

Perspectives

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The Fast Track programs can be an ideal solution for students with work and other obligations.

PBCC offers fast track to education

Palm Beach Community College is launching three new accelerated learning tracks in the spring that will allow students to get an associate in science degree in one year by attending classes only on Friday nights and Saturdays.

The degree tracks are in accounting technology, business administration and computer science networking. Students who begin school in January 2002 and follow the planned course program will finish in December 2002.

The new tracks are designed to make college convenient for students and to help them get their degrees even faster than the two-year weekend programs currently offered.

“It’s certainly a response to students who

want to get in and get out quickly,” said Sharon Sass, vice president of academic affairs at PBCC. “We see this happening nationally. A lot of schools are fast-tracking programs so students can get out quickly while still meeting all of the requirements of the program.”

The program is designed in 8-week blocks. Students will take four courses in the first eight weeks of the Spring Term and four courses in the last-eight weeks. Then they’ll have an 8-week Summer Term with four courses and a 4 week Summer Term with two courses. In the fall, students would take four courses during the first eight weeks and four courses during the last eight weeks.

The four courses in a given 8-week period are held on alternating days. For example, course A and B would meet on alternating Friday nights and course C and D would meet on alternating Saturdays.

“We’re saying if you enroll in the spring and you take the courses that we’ve laid out for you, you can finish in four terms,” Dr. Sass said. “You have a lot of take-home and independent-type study. The whole idea is to further meet the needs of our students by providing courses and degrees when they want them.”

The programs were designed with the students in mind. Students will take the technical or core courses before taking the majority of their general education courses. Officials said this gives students

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In the News

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the skills they need to go into the workforce while still enrolled in the program.

The business administration program was structured so that almost all of the electives are computer courses, including Introduction to the Internet, Electronic Spreadsheets and Web Page Design and Database Management. "We decided we wanted to give our students the skills they need to become proficient in computer applications as well as in management," said Joanne Nikides, chairwoman of

PBCC's business department.

The new accelerated learning tracks are the latest in a series of initiatives PBCC has implemented to help make attending school convenient for students who must juggle classes with work and family obligations and for those who just want a faster pace.

"I think with the changing economy many people are looking for a career change. This is an excellent opportunity for them to gain skills quickly and then find new employment," Nikides said.

In 2000 PBCC launched a Weekend A.A. Degree program at its Palm Beach Gardens location that allows students to complete their associate in arts degree by attending classes only on Friday evenings and Saturdays. In 1997, PBCC launched a Weekend Business Institute in Lake Worth. It offers A.A. degrees with concentrations in business administration and computer systems that can lead to a bachelor's degree in management, finance, marketing, accounting and programming. PBCC also offers dozens of courses on the weekend.

ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

Nov. 13

Board of Trustees meeting
6 p.m.
Boca Raton

Nov. 15

Last day to withdraw (Fall 12-week)

Nov. 22-23

College closed
Thanksgiving

Nov. 28

Last day to withdraw (Fall Express)



Duncan Theatre gets new manager

Mark Alexander will begin his new role as manager of the Duncan Theatre Dec. 3. The New Jersey native was hired for the slot in late October following a nationwide search. He comes to PBCC from the 425-seat Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center in New York, where he had served as executive director since March 2000.

Alexander, who holds bachelor's degrees in accounting and economics from Rutgers University, began his performing arts career at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater in 1991. He worked at Ruth Eckerd for about nine years in several capacities including campaign manager, director of education and community affairs and interim executive director and CEO. He said he's excited about returning to the sunshine state.

"From my perspective, the performing arts in Florida have never been stronger or more creative. It is an exciting and rewarding time to be involved in the cultural arts. Theaters, performing arts centers and arts organizations in Florida have continually worked together for mutual benefit and the benefit of their audiences. I look forward to contributing to that cooperative spirit," Alexander said. "I especially



appreciate the opportunity to come to Palm Beach Community College, which for me symbolizes the true nature of the arts, an environment where diverse cultures, interests, expression and experiences come together to foster a better understanding of ourselves."

During his tenure at Ruth Eckerd Hall, Alexander developed and implemented arts education programs for the greater Tampa Bay community reaching more than 750,000 young people and adults. Under his leadership, the PACT Institute, the education center at Ruth Eckerd Hall, expanded its professional development programs for artists through venues including the Florida Playwrights Process.

