

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humanities dean gains new leadership skills

(Lake Worth, Nov. 25, 2002) An associate dean of academic affairs at Palm Beach Community College, Richard Holcomb, Ph.D., has completed a year-long leadership training program with the prestigious Chair Academy headquartered in Mesa, Arizona. The Chair Academy, in conjunction with the Academy for Leadership Training and Development, advances organizational leadership in community and technical colleges. Dr. Holcomb lives in Wellington, Florida.

The 12-month program, an extensive process to build leadership skills, has been very effective, Dr. Holcomb said. Some of his department chairs in Humanities attended part of the leadership training as well.

“It strengthened my leadership skills as well as furthered my ability to follow the lead of the administration and in turn, helped to lead my division,” he said. “With the Department Chairs I wanted to build a team so that we all had a common language and common goals so we could move forward.”

The training included managing conflict, behavioral styles, strategic planning, diversity, performance evaluation and technology. It’s been particularly helpful with the reorganizational changes that have occurred this year at the College, Dr. Holcomb said.

“I wanted to learn techniques to assist in the transitions and to make them as painless as possible,” he explained. “I’ve learned new ways of looking at issues.”

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