

Contact

FOR THE FRIENDS OF
PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

WINTER 2011-12 | Vol. 18, No. 2



Banner Year at Palm Beach State

- First Bachelor's Degrees Awarded
- Energy Institute Puts Green Economy First
- Banner Center for Life Sciences Leads the Way

I am frequently accused of being the eternal optimist, and if truth be told, that label is accurate. Maintaining a positive outlook is my way of staying energized and focused during times of challenge. Yes, our economy continues to stagnate, and a successful future will demand the best from each of us. It would be understandable to hunker down in survival mode until things improve. Perhaps that is why I am thrilled to witness instead the creativity and persistence of our College faculty, staff and students as they pursue and achieve their goals. It is a pleasure to share with you some of their remarkable and inspiring accomplishments.

An example is the newly launched Institute for Energy and Environmental Sustainability at our Palm Beach Gardens campus, as well as the Center for Green Construction and Energy at the Lake Worth campus. For Palm Beach State, these are the next steps in the process of "going green" in our curriculum offerings, service activities and college operations. They are preparing students for employment that didn't exist just a few years ago, before the "green economy" began to take shape. Innovation is also key to the new offerings of our Biotechnology program, which has been designated the Employ Florida Banner Center for Life Sciences. Working with a broad network of industry and academic partners, Palm Beach State is developing training modules to support the state's growing life science industries and STEM professions.

As an institution, the College is experiencing steady enrollment growth and unprecedented use of our facilities. Our campuses and technology infrastructure serve students around the clock through classrooms, computer networks, libraries, student centers, laboratories and online learning. We continue to expand our two-year degree program offerings. Our four-year degree programs also are growing, with the recent launch of the Information Management bachelor's degree, to be followed by the inaugural class for the new Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree beginning its studies in January 2012. All of these programs are vital to our local economy.

To meet present and future growth in Palm Beach County, the District Board of Trustees unanimously voted in August 2011 to move forward with plans to purchase land for a new campus along Southern Boulevard in Loxahatchee Groves. The establishment of a campus at this location will enable the College to better reach residents currently underserved and will address projected growth for the next 40 to 50 years. Discussions are currently underway with town officials and residents to ensure that this new campus will be both a benefit and a point of pride for the community.

It is an exciting and challenging time, and, as always, I remain positive that the future is bright for Palm Beach State College!

Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.
President

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Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.

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EDITOR
Grace H. Truman, Ed.D.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Joyce Edelstein
Tabatha B. McDonald
Diana Pierre-Louis
Grace Truman
Mark Udry

ART DIRECTOR
Kari W. McCormick

PHOTOGRAPHY
Matthew Lester
Kari W. McCormick
John Rickson
Enrico Sacchetti
Mark Udry

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At Palm Beach State, the Future is Green

BY JOYCE EDELSTEIN

Imagine Florida as a Saudi Arabia of renewable energy. That's no dream, according to Jay Matteson, Ph.D., whose mission is to make Palm Beach State College the leader in green energy education in Florida.

Dr. Jay Matteson, director of IEES, Lindsey Swann, staff member, and Darius Ellington, student and Energy Club member, show off the new solar-wind car-charging station and solar-powered golf cart.

BioScience Technology Complex
PALM BEACH GARDENS CAMPUS

Dr. Matteson is director of Palm Beach State's Institute for Energy and Environmental Sustainability (IEES), established by the College to meet the community's need for a highly trained green industry workforce.

Now, with Florida's green economic engine starting to hum, so is IEES. "Palm Beach State is in a unique position to partner with industry in creating a transformative green economy that will benefit generations of Floridians," says Matteson.

Abundant Sunshine, Lush Heartland and Jobs

Florida's green economy already ranks 7th among the 50 states, as stated in the July 2011 "Sizing the Clean Economy" report by the Brookings Institute. "There are obvious reasons why we are seeing and should continue to see more green industry come to Florida and expand here. After all, we are nicknamed the 'sunshine state,'" says Gary Hines, a senior vice president at Palm Beach County's Business Development Board. According to Hines, Florida's famous sunshine and other natural gifts could make it famous for solar, wind and ocean energy, and biomass.

In fact, the state is already a leader in the production of biomass – the organic waste material from plants and animals used to make bioenergy (renewable energy) and biofuels. "We don't have oil fields, but

we do have this lush environment and 12-month growing season – Palm Beach is one of the richest agricultural counties in the nation," says Jeremy Susac, executive director of the Florida BioEnergy Association. "We feed the world during the winter, so why don't we feed our fuel tanks from it, too?" Matteson, who sits on the Business Development Board's Green Energy Council and the Advisory Council for the Employ Florida Banner Center for Energy, concurs: "People have their eye on Florida and Palm Beach County. We're in a prime position to reap the advantages of the new green economy, starting with biofuel production, but certainly not stopping there."

The Leader in Energy Education in South Florida

Based on the Palm Beach Gardens campus, IEES was created to produce a pipeline of highly qualified workers for all the emerging green industry sectors, including renewable energy, clean technology, smart grid operations and energy efficiency, advanced transportation and agro-biotechnology. Here, Palm Beach State is in sync with colleges across the U.S., as it focuses on becoming a key driver of green

"People have their eye on Florida and Palm Beach County. We're in a prime position to reap the advantages of the new green economy, starting with biofuel production, but certainly not stopping there."
Jay Matteson

workforce development. Everyone from President Obama to the National Science Board has put the spotlight on colleges to provide the critical technical education needed to retrain workers for the high-skilled and high-paying green jobs that are coming.

Greening Up the Curriculum

Matteson is well aware of the riches he has to work with at Palm Beach State. "It's the potential for synergy and innovation that's most exciting," says Matteson about his work with College faculty and administrators to create new programs and retrofit existing ones. Take bioenergy production as an example: The Biotechnology department teaches the bioanalytics of turning plant cellulose into biofuel, while the Electrical Power Technology program educates students in the use of alternative and renewable energy sources

Florida's Green Innovation

Currently, Florida has nearly 4,000 clean energy businesses – here's a sampling:

Florida Crystals

Largest biomass facility of its kind in North America uses leftover sugar cane fiber and other organic waste to generate electricity for itself as well as 60,000 homes.

Hypower, Inc.

Leading renewable energy specialist; installed largest building integrated solar photovoltaic system in the southeastern U.S.

INEOS New Planet BioEnergy

Opening in 2012; to generate 8 million gallons of third-generation bioethanol per year.

NextEra Energy/ Florida Power & Light

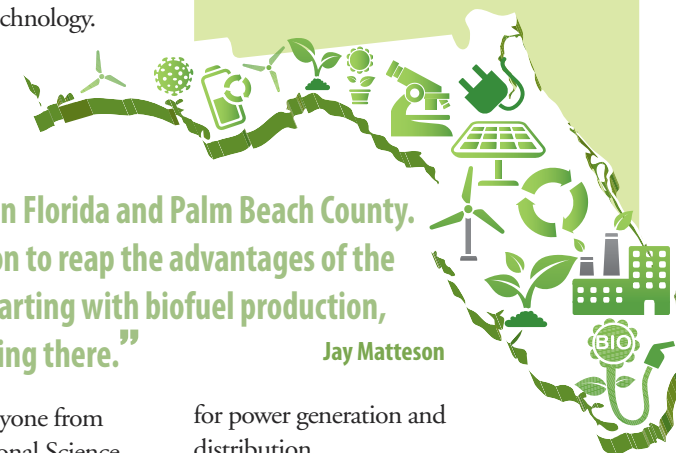
- Nation's largest solar photovoltaic plant
- World's first hybrid solar energy center

Petra Solar

Pioneer of technology that combines solar energy with smart grid communications.

Solid Waste Authority

New \$600 million renewable energy project will turn SWA's existing waste-to-energy plant into the cleanest of its kind in the U.S.



for power generation and distribution.

"We're developing green career maps to help students see the different career paths they can take. Students will be prepared not only for green jobs, but for employability across multiple sectors of the new green economy," says Matteson.

Electrical Power Technology was the first program to benefit from an IEES retrofit. The two-year Associate in Science program began in 2009 and has evolved to include a variety of elective courses in alternative and renewable energy. Students also may opt for a one-year College Credit Certificate in Alternative Energy Engineering Technology. The AEET program provides an introduction to solar and wind energy, as well as biofuels and environmental mapping technologies; all credits

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Managing the Wind: Peter Szarowicz works in the wind turbine operations center at NextEra Energy, which monitors thousands of turbines across the country.

During their student days: From left, Edgar Gonzalez assembles a wind turbine with Szarowicz and Daniel Damas.

Vertical axial wind turbine designed and built by student Jason Garzon



Jay Matteson demonstrates the College's biodiesel processor, which turns leftover cooking oil (yellow grease) into biofuel.



Student Nancy Hamdan learns to make biodiesel.



In Belle Glade, where sugar cane is the principal crop, bagasse, the fibers left over from the process, generate energy to power the mills.

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transfer into the Electrical Power Technology A.S. degree. Future programs under consideration include smart grid and energy management technology.

“Definitely, I credit the hands-on experience I got at Palm Beach State. IEES invested in wind turbines, which gave us the opportunity to do a full-scale project to analyze the wind speeds on campus and present a plan for implementation. This led to an internship at FPL, which led to my new job.”

Peter Szarowicz

Smart Courses for a Smart Grid

“Smart grid technology”—the new mantra of electrical power generation and distribution—fuses digital capabilities with the old grid infrastructure to enable greater energy efficiency. Smart grids, equipped with smart meters, collect real-time data intelligence about energy usage from every electricity customer, allowing power companies and consumers alike to know how energy is being used.