Cerabino speaks at Professional Development Day

After putting on a pair of disposable rubber gloves, *Palm Beach Post* humor columnist Frank Cerabino pulled a white envelope from his pocket and warned those sitting near the stage to move back. "I'm about to open my mail," he joked as PBCC faculty and staff burst into laughter.

Cerabino, who will become a PBCC adjunct journalism professor in January, was the morning keynote speaker for Professional Development Day Oct. 23 at the Eissey Campus Theatre. During his hour-long speech, Cerabino told humor-filled stories that poked fun at politicians and news events. In between stories, he mentioned "change," the theme of the speech.

He said the terrorist attacks made work difficult for humor columnists who often use news events to develop fodder for their columns. Although the terrorist attacks were no laughing matter, he said sometimes "funny things happen in bad news."

"The Taliban is the WWF version of the enemy. It's almost comical if it weren't so scary," he said. "The only time they told the truth is when they said Jesse Jackson invited himself over there," Cerabino said over more laughter.

"Bush doesn't have enough RAM. He can get his mouth and brain working, just not at the same time," Cerabino said, after telling a story of how he couldn't get his home computer and video equipment working properly together until he bought more RAM.

Professional Development Day was supposed to continue in the afternoon with a variety of breakout sessions. However, a bomb threat at the Palm Beach Gardens location led police to evacuate the buildings, and the sessions were canceled.



Staff & Faculty News

PBCC shows its American spirit with Paint Your Heart Out

Great-grandmother Bertha Johnson, 77, stood on the front porch of her 1950s South Florida cottage one Saturday afternoon in October, looking heavenward. "God bless us all," she said.

Earlier, over 40 students from Palm Beach Community College had swarmed her home, wielding paintbrushes and rollers. The Black Student Association, Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, Student Government Association and the Spanish and Latin Student Association (SALSA) Club joined four members of the Florida Association of Community Colleges (FACC) and one family from the Children of the American Revolution to paint the home's exterior Oct. 26.

The occasion was National Make a Difference Day, observed each year in Palm Beach County by Paint Your Heart Out. This year PYHO painted 13 homes in the county, from Boynton Beach to Jupiter, all owned by elderly or disabled folks who "fall through the cracks" of public assistance.

Students began arriving at 8 a.m. that



Saturday, wave after wave of them. FACC member Keegan Gabriel had 37 volunteer forms and quickly ran out. Board member and PYHO founder at PBCC Marie Reddy helped to supervise the crews. Other FACC members painting their hearts out that day were Andrea Wise and team captain Toni Wolf.

Chris Mitchell, an inspections supervisor for the city of Boynton Beach, was the backbone of the operation, teaching the young people the best way to paint. This year the white PYHO T-shirts with the red hearts were emblazoned on the left sleeve with the American flag.

Two of the SALSA members, Gregory Gonzalez and Richard Achang, had painted last year. They grabbed ladders and paint brushes. Achang proved a painting fiend, who jumped up to the top, front and center, of the Johnson cottage and painted dark beige across the house. Gonzalez (*photo at left*) put the rest of the SALSA Club to work in vital areas, joining them, and later spruced up the house numbers, 525, with black enamel and a tiny paintbrush.

The Pearson family from the Children of

Over half the students who painted their hearts out were from the PBCC Black Student Association.

Everyone did a great job.

the American Revolution were the first to brave the back of the house, and Martha Pearson began trimming bushes and birds of paradise. PTK women Joy Hubbard and Terry Valenti tirelessly painted the highs and the lows. Others painted over the partially decayed lean-to on the back of the house. Venezuelan sisters Corina and Alejandra Perez Plaza tackled the house's west side, and the Black Student Association was everywhere, comprising almost half of the student volunteers.

When the job was complete, the property was clean and supplies were loaded up, homeowner Mrs. Johnson ventured out again to see what Palm Beach Community College had wrought. "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" she said emotionally.

To see volunteers work diligently and harmoniously to better the life of a stranger was truly inspiring. If you had been there, you would have wanted to paint alongside them.

