



Community colleges meeting needs...with speed

Many get SUCCEED grants from Florida

Almost everyone knows that our country is facing a severe shortage of teachers. It is a critical situation and one that has been developing for many years. Not only is

needs of an education system and a business world thirsting for a talented labor pool. But, the good news is that the Community Colleges react and respond. In the last couple of years, community colleges developed baccalaureate degrees and certificate programs in Education and also created technical courses of study. Online courses were added and facilities were

expanded to meet the growing needs of the corporate demand that has been building in the workplace. There are examples of community colleges working with labor unions to educate and re-deploy people into the workforce. Colleges have added bus transportation and even child-care facilities to their campuses.

“React and respond they did...and Florida noticed!”

there a problem with a teacher shortage, there are insufficient number of educated, professional and capable workers in dozens of vital categories. The economy of the State of Florida depends on a trained and accessible workforce

That’s where community colleges come in! Think about what it would take to develop a program that can address the overwhelming

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Leadership Meetings set FACC agenda for 2007

The annual Leadership Conference that brings together the FACC board, commission, council and chapter officers took place on February 8-9, at the Association’s offices in Tallahassee. Nearly 100 energetic and enthusiastic leaders attended this important meeting from community colleges throughout “The Great 28.”

While the meeting is designed to be a planning session for FACC’s leadership, it also is an opportunity for idea-sharing, networking

and officer training particularly for those new to their particular positions in the Association.

FACC CEO Mike Comins opened the gathering by providing an overview of activity during the past year as well as a peek at the legislative climate for 2007. He noted that the “lay of the land” will be much different at the State Capitol this year since the recent elections resulted in a new governor and a change in the

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Spring 2007

Florida Association of
Community Colleges
113 College Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 222-3222
www.facc.org

Legislative agenda targets funding increase

When the FACC's brain trust gathered in Tallahassee on February 8-9, 2007, the last thing they expected was to sit inside the chambers and in the seats of the Florida House of Representatives, but that is exactly what they did! The beautiful and elegant setting provided a very appropriate backdrop for the event and was a special treat for the nearly one hundred

officers who attended the FACC Leadership Conference. This special occasion was also filled with informative presentations, detailed strategy summaries and talks that included prospective outcomes from the eyes of the Association's lobbyists.

FACC CEO Mike Comins opened the session with a comprehensive report on the FACC advocacy process and how legislative policy is established. He noted that the state's legislature is in session for just 60 days and that each representative is only allowed to introduce six bills during that time. These constraints make it very difficult to get sponsors for favorable legislation and require that FACC, its lobbyists and members be very focused in their goals and methodologies.

Governor Crist's budget proposal, submitted during the first week of February, includes a funding request for community colleges slightly

less than was hoped for by FACC. However, there will be many adjustments and

modifications before it is presented for final approval later this Spring.

Jim Roy (SJRC) and Susan Lehr (FCCJ), two members of the college lobbyists team, cautioned that "how things are packaged" is often a key reason for failure or success. For example, you can't simply say "we need a raise," you must provide substance and reason, and attach the request to proposals or addenda that make sense to a legislator. The two also urged the FACC membership to build relationships with their legislators in their own neighborhoods by inviting them to events on campus whenever possible. They noted that the days of successful letter-writing and telephone campaigns are over and that effective advocacy is now a result of building personal relationships.

"The days of successful letter-writing and telephone campaigns are over."

The community college Legislative Budget Request approved by the State Board of Education is detailed in the Message from the CEO (see page 6). The FACC goals also include:

- Increasing Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) project funding
- Categorical Public/Private Matching Dollars for scholarships and academic program support
- Continued funding of SUCCEED Florida grants
- Continued funding for Educator Preparation Institutes
- Increased need-based student financial assistance
- Leveling the playing field between Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment
- Improving student progression by reducing excess hours
- Ensuring proper residency determinations
- Maintaining an open climate of academic freedom for faculty and students
- Working cooperatively with technical centers



Mike Comins speaks to FACC members in Florida House Chambers. Thanks to Vivianne Bonsall, Brevard Community College for submitting all pictures in this section.