Undertaking one of the largest smart grid deployments in the U.S., Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) recognized the need to train the next generation of electrical power personnel and was awarded a workforce education grant by the Department of Energy in August 2010. “Smart grid will enable utilities to offer customers a host of benefits now and in the future,” says Ken Languedoc, manager of workforce planning for NextEra Energy, FPL’s parent company. “We’re eager to develop a smart grid curriculum so students are prepared for what’s coming.”

FPL selected Palm Beach State to develop smart grid curriculum as part of its Gateway to Power or G2P consortium of colleges and

universities that includes Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Indian River State College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, State University of New York at Buffalo and Texas State Technical College. Currently Matteson is managing the development of three G2P courses: Greenhouse Gases and Carbon Cycle Introduction; Enhanced Power Quality and Reliability; and Home Area Network Management, each with an emphasis on current practices and career paths.

Launching Green Careers

The new green curriculum and IEES resources have already helped to launch careers in

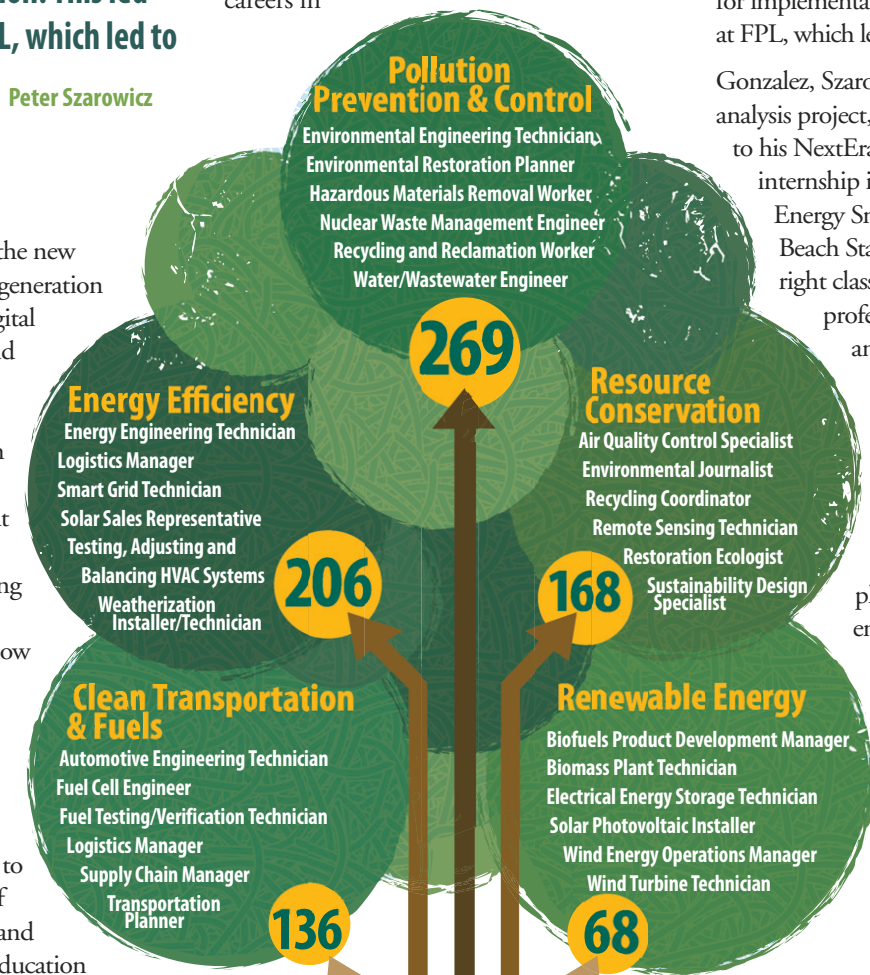
renewable energy. Peter Szarowicz and Edgar Gonzalez, 2011 graduates of the Electrical Power Technology program, were recently hired by NextEra Energy’s Power Generation Division. Both are associate production assurance specialists in the Juno Beach operations center where NextEra manages its wind turbine installations across the country. Two additional Palm Beach State grads, Nick Howe and Daniel Avrith, also are on the wind team.

“Definitely, I credit the hands-on experience I got at Palm Beach State,” says Szarowicz. “IEES invested in wind turbines, which gave us the opportunity to do a full-scale project to analyze the wind speeds on campus and present a plan for implementation. This led to an internship at FPL, which led to my new job.”

Gonzalez, Szarowicz’s partner in the wind analysis project, followed a similar path. Prior to his NextEra job, he moved from his FPL internship into a position with FPL’s Energy Smart Florida project. “Palm Beach State prepared me with the right classes, the right tools and great professors,” says Gonzalez. Both he and Szarowicz plan to combine work and further education, with the goal of becoming electrical engineers.

The new courses are also inspiring A.A. degree students like Nancy Hamdan, who plans to start her own renewable energy business someday, but is focused now on recruiting members for the College’s Energy Club. “I don’t think I would have found my calling if it wasn’t for the Introduction to Biofuels class.”

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Growing a Path to Green Jobs

Green Job Sectors & Titles

Number of Green Businesses per sector in Palm Beach County

Information from 2010 Green Jobs Survey Report by Workforce Alliance



For more program photos and videos:

www.palmbeachstate.edu/IEES.xml

www.palmbeachstate.edu/EPT.xml

www.palmbeachstate.edu/x21113.xml



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IEES also has created several continuing education courses designed to bring attention to green career paths, such as the Solar Golf Cart Conversion class. Yes, it's a practical application of solar technology in a county with 167 golf courses, but it's actually training for the next generation of vehicle infrastructure. "Our goal with short courses is to demonstrate both the technology and the career potential. For unemployed and underemployed people, taking such a course may get them started in a new career," says Matteson.

Energy Efficiencies in Action

In addition to curriculum development, Matteson seeks to maximize student and industry engagement in IEES' mission. His "Energy Education Showcase" promotes energy efficiency and gives students and faculty access to the latest green energy technologies. With the able support of the campus Facilities department, Matteson has installed wind turbines, established the College's first biofuels technology learning lab, and is building a wind/solar-assisted electric car-charging station – all to provide real-world learning opportunities. Plus, Matteson has "smart metered" every building on the Palm Beach Gardens campus for training students in smart grid and energy management systems.


Smart Metering: Understanding Our Footprint

Corporations and institutions worldwide are paying attention to their carbon footprints simply because it saves money. By smart metering every

Matteson introduces students to the solar and wind energy control system.

campus building, students will be able to train directly in smart grid operations – an area that promises a large variety of career opportunities.

Thanks to the generosity of OSIsoft® and Space-Time Insight®, they'll be learning the most popular systems for intelligent energy resource management. With dashboard controls, students will be able to see where energy is being used on the campus, how much oil is consumed by each building, the amount of CO₂ being released, and even the number of trees consumed. In other words, students will be able to evaluate the College's carbon footprint and learn how energy efficiencies can be achieved. IEES has installed "energy kiosks" where students can check out how much energy the College is using and producing from its solar and wind laboratory.

More than anything, Matteson knows IEES is becoming a testament to what state colleges can accomplish. Comments Matteson, "We want to open the door to people, so that they can participate in this extremely important, nationwide green movement that has the potential to get the U.S. back on its feet again, keep it more secure, and provide good jobs and better careers for millions." 

Cell Culture Methods:

Julie Wilkinson (right), director of pharma services at ImmunoSite Technologies, guides Mary Schultz, lab technician at Dyadic International, in conducting a cell viability assay, as Shameem (left) and Asha Patel observe.



Workforce Education That Works!

The Banner Center for Life Sciences gets it right

BY JOYCE EDELSTEIN

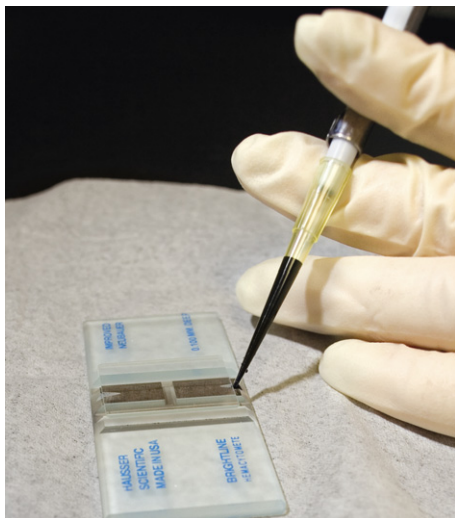
How many college students witness biotech startups in action, or sit in on discussions with industry leaders, or take classes where they learn the exact skills industry needs? That's a typical day for students studying life sciences at Palm Beach State College. Education doesn't get any better or more relevant than when your college is a Banner Center.

In December 2010, Palm Beach State was selected by Workforce Florida, Inc. to be the Employ Florida Banner Center for Life Sciences. This isn't just a lofty title or trophy that sits on a shelf. Being chosen to establish and operate an Employ Florida Banner Center carries a contractual obligation to serve as the statewide provider of workforce education and resources for a particular industry. Currently there are 11 Banner Centers around the state targeting industries ranging from manufacturing to the creative arts to energy. The Banner Center for Life Sciences is the newest and isn't wasting any time.

Input from Tallahassee to the Keys

The College's Banner Center is dedicated to the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and medical device sectors of the life sciences industry – sectors that are making Florida famous with such distinguished residents as The Scripps Research Institute, Max Planck Florida Institute, Biotest Pharmaceuticals, BioTools, Cytonics, Akron Biotech, and the list goes on. Working with industry partners from Tallahassee to the Keys, the Banner Center is responsible for annual hardcore

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The First Six Modules

- 1 Business Basics for the Life Sciences Industry
- 2 Cell Culture Methods
- 3 Cleanroom Technology
- 4 Introduction to Medical Device Manufacturing
- 5 Pharmaceutical Basics
- 6 Protein Purification and Characterization

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deliverables in the form of definitive, cutting-edge training modules that meet the precise needs of Florida's life sciences industry. "It's a curriculum designed from industry input," says Libby Handel, Ph.D., director of the Banner Center. "These modules focus on real-world situations and applications with emphasis on industry standards and competencies required in the life sciences workplace."

Working with industry came naturally to Dr. Handel, who is also the director of the College's innovative Biotechnology program. Her involvement of industry in the program was instrumental in Palm Beach State's selection as a Banner Center, but Handel didn't rely only on her Rolodex. She and her team used every avenue available to ensure their Banner Center's Industry Advisory Council included all possible players: new and established companies, economic development organizations, workforce boards and other colleges and universities. The goal: Gather comprehensive input on training needs – the training most essential to the continued growth of Florida's life sciences industry. While the industry has weakened in other states, Florida has seen a 21 percent jump in the number of biotech companies

since 2008, according to the University of Florida.

Partners in Training

In focus group meetings, one-on-one sessions and online surveys, Florida life science leaders gave detailed responses to questions like "What are the five most important areas of knowledge you look for in employees? Does the current workforce possess this knowledge? Please describe." Such questions allowed the Banner Center team to drill down and pinpoint the exact curriculum that would be valuable to the industry now and in the future. "When companies are together asking 'who would you hire, why would you hire them, and what educational background do you need?' then it's very beneficial for everyone," says Rina Dukor, Ph.D., BioTools president and the Banner Center's lead industry advisor for the pharmaceutical sector. "That's the integral and beautiful part of how the curriculum for the Banner Center was created. They actually listened and understood what the companies here need."

Training Everywhere for Everybody

Armed with this data, the Banner Center quickly determined the topics of its first six training modules. The curriculum development team for each module consists of academicians, researchers and industry professionals, who make sure the modules are completely Florida-driven, right down to the case studies and lab materials used.

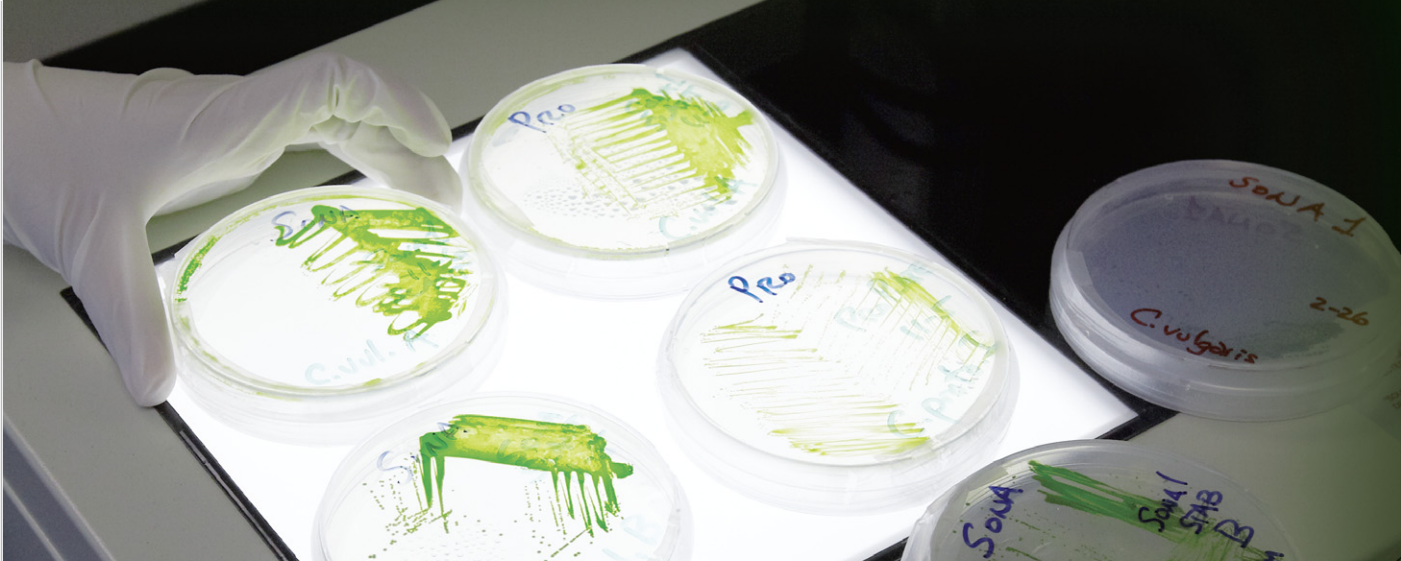
After undergoing beta-testing and revision, the modules will be offered statewide to entry-level and advanced workers, as well as career-changers and students enrolled in biotechnology programs. These courses will be given in venues ranging from corporate offices to the classrooms and laboratories of



Palm Beach State College and the Banner Center's growing roster of academic partners, fulfilling the Banner Center's dual mission of training Florida's life science workforce and helping the state's biotechnology programs revitalize their curriculums. Course completers will receive a Banner Center industry-recognized certificate to tout on resumes and interviews.

"From the campus to the workplace, we've addressed and designed the curriculum to be helpful to a variety of demographics," says Handel. "Even our Business Basics for the Life Sciences Industry course is appealing to scientists who want to transition out of the laboratory into business or regulatory roles." The ultimate challenge will then be to identify and develop industry certifications. As biotechnology and its career tracks are so new, no universally recognized certifications exist. The Banner Center, through intensive collaboration with industry and education partners, will build and standardize a cohesive statewide certification system for life science professionals, which if successful, could be rolled out nationally.

Asha Patel, a 2011 graduate of Palm Beach State's Biotechnology program, looks at cells. Patel is currently tutoring biotechnology students as she works toward a B.S. in biology at Florida Atlantic University.



Sitting Pretty

With the College in the biotech spotlight, known as the resource for life sciences throughout the state, Palm Beach State biotechnology students are sitting pretty. Some have bachelor's and even master's degrees from other schools, but come here to get a one-year college credit certificate or two-year Associate in Science degree, taking advantage of the expert lab-based instruction and outstanding internships. With the addition of Banner Center networking events, the exposure to what industry needs, and the opportunity to train alongside those working in the industry – Palm Beach State has become the place to launch a life sciences career.

"I can't imagine myself doing anything else," says Asha Patel, a 2011 A.S. degree graduate of the College's Biotechnology program. Patel, who loved the program "from day one," just finished an internship at ImmunoSite Technologies in Ft. Lauderdale and is now getting her bachelor's degree. "We were able to meet people in the field, people who created their own companies, people looking for actual techs right out of school... It was a great experience."

The Payoff

Tod Fairbanks, Ph.D., chair of the Banner Center's Industry Advisory Council and life sciences professor at Palm Beach State, sees everyone's hard work and commitment paying off. "When we ask [our industry partners] if they can handle our students for internships, they're more than willing because they know they've had input into what we're teaching. It makes it easier for them to transition our

students right into their own labs. It's a win-win."

The employees of industry partners are benefiting, too. By taking the Business Basics module, Dr. Dukor's BioTools staff – everyone from administrative assistants to Ph.D. scientists – achieved a better understanding of the industry and a fresh perspective on their own products, resulting in process improvements and new marketing strategies. "Everyone has their niche, but this module brought us together and provided the framework to get everyone's input. We would not have uncovered these ideas if it hadn't been for this course," commented Dukor.

Earlier this year, Florida was ranked #1 in the nation for workforce and job training by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. At Palm Beach State, the Banner Center for Life Sciences is a prime example of how the best in workforce training makes a difference. 📺

For more program photos and videos: www.palmbeachstate.edu/Biotechnology.xml
www.lifesciencesbannercenter.com

Employ Florida Banner Center for Life Sciences Industry Advisory Council

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2011
2010
2009
2008



21%
increase
in biotech
companies
in Florida

Big Man on Campus

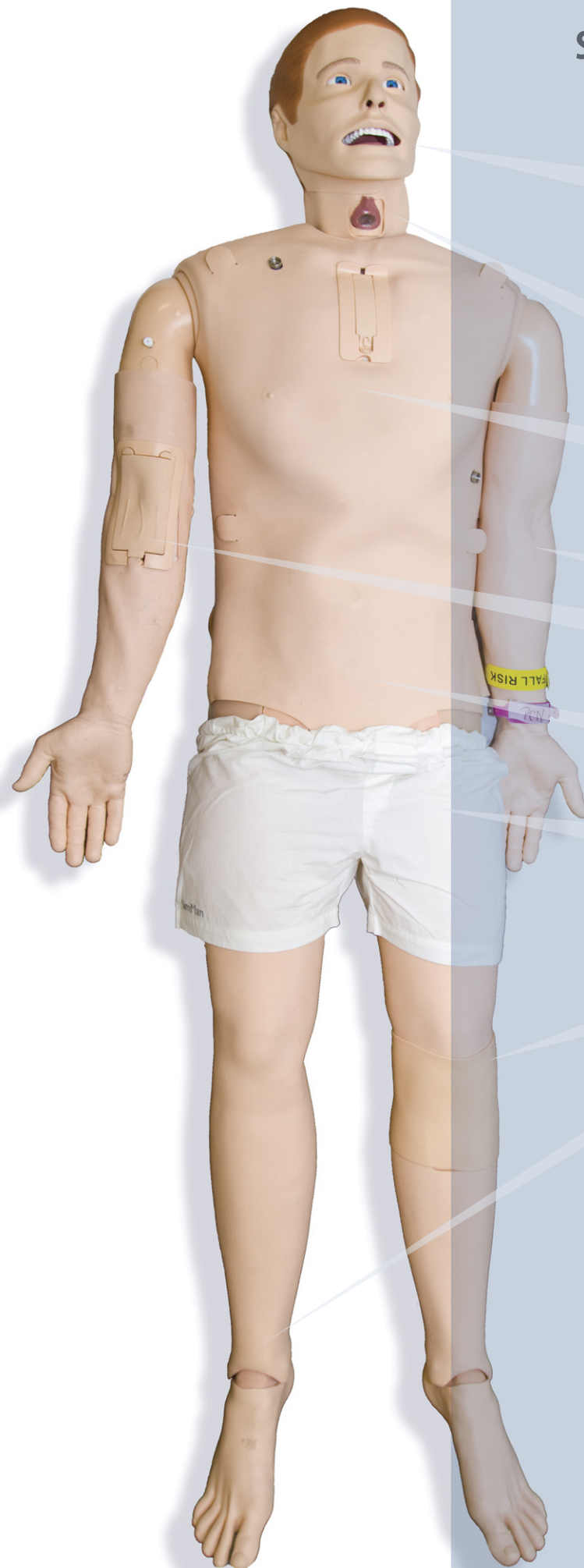
Why Palm Beach State's health care students want to save this guy's life

BY JOYCE EDELSTEIN

A middle-aged man comes into the ER, brought in by his daughter. Two nurses quickly assess his symptoms – shallow, rapid breathing, blood pressure and heart rate through the roof, lungs filling up with fluid, and eyes wide open in a daze; he's sweating and obviously distressed. It's congestive heart failure, and the nurses must act quickly if they are to save his life.