Workforce Development

The Business Partnership Council

This is the second in a series of articles by John Schmiederer, vice president for workforce development

For many years, PBCC had an advisory committee for each of its occupational programs. These committees advised faculty and administration on program curriculum.

The Business Partnership Council is similar in structure to the advisory committee in that industry/community people provide curriculum guidance, but it also has major differences. These critical differences are that the council:

- is chaired by industry/community
- alerts the College to employment needs and vacancies
- assists with equipment/space acquisition
- helps recruit students
- assists with internship sites
- may provide scholarships
- hires graduates

- may have a program graduate as a voting member
- includes PBCC staff who are non-voting members.

In transitioning PSAV programs from the Palm Beach County School Board, PBCC put forth the concept of creating county-wide Business Partnership Councils. The concept was adopted by industry/community and the public education institutions. It was seen that such a council would assist with the coordination and articulation of programs and avoid duplication of training and redundancy in the curriculum. High-skill, high-wage occupations were targeted, and PBCC works closely with the local Business Development Board, Economic Council and the Workforce Development Board to ensure that job training matches community needs. As the Career Academies in the K-12 system stabilize and mature, it is anticipated that they will embrace the Business Partnership Council.

The partnership concept fosters joint ownership of program successes and deficiencies. The partnership commits both the College and industry to develop a

joint responsibility for the program. This increases communication, understanding of issues and advocacy at both local and state levels.

For example, the subcommittees' activities of the Fire/EMS Business Partnership Council resulted in a recommendation for the development of a new training center. This has now evolved into a proposal for a Joint Fire EMS/Criminal Justice facility with community wide support from the fire and criminal justice community. A shade house for the horticulture program, scholarship and fiscal support for a new lab remodeling for dental hygiene and dental assisting students are other benefits that programs have derived from these partnerships.

A Business Partnership Council handbook delineates the scope of the council and sets forth the roles and responsibilities. College staff supports these councils administratively and keep the Business Partnership Council informed about the College's Strategic Plan, action plans and budget issues.

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Student News

Softball teams helps out in the community

Members of PBCC's softball team are putting their skills to work both on and off the field.

Under the direction of coaches Linda Derk and JoAnn Ferrieri, the Panthers are actively involved in a variety of programs in the community to help youth and families, including Habitat for Humanity. They also volunteer their time reading to children at local elementary schools and holding youth clinics for children ages 7 to 17, in which they provide softball skill instruction and motivational speeches.

"These programs give our student athletes an entire life experience," Derk said. "Not only does it give players an opportunity to give back to the community, but it also provides them with invaluable lessons that



can't be taught on the playing field," added Ferrieri.

PBCC's softball team members are putting their skills to work both on and off the field by helping build a Habitat for Humanity house.

Optimists are healthier

Practice an optimistic attitude to reduce the effects of stress. Optimists see the glass as half full, not half empty. They choose to feel hopeful. Pessimists on the other hand, are sure of a poor outcome.

Most illnesses are influenced by a person's feelings. After any major life event, take time to recover. Practice positive self-talk (I can do it) each day. Copy someone who always look on the bright side. Practice optimism skills for your health and happiness.

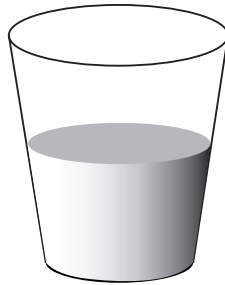
The three R's of Change....

Recover, Refocus, Regenerate

Major work and life changes are common, yet difficult. To survive and thrive:

HR

DIALOGUE



www.pbcc.cc.fl.us/hr

Recover

Identify the change- major changes such as divorce or significant but smaller changes such as new job duties. Notice any stress symptoms such as appetite changes, headaches or insomnia.

Refocus

Look at "the big picture" of change. Whether you feel sad, angry or relieved, accept your feelings as part of the process.

Regenerate

Get extra rest. Limit alcohol and smoking, eat properly and exercise. Spend some time alone or visit with friends.

Please call the Center for Family Services at 1-800-404-7690, ext. 1 for more information.

Welcome new employees

From left to right are: (front row) Teresa Chambers, department technician, Lake Worth; Amanda LeBlanc, student services specialist representative I, Palm Beach Gardens; Marjorie Simon, learning specialist, Palm Beach Gardens; Diane Cotignola, student services specialist III, Palm Beach Gardens (back row) Andrew Barrett, financial aid specialist II, Lake Worth; Terry Delp, program specialist II, Palm Beach Gardens; David Glennen, groundskeeper, Lake Worth; Isaiah Fleurimond, clerical worker, Palm Beach Gardens; Gwen Nicholson, program specialist II, Palm Beach Gardens; Tara Leakey, administrative assistant I, Lake Worth and Jay Sommer, program coordinator, Lake Worth;



From left to right are: Diana Reh, library assistant I, Lake Worth; George Surducan, student services specialist I, Lake Worth; Diane Hess, student services specialist I, Lake Worth; Rachel McClanahan, program specialist II, Lake Worth; Moises Vargas, lead security guard, Lake Worth; Felix Martinez, groundskeeper I, Lake Worth and Edward Mueller, admissions coordinator, Lake Worth.



ADJUNCT FACULTY POSITIONS

BELLE GLADE

Composition/Literature, ESOL/English; Biology, Physical Science.

Welding or diesel engine and heavy equipment repair and maintenance (West Technical Education Center)

BOCA RATON

Managerial & Financial Accounting; Microcomputer Applications, Visual Basics, Health; Art, Art Appreciation, Graphic Design (Advertising Design, QuarkXPress, Typography), Photography, Speech. Intermediate & College Algebra, ESOL, English, Math and Reading Prep.

LAKE WORTH

Visual Basic and other related courses; English; French & Spanish; Health Concepts and Strategies (master's in field or master's with 18 hours in health), Health Care (BSN or physical/respiratory therapist); Applied music (Baritone Horn, Bassoon, Cello, Clarinet, Flute, French Horn, Guitar, Viola, Violin, Percussion, Woodwinds); Art History/Appreciation, Architect/Engineer; Class Piano,

JOBLINE

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Palm Beach Community College

Office of Human Resources

www.pbcc.cc.fl.us/hr

The following is a listing of position vacancies for the College District as of

November 5 2001

Graphic Design, Interior Design, Philosophy, Photography, Speech Communications, Introduction to Electronic Music II, Studio/Fine Arts; Intermediate & College Algebra, Calculus, Statistics; Nursing: (Psychiatric, Obstetrics, Pediatrics Medical Surgical); Astronomy, Physics; American History. English, Math and Reading Prep.

PALM BEACH GARDENS

Radiography Labs; Photography; Speech Communications; Film/TV/Video; Intermediate and College Algebra, Statistics; Math and Reading Prep.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

(Adjunct Faculty Openings)

Business Office Occupations; Business Office Occupations, tutor; Business Office Occupations, program specialist; Child Care; Children First; clinical instructors/Paramedic Programs; substitute instructors; Commercial Art; Commercial Foods; Computers; Customer Service; Dental Assisting/Clinical; Drafting; Electronic Technician; Insurance; Massage Therapy; Medical Assisting; Medical Coder/Medical Transcription; Patient Care Technician; Practical Nursing and

Surgical Technology.

Certain positions may not be available at all locations. Check the Web site for details.

How to apply:

Applicants may apply at the Human Resources Department or mail letters of intent to: Human Resources, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, FL 33461. Applicants also may apply online at www.pbcc.cc.fl.us. The application and instructions are on the Human Resources Web site. Please reference the BP# that is assigned to the position. Clerical testing is given from 8 a.m. 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For more information, call (561) 439-8017.

Drug testing is required as a condition of employment for all applicants being offered full-time positions. A criminal background investigation will be conducted on all full-time personnel. Palm Beach Community College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veterans Preference/ADA Employer. A copy of a transcript is required for consideration of all faculty and professional positions that require degrees.

