



COLLEGE RELATIONS AND MARKETING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PBCC holds grand opening for new Natural Science building

(Lake Worth, Fla. – Sept. 10, 2008) Palm Beach Community College held a grand opening ceremony for its new Natural Science building on the Lake Worth campus Tuesday with chemical reaction demonstrations and other scientific fanfare highlighting the state-of-the-art equipment and technology and the innovative learning taking place in the \$12.8 million facility.

The two-story, 50,000-square-foot-building opened to students this fall and houses chemistry, biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, physical science, earth science, geology, physics and astronomy classes. Designed by Schwab, Twitty and Hanser Architectural Group and constructed by James A. Cummings, Inc., the Natural Science building enhanced the Congress Avenue entrance to the campus and allowed PBCC to strengthen its science curriculum in preparation for the emerging South Florida science industry. The College eventually plans to demolish the old science building constructed in 1956.



Among the grand opening ceremony speakers were Kenneth Kirby, chairperson of the PBCC District Board of Trustees; Dr. Dennis Gallon, PBCC president; Dr. Maria Vallejo, Lake Worth campus provost; Dr. Roger Ramsammy, Lake Worth campus interim dean of academic affairs and representatives from Schwab, Twitty and Hanser Architectural Group and James A. Cummings, Inc.

(more)

Highlights:

- \$12.8 million
- Two-story, 50,000-square-foot
- 14 labs for biology, microbiology, physics, chemistry, organic chemistry, physical science, biology and anatomy and physiology classes.
- Eight classrooms
- PBCC joined a consortium with three other Florida community colleges including South Florida Community College, Lake Sumter Community College and St. John's River Community College to design this prototype science building for the state, saving millions in architectural fees. The new BioScience Technology Complex on PBCC's Palm Beach Gardens campus also was built from that design with additional space for a biotech program.
- Construction began in December 2006 and was completed in April 2008.

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.

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Editor's note: About the photo- Carolyn Williams, PBCC District Board of Trustee member, helps Dr. Peter Krieger, chemistry professor, and Dr. Roger Ramsammy, interim dean of academic affairs, pour chemicals for a chemical reaction demonstration. Contact PBCC for a high-resolution copy of this photo and others. A photo of the new Natural Science building is available at www.pbcc.edu/images/marketing/scienceexterior.jpg.

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