One example of responsiveness is how quickly and effectively these 28 schools have responded to the state's teacher crisis.

In Florida, where 30,000 teachers per year are needed and our university system is only graduating 6,000, and 10% of existing teachers leave the profession annually, something "had to give." Imagine the effort it would take community colleges to impact an issue with such great consequences in a state where universities have twice as many professors as are in the community college system. But the Colleges did respond, and the Educator Preparation Institute projected to the Department of Education that 1,507 students would earn professional teaching certificates in 2006. The good news is that Tallahassee noticed. As reported in this issue of Current, many of Florida's community colleges received SUCCEED grants from the State of Florida. Through these grants, the Florida Department of Education (DOE) awarded 87 new competitive grants to support new and expanding programs in nursing/allied health, manufacturing, automotive technology and teacher certification in public and private career centers, community colleges and universities — all areas designated by Enterprise Florida and Workforce Florida as targeted sectors for statewide economic development. The SUCCEED program stipulations are as follows: "Funds must be used to support new students and not to supplant current funding ...Funds awarded under this program may be used for personnel, student services, scholarships and financial assistance to students, materials, supplies, advertising, consultants and contracts, and other expenses (excluding construction) associated with increasing the capacity..."

Florida's community colleges: meeting needs, serving our state and addressing the educational demands of a vibrant business community in search of talented and capable employees. FACC is proud of their work and will continue to support their efforts to meet these ongoing needs.

We are VERY proud to report that many of FACC's member colleges were awarded grants last year to develop specialized courses of study to meet Florida's needs including:

Brevard Community College		North Florida Community College	
Associate Degree Nursing	\$390,000	Associate Degree in Nursing	\$561,303
Apprenticeship Expansion	\$171,303	Okaloosa-Walton College	
Broward Community College		Radiography Tech/Emergency Management	\$355,567
Automotive Technology	\$362,749	Higher Education and Employment	\$76,460
Daytona Beach Community College		Palm Beach Community College	
Building Construction Trades	\$142,748	Biotechnology Initiative	\$406,303
Medical Laboratory Tech Certificates	\$220,000	Child Care – Spanish Speaking	\$155,000
Edison College		Pasco-Hernando Community College	
Nursing Program	\$561,303	E-Business Technology	\$143,095
Florida Community College at Jacksonville		Pensacola Junior College	
Network Administrator	\$561,303	Building Construction Specialist	\$538,851
Florida Keys Community College		Polk Community College	
Nursing RN	\$444,158	Respiratory Care	\$561,303
Gulf Coast Community College		St. Johns River Community College	
Career Advancement in Specialized Healthcare	\$301,688	Nursing	\$230,012
Hillsborough Community College		Computer Engineering Technology	\$141,392
Registered Nurse Partnership Program	\$241,734	St. Petersburg College	
Indian River Community College		Registered Nurse	\$362,749
Homeland Security Academy	\$161,297	Santa Fe Community College	
Pre-Health Science Academy	\$100,000	Life Sciences	\$362,749
Institute of Culinary Arts Expansion	\$100,000	Seminole Community College	
Lake-Sumter Community College		Healthcare Program Expansion	\$300,652
Nursing RN	\$186,302	AS in Wireless Technology	\$260,650
Electrical Distribution	\$375,000	South Florida Community College	
Manatee Community College		Nursing	\$362,749
AS Nursing Degree	\$349,160	Valencia Community College	
Miami Dade College		Digital Media Technology	\$149,670
Biosciences Job Growth Initiative	\$362,749		

composition of many key committees. He reported that Governor Crist has submitted a budget and that modifications will be forthcoming after the legislature convenes on March 6th. Mike said that FACC will be

working for an increase in community college funding and that he would be addressing the Association's specific goals during the legislative portion of the meeting (*see FACC legislative agenda targets funding increase, page 2*).

Following his overview from the

CEO, Comins had his first opportunity to introduce the 2007 FACC President, Dr. Jeff Albritten, to the membership. Jeff encouraged members to stand ready in case of a call to action and urged leaders to seek ways to involve their commission, council and chapter officers in the Association's activities, particularly advocacy efforts. He announced that the three goals for his term will be:

- Getting members more involved in advocacy efforts;
- Increasing membership;
- Communicating more effectively with all FACC members and groups.

