed in a new facility being built to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for environmentally sustainable construction. Through the PBCC Foundation's ongoing capital campaign, you can help to make that building a state-of-the-art learning center for current and future students in the Glades communities.

Be sure to also read about the many outstanding accomplishments of our students and our alumni. That legacy of success is continuing, even in the best and the worst of times.

The Mission



of Palm Beach Community College is to provide an accessible and affordable education through a dedicated and knowledgeable faculty and staff, a responsive curriculum and a strong community partnership, which together will enable students to think critically, demonstrate leadership, develop ethical standards and compete effectively in the global workplace.

Palm Beach Community College, a richly diverse comprehensive two-year institution with a history of achievement since 1933, is dedicated to serving the educational needs of the residents of Palm Beach County by providing the associate in arts, associate in science and associate in applied science degrees, professional certificates, workforce development and lifelong learning.

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Palm Beach Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science and Associate in Applied Science degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Palm Beach Community College.

Palm Beach Community College is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its facilities, educational programs, employment or activities without regard to race, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, veteran status, or disability.



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Going green is carried through with chlorine-free, Forest Stewardship Council certified and Rainforest Alliance certified paper for this magazine.

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Expect more...

The Future is Now at the Math & Science Summer Institute

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MARK UDRY



“My administration will increase funding for basic research in physical and life sciences, mathematics, and engineering at a rate that would double basic research budgets over the next decade. We will increase research grants for early-career researchers to keep young scientists entering these fields. We will increase support for high-risk, high-payoff research portfolios at our science agencies.”

— Barack Obama

The National Math and Science Initiative, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising the achievement level of K-12 students in math and science, lists some sobering statistics on its Web site:

- U.S. students recently finished 15th in reading, 19th in math and 14th in science in a ranking of 31 countries by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.
- Less than 30 percent of American fourth-graders, a third of eighth-graders and 18 percent of high school seniors perform at or above the proficient level in science.
- About a third of high school math students and two-thirds enrolled in physical science have teachers who did not major in the subject in college or are not certified to teach it.
- U.S. advanced math and physics students were not leading, but lagging behind other students around the world in math and physics achievement.

From the beginning of his tenure as president of Palm Beach Community College, Dr. Dennis Gallon envisioned a program that



Using their own skin cells, biotechnology students look for a specific gene used in population heredity comparisons.



would bring high school, PBCC honor students and College faculty together to create a “critical mass” of individuals with a solid core in math and science. As more biotechnology companies moved into the area, it became clear to Gallon that future job demands would involve scientists and engineers, careers that pay well but require extensive knowledge in math and science. “Palm Beach County is transitioning from a service-based economy to a knowledge-based economy,” said Gallon. “Biotechnology will be the new frontier in this country and the world, and we need to be ready for it.”

Learning Laboratory

In August 2007 the groundwork was laid for what was to become the first Math & Science Summer Institute in 2008. The Institute gives high school and PBCC students interested in careers in math, engineering, biotechnology and environmental sciences an opportunity to study in a “learning laboratory.” The program blends classroom lectures, hands-on laboratory work, library research and field trips designed to show students possible career paths in the real world.

Scott MacLachlan, dean of student services at PBCC Palm Beach Gardens, was given the task of organizing the first Institute and recruiting honors students from area high schools and PBCC.

MacLachlan targeted area high school juniors who scored high on their PSAT or SAT tests and listed math or science as possible



I’m in a lab doing things that I’ve only heard about before now. Yesterday we extracted DNA from bacteria... I wouldn’t have learned anything like that in high school.

Andrew McNiece

career choices. Brochures were mailed to these students and high school guidance counselors to distribute in schools; information also was sent to PBCC honors students. Nearly 60 applications were received and 21 students were accepted for the first year.

The Institute is based at the new BioScience Technology Complex on the Palm Beach Gardens campus, where cutting-edge equipment, classrooms and labs

helped draw students. “The Institute was created to engage students who showed an affinity for math and science who may not have had an idea of a possible career path or saw themselves as a scientist,” said Ed Willey, campus dean of academic affairs. “After meeting with high school teachers, principals and parents, giving them tours of the building, they saw the labs and got to meet with the faculty. They saw what we had to offer.”

Professor George Jahn was recruited to teach biostatistics, Professor Alexandra Gorgevska taught biotechnology classes and Dr. John Marr, executive director of the Perry Institute for Marine Science in Jupiter, taught environmental science. Tutors were hired to help students with their lessons, homework assignments and final projects. “The faculty we selected are high-achieving individuals, but they can deliver the courses in a fun and engaging level that would excite students to consider a career in math or science,” said Willey. “They have personal stories about how they wound up with a career in math and science they shared with their students. They basically told their students ‘If I can do this, you can.’”

The Institute offered two program tracks: a biotechnology track introducing processes and methods currently used in the industry and an environmental track exploring current conservation methods and analysis. Students in both tracks also enrolled in a math class with a biostatistics emphasis. Class sizes were small (15:1) and students completing the program earned college

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honor credits. High school students registered as dual enrollment students and PBCC students were eligible for scholarships to remove money as a barrier to attending the Institute.

Gallon welcomed the students on the first day of classes at the Institute. "It was just incredible. They all had a look of excitement on their faces," he said. "I think they realized they were doing college credit work, but they weren't intimidated by it at all. They couldn't wait to get started."

Nicole Casuso, 16, a senior at Jupiter High School, enrolled in the environmental science track because she wants to pursue a career in ecology, either in law or wetlands management.

"It's been an enjoyable experience," Casuso said of her Institute courses. "There's a lot of independent study involved. The college teachers here don't look over your shoulder, they give you an assignment and it's your job to take the initiative and do the work. The field trips have made this class interesting."

"The environmental science track is designed for the students not only for them to understand environmental issues, but using scientific methods, how to address those issues with meaningful results," said Marr. "Those results would then be used by policy makers, resource managers and the general public to make

informed decisions based on research gathered in the lab and in the field." Students in the environmental track took field trips to Riverwoods Field Laboratory, South Florida Water Management District and Grassy Waters Preserve.

The biotechnology track was an eye-opening experience for 17-year-old Andrew McNiece. "I'm in a lab doing things that I've only heard about before now," said McNiece. "Yesterday we extracted DNA from bacteria, which was really interesting. I wouldn't have learned anything like that in high school; there's equipment here that we don't have in high school."

Gorgevska was hired in December 2007 for PBCC's growing biotechnology program and was approached to teach at the Institute. "It gave me a chance to work with high school honors students, something I've never done before," she said. "The MSI program is an accelerated version of what we've been teaching over the course of a semester. Each day at the Institute is the equivalent of a week's worth of information. There are two lectures and a full three-hour lab every day, so it's pretty intense. But they've handled it really well."

The biotechnology students went on a field trip to the Scripps Research Institute, where they toured the robotic labs and met with scientists and technicians who described their jobs and research projects. They toured the labs at Cytonics Corporation in Jupiter, learning

about the company's discoveries in the field of biomarkers and research related to potential therapies on joint and spine pain. They also had a guest speaker from the Drug Study Institute who talked about clinical trial research.

Looking Forward

A physics/trigonometry track will be added to the Institute's curriculum this summer, funded by an \$18,200 donation by Pratt & Whitney. The goal of the Institute is to establish a year-round program, establishing fall and spring term programs to complement the Summer Institute.

At the end of the Institute's eight-week program, PBCC held a luncheon to recognize the efforts of the teaching staff, administrators and sponsors in making the Institute a unique institution of learning. "I consider the first Math & Science Institute a resounding success," said MacLachlan. "Both the students and faculty praised the Institute. The faculty said the students were among the best they have ever had, and the students said this was one of the best experiences they have had, both in and out of the classroom."

Application deadline for students interested in the 2009 Math & Science Institute is April 1. Visit www.pbcc.edu/msi.xml for details.



Environmental track students slog through Grassy Waters Preserve in West Palm Beach to study life in a contained ecosystem.



PBCC's Sugar Technology Institute: A Sweet Addition to the Glades

BY DIANA PALIUCA

“Sugar is always in demand. This program is a response to our need. Just like we grow our own cane, we like to grow our own people.”
Ed Smith, Florida Crystals



In a city whose motto is “Her soil is her fortune,” now there is an added fortune – Palm Beach Community College’s innovative Sugar Technology Institute launched at Belle Glade in 2008.

The unique program focuses on the new technology that is facilitating automation within sugar mills. It offers students the opportunity to earn an Associate in Science degree or college credit certificates in sugar technology.

Belle Glade Provost Beverly Robinson has been leading the development of the Sugar Technology Institute since its infancy. She

says being on the Belle Glade campus and seeing all of the sugar cane fields is a good reminder of how important it is to have trained individuals operating the mills.

“The Sugar Technology Institute trains people for the industry,” Robinson said. “The mills need to increase productivity by hiring people with skills particularly in automation. In fact, our students are spending time at the mills for hands-on experience.”

Three years ago, Tere Pi Johnson, chief chemist for the Belle Glade-based Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, approached PBCC about the development of the Sugar Technology Institute. Recognizing that this program would be the

first and only one of its kind in the United States, College administrators, professors and chemists from area companies – U.S. Sugar, Okeelanta Corporation (Florida Crystals) and the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida – came together and developed curriculum for this program.

Human resource managers from the three area companies also met to discuss needs for appropriate training and future employment possibilities. In addition, industry employees helped identify the desired skill set so that those entering the workforce will be properly trained in this science-based operation and will be in demand with companies searching for skilled employees.

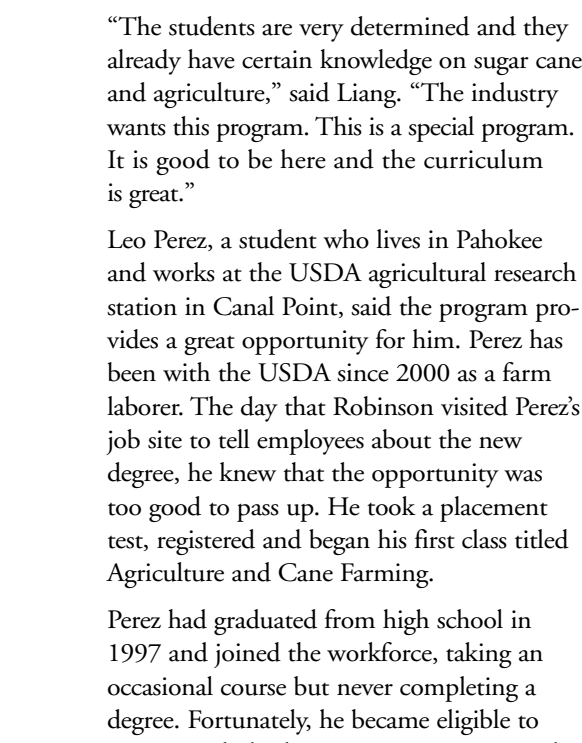
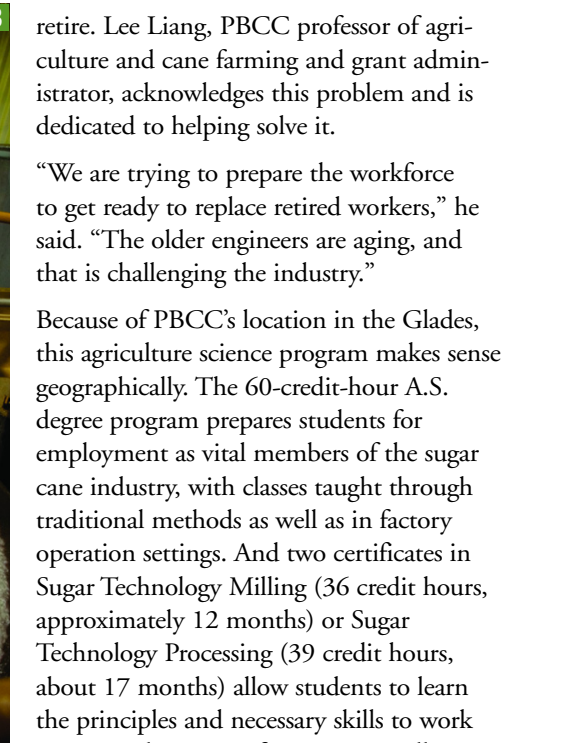
Juan Rodriguez works at Florida Crystals and is learning the industry from the “sugar” floor up. Through the Sugar Technology Institute, he will be able to advance his career by applying his technical skills and curriculum based knowledge learned in the classroom.

Local community supporters are excited about the creation of the Sugar Technology Institute at PBCC. Ed Smith, human resources manager for Florida Crystals based in South Bay, says the program is not huge, but it will help put PBCC on the map in the sugar cane industry.

“Sugar is always in demand,” Smith said. “This program is a response to our need. Just like we grow our own cane, we like to grow our own people.” He added that Florida Crystals currently has 2,500 employees in Palm Beach County. “We’ve been here a long time, and we plan to stay here for the long haul.”

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1 Tere Pi Johnson, chief chemist and manager of quality control at Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, suggested the development of the Sugar Institute due to the lack of viable sugar technology curricula in U.S. colleges. **2** By enrolling in the Institute, Leo Perez is taking advantage of a unique opportunity to help advance his career. **3** After the cane is cut for the harvesting season, it is taken to the mill and eventually run through sugar clarifier machines at the Florida Crystals plant. While the cane is growing during the summer, the mill is being restored and fixed by the engineers who are retiring at an alarming rate.

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After the core development of the program, a \$48,000 grant was awarded to the College by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The grant requires that all materials taught in the classes go on the AgrowKnowledge Web site (agrowknow.org), a community college partner for agriscience and technology education in high-tech careers such as the sugar technology A.S. and certificates.

The Institute is vital to the Glades because industry leaders foresee a shortage of engineers and chemists as they get ready to

retire. Lee Liang, PBCC professor of agriculture and cane farming and grant administrator, acknowledges this problem and is dedicated to helping solve it.

“We are trying to prepare the workforce to get ready to replace retired workers,” he said. “The older engineers are aging, and that is challenging the industry.”

Because of PBCC’s location in the Glades, this agriculture science program makes sense geographically. The 60-credit-hour A.S. degree program prepares students for employment as vital members of the sugar cane industry, with classes taught through traditional methods as well as in factory operation settings. And two certificates in Sugar Technology Milling (36 credit hours, approximately 12 months) or Sugar Technology Processing (39 credit hours, about 17 months) allow students to learn the principles and necessary skills to work in practical settings of sugar cane milling, processing, and refining.

The Institute students interact with guest lecturers from industry leaders to learn about topics such as crop production, physiology, breeding, diseases, pesticide/farm safety, weeds/insects, biofuels, biotechnology and insects. Professor Liang and Dr. Sankaranarayana Chandramohan, PBCC adjunct professor and former University of Florida professor, played an important role in choosing the guest lecturers for the majority of the class meetings.


“The students are very determined and they already have certain knowledge on sugar cane and agriculture,” said Liang. “The industry wants this program. This is a special program. It is good to be here and the curriculum is great.”

Leo Perez, a student who lives in Pahokee and works at the USDA agricultural research station in Canal Point, said the program provides a great opportunity for him. Perez has been with the USDA since 2000 as a farm laborer. The day that Robinson visited Perez’s job site to tell employees about the new degree, he knew that the opportunity was too good to pass up. He took a placement test, registered and began his first class titled Agriculture and Cane Farming.

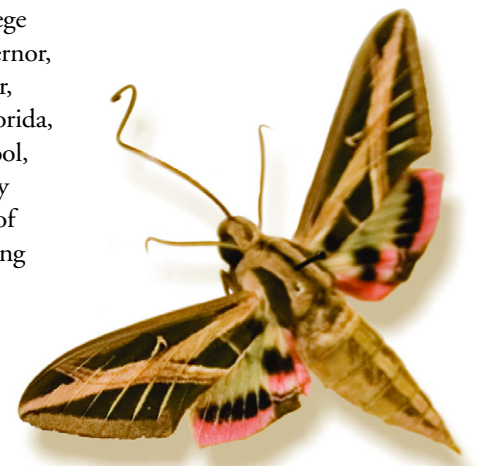
Perez had graduated from high school in 1997 and joined the workforce, taking an occasional course but never completing a degree. Fortunately, he became eligible to receive a scholarship – covering tuition and books – to attend the program. The scholarship, established with the PBCC Foundation, was made possible by a private donor intent on providing educational opportunities to the residents of the Lake Okeechobee communities. He knew that now was the time to continue his education to better his future and to open up more career opportunities. Perez plans to go all way to the A.S. degree.

“Now I realize that I have to do what’s best for my family during hard economic times,” said Perez. “You are not going to get anything out of life if you don’t put anything into it.”

At the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists conference last June, there was great interest in the program shown from representatives of other countries, specifically South Africa and Jamaica. The next goal for the Sugar Technology Institute is to offer the degree and certificates through distance learning.

The PBCC Sugar Technology Institute has been endorsed by the American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists Florida Division (www.assct.org). Partners of the program include the School District of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach Community College Foundation, Florida Office of the Governor, Workforce Alliance, United States Sugar, Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, Glades Central Community High School, Clewiston High School and Glades Day School chapters of the Future Farmers of America and Farm Workers Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County. 

1 Professor Sankaranarayana Chandramohan shows students the various weeds that plague the sugar cane. **2** Weed control is vital because they compete for sunlight, dampness and nutrients in the soil. **3** Dr. Ron Cherry, visiting UF professor, shows different types of moths found in Florida, such as the specimen below. **4** Beetles are just one kind of pest that threatens sugar cane crops by eating the leaves or damaging the roots. **5** Florida Crystals produces organic, natural and demerara sugar, a less refined sugar with molasses.



David Urbinati Jr.

David Urbinati Jr. wants to be an engineer, and he is on a fast track to reaching his goal.



In December, at just 17 years old, he earned an Associate in Arts degree from Palm Beach Community College. Now, he is planning to enroll at either Embry-Riddle University or Florida Atlantic University to pursue a bachelor's degree in engineering. "I will be able to have a bachelor's degree by the time I'm 20 years old," he said.

Urbinati had been home schooled since the fifth grade. He began taking the maximum number of dual enrollment courses allowed at PBCC's Palm Beach Gardens campus and at Palm Beach Atlantic University when he was 14 years old and in the ninth grade. He attended college during the Spring and Fall terms, earning credit for

his degree as well as high school graduation for such courses as Calculus, Trigonometry, Physics and American History. He maintained a 4.0 grade point average.

"After I saw that I could do the work and it counted for high school as well as college, I just kept going," said Urbinati, who graduated from high school last May. By the time he graduated from PBCC, Urbinati had completed 76 credit hours, 50 of which he took at PBCC.

Wachi Alcin

The way Wachi Alcin sees it, everyone has a responsibility to help those who are hurting and in trouble.

That's why the PBCC international business major says he had to do something when he learned that food shortages and economic troubles in the hurricane-battered island nation of Haiti forced some individuals to eat dirt to survive.

As the new president of the Black Student Union and vice-president of Kiskeya Haitian club at PBCC's Lake Worth campus, he decided last summer to start a food and clothing donation drive, Help Out Haiti (H.O.H.). With help from Ulysse Sandy, president of Kiskeya Haitian club, and support from PBCC student services staff, he organized about 15 members from both clubs to post flyers and donation boxes around the Lake Worth campus. Since the initiative started, they have generated enough items to send three shipments to Haiti, sometimes in partnership with other groups outside PBCC.

"Besides the fact that it's my people, I'm doing it because it needs to be done," said Alcin, whose parents are from Haiti and who has relatives there.

"I believe every human being on the face of the earth is obligated to do something, especially in a (natural) disaster, because it could happen to them. I really don't want to sit back and watch. I really feel that as much as I can do, I will do," said Alcin, who is also a spokesperson for the Phi Beta Lambda business club and a senator for the Student Government Association.



Christina Fisher

Having gone through many hardships as a child from a broken family, Christina Fisher wants to help others who are facing similar challenges.

She already is on track to fulfilling that goal thanks to the support of Villages of Hope and a part-time job at the Florida Department of Children and Families, an organization that helped her when she was a foster child.

Fisher got the part-time job as a clerk typist at DCF last year after Linsey Driskill, director of Villages of Hope, recommended her. Fisher, 19, has lived at Villages of Hope, an independent living residential support facility for emancipated foster youth and other homeless youth, for almost two years. Driskill learned that DCF had begun an initiative to provide 100 independent living youth jobs within its organization, and she knew Fisher would be a perfect fit because of her interest in social work.

"The job is going great. I'm part time but I'm looking to move into full time," said Fisher, a second-year PBCC student who is pursuing an Associate in Arts degree and was recently invited to join the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. The DCF experience will be valuable for Fisher who plans to transfer to Florida Atlantic University to pursue a bachelor's degree in social work.

"I've always believed that I could help others prevent bad situations in their lives," said Fisher. "I understand what it is to have a hard childhood, and I want to give back to help others have an opportunity for a better life."

Lulu Orange

There is more to Lulu Orange than meets the eye.

Behind the beauty queen looks is a woman with a passion for helping others. That is why it is no surprise that she won the congeniality award – Miss Amity – at the Miss Florida USA pageant broadcast worldwide last summer. It's an award given by peers, and winners are judged on personality rather than looks – encouraging others, staying positive and poised. She has won the congeniality award in beauty pageants three other times: as Miss Panama City USA, Miss Miami Gardens USA and Miss Gold Coast USA.

For Orange, however, participating in beauty pageants has been a conduit for raising money for her college education. She earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Florida State University in 2003. Now, she's moving forward with her goal of becoming a nurse and one day owning a medical clinic or facility. She is pursuing her registered nursing degree in PBCC's evening/weekend nursing program while working full-time as an operations manager at a health facility in Broward County.

"It is difficult when you're working and going to school, but if you have the burning passion for it, you'll get it done."



Sean Collins

Before cracking his first college textbook, Sean Collins already was laying the groundwork for his future.

Instead of spending his summer after high school graduation relaxing, he spent it living in a cottage and interning at Everglades National Park. The first-year PBCC student was among 18 students nationwide who participated in the Ford Transportation Interpreter Program last summer. In the program, Ford Motor Company sponsors interns who teach park visitors about alternative modes of transportation, including trolleys, trams and ferries, and other aspects of the park.

The program is the result of a partnership of the National Park Foundation, the National Park Service and Ford. Collins said he provided tram tours of the park, developed interactive park knowledge skills games and went roving with visitors.

Collins, who is taking computer courses while he works to get into PBCC's Criminal Justice Academy, said he was happy to do the internship.

"It was interesting. I did it primarily because I wanted to see what the job was like before I pursued a career in it. It is going to help with other career plans," said Collins, who wants to work in law enforcement.



"It was amazing," Spaargaren said of the internship. "I was a little nervous at first meeting all the Ph.Ds. You really find out just how smart these people are, but you also find out how down-to-earth they are."

Hodder's laboratory houses a \$10 million robot that can screen 660,000 compounds in one day. Spaargaren's internship project involved investigating mechanisms of antibiotic resistance and developing high throughput methods to test and develop a new beta-lactamase inhibitor.

He presented his project in the fall at an open forum held in the PBCC Bioscience Technology Complex. "I'm kind of quiet," he said. "It was nerve-wracking, but you have to do it."

Spaargaren's performance in the lab led Scripps to keep him on board in an ongoing internship position. "We're continuing with the beta lactamase inhibitor. There's no timeline," said Spaargaren, who spent about 13 years working in a grocery store produce department before returning to school to pursue his Associate in Science degree in biotechnology. He completed that degree in December and says his next step is to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in microbiology.

Michael Spaargaren

Michael Spaargaren does not care to be behind a microphone, but he loves being behind a microscope.

He completed an internship last summer at Scripps Florida under the supervision of Dr. Peter Hodder, director of lead identification at the Scripps Translational Research Institute. He is the second student in PBCC's biotechnology programs to complete an internship at Scripps.

Green & Gold Sustainability at PBCC

BY MARK UDRY

What exactly does "sustainability" mean?

Wikipedia defines sustainability as "many things to many people. It can simultaneously be an idea, a property of living systems, a manufacturing method, or a way of life. For some people it is little more than a hollow buzz word."

For the faculty, staff and students at PBCC, sustainability is a call to action!

Leading the charge to sustainability comes from the top, and Tracy Joinson, chair of PBCC's sustainability committee, credits PBCC President Dennis Gallon with moving the College in the right direction.

"I initially approached Dr. Gallon because I did not think PBCC was being a very good role model for our students and the communities we function within," said Joinson. "Luckily, he knew what I was talking about. Having his support has certainly made these efforts at sustainability easier."

Joinson has taken sustainability from abstract concept to concrete action at PBCC. She has spearheaded and orchestrated activities that have led PBCC to be part of the global movement towards sustainable behavior and responsible use of natural resources. She takes a two-prong approach to "greening" PBCC – one by raising awareness through educational events and campaigns such as Focus the Nation, Earth Day, International Coastal Clean-up; the other through implementing or modifying policy and procedures that allow PBCC to function in a more sustainable way as an institution. Those changes are on the committee's Web site: www.pbcc.edu/Sustainability.xml.

Going Green, Saving Green

"The biggest problem at other colleges and universities is the lack of support on the administrative level in making sustainability possible," says PBCC Facilities Director John Wasukanis. "Dr. Gallon challenged the staff to come up with ways for PBCC to go green."

In August 2008, the facilities department rolled out a new green cleaning program. The College's custodial staff and the vendor charged with cleaning campus buildings, Grosvenor's Building Services, are following new, more frequent cleaning schedules and using Green Seal Certified products. Green Seal is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 that test products and practices, deeming them safe and ecofriendly.

A new walk-off matting system is being installed in entryways of all buildings throughout the College. The matting is

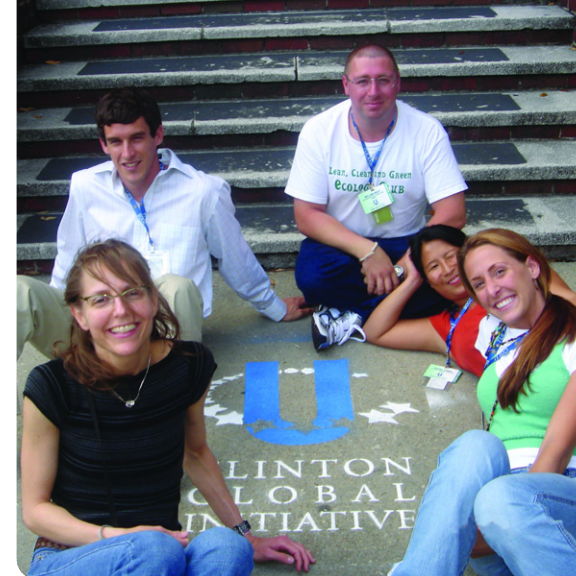
designed to trap 90 percent of dirt and water tracked in from the outside and reducing cleaning costs.

An enhanced recycling program also will be implemented. The initiative adds plastic, glass and aluminum to the paper and cardboard waste already being recycled. Wasukanis and his staff conducted "trash audits," gathering waste from trash cans and sorting out recyclable materials. He said that about 85 percent of what is thrown away can be recycled at little or no cost to the College. "We estimated that if we have just 50 percent of staff participating in the enhanced recycling program, the College would save more than \$30,000 a year in hauling fees," Wasukanis said.

The campuses use compost and mulch for plants and landscaping, recycling back into the soil what was once hauled to a landfill. All-natural products are used in pest control; an example is a series of stands along the perimeter of the Lake Worth campus to combat pine beetles. The stands are loaded with nontoxic chemical scented with a female sex pheromone designed to attract male beetles. Wasukanis said this practice is safer and less costly than spraying trees with harsh insecticides.

Facilities also placed an order for four electric cars to be used by security and on-campus maintenance; the goal is to eventually replace PBCC's entire fleet of gas-powered vehicles with electric or hybrid ones.

The College broke ground for what could be its first LEED Gold Certified building in November with the Technical Education Center building on the Belle Glade campus. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building



Members of the Lean Clean Green Ecology Club (left to right) chaperone Elizabeth Bonneau and students Chris D'Aprix, William West, Rachel Chang and Ashley Solmo at the Clinton Global Initiative University conference in New Orleans. ■ In the Lower Ninth Ward, Solmo and Chang put in a long day working with city relief organizers. ■ Below, the club's CGIU proposal, "Trees for Boca Schools," was carried out at Coral Sunset Elementary School.



At the first CGI U held at Tulane University last year, Rachel Chang, Chris D'Aprix, Ashley Solmo and Bill West, four members of the Lean Clean Green Ecology Club (LCG) from the PBCC Boca Raton campus, joined over 700 other college students, university presidents and administrators to turn their proposals into action.

The club, established in 2006, has about 25 active members and according to its mission statement, "is devoted to raising consciousness on campus regarding issues of ecology, resource maintenance, and sustainability defined as meeting contemporary needs without compromising the ability of future stakeholders to satisfy their needs."

The club's initial proposal to CGI U was to create a sustainability program, named "Trees for Boca Schools," focused on the 12 elementary schools in Boca Raton, with the primary focus of planting native trees as a way of alleviating the impact of global warming. The program also includes school

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Council which incorporates six criteria: sustainability, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality and innovation and design process. These steps and others have helped PBCC reduce its carbon footprint on the environment. "I think we're still one of the most energy efficient colleges in the state," said Wasukanis.

Spreading the Word

In 2005 former President Bill Clinton established the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) as a non-partisan enterprise to address the most pressing issues faced by the nations of the world and to coincide with the annual World Summit.

Building on the success of CGI and aiming to draw teenagers and young adults into global issues, Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) was created in 2007. CGI U invites student groups to share proposals that will be implemented in their local communities. To be accepted to participate at CGI U, students submit proposals outlining their ideas for taking actions in one of four areas: energy and climate change, global health, human rights, peace and poverty alleviation.





The inaugural Green Expo, held at the Lake Worth campus, brought consumers, nonprofit groups and vendors together to demonstrate that doing a number of little things – using native plants in landscaping and having a rain barrel to water them – makes as much difference as doing one big thing.

continued from page 13

assemblies with guest speakers from PBCC and community activists, presenting information at after-school club meetings and helping students create sustainability presentations that can be shared with peers. However, after meeting with school administrators, the club decided to modify the program. “We felt that instead of us going into the schools and telling them what they needed to do, it was better that we listened to their needs,” said club president Chris D’Aprix.

At Hammock Pointe Elementary School, the club assisted the school’s Ecology Club in making an Earth Day movie based on the book, “The Giving Tree.” Coral Sunset Elementary School received help from LCG club members and PBCC Boca

Raton students in September and November in planting more than 80 plants as part of a grant the school received to teach the school’s students about the importance of land and water conservation. The club held two assemblies in November at Boca Raton Community Elementary School on the impact of exotic and invasive species on native species.

“The more they learn about their environment and the changes they make in the things they do every day, the better off they’ll be,” said D’Aprix.

“Greening” the Community

Sandi Barrett has always considered herself an environmentalist. “I was recycling before recycling was considered cool,” she said. Barrett, a program manager for Corporate and Continuing Education (CCE) at PBCC Lake Worth, had been thinking about a way to raise awareness about sustainability in the local community. Her plans were to gather companies, agencies and nonprofit groups together to educate the public on how to incorporate sustainability into their lives. “I felt it was important to educate people, to show them other things they can do besides setting out their recycling bins once a week,” Barrett said.

PBCC annually hosts other environmental-themed events, such as Earth Day and Focus the Nation, but while those events are popular and well-attended, they are

geared to student participation. Barrett envisioned bringing in green-based businesses and organizations to showcase their products and demonstrate that incorporating sustainability into the average citizen’s home need not break the bank.

After more than a year’s planning, her idea came to fruition with the inaugural Green Expo held Oct. 4. The expo, held at PBCC Lake Worth, featured 20 exhibitors showcasing the latest green technology and practices.

Visitors learned about water conservation through the use of rain barrels and native plants in home landscaping, installing a sun dome to naturally light rooms and using earth-friendly soy-based inks in inkjet and laser printers. Former Palm Beach County commissioner Robert Kanjian, chairman of the county’s Green Task Force on Sustainability and Conservation, gave a keynote address on the county’s efforts to help preserve the environment.

The weather the day of the expo was less than ideal; gray skies, heavy rains and gusty winds threatened to put a damper on the event. However, according to Barrett’s estimates, several hundred people attended the nine-hour event. In the days following the Green Expo, Barrett said she received e-mails from several vendors expressing their satisfaction with the event and pledged to be at the next expo. Elated by the success of the first expo, Barrett expects word-of-mouth and local publicity will help grow the event this year.

“People want to know about sustainability and what they can do to save the planet,” said Barrett. “They learned that you don’t have to spend a lot of money to be green, and that’s what the expo was all about. Doing a lot of little things makes just as much difference as doing one big thing.”

www.pbcc.edu/Sustainability.xml

Obama holds jobs summit at PBCC

While on the campaign trail for his historic win for the White House, newly elected U.S. President Barack Obama held an economic summit at Palm Beach Community College in October with some of the nation’s political heavy hitters and business leaders.

The panelists for the “Growing American Jobs” summit were Govs. Bill Richardson of New Mexico, Jennifer Granholm of Michigan, Ted Strickland of Ohio and Bill Ritter of Colorado as well as Google CEO Eric Schmidt, former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and Victoria Villalba, founder of Victoria & Associates Career Services, a Miami job-placement firm. Never in PBCC’s history has a cluster of such high-powered political influence been on the campus at one time.



Obama summoned the group to join him at the Elisabeth W. Erling Gymnasium at PBCC in Lake Worth on Oct. 21 to discuss his plan for solving the nation’s economic crisis and creating jobs in America. About 1,500 supporters and at least 100 members of the media packed the gymnasium. Hundreds of other supporters milled outside, selling or buying Obama paraphernalia and trying to get a glimpse of the former Illinois senator when he arrived flanked by Secret Service agents.



1. Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm and former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker listen as Barack Obama discusses the nation’s economic woes. 2. A line of supporters, who began arriving before dawn, wraps around the Lake Worth campus. 3. Obama pins are among the merchandise on sale outside. 4. Dr. Dennis Gallon, PBCC president, meets Obama before the summit begins. 5. From left, Govs. Bill Ritter of Colorado and Bill Richardson of New Mexico talk backstage with Google CEO Eric Schmidt. 6. Schmidt (far right) discusses his ideas for improving the economy with the panelists.

New athletic director likes a challenge

BY MARK UDRY



David Holstein came to south Florida, like other retirees, for the sunshine and sandy beaches. Unlike other retirees, he didn't come to lounge by the pool or play golf. He also didn't stay retired long.

Holstein came looking for a new challenge and found one as the new athletic director of Palm Beach Community College. "I feel like I have eight to ten good years in me, maybe more," said Holstein. "I'm a competitive person. I look for new challenges."

Holstein joined PBCC on July 21, taking over a department in flux for nearly a year. The previous athletic director, Dr. Willie Booker, was on the job for little over a month when he passed away in August 2007.

As former athletic director and basketball coach at Kankakee Community College (Ill.), Holstein brings an impressive resume to his new job.

Holstein spent 31 years at KCC, 16 years as an assistant coach, taking over the dual responsibilities as head basketball coach and athletic director in 1993. He resigned as basketball coach in 2006 to concentrate on his duties as athletic director, in charge of men's soccer, basketball, baseball

Panthers SPRING 2009 Home Game Schedule

MEN'S BASKETBALL

JAN 14	BREVARD CC
JAN 31	BROWARD COLLEGE
FEB 7	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE
FEB 14	INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE
FEB 18	BREVARD CC
FEB 21	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE (HOMECOMING)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

JAN 10	INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE
JAN 24	BROWARD COLLEGE
FEB 7	HILLSBOROUGH CC
FEB 11	ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
FEB 21	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE (HOMECOMING)

and women's basketball, volleyball and softball. Those programs accumulated 31 Region IV titles and 25 national tournament appearances. In recognition of his achievements at KCC, Holstein was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame. Holstein accomplished all this at a school with one campus and an enrollment of about 6,000 students. "I found my niche early," said Holstein. "I knew what I wanted to do and I found a great school to do it. I had a job where I liked getting up in the morning."

In his new job at PBCC, Holstein faces a different environment. Kankakee is a town of about 27,000 located 50 miles south of Chicago; KCC's sports was the only game in town. PBCC competes for media attention not only with other area colleges but with professional and semi-pro teams, as well as numerous high school programs. Holstein's first priority is to raise awareness of the PBCC athletic program.

"If you want people to come to see sports at PBCC, you have to put out a quality product," Holstein said. "The coaches take ownership of their teams and I feel they are all solid in their coaching skills. This staff wants a leader, someone who isn't afraid to make decisions. I'm excited to put my faith and trust in people I'm getting to know."

Holstein wants PBCC student-athletes to participate in community service. Other priorities include improving the athletic department's Web site, installing a gymnasium sound system and refurbishing the softball and baseball field dugouts.

"The College has really made me feel wanted," said Holstein. "I'm glad to be here, and I'm looking forward to help improve athletics at PBCC."



Save Our Sons

An initiative is underway at Palm Beach Community College to help boost the retention and graduation rates of black and Hispanic males. Through Save Our Sons (S.O.S.), students receive guidance and support via sessions designed to promote academic excellence, tackle issues hindering their success and assist them in their personal and academic growth. They discuss everything from goal setting, decision making and money management to health, dressing for success and leadership.

S.O.S. was established in fall 2007 by the PBCC chapter of the National Council on Black American Affairs and has been supported by the College. All of the sessions are organized or conducted by minority men who are faculty, staff and administrators at PBCC. The program serves students on all campuses.

"We looked at the stats that are out there and determined that this particular group of individuals do not tend to graduate at the same rate of their counterparts as well as the majority of students. With that in mind, we felt this would be an excellent group to target," said Leonard E. Bryant, president of the PBCC chapter of NCBA.

While still in its infancy, S.O.S. is among numerous other efforts at colleges and universities in Florida and throughout the country that target these student populations, whose retention and graduation rates historically have lagged behind that of their counterparts.

PBCC has seen some gains in the retention rates of its black and Hispanic male students in recent years. Bryant said with S.O.S. he hopes that trend will continue.

Dr. Lamont A. Flowers, distinguished professor of educational leadership and executive director of the Charles H. Houston Center for the Study of the Black Experience in Education at Clemson University, speaks to S.O.S. members and staff.



Natural Science building opens with a bang



Instead of a traditional ribbon cutting, PBCC Trustee Carolyn Williams helps Dr. Peter Krieger, chemistry professor, and Dr. Roger Ramsammy, interim dean of academic affairs, pour chemicals for a reaction demonstration.



With the grand opening of the Natural Science building on PBCC's Lake Worth campus last fall, state-of-the-art technology is now available to students in chemistry, biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, physical science, earth science, geology, physics and astronomy.

The Natural Science building has already started to help strengthen PBCC's science curriculum

Institute explores challenges of women worldwide

Disparities in women's rights and freedoms around the world were the focus of the first Women's Leadership Institute on Global Issues held last fall at PBCC in Boca Raton.

About 100 students, faculty, staff and community members heard an overview presented by Yvonne S. Boice, a Boca Raton businesswoman who has gathered information in her extensive travels and has represented the U.S. at world conferences on women's businesses. Boice challenged the group to explore specific issues related to poverty, free speech, economics and violence against women. Breaking into small groups, the participants identified ways that government leaders, the international community and grassroots efforts all can address these problems.

The Institute was developed by PBCC in concert with local chapters of the American Association of University Women and Zonta International. An advisory committee is instrumental in identifying educational needs and ways to address them. Future institute sessions will focus on other topics, including business and medical issues and emotional wellness.



Dr. Bernadette Russell, right, PBCC Boca Raton provost, honors Yvonne S. Boice at the inaugural Women's Leadership Institute.

to prepare students to join the emerging South Florida science industry.

"We have new instrumentation for the labs, new equipment, new faculty who are more updated in research and in using the equipment," said Dr. Roger Ramsammy, interim dean of academic affairs in Lake Worth. "Students are going to have more current understanding of the things that are happening out there in the workplace." The new \$12.8 million facility includes 14 labs, eight classrooms and faculty offices. It replaces the old science building that was constructed in 1956.



Foundation

PBCC to build technical education center in Belle Glade

BY TABATHA B. McDONALD



ARTIST'S CONCEPT /
LD ASTORINO ARCHITECTS, INC.

Palm Beach Community College broke ground in the fall for a facility at the Belle Glade campus that will bring all students together on one site and help breathe new life into the community through enhanced workforce training opportunities.

The 28,766-square-foot Technical Education Center will be the first building constructed on the campus in more than 30 years, and it will become PBCC's first building constructed entirely to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards established by the U.S. Green Building Council. The construction plans are in keeping with the College's sustainability initiatives to conserve energy and resources and help protect the environment.

The PBCC Foundation launched a capital campaign last year to raise \$3 million from private donors. When combined with the \$9 million already raised through a bond initiative, the College will have the \$12 million necessary to complete construction.

"The Foundation is extremely excited to support this critical building initiative," said



Belle Glade Provost Beverly Robinson and Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida representatives Tere Pi Johnson and Barbara Miedema check the status of the fundraising campaign for the Technical Education Center. Johnson and other attendees sign a commemorative copy of the architect's rendering of the center. Leigh Woodham, director of the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center with longtime PBCC supporter Dolly Hand and Mary Oswego, former Belle Glade campus provost.

Suellen Mann, executive director of the PBCC Foundation. "No community in Palm Beach County is more deserving of a training facility that addresses the needs of local employers and empowers its citizens to secure jobs than Belle Glade. The Foundation Board of Directors has donated \$18,000 personally toward its \$20,000 goal to support the building."

The Technical Education Center will house the recently created Sugar Technology Institute, along with programs in criminal justice, welding and construction trades, including carpentry and masonry. Many of those programs currently are being taught in leased facilities three miles from the campus. The new building also will serve as a hurricane shelter for the community.

"The most critical thing is that the College will have a permanent education and training facility to provide the requested training for the citizens of this community," said Beverly Robinson, provost of the Belle Glade campus. "This will be a state-of-the-art facility."

Wylie Dawes, an adjunct instructor of welding, said the new facility means the College can better serve students who currently take classes at West Tech. "It's very important for the students to handle their registration, textbooks and other college related needs under one roof instead of traveling back and forth."

"When you have students at off-campus facilities, there's a real disconnect," added Dr. Barry Moore, dean of educational services. "This will be an added plus to have the

students on one campus and all of the programs."

PBCC is expecting to complete the building project, which includes a major overhaul of the utility system on that campus, by 2010. It is the first of two phases planned for the project. The second phase will include a 20,000-square-foot addition to the building to house cosmetology and heavy truck and bus mechanic programs. It's not yet clear when that phase would be completed, but those programs would remain at West Tech until then.

"It's definitely time," James Storms, PBCC assistant facilities planning manager, said of the project. "Things are moving west, so it's a good place to have another educational training center."

The Technical Education Center comes in the midst of revitalization plans and major economic development projects underway in the Glades including the construction of a new Glades General Hospital, the Florida Power & Light plant and a proposed inland port, all of which could spur job opportunities. The



PBCC leaders, students and other dignitaries move dirt at the groundbreaking ceremony in November for the Technical Education Center. Among them were representatives from LD Astorino Architects, Inc. and Hedrick Brothers Construction.

unemployment rates in Belle Glade and Pahokee are more than twice that of the state, and in South Bay, the rate is four times that of the state, creating a dire need for jobs and job training.

"People aren't trained to do the jobs that might be available, said Ken Lutz, president of the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce. "This is why it's imperative that they have educational opportunities to be trained for the jobs that might be available but can't be filled because of the skill levels of the unemployed. There are several programs out here to get these people

into training of some fashion. To me the college is the best opportunity to do that."

Kevin Johns, director of economic development for Palm Beach County, said, "10,000 jobs alone are projected to be generated by the distribution centers surrounding the inland port by year 2015. I think the timing of the college expansion for training for these new careers is excellent. It fits in so nicely with our economic restructuring of the Glades."

Want to help?

Contributions for the Technical Education Center can be made through the PBCC Foundation. Please fill out the gift form below and mail to:

PBCC FOUNDATION MS 20
4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461

Or call us:

561-868-3450

Please fill out this form and mail in to the Foundation office or make a gift online at:

www.pbcc.edu/makeagift.xml

Yes, I

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

believe

in PBCC and want to participate in the Belle Glade Technical

Education Center Campaign and wish to pledge a total of

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All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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Love for laughter

Popular South Florida
radio personality is in
his element on the air

BY TABATHA B. McDONALD



Paul Castronovo

When he started college, Paul Castronovo thought he was going to be a lawyer. Then, his sharp wit and a chance meeting led him in a different direction — a career in radio.

He was fresh out of Palm Beach Community (then Junior) College and in his first semester at the University of Florida when he met Rich Fields, his upstairs neighbor, who invited him to tour the campus radio station.

Fields, who now is the announcer for the television game show, “The Price Is Right,” was studying broadcasting and hosting a show on WRUF Rock 104. Castronovo was wavering on his major, realizing that his heart was in telling jokes, not law.

“He brought me into the college radio station and showed me around,” Castronovo said. “I really fell in love with it.”

Before long, the 1981 PBJC graduate was spinning records on Rock 104 and giving daily scoops on the daytime television soap opera “General Hospital.” “I used to have to watch that show and do a little synopsis,” he laughed. “It opened doors for me.”

Today Castronovo is a wildly popular South Florida radio personality and co-host of the “Paul & Young Ron Show.” The morning comedic talk show reaches listeners from



the Florida Keys to Yeehaw Junction on two stations — WBGG Big 105.9 located in Miramar and West Palm Beach-based WKGR 98.7 The Gator.

“It was pure luck that I got into radio at UF. I just wanted to be the funny guy,” said Castronovo, who ended up hosting a morning show on Rock 104. “Radio has been a great outlet for my personality and what I wanted. I really wanted to be on “Saturday Night Live.” They didn’t offer that course at UF.”

Castronovo, partner “Young” Ron Brewer and their three male sidekicks spend five hours each weekday morning in a roughly 25-by-25-foot studio cracking jokes, planning outrageous pranks, interviewing celebrities and other guests, hosting game show competitions and fielding calls on everything from relationships and family issues to sports (anything Gator) and drinking.

“We love what we do. It’s different every day. There aren’t many people who get to go to work and spend the good portion of five hours laughing. We’re pretty sarcastic. We poke fun at our listeners and ourselves — Ron’s drinking and my weight. We harp on things like relationships and drinking too much,” Castronovo said. “We tackle some serious topics,” like when his wife of 12 years was diagnosed with

“Radio has been a great
outlet for my personality
and what I wanted.”

breast cancer four years ago and injured in a car accident in 2007, “but we do it with tongue in cheek. We never want to be serious unless we have to be.”

The “Paul & Young Ron Show,” now in its 19th year, began in 1990 on WSHE 103.5 in Miami/Fort Lauderdale. It moved to WZTA 94.9 before landing its current home on WBGG about five years ago. Last October, the “Paul & Young Ron Show” got its first shot at syndication on 98.7 The Gator. Castronovo said he hopes the show will syndicate in other markets in Florida and around the country.

While getting into radio in college was “pure luck,” breaking into the industry after earning his bachelor’s degree in telecommunication from UF in 1984 required perseverance, Castronovo said. He visited several radio stations, distributing tapes from his college radio days.

“Have a hectic day, Paul!”



“I got a few doors shut in my face when I first graduated,” he said. “I was getting shot down left and right.”

Then Castronovo got a break from Neil Mirsky, who was the program director for K-102 in Fort Lauderdale, whom he hounded about listening to his tape. “He called me and said, ‘Hey, Paul, I listened to your tape. I want to hire you today,’” Castronovo recalled. “I believe my persistence paid off.”

After that short stint, Castronovo’s career took him to other radio stations in South Florida, Orlando and Nashville. He arrived back in the Miami/Fort Lauderdale market in 1989 after convincing a radio program director at WSHE to give him a shot. That’s when he met and was paired with Brewer. The two launched the “Paul and Young Ron Show” in 1990, and they have been on air together ever since. “We’ve had a really successful run,” said Castronovo.

Castronovo, a Lake Worth High School graduate, said it could not have happened without getting his college start at PBJC.

“From my high school, it was a pipeline, really. You either went off to a university or you went to PBJC. Living at home and going to PBJC was a great benefit for me. I was able to buckle down and get my GPA up,” said Castronovo, who still maintains a friendship with John Anderson, one of his former professors and the former girls softball coach at PBJC. “I recommend it for kids who aren’t quite ready to go off.” 🐼

Alumni
Corner

Alumni Success Stories

Expect More.

Palm Beach Community College salutes these graduates and takes pride in their success stories. If you are an alumnus, we would love to share your accomplishments as well.

Please contact us at
crmarket@pbcc.edu

PBCC at Belle Glade
1977 College Drive

PBCC at Boca Raton
3000 Saint Lucie Avenue

PBCC at Lake Worth
4200 Congress Avenue

PBCC at Palm Beach Gardens
3160 PGA Boulevard

561-967-PBCC



GERALDINE BAILEY, RN
A.S., PBCC, 1988

For 42 years, patients at Glades General Hospital have recuperated on Geraldine Bailey's watch. She began at the Belle Glade hospital in 1967 as a nursing assistant, then became a licensed practical nurse.

Recognizing her skills and dedication, the registered nurses on staff urged her to continue her education and pointed her to PBCC. "It was difficult going to school full time and working, but I had a lot of help and encouragement," she recalled.

Over the years, Bailey has worked in pediatrics, medical surgery and obstetrics and currently serves as night shift supervisor. Noting the critical need for RNs, she says she has no plans to retire. "It's a good living, you make a big difference and you meet a lot of fine people," she said.



JOEL M. COMERFORD, P.A.
A.A., PBJC, 1980
B.A., FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
J.D., NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Business studies at PBJC prepared Lake Worth native Joel Comerford for his first career as an engineering service planner for Florida Power & Light. Fifteen years later, his associate degree enabled him to resume his education in preparation for his second career as an attorney.

"I wanted to have more control over my destiny," said Comerford, who took advantage of a reorganization at FPL to change directions. "When I decided to go back to school, my A.A. degree was the foundation for everything that followed."

In addition to his Boca Raton law practice, Comerford teaches probate, real estate and introductory law classes at FAU and also offers paralegal training and estate planning seminars. In 2003, he received the Probate Law Award from the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County.



SHIRLEY C. GORDON, PH.D., RN
A.A., PBJC, 1973
B.S.N., UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
M.S.N., UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

For straight facts on head lice, education and health officials turn to Dr. Shirley Gordon, director of Florida Atlantic University's Head Lice

Treatment and Prevention Project and co-director of the Florida School Nurse Research Initiative. "While the health care community treats head lice as a nuisance, my research shows having head lice can cause significant social, emotional and financial problems impacting the whole family," she notes. Published internationally, her findings help to guide school policies.

The PBJC graduate and former clinical instructor held nursing posts at Good Samaritan and St. Mary's hospitals, among others, before beginning her academic career. Her many honors include being named FAU's Distinguished Teacher of the Year in nursing in 2005.

Contact FOR THE FRIENDS OF PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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