Professional	Location	Min. Salary	Classified	Location	Min. Salary
Librarian (PT)	Belle Glade	\$17/hr	Administrative Asst. II	Lake Worth	\$20,600/yr
Program Spec. (PT)	Lake Worth	\$15.05/hr	Clerk/Info Tech. (PT)	Lake Worth	\$9.07/hr
Senior Research Analyst	Lake Worth	\$34,400/yr	Clerk/Info Tech. (PT)	Lake Worth	\$8.72/hr
Student Services Spec. II	Lake Worth	\$28,500/yr	Electronic Systems Tech. I	Lake Worth	\$37,200/yr
Teacher Asst. (4-PT)	Palm Beach Gardens	\$8/hr	Media Assistant II	Lake worth	\$18,600/yr
Teacher I	Palm Beach Gardens	\$19,200/yr	Office Assistant II	Lake Worth	\$10.42/hr
			Painter I	Lake Worth	\$25,900/yr
			College Info Center Spec.	Lake Worth	\$23,500/yr

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Currently the College has 37 Business Partnership Councils with 511 participating business and industry representatives. These councils meet at least twice a year. They also play an active role in the College's state mandated Level II Program Review process.

The Business Partnership Council partners with College and industry representatives to create strong, viable and responsive training programs for the economic development of Palm Beach County. They provide a community link that assists instructional personnel, maintain a high knowledge of current workplace needs and keep the College informed as to the level of equipment needed to keep pace with changing industry needs.

FACC Update

- The Office of College Relations and Marketing received an FACC Award of Excellence for outstanding concept, design and content in the radio spot category during the state convention in October. The award from FACC's Institutional Advancement Commission was for a radio ad written by **Toni Wolf**, college relations and marketing specialist. The ad was for the drafting and design program and aired earlier this year.
- **Jeff Peters** was re-elected to a second term as vice president of commissions for the FACC after running unopposed. PBCC also elected some new officers for the local chapter.

They include: **Nwafajoku O. Uwadibie**, vice president for Boca Raton, **Sandi Barrett**, vice president for Palm Beach Gardens and **Cy Samuels** was reelected as treasurer.

- The Executive committee of the PBCC Chapter of FACC voted recently to add \$200 from the chapter funds to the Scholarship Fund. One hundred dollars will be designated for a PBCC Fire Academy student and \$100 will be designated for a PBCC Criminal Justice student to assist with their educational expenses in 2002. The decision was made in honor of the firefighters and police officers who lost their lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America.

Foundation Update

Foundation kicks off season with partnership message

Key PrivateBank/McDonald Investments hosted a season-opening reception for the PBCC Foundation at the Harriet Himmel Gilman Theater at CityPlace Oct. 18.

The networking event, which drew more than 100 supporters of the College, highlighted the benefits of productive partnerships.

"Our bank is totally dedicated to this community, and we are especially impressed with how PBCC is reaching

out and making a difference," said Jeanette Horn, vice president of Key PrivateBank. "Key is proud of our relationship with the PBCC Foundation, and look forward to working together for the benefit of Palm Beach County."

During the welcome presentation, Dr. Dennis Gallon noted that the PBCC Foundation has taken an aggressive posi-

tion to support the College and expand its mission. "We are now able to offer more

programs and services, and as a result, our enrollment is increasing dramatically," he said.

During the two-hour reception, PBCC student ambassadors mixed with the guests, sharing the school's vision, and their respective fields of study.

SAFETY TIPS

HOW READY ARE YOU?

Here are some things to consider when you return from the holidays and start the new term:

▶ Does your family know your schedule and how to reach you in an emergency any time throughout your workday?

▶ Do you know the College offices or individuals to contact if a student exhibits behaviors that impede a class session?

▶ Do you know the location of the closest emergency phone and what type or level of response it brings?

A Safe Campus is No Accident

▶ Do you know the referral process for students with personal issues unrelated to the course (illness, divorce etc.)?

▶ Do you plan to instruct your students on evacuation procedures and identify for them the safe assembly area outside?

It's better to get prepared on the shore in the daylight than try to do these things in the dark during the storm.

Perspectives Deadlines

PBCC's employee newsletter, **Perspectives**, is produced by the Office of College Relations & Marketing. The **deadlines** for information are the **1st** and the **15th** of each month. Send us your upcoming events, news stories, awards, achievements and good news, including photographs, preferably prints with a brief description and identification of the photos to CRM.

Please send items to CRM:

Mail Station #25,
fax 439-8318 or

e-mail (text only files) to:

cmmarket@pbcc.cc.fl.us

