

COLLEGE RELATIONS AND MARKETING

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Palm Beach Community College's vice president of workforce development to retire after 36 years**

(Lake Worth, Fla.—May 20, 2004) **John Schmiederer**, who helped oversee the closely watched transfer of 45 adult job preparatory education programs from the school district to Palm Beach Community College, is retiring June 30 after 36 years at the College.

The former U.S. Army captain and St. Louis native began working at then Palm Beach Junior College as a senior science instructor in August 1968. At that time, only the Lake Worth campus existed and there were about 2,500 students.

Over the past three and a half decades, as the College was growing into a comprehensive community college with four locations and 48,000 students, Schmiederer was working his way up the career ladder. He was a health department chair, coordinator of allied health programs, dean of vocational education, dean of instruction, dean of academic affairs, and interim provost at the Lake Worth campus before being named vice president of workforce development in 1998.

Schmiederer has become well-known in the business community and has played a major role in getting businesses and industries involved in the College through Business Partnership Councils and other means.

As vice president of workforce development, he served on the transition team that worked to transfer adult job preparatory education programs from the School District of Palm Beach County to PBCC, following a 1997 state law that allowed districts to do so.

"It's been a rewarding career. I've gotten a lot of opportunities to do a lot of wonderful things, and it's been fun," Schmiederer said. "We have a good reputation for providing a quality education for our students. We're seen as responsive to the community's needs, and it makes me feel good that I had a part in that."

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Schmiederer, 64, said he looks forward to retirement. He plans to do some woodwork and travel by motor home with Beverly, his wife of 37 years, and Ashes, their 14-year-old Dalmatian. They will live in Polk City just north of Lakeland, Fla.



For a high resolution photo of John Schmiederer, visit <http://www.pbcc.edu/crm/releasepics/schmiederer.jpg>

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