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PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE NAMES PAT RICHIE DEAN OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

(Lake Worth, Fla. -- May 27, 2003) Palm Beach Community College has named **Pat Richie** dean of workforce development.

Richie, a resident of Wellington, was selected following a nationwide search. She brings a wealth of experience to the job, having worked in adult occupational education roles for 27 years, including nine years at PBCC.

She began working at PBCC in 1994 as director of continuing studies and was promoted three years later to associate dean of career and technical education where she oversaw the College's trade and industrial programs.

In her new role, Richie will oversee PBCC's 60 workforce programs, many of which will be housed in the new 150,000-square-foot Education and Training Center opening this fall in Lake Worth.

Richie said she's looking forward to the challenge. "It's a wonderful opportunity to assist the College with accomplishing its mission, objectives and strategic plan," Richie said. "I think as an educator we're responsible for providing lifelong learning, whether it is degree seeking, vocational or continuing education, through a strong academic foundation. Access to postsecondary education is fundamental for tomorrow's well-prepared workforce. We must do whatever is necessary to ensure that our citizens have an opportunity to learn skills necessary to participate in that workforce."

Prior to joining the PBCC staff, Richie, a native of Baltimore, Md., worked at Dundalk Community College in Maryland for eight years as director of business and contracted services and later director of community services. She holds a master's degree in adult and continuing education from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Maryland.

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