



COLLEGE RELATIONS AND MARKETING

4200 CONGRESS AVENUE, LAKE WORTH, FL 33461-4796

TEL: 561-868-3122 crmarket@pbcc.edu

FAX: 561-868-3123 www.pbcc.edu/crm.xml



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Palm Beach Community College and FPL partner on innovative training program

(Palm Beach Gardens - Feb. 18, 2008) Palm Beach Community College and Florida Power & Light Company today announced a new program aimed at developing skilled workers for Florida's rapidly expanding electric energy sector.

Beginning this fall, PBCC and FPL will launch the Professional Training Pipeline, an innovative partnership designed to attract students to associate in science degrees in Instrumentation and Controls, Electric Maintenance or Mechanical Maintenance, and to develop new skilled employees for the company.

"This partnership with FPL will provide tremendous educational opportunities for our students. PBCC has been fueling minds for 75 years. With this new collaboration, we will be helping to fuel the energy needs of our community with the skilled workers so important to this industry and this area," said PBCC President Dennis P. Gallon.

Students enrolled in these programs will be eligible for summer internships at FPL, and the company will endeavor to offer ten -- or potentially more -- jobs each year to PBCC students who successfully complete the program in one of these three specialties and who meet FPL's hiring criteria.

"This is a collaborative effort to recruit, train and employ new workers," said Armando Olivera, president of FPL. "We have significant employment needs as our company grows and as many in our workforce move toward retirement. Through internships, PBCC students will receive hands-on, real-life learning opportunities that will allow them to understand the job and demonstrate their abilities. FPL needs well-educated and well-prepared craft workers to help provide our customers with clean, reliable energy today and in the future. These PBCC students can play an important role in that future."

With more than 10,000 employees, FPL today serves about 9 million people -- or roughly half of Florida's population. Participants in the PBCC Professional Training Pipeline program, designed for jobs in fossil fuel plants, will be a diverse group, including young students, workers who want to learn a new profession and FPL employees who wish to improve their job skills. Students will train at PBCC's new state-of-the-art BioScience Technology Complex on the school's Palm Beach Gardens campus. Students will be learning in the best possible environment, mirroring the actual working environment that they will join upon completion.

The program at PBCC, which serves more than 45,000 students per year, builds on the experience of ongoing collaborations between FPL two other schools -- Miami Dade College and Indian River Community College -- which have attracted hundreds of students since the first course began at MDC in 2006. The first Professional Training Pipeline class at MDC will graduate this summer. The two existing programs with MDC and IRCC, which train students to work at nuclear power plants, have won national recognition for educational innovation.

"This partnership with PBCC gives us access to an extremely diverse pool of workers who will bring new ideas and energy to our company," FPL's Olivera said. "This initiative is a win-win situation all around -- PBCC attracts qualified students, we can count on future workers and the community will have access to well-paying jobs," he added.

For more information about this degree program or to find about enrolling call PBCC at 561-207-5415.

Palm Beach Community College: Florida's first public community college, is celebrating its 75th anniversary throughout 2008. The largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, PBCC serves more than 45,000 students annually through its associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. The College offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Florida Power & Light Company is the principal subsidiary of FPL Group, Inc. (NYSE: FPL), nationally known as a high quality, efficient and customer-driven organization focused on energy-related products and services. With annual revenues of over \$15 billion and a growing presence in 27 states, FPL Group is widely recognized as one of the country's premier power companies. Florida Power & Light Company serves 4.5 million customer accounts in Florida. FPL Energy, LLC, FPL Group's competitive energy subsidiary, is a leader in producing electricity from clean and renewable fuels. Additional information is available on the Internet at www.FPL.com, www.FPLGroup.com and www.FPLEnergy.com.

Media Contacts:

PBCC:

Gwenn Adams
College Relations and Marketing Specialist
(561) 868-3950
adamsg@pbcc.edu

FPL:

Sarah Marmion
Corporate Communications
(561) 694-4643