Jeff spoke about the community colleges' very positive role in solving the state's teacher shortage (*see feature article, on page 1*) and how quickly "The Great 28" have responded to issues like these in the state. He noted that 60% of Florida's teachers started as community college students.

Chancellor David Armstrong spoke briefly about the success of the 2+2 system and the

fact that other states are interested in Florida's innovative programs like these. He congratulated FACC on taking leadership roles in helping the state deal with teacher shortages and in representing community colleges with the State Legislature.

Karen Pickles, Awards Committee Chair, Vivianne Bonsall and Joanne Hutton, Membership Development Committee Co-chairs, offered insights into their committees' work and described how leaders can work with them to carry out the missions of their committees.

The 2007 Leadership Conference was a great success both in terms of attendance and participation. Melanie Morgan-Jackson of South Florida Community College summed up the sentiments of many attendees when she said, "The conference was fun and informative. The icebreaker from Marsha (Kiner, FACC COO) really got us off to a great start by allowing us to mingle the room and meet others in a fun way. Another highlight for me was the networking opportunities. I was able to connect with some employees from other institutions who perform similar tasks at their institution. We were able to share ideas and futuristic thoughts on our areas. I also loved the morning session on Friday. Not only did we get terrific legislative information and become motivated by our guest speaker, but we got to sit in the 'real' house chamber seats. I've already got the pictures, as I knew my co-workers would never believe me if I told the story!"

Capping this special day was the visit to the FACC offices and a first-ever "open house" for the facility. Members witnessed first-hand how beautiful and prestigious the new headquarters location is and were impressed by what they saw. Dr. Gary Sligh of Lake Sumter Community College commented, "I certainly enjoyed the lovely reception and a look at the offices. I suppose the thing that strikes me most about the offices is their absolutely prime location with respect to the



FACC leaders participate in Leadership Conference held at the Tallahassee Community College Capitol Center.

"FACC has had a very positive role in solving the state's teacher shortage."

the State Capitol and lawmakers. It is encouraging to see FACC as a presence there so near to the Capitol and to know that our FACC staff is part of the heartbeat of the state government as it operates in Tallahassee. I was proud to see that presence exhibited so prominently there on my behalf.” FACC is fortunate to have such involved and supportive members.



Dr. Jeff Albritten, FACC President, and the Executive Committee meet with Association leaders (left). Attendees listen to Mike Comins, FACC CEO, in the House Chambers (right).

...LEGISLATIVE continued from page 1

FACC will be moving forward in these areas and will keep members informed through this publication, *Perception* (a weekly legislative update), and our new website, due in late March or early April 2007.

A special thank you to Dr. William D. Law, president of Tallahassee Community College as well as Bridget Ellwell and Chris Burney of the TCC Capitol Center staff for generously donating our meeting space and helping to make the arrangements for this event. TCC chapter members Renee Maples, Randey Burnette and Rita Dickey also deserve recognition for their efforts and hospitality. FACC also would like to thank Jim Roy, Representative Joe Pickens and Jack Hall for their assistance in helping us secure the House Chambers for our event.



FACC members Joanne Hutton and Vivianne Bonsall (left) and Marsha Kiner, FACC COO (right), at the Legislative Conference.

Message from the CEO

So much has happened in the past year, it's hard to know where to begin this message! For starters, I am very happy to report that the Association is prospering and there are some very exciting changes on the horizon. Your Board has put in place a strategy that will enhance membership benefits and promote the community colleges in Tallahassee and around the state. It is exciting for the staff and me to be a part of this period of growth and membership service in the life of FACC.



Michael Comins
FACC CEO

Legislative News

In this issue of *Current*, you will find several reports on the February 8-9 "Leadership Conference" that took place in Tallahassee. Your Board, several committees and trustees dealt with dozens of key issues facing the Association. Among them were legislative strategies and 2007 budget proposals that will impact Florida's community colleges. You can find the entire list of bills FACC is tracking on your behalf on the *new* FