

## **Palm Beach State selects new student trustee**

### **Laura Stevens will attend her first District Board of Trustees meeting Aug. 14**

(Lake Worth, Fla. - Aug. 13, 2012) – Laura Stevens, an honors student pursuing an Associate in Arts degree with an interest in international relations, has been named the new student trustee for the Palm Beach State College District Board of Trustees.

She will take her seat at the dais for her first board meeting Aug. 14, becoming the voice for the College’s 49,000 students for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Stevens, 21, was chosen by a committee following an application and interview process open to all Palm Beach State students with at least a 3.0 grade point average and at least 24 credit hours completed. She is the 12<sup>th</sup> student to serve in the non-voting position since Palm Beach State’s five governor-appointed trustees created the position in 2001. The board wanted a way to get students’ perspectives on college issues and policies.



“So far, it’s been the most humbling experience I have ever had,” Stevens said. “I’m extraordinarily honored and excited to represent the entire student body. It’s a wonderful opportunity.”

Stevens of Riviera Beach, who was home-schooled for most of her K-12 education, enrolled in Palm Beach State as a dual enrollment student in 2006 and took college classes while completing her high school requirements. After graduating from high school in 2008, she took a break from school and moved out of the state. She later moved back to Florida and enrolled in Palm Beach State in 2010 as a full-time student. After graduating from Palm Beach State next spring, she plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in international relations and Middle Eastern studies. She said she hopes to one day work for the U.S. State Department as a diplomat and advisor on Middle East policy.

Stevens has been actively involved on campus and in the community, serving as a member of Delta Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society on the Lake Worth campus. She was elected Phi Theta Kappa’s vice president of service for 2011-2012, and she served in fall 2011 as secretary of communications for the Honors Student Advisory Council of the Dr. Floyd F. Koch Honors College. She

also serves as a senator for the Student Government Association on the Palm Beach Gardens campus where she takes most of her classes. For the past two years, she has been an active volunteer with the Children's Medical Services of West Palm Beach. She also has served as a team captain for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Lake Worth and a committee member for Relay for Life of Lantana.

"I've had a lot of leadership experience. It's just great to be able to take it to the next level and represent the students of our College."

**Editor's note:** Contact College Relations and Marketing for a high-resolution photo of Laura Stevens.

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