Don't worry. SimMan® lives. He'll live to have congestive heart failure again tomorrow – or a stroke, pancreatitis, head injury....

SimMan's not a real man, but he's not your typical dummy, either. SimMan, manufactured by Laerdal Medical, is a human patient simulator – the technology that's made Palm Beach State's Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation a reality. Founded in 2009 by Jacqueline Rogers, Lake Worth campus dean of health sciences and public safety, the center specializes in the expert use of these computerized mannequins, which can simulate any medical condition or crisis for the purpose of training health care providers. Actually, the center's roots go back 10 years to when Palm Beach State's Respiratory Care program, under Rogers' direction, was first to use medical simulation in an educational setting in Palm Beach County. Now, with the remarkable technological advances in medical simulation over the last decade, the center has become a key element of health care training at the College.



SimMan® from Head to Toe

Eyes:	Pupils are light sensitive, he can blink, cry
Ears:	Microphone is built in
Mouth:	Trismus, tongue can swell, difficult airway, fully intubatable, AMBU capable, has both rubber and ceramic teeth (for testing intubation procedures), can drool or froth
Talks:	Via operator/instructor (behind one-way mirror) or programmed phrases heard through speakers
Neck:	Carotid artery pulses, cricothyrotomy-capable, airway obstruction scenarios
Chest:	Sternal IO (Interosseous), CPR, lung sounds, heart sounds, chest tube capable
Arm left:	Blood pressure, radial and brachial pulses
Arm right:	IV capable, medication administration
Abdomen:	Bowel sounds, distensible
Pelvis:	Femoral pulses (bilateral), interchangeable genitalia, urine production with Foley catheter or on demand
Leg left:	IO capable at proximal tibia, pedal pulses (to help detect blood clots)
Leg right:	Pedal pulses

“The most advanced SimMan can urinate, bleed, sweat, drool, cry and have seizures.... He can die 20 times a day and never complains.”

David Marchsteiner
Clinical Coordinator

Program Infiltration

In establishing the center, Rogers' first move was to hire David Marchsteiner, a 20-year veteran paramedic and firefighter with Delray Beach Fire-Rescue and an adjunct professor in public safety at the College. Under Marchsteiner's direction as clinical coordinator, the center has infiltrated a dozen health sciences and public safety programs at the College – from Nursing and Medical Assisting to Surgical Technology, EMT/Paramedic and Dental Hygiene. But students don't take a course in medical simulation. Instead, their professors book simulation sessions customized to deliver a clinical experience that reinforces exactly what the students are learning in the classroom.

“Simulation technology gives students the ability to transfer the knowledge that they've attained didactically and in their skill labs to a real clinical setting. SimMan talks and he breathes, has a heartbeat and responds appropriately – so all the realism is there, without the chance of injuring a patient,” says Rogers. According to a November 2010 U.S. Office of Inspector General report, an estimated 13.5 percent of Medicare beneficiaries experienced “adverse” events during their hospital stays, and another 13.5 percent experienced “temporary harm” events. Most disturbing, 44 percent of all events were found to be “clearly” or “likely” preventable. Statistics like these make SimMan a very big – and important – man on this or any health care campus.

Just Like a Hospital

Based on the Lake Worth campus, the Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation operates in classrooms transformed into hospital settings – complete with heart monitors, IV poles, crash carts, medical supplies, room-dividing curtains, and SimMan dressed in a hospital gown, lying in a hospital bed. Other beds and stretchers contain SimMan's two brothers – or sisters, as the genitalia is interchangeable. The center also has a SimBaby,™ a SimNewB® (newborn) in an incubator, SimJunior™ (child), and soon to be added, SimMom,™ a full-body interactive birthing simulator.

A Computer at Heart

When a semester's in full swing, the center rocks with two or three simulation sessions a day, four days a week. Students come to a session as though they're arriving for their shift at a hospital. Dressed in uniform, they check in and get a status report on the patient's condition. From start to finish, everyone responds according to the simulation scenario – and that depends on what the instructor's ordered. Teaching diabetes care? SimMan's blood sugar drops. Asthma attack? Poor SimMan develops respiratory distress.

At heart, SimMan is software run by a high-end simulation management system. He comes preprogrammed but is also programmable. Marchsteiner and his team of eight operators, each with extensive nursing and/or EMS experience, have the medical and technical expertise to put SimMan through the ringer. “We're able to do any scenario,” says Marchsteiner. “It doesn't matter if it's a cut finger or a heart attack. In a real hospital setting, you might not see a particular condition for months, maybe years. There are a lot of people who've never seen a cardiac asthma patient – we can create that here.” Because SimMan's wireless, scenarios also may involve multiple disciplines in multiple locations. Paramedic and nursing students, for example, will practice transfer of care, where most medical information errors occur.

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Critical Thinking in Action

In a typical session, the operator is at the controls, with the instructor alongside, and together they monitor the scenario from an adjacent room with a one-way glass window. They can see the students, but the students can't see them. The set-up also features a camera with a zoom lens, positioned opposite the window. Everything the students do is videotaped, annotated and time-stamped.

Sessions usually run 3-6 hours, with students rotating through 20-minute scenarios, alternating roles as health care providers, patient's family members and observers. The family members show concern and ask questions, giving the health care providers practice in handling family situations. Observers watch their peers perform and provide feedback during the post-scenario debriefings.

At the Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation, students enact a scenario in a hospital setting as the operator controls and speaks for SimMan from an adjacent room with a one-way glass window.

During the scenarios, the students play their roles uninterrupted, interacting with SimMan just as if he were a real person. Students can't turn to the safety net of the instructor or consult their textbooks. They have to think on their feet. "Medical simulation gives students the reality of decision-making, of critical thinking, which is our focus at this College. We want to be sure our students leave here with that ability, and this is one more instructional strategy that helps them do that," says Rogers.

Tell Me Where It Hurts

As students go through their semesters of training, the scenarios build in complexity. Most scenarios begin with a patient assessment. Using real medical equipment, students can take SimMan's pulse, blood pressure and temperature, listen to his heart and lung sounds, start an IV and get a blood return, do an EKG, check his respiration and glucose, administer medications and injections, or insert a catheter. Throughout the scenario, the students talk to him (and his family members) and attempt to diagnose and treat him. SimMan tells students how he's feeling, or the operator can speak for him through a microphone. If a student misses a step or ignores a symptom, the operator can instantly change things on the fly – manipulating the program to bring about the physical and emotional consequences. Marchsteiner elaborates: "Say a student gives SimMan a medication that he wasn't supposed to get. Now I need to create the reaction. I drop his O₂ saturation and he gets short of breath. I can make him wheeze and cough, change his heart rate and the way his chest rises and falls. I'll have him moan and express concern. The most advanced SimMan can urinate, bleed, sweat, drool, cry and have seizures." Of course, if the students are successful, SimMan gets better, all in real time.

Human patient simulators, like real humans, come in all ages and genders. Palm Beach State students can practice on adult, child and baby simulators, including SimBaby.™



From top left, Hilde Tertnes and Fredrikke Vikhamar of Laerdal Medical (visiting from their Norway headquarters) and David Marchsteiner watch as second-year nursing students Davina Catino (left) and Kris Pernsteiner assess their patient.

It's no wonder students become fully engaged when taking care of SimMan. "We get students who actually cry," says Marchsteiner. "Students will rub the mannequin's hand because the mannequin is responding to them; they get to know the mannequin and when something goes wrong they feel bad."

Instructors and operators also use their experience to infuse simulation sessions with the unexpected. In afternoon sessions, Marchsteiner often throws students some curves because they're usually tired after lunch. "Real-life nurses and paramedics don't come to their shift and find everything neat and orderly. Or things will go haywire just as you're losing energy. Students must know how to keep their cool, remain professional and respond quickly."

"It's fantastic," says nursing Professor Mary Biderman. "The students can bridge the theory into practice right in this room. It's a safe environment [where] they're allowed and can make mistakes. I have an example... we ran a CPR code on SimMan. The very next day [during the students' clinical rounds] at JFK [Medical Center], they had a patient who had a cardiac arrest, and the students all said they felt much more comfortable, much more relaxed and less panicky, because they had been through it. That's our goal."

Debriefing

After the scenario ends, perhaps the most important part of the experience takes place: The instructor, operator and students review the scenario in a debriefing session. What did they learn? What could they have done

differently? Those in the student observer role offer their critiques, but all students share in the discussion. "We do a qualitative debriefing," says Rogers. "You really want to hear from the students what they're taking away." If an action or assessment is disputed, the annotated, time-stamped video is consulted.

"I've always enjoyed coming to simulation... each time it gets better, you're less nervous," says Steve Calcanes, a second-semester student in Palm Beach State's Nursing program. Calcanes had just finished playing the nursing role in a chest pain scenario for Biderman's Medical/Surgical Nursing class. "The door's closed until it's over; you don't see the instructor [or operator]. All you have is the patient and you speak to the patient; so it's very realistic. You feel on the spot a little bit, but that's how it's going to be as a nurse, too. You see what areas you need to work on." His partner in the scenario, nursing student Maritza Aponte, adds, "You learn from the mistakes... so you're not as scared to go on the floor and do these skills with a real patient."

Going Mobile

The center leaders also plan to go mobile – using the wireless SimMan and a trailer or van to bring lifesaving skills training to the community. "We have the goal of taking this on the road and making it available for rural areas or offering it to any provider [hospital, fire station]. It won't require long-term absence from the workplace – we can pull into a parking lot, do the training and then



we can leave and still give the realism of what we need to do," comments Rogers.

As for SimMan – he's ready for anything. "He can die 20 times a day and never complains," jokes Marchsteiner, though the true worth of SimMan is never far from mind. "We're teaching students how to cure, from basic assessment to diagnosis and treatment – we're teaching the whole thing. You can't get this type of experience in a hospital, where you can make a mistake and learn from it on the same patient. And what's more valuable than a patient's life? That's why we do it – to save human lives." 📺

For more program information and videos:
www.palmbeachstate.edu/MedicalSimulation.xml



sharing the art of writing

English professors' work as published authors fuels their love for teaching

BY TABATHA B. McDONALD



Stephen Gibson
Associate Professor
Genre - Poetry

B.A. - English Literature
SUNY at New Paltz
M.A. - English Literature
and Creative Writing
Syracuse University
Gimelstob Professor of the Year
Award recipient



Stephen
Gibson

As a child growing up in the Bronx, Stephen Gibson got his first real taste of poetry when a teacher at his Catholic elementary school made the entire class memorize a stanza from Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven."

"To this day, I still know it," Gibson chuckled. "I think that's what got me interested. I knew I enjoyed it."

That interest in poetry developed into a long-lasting passion, and Gibson began writing his own literature as a young teenager. However, it later would be W.H. Auden, the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet regarded by some as one of the greatest writers of the 20th century, who would have the largest influence on his work.

When Gibson was in high school, a family friend introduced him to the British-born poet who was living in an apartment on St. Mark's Place in Manhattan. Auden agreed to review and critique some of the budding poet's work, and Gibson became immersed in his.

"I started reading a lot of his work and was blown away by the skill and beauty of it. It's just amazing stuff," said Gibson, associate professor of English and literature at Palm

Beach State College in Belle Glade and author of four books of poetry. "I learned craft. The craft is really what impressed me."

Gibson indirectly crossed Auden's path again when, as an undergraduate student studying English literature at the State University of New York at New Paltz, he became close friends with his professor, Irving Weiss, and his wife, Anne. As fate would have it, the couple was good friends with Auden, who had dedicated poems to them. "It was a nice coincidence," he said.

After graduating with his bachelor's degree in English literature from SUNY at New Paltz, Gibson earned a master's degree in English literature and creative writing at Syracuse University. He continued writing while teaching English full time at a Catholic high school in New York and part time at Onondaga Community College. Then he gave up the snow for sunshine, taking a teaching position in 1983 at the Belle Glade campus, where he has worked for 28 years.

He published his first poem, "The Anthropologist," in 1976 in the journal

Gibson, continued on page 16



Africa Fine
Associate Professor
Genre - Romance Novels

B.A. - Public Policy and African
American Studies
Duke University
M.A. - English Literature
Florida Atlantic University
FAU Distinguished Alumni Award
recipient
www.africafine.com

It started in the classroom. Africa Fine was a fervent graduate student with a zeal for storytelling and an appetite for reading. She had a brief career as a newspaper reporter after earning a bachelor's degree in public policy and African American studies from Duke University in 1993, but she knew in her gut that churning out daily stories on crime and small-town government wasn't her destiny. Fine missed being in school.

After about five years of various copywriting, editing and newspaper reporting jobs, she returned to the classroom to pursue a master's degree in English literature from Florida Atlantic University and landed a position as a graduate assistant. During that stint of helping students sharpen their English and literary skills, she had an epiphany of her own — teaching was her calling.

"I loved being in school, and I loved reading and studying English. That's when I fell in love and figured out what I wanted to do," said Fine, a Palm Beach State College associate professor of English and

literature and chair of the English and Literature department on the Boca Raton campus. She worked as an adjunct instructor for four years before becoming a full-time professor in 2005 and department chair in 2008.

"Teaching is the best job; even on the bad days I still love it," she said. "I loved being a student, and I think being a teacher is the next best thing. I get to feel like I'm doing something productive and positive to help other people. It is what I was meant to do."

In graduate school, she also took several creative writing classes, nurturing her love for storytelling that had begun as a child growing up in Milwaukee.

"I had always written stories and been interested in it, and I was a voracious reader ever since I was a kid," she said. "That's an important part of being a writer."

For one of her creative writing assignments, the professor told the class to write whatever they wanted. That's when Fine began "Katrina," a romance novel about a woman

Fine, continued on page 17



Africa
Fine



continued from page 14

Gravida during a time when access to literary journals and magazines was limited.

“The Internet has made everything much more accessible,” Gibson said.

Stephen Gibson

Since then, he has had more than 150 poems published in various literary and poetry journals, including Five Points, Georgia Review, MARGIE: The American Journal of Poetry, Michigan Quarterly Review, the Paris Review, Poetry and The Southern Review. He also published four books of poetry, including three published as a reward for winning national book competitions. They include “Paradise,” which was published by the University of Arkansas Press earlier this year after Gibson was named a finalist for the Miller Williams Arkansas Poetry Prize. Gibson’s book and that of the competition’s winner were selected from among 700 manuscripts. His other books are “Frescoes” (2009 poetry book prize from Lost Horse Press),

“Masaccio’s Expulsion” (2006 poetry book prize from MARGIE/Intuit House), and “Rorschach Art” (Red Hen Press). He also is a past Individual Artist Fellowship recipient from the state of Florida in both poetry and fiction.

Gibson, a three-time recipient of the College’s Professor of the Year Award, is quick to point out that it took multiple tries to get some work published. “I tell my students up front they shouldn’t get discouraged by it. That’s just the way it is. If you believe in your work, keep sending it.”

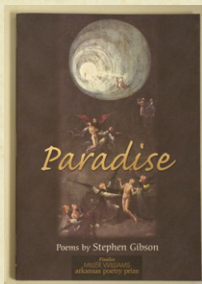
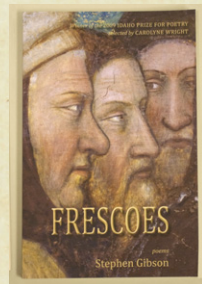
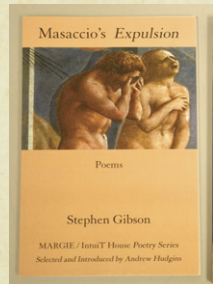
He said he loves teaching English and literature, and his passion for writing feeds into the classroom. “All writing is a process, so is the reading of it,” he said. “I like the discovery. Your students are always learning something new, and you’re always learning something new when it comes to the literature and the writing.

“Students know when you don’t care about stuff. When you get involved in something, you care about it. They pick up on it. They know you do.”

“I like the discovery. Your students are always learning something new, and you’re always learning something new when it comes to the literature and the writing.”

Halimeh Shatara, a 2004 graduate of Palm Beach State who now works as a library technician at the College, said she took all of her English classes from Gibson when she was working on her Associate in Arts degree. “He’s a wonderful professor; that’s why I recommend him to everybody. I love the way he teaches. He gets the students engaged in the course. During class discussions, he always connected real-life examples to the events in the short stories. He opens your mind and heart to really understand other people’s stories.”

“When he’s teaching literature, he actually brings it to life and you can visualize yourself being there within the moment of that particular passage,” said Dr. Barry Moore, dean of educational services at the Belle Glade campus. “I would have loved to have been taught by him; it would have given literature a different perspective. He’s very passionate about it, too.”



continued from page 15

trapped in a tangled web of choosing between a mysterious man she has known since childhood and a newfound love. It

Africa Fine

became her first romance novel published by Five Star in 2001, the same year she received her graduate degree. “The classes gave me the confidence and help I needed to get it finished,” Fine said.

A professor at FAU helped her with query letters she sent to about 20 publishers; Fine only approached small publishers who specialized in the romance genre, and Five Star gave her a chance – twice. The company published her second book, “Becoming Maren” three years later, and then Genesis Press published her next three books: “Looking for Lily” (2008), “Save Me” (2009) and “Swan” (2010).

“It was a busy time,” she said of the books she wrote largely while teaching full time, raising two young children and being a wife to her supportive husband, Jeffrey.

For her accomplishments, Fine was among eight recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award from FAU in 2009. She said her own experience as a published author as well as her foundation in African American studies and public policy make her a more effective and passionate professor for her students.

“I can think of different ways to help them with writing,” said Fine, who herself was inspired by such writers as Alice Walker, and particularly by Walker’s short stories. “I like the idea of telling regular people’s stories. It inspired me to want to tell stories that people can relate to.”

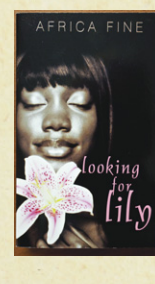
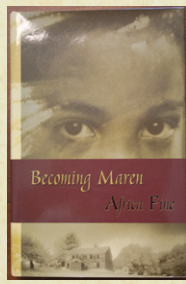
She said she gets her ideas from a combination of things. “I write fiction, and I take situations and pieces of lives of people I know or newspaper stories and come up with five more questions I have. A story may strike me, and I’ll think about what happened before and how. Sometimes things just sort of jump out at you – the emotions that people experience. It starts with that, and the story goes around that initial idea or emotion.”



Her colleagues and students say she is a joy to have in the classroom. “I love her style,” said Deana Karp, an aspiring engineer who enjoys writing and is taking her third class with Fine this term. “She really pushes her students to independently excel, and she pushes you to do that in the writing. She’s entertaining, and she doesn’t push her views on the student. Whatever position you take, you just support it well.”

“She is a masterful professor and writer,” said Leonard Bruton, associate dean of academic affairs in Boca Raton. “She teaches in a way that she writes. She tells a story in a way that captures the students.”

“Teaching is the best job; even on the bad days I still love it.... I get to feel like I’m doing something productive and positive to help other people. It is what I was meant to do.”



B.S.N. creates path for registered nurses to advance

Registered nurses with associate degrees now have a more affordable opportunity in Palm Beach County to further their education and position themselves for leadership roles in health care facilities.

Palm Beach State College will begin offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in January 2012. More than 60 students have been admitted into the inaugural class. The program is open to registered nurses who hold a valid unrestricted Florida nursing license. This will become the College's third bachelor's program since it began offering four-year degrees in 2009.

While individuals with associate degrees in nursing are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Exam to become a registered nurse, a bachelor's degree often is needed for those who want to pursue administrative positions. Some hospitals have even begun requiring all of their nurses to have a bachelor's degree.

"B.S.N.-prepared nurses are needed with their expanded clinical knowledge now more than ever to help patients navigate through the complex health care system," said Dr. Gary Reardon, program director, citing a report issued by the Institute of



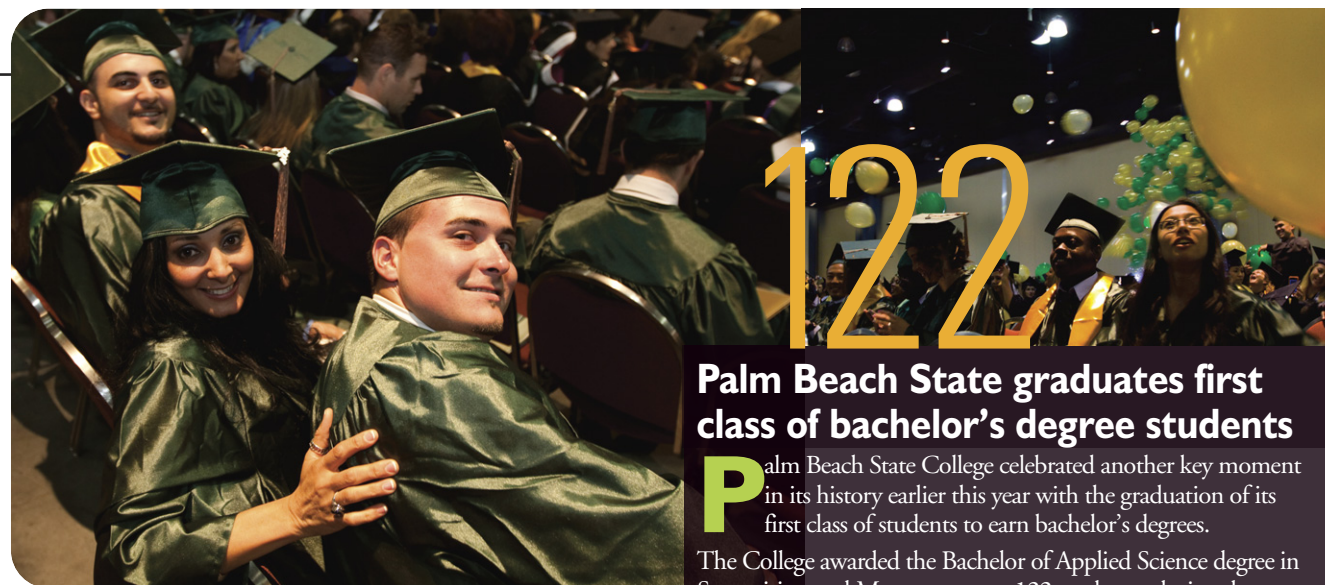
Medicine in 2010. "A B.S.N. program that has a focus on nursing leadership will give those nurses the educational preparation to function with more independence as they make clinical decisions about patient care on a daily basis."

The College began the Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management in fall 2009. Earlier this year, it added the B.A.S. in Information Management. ■

RN to BSN



See all the programs:
www.palmbeachstate.edu/Bachelor.xml



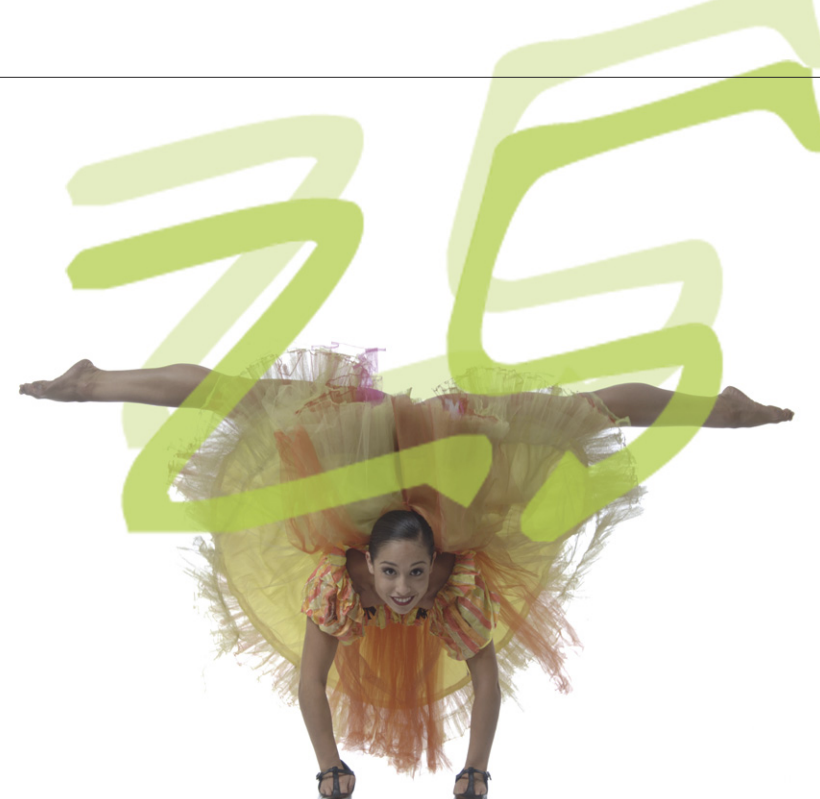
Palm Beach State graduates first class of bachelor's degree students

Palm Beach State College celebrated another key moment in its history earlier this year with the graduation of its first class of students to earn bachelor's degrees.

The College awarded the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Supervision and Management to 122 graduates during the spring commencement ceremony. To help celebrate the historic moment, the College released hundreds of balloons from the ceiling of the Palm Beach County Convention Center. ■

See our latest graduates on Flickr:

www.palmbeachstate.edu/SocialMedia.xml



DUNCAN THEATRE

For a few days in late August, the Duncan Theatre on the Lake

Worth campus was not filled with the notes of music from a concert, voices singing Broadway standards, or the sound of applause. The stage curtains were up, but the interior echoed with pneumatic drills, the clanging of metal on metal, and the sounds of physical exertion. Theatre personnel and facilities workers slowly moved among the vast rows of seats, unbolting them from the bare concrete floor.

In the words of Mark Alexander, the director of the Duncan Theatre, the venue was "cleaning up its act" for its 25th season.

"The College has always been committed to keeping the Duncan Theatre current, making the venue comfortable and inviting," he said. "We have made significant improvements in technology and infrastructure."

Included in the renovations is replacing the 800-plus seats in the theatre and Stage West. But instead of making a trip to a local landfill, the seats were donated to a local ministry, where they made an encore in several schoolrooms in earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

The theatre itself is a renovation of an auditorium built in 1960 that served as a multipurpose lecture and performance hall. The old auditorium was later converted into backstage facilities and the 123-seat Stage West. The "new" Duncan Theatre, with a five-story loft area,

continental-style seating, new foyer and other amenities was completed in 1986.

Along with its 25th anniversary season, the theatre will also reach the one million mark in attendance; it averages about 40,000 visitors a year. Alexander, who took over as theatre director in 2001, has also grown the number of annual subscribers, from fewer than 900 to more than 1,500. A new annual membership campaign begun in 2010 has been successful in supporting the programming of the theatre. Members receive advanced seating prior to public ticket sales, discounted tickets to select events, waiver of lost ticket fees and advanced notice of additional performances.

The Duncan Theatre has carved out a niche as a performing arts mecca by offering an eclectic



mix of established "brand names" and emerging artists and acts. Last season the venue scored a major coup with a concert appearance by jazz bassist and singer Esperanza Spalding a few months before she won the Grammy Award for Best New Artist, the first jazz artist to win the award.

That attention to detail, finding the right mix of performances and the intimate setting between audience and artist has been recognized in the community. The theatre was named the Best Indie Theater in WPBF-TV's annual A-List for the last two years.

This year's line-up of artists includes Pilobolus Dance Theatre, jazz great Earl Klugh, cabaret chanteuse Meow Meow, The Puppini Sisters and the return of the Juke Box Music series.

"We are most proud of our commitment to forge new ground for the performing arts by introducing that yet unknown musician or dance company to our patrons, allowing them to experience that exciting element of artistic discovery that is commonplace in major cities across the U.S.," said Alexander. "You

can come to the Duncan Theatre and see the same quality performances that you would in New York or Chicago without ever leaving Palm Beach County." ■

Get a glimpse of the season:

www.Duncan.org



"Like" the Duncan Theatre on Facebook!

