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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBCC's Dennis Gallon heads to Israel

(Lake Worth, FL – May 4, 2004) In a "unique opportunity" recommended by the local American Jewish Committee, Palm Beach Community College's first African-American president, Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D., will lecture and collaborate with administrators, department heads and faculty at Israeli colleges next month.

From May 15-29, Dr. Gallon will tour seven colleges and lecture on issues of mutual concern, including institutional governance, managing relationships between academic programs and technological training programs in a single institution, customized training programs for local businesses and more. Israel does not have a community college system, but some Israeli colleges function in similar ways.

Dr. Gallon's two-week sabbatical as a Fulbright Senior Specialist is sponsored by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (www.cies.org), the host institutions and The Academic College of Ashkelon. When Bill Gralnick, southeast regional director of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), saw the national inquiry for an American scholar for Israel, he recommended Dr. Gallon.

"Israel is an immigrant nation with various levels of education, with some people in need of retraining," Gralnick explained. "I thought Dr. Gallon was the best person to fill the job, based on his credentials and his reputation in the community."

Sidney C. Cole, M.D., president of AJC's Palm Beach County chapter said, "We are thrilled not only for Dr. Gallon, but for what this trips represents. This adds a new dimension to the strong and maturing relationships between the African-American and Jewish communities. As his schedule permits, we look forward to Dr. Gallon sharing his experiences in both churches and synagogues, to African American and Jewish organizations and institutions throughout Palm Beach County and beyond."

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to collaborate with my colleagues at several post-secondary institutions in Israel," said Dr. Gallon. "This Fulbright Senior Specialist Scholarship will allow me to make a contribution to some of the most progressive education institutions in the world, and it will also be an opportunity for me to learn and grow, as well. I am particularly interested in learning about their programs in biotechnology and robotics."

Dr. Gallon's agenda will take him to Sapir Academic College, Technological Engineering College, Beer Sheva and Negev Academic College of Engineering, Western Galilee Academic College, ORT Braude Engineering College and Jordan Valley Academic College.

To download a photo, go to

<http://www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/dennisGallon.jpg>

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