College's library archive Going Digital

Decades after the Civil War, hundreds of glass plate negatives – images depicting the aftermath of battle, portraits of soldiers and officers taken by photographers Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner and Timothy O' Sullivan – were used for their glass to create greenhouses for the wealthy. Over the years, those images, bleached by the sun, faded away.

Much like those photographic plates, information produced in print, audio, video/film or digitally is in danger of being lost forever. Even now, in a small room on the second floor of the Harold C. Manor Library on the Lake Worth campus, a collection of the College's history – newspaper clippings, photographs, newsletters, yearbooks and other memorabilia – is literally disintegrating from the ravages of time and past neglect.

But thanks to staff members at the Library Learning Resource Center on the Lake Worth campus, the history of the College will not only be preserved, but available to millions via the Internet. The LLRC is teaming up with The Internet Archive to preserve the history of Palm Beach State College.



editions of past issues of *The Beachcomber* student newspaper, the College yearbook (*The Galleon*) and course catalogs.

"Palm Beach State College's participation in The Internet Archive allows students, faculty, alumni and the general public to electronically access our College history," said Brian Kelley, LLRC director on the Lake Worth campus. "This means access to the College yearbooks, catalogs and newspapers of the oldest public community college in the state. In the future, we hope to add audio, video and other formats."

The LLRC is also enlisting the help of alumni, current and former College staff, instructors, administrators and community members in cataloging and captioning the thousands of photos in its archives. The images, black-and-white prints and color slides are in boxes separated by decade and only a few have any information as to where and when they were made. The library has purchased a flatbed scanner and will create a section on its website for volunteers to view and provide information about the photos.

"Creating an online archive photo database will make it possible for anyone with an interest in the history of the College to help us without having to come to the library," said Kelley. "These images can open a door to the College's history. We need the key – the information about the people and places in the photos – to unlock that door." To view the Palm Beach State College LLRC's archive page, go to the library's main webpage at www.palmbeachstate.edu/LLRC.xml for ongoing additions to this important college resource. To visit The Internet Archive's main website, visit www.archive.org.

The Internet Archive is a nonprofit founded to build an Internet library. Its purposes include offering permanent digital access to historical collections for researchers, historians, scholars and the public. Founded in 1996 and located in San Francisco, the Internet Archive includes texts, audio, moving images and software as well as archived web pages.

"Libraries have wanted to do this for a long time, but we haven't had the resources," said Pat Alvarez, associate professor and librarian. "The Internet Archive is a preservation project that partners with libraries to make it affordable to scan and catalog materials."

The College has a link to its own webpage on the Internet Archive site, with digitally scanned



Do you know me?

These are a few of the images from the College archives that need identification. If you have any information on the people, places and year they were made, contact Pat Alvarez at the Lake Worth LLRC at 561-868-3800 or by email: alvarezp@palmbeachstate.edu



Panther baseball team to swing for the fences with new coach

Kyle Forbes has some big cleats to fill.

Forbes, 41, is the new head baseball coach for the Panthers, replacing Alex Morales, who resigned in December 2010 to accept a chief scouting position with the Washington Nationals organization.

Morales's record at Palm Beach State was 175-87 (.668) including an 85-38 (.691) in the Southern Conference of the Florida Community College Activities Association. He was named the 2010 Southern Conference Coach of the year after his 2010 team won the Southern Conference and finished the season ranked ninth in the country.

Forbes was an assistant coach under Morales from 2005 to 2010. As interim coach in 2011, he led the Panthers to a 26-20 overall record (12-12 in the Southern Conference.)

"It is an honor to coach the baseball team here at Palm Beach State. The program has a tradition of excellence and I look forward to guiding our players in the right direction," said Forbes. "We have a solid group of returning players for 2012. The combination of these returners and an outstanding recruiting class should make for an exciting season next year."

Forbes grew up in Boynton Beach and graduated from Atlantic High School in 1988. He lettered in three varsity

sports, swimming, basketball and baseball, and was named the Athlete of the Year by the Boca/Delray News in 1987. He stayed close to home in college, playing catcher at nearby Palm Beach Atlantic University. In 1989, he was named to the NAIA District 25 All-Academic Team.

Forbes began his coaching career in 1990 at Florida Atlantic University as an assistant coach under Kevin Cooney. In the two years Forbes was at FAU, the team was ranked in the top ten in the country. In 1994, Forbes was hired as the head baseball coach at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

During his nine seasons at the helm, Forbes amassed an overall record of 244 wins and 198 losses. The Sailfish qualified for the post-season six times, and were

ranked as high as eighth in the NAIA national baseball poll. In the past two seasons Forbes has served as pitching coach at Northwood University under the tutelage of Coach

Rick Smoaliak. The two years that he was at Northwood the Seahawks had a record of 73-43.

Forbes has been an associate scout for three major league organizations: the Cleveland Indians from 1993-95, the Milwaukee Brewers from 1995-2000, and the Atlanta Braves from 2001-10.

Forbes received a bachelor's degree from FAU in 1992 and a master's degree in education from FAU in 2007.



Sports 2012

See all the Panthers sports schedules:
www.palmbeachstate.edu/Athletics.xml





Dentist's legacy of generosity continues with scholarship

BY MARK UDRY

When Barney Blicher moved to West Palm Beach in 1928 after graduating from the New York University College of Dentistry, it was, in his words, "a real country town" with a population of about 25,000.

"The people were friendly," he said in a 1981 interview. "Nobody ever used a lock on their front doors. There was a lot of activity going on." It was the era of the great Florida land rush, the first real estate bubble. At the time of Blicher's arrival, there were only 18 other dentists in all of Palm Beach County. The nearest specialist, an oral surgeon, was in Miami.

Barney Blicher was one of the most giving men I've ever met in my life. He was never too busy to teach me something. He was a very humble man; he never took credit for the things he did in helping others. So I know that with the establishment of this scholarship, wherever he is, he's grinning ear-to-ear.

Dr. John Jordan



Blicher started his dental practice in downtown West Palm Beach. In 1933 he opened an office in Pahokee, the first dentist to establish a practice in the western communities, traveling there on the weekends to service its citizens and the inmate population at the nearby correctional facility. He became a pioneer in reconstructive dentistry before it was a recognized specialty in his field. Blicher continued his dentistry practice for more than 55 years until his retirement in 1983. He died at the age of 86 in 1992.

In the mid-1960s, Palm Beach Junior College created a two-year course of study for dental hygiene. Blicher created a series of postgraduate courses for those students who wanted to continue their dental health

education. He used the money he charged for teaching those classes to establish what he called the Palm Beach County Dental Scholarship Fund, which provided interest-free loans for dental hygiene students at the College.

Blicher created a trust account in 1976 to be used for scholarships for students enrolled in the dental health programs at the College. The trust was maintained by the Palm Beach County Dental Association until this year, when it was turned over to the Palm Beach State College Foundation, in accordance with Blicher's wishes. The fund, valued at more than \$84,000, has been used to establish the Barney Blicher Dental Student Scholarship. Scholarships of up to \$1,000 a student per semester will be available beginning in the fall of 2013.

Dr. John Jordan, one of the former trustees of the fund, joined Blicher's dental practice in 1979. Jordan said working with Blicher was a "dream come true" because of his mentor's generosity of spirit, his commitment to the quality of his work and his drive for perfection.

"Barney was one of the most giving men I've ever met in my life," said Jordan. "He was never too busy to teach me something. He was a very humble man; he never took credit for the things he did in helping others. So I know that with the establishment of this scholarship, wherever he is, he's grinning ear-to-ear."

The Foundation honored Dr. Blicher's legacy at a Sept. 16 reception highlighted by the unveiling of a plaque in the Dental Health building on the Lake Worth campus.

The Barney Blicher Dental Student Scholarship is for Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene students in their second year. Eligible students must be Florida residents registered for six credit hours or more and have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher.

To learn more about the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/DentalHealth.xml



Want to help?

The Foundation's scholarship programs are as diverse as the students themselves, supporting nearly all academic and career programs – from future nurses and law enforcement officers to automotive technicians and surgical technologists. Generous donors make it possible to provide scholarships to more than 2,000 students annually. Still, there are more students needing financial assistance than we are able to support. A gift from you can make a difference.

The Foundation's website now makes donating quick and easy. You can designate funds to support a specific program scholarship or place them in the general scholarship fund. If you make a contribution before Dec. 31, 2011, it can be included in your charitable donations when filing your federal tax return. Just visit [here](http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/Foundation.xml) and click on "Make a Gift."



PALM BEACH STATE
COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Fashion's Night Out

CityPlace in downtown West Palm Beach staged a Fashion's Night Out runway fashion show Sept. 8 with proceeds benefiting Palm Beach State College students. Coinciding with the opening of Fashion Week in New York City, this nationally recognized event provided a stylish backdrop for dedicated volunteers to meet alumni, provide College information, raise money for First Generation In College scholarships and celebrate a good cause. The crowd was filled with College associates who came to support Palm Beach State College President Dennis Gallon, student trustee Ariella Klein and Palm Beach State College Foundation board members Vicki Chouris, Paul Rampolla and Harvey Oyer, who modeled clothing provided by local stores. Proceeds from raffle sales generated over \$5,000 for the Foundation.

"Fashion's Night Out at CityPlace was an exciting event that allowed the community to



take part in a national event while supporting a meaningful local foundation," said Edan Della Mea, CityPlace marketing director. "We are so happy that we could offer a night of fashionable fun to support an organization like the Palm Beach State College Foundation, which helps thousands of students achieve their dreams at college each year through financial scholarships and school endowments."

Foundation Board member Harvey Oyer on the catwalk.

West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio (below, left), student trustee Ariella Klein and President Dennis P. Gallon wait their turn backstage.



Alma Mater – The face of Palm Beach State College alumni

"Alma" in Latin means soulful and caring, and that word describes the alumni and current students she represents as the new face of the alumni network. Alma speaks directly to supporters of the College, inviting alumni to join the network. Alma values friends and understands how their contributions impact the College. She is grateful for the support, whether it be financial, time or talent.

You can join the network and stay connected to Palm Beach State and fellow alumni by clicking 'like' on her Facebook page.

Membership in the alumni network is free. Benefits include:

- Invitations from Alma to alumni events, receptions and social activities to make new friends and build your networks.
- Enhancing your personal and professional goals through our Corporate & Continuing Education classes and job search assistance at the Career Centers on all four Palm Beach State campuses.
- Learning about upcoming cultural events at campus theatres and art galleries.
- Alerts from Alma on special savings and discounts for alumni from the Palm Beach State corporate partners program.

To join, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/Foundation.xml and click on "Welcome Alumni."

Stay connected...

To learn more about endowed scholarships, planned giving or other ways to contribute to the Palm Beach State College Foundation, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/Foundation.xml or call the Foundation office at (561) 868-3450.



"Like" Alma on Facebook!

Join our alumni network through the Foundation's website!



The MD will see you now:

BY MARK UDRY



Peter Lamelas, MD

CEO & Medical Director - MD NOW Medical Centers, Inc.

Residency in Internal Medicine – Carney Hospital, Boston and University of Connecticut Health Sciences Center, Farmington, Conn.

Board Certified in Emergency Medicine by American Board of Physician Specialists

Member and Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians

Member of Palm Beach County Medical Society and Florida Medical Association

Former Medical Director, Riviera Beach Fire Rescue

Consultant for the West Palm Beach Fire Pension Fund

Board Member of the Urgent Care Association of America

Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Urgent Care Medicine

Appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush in 2001 to serve on the Florida Board of Medicine

Former Manalapan Town Commissioner

Peter Lamelas discovers a cure for the common emergency room

Peter Lamelas wasn't exactly thinking of a career in medicine when he enrolled at Palm Beach Junior College in 1976. Lamelas moved from New York City to West Palm Beach with his family a year earlier and attended Forest Hill High School as a senior. The family had moved to New York from Cuba when he was four years old. Lamelas said his family was typical of those coming from Cuba, starting their life in America from scratch. "Both my parents were college educated, and they both had to pull themselves up by their bootstraps," he said.

His parents opened a business, The Corner Store, on the corner of Olive Street and Southern Boulevard in West Palm Beach. The store, an area landmark, is a ramshackle, round-shaped building, serving as a combination bait-and-tackle and convenience store. Lamelas and his brothers worked in the store, even pumping gas for customers, while attending Forest Hill High School and PBJC.

"Attending PBJC was a good transition for me while I decided what I was going to do and where I was going to go in life," said Lamelas. "The ability to live at home and still attend college was a big attraction for me. Plus, I could go to classes in the morning and hit the beach in the afternoon."

He also hit the books, becoming serious about his studies, concentrating on math and science courses with an eye toward a career in medicine.

Health care runs in the family; Lamelas' uncle and cousin, both named Roberto Acosta, are doctors in the West Palm Beach area. His uncle is an internal medicine and cardiology doctor; his cousin, an orthopedic hand surgeon. Lamelas' father was a pharmacist and successful businessman in his native Cuba. Lamelas' brother Joe followed him into the profession and is now the chief cardiac surgeon at Mount Sinai Hospital in Miami Beach, while his brother Robert still runs the family business.

Lamelas seized an opportunity to attend medical school in the Dominican Republic, cutting his studies at PBJC short, but he credits the College for setting him on a path to his career.

"Palm Beach Junior College will always be near and dear to my heart because I wouldn't have been able to study medicine abroad," he said. "I wouldn't have been nearly as prepared for college and medical school abroad if I hadn't attended PBJC first."

After medical school and residency training, Lamelas returned to south Florida, working as an emergency room doctor at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center, St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach, Wellington

Regional Medical Center, Bethesda Memorial Hospital in Boynton Beach and more than 17 years as the ER director at Columbia Hospital of the Palm Beaches and an Emergency Medical Services Medical Director for Riviera Beach Fire Rescue. Lamelas was the first emergency room physician to sit on the State of Florida Board of Medicine when he was appointed by then Gov. Jeb Bush in 2001.

Lamelas opened his first urgent care clinic, MD Now, near the corner of Lantana Road and Military Trail in suburban Lake Worth in January 2005. It was an immediate success.

Lamelas said he got the idea for his clinics while working as an emergency room doctor. His business model, he says, is to be everything an emergency room is not.

"I wanted it to be the complete opposite of what the emergency room is," he said. "In a typical ER you wait hours, you pay a huge amount of money, you're treated rudely. It's really not an appropriate place for non-life-threatening medical needs or routine care – it's for true emergencies."

His clinics offer fast, professional and affordable medical care. Most patients, once they sign in, pay and complete paperwork, are seen, treated and released in less than an hour. MD Now offers a wide range of services, including work and school physicals, seasonal flu shots and travel vaccines, drug testing, general and urgent medical care without an appointment. Lamelas is expanding his offerings to include physical therapy, diagnostic imaging and after-hours pediatric care. His clinics are sparkling clean, well furnished and decorated, with flat screen televisions and mini-refrigerators stocked with bottled water in the waiting area. The equipment is state-of-the-art, the staff – from doctors to receptionists – is efficient, professional and courteous. For Lamelas, it was a model that quickly paid huge dividends.

"At our first MD Now clinic in Lake Worth, we saw more patients than we ever expected, and during flu season it was crazy," said Lamelas. "It's almost like going to a good restaurant – it's popular and everyone knows about you because of the service you provide. We quickly realized we wouldn't be able to sustain our level of great patient service at that pace, so we opened more clinics to serve a growing need for fast, affordable, quality medical care."

He soon expanded, adding locations in Royal Palm Beach, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens, Boynton Beach and West Palm Beach. Lamelas is in the process of expanding and opening four additional clinics in Palm Beach and Broward counties. His business has more than 240 employees and 24 doctors, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. He and his wife, Stephanie, who is MD Now's business manager, both found the time to attend business school and earn MBA degrees.

"One of the things that sets MD Now apart from other urgent care clinics is that we're a locally owned and operated business; we're not a big impersonal corporation," said Lamelas. "We have an extensive network of doctors if one of our patients needs a referral to see a specialist or needs to be admitted to a hospital. We also follow up with a phone call with each of our patients to see how they're doing. That sort of caring and attention to detail is what makes us a local success story."



MD



Now

"Attending PBJC was a good transition for me while I decided what I was going to do and where I was going to go in life. The ability to live at home and still attend college was a big attraction for me."

Alumni Corner

Palm Beach State College
College Relations and Marketing
4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461-4796



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

Please contact us at
crmarket@palmbeachstate.edu

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BOCA RATON
3000 SAINT LUCIE AVENUE

LAKE WORTH
4200 CONGRESS AVENUE

PALM BEACH GARDENS
3160 PGA BOULEVARD

561-967-7222

www.PalmBeachState.edu

Alumni Success Stories



Daniel R. Suiter

PALM BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE, A.A., 1985
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, B.S., 1987; M.S., 1989;
PH.D., 1994

Dr. Daniel Suiter is an associate professor of entomology at the University of Georgia, where he teaches and heads a research and extension program in urban and industrial pest management. Before joining UGA in 2000, he was an entomology research associate at Purdue University for five years.

The career educator has fond memories of PBJC faculty member Robert Shaw's math classes. ("Hands down, he was the best teacher I had in 12 years of college.") Another PBJC professor, Dr. Carol Butler, introduced him to the study of insects, which became his life's work. These individuals, he says, demonstrate "the awesome power" of those who teach. "Teachers can influence others with a single sentence, comment or meeting. As teachers, we must be cognizant of everything we say and do. Some student out there is watching and looking up to every teacher. The responsibilities are enormous."



Mali S. Gardner

PALM BEACH JUNIOR COLLEGE, A.A., 1984

Fleeing the Communist regime in Cuba 50 years ago, Maria "Mali" Soto Gardner and her family found refuge in the caring, close-knit communities along Lake Okeechobee. A Clewiston resident since 1963, she proudly notes that she has had the same friends since kindergarten. She was first elected to the City Commission in 1999, was mayor from 2001 to 2010, and is now in her third term as commissioner. She also is vice president for human resources at the First Bank of Clewiston.

Gardner recalls the excitement of enrolling at PBJC's new Belle Glade campus during its early 1980s startup. "I remember how the provost, Mary Orsenigo, worked so hard to make sure the students were represented well and had the classes they needed," she said. Now serving on the Clewiston High School Advisory Board, Gardner urges students to take advantage of educational opportunities at Palm Beach State. "It's a tremendous resource for our area," she added.



Michelle Cannon

PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, A.A., 2006
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
HONORS COLLEGE, B.A., 2008

Self-described Anglophile Michelle Cannon found her dream job at, where else, the British Embassy's Consulate Office in Miami. As regional learning and development coordinator, Cannon handles logistics for diplomatic officer and staff training in 12 Embassy offices in Central America and the Caribbean. It's a great niche for a person whose love of all things British blossomed through her coursework, which included a summer term studying English literature in Bath.

"My time at PBCC was valuable as well as economical and prepared me for the real world," Cannon said. She credits Professor Edwin Peck with nurturing her love of English poetry and Professor Roy Boulware for his helpfulness in demystifying the study of statistics. Cannon was named to Phi Theta Kappa at PBCC, and she went on to win the Senior Thesis Award at the FAU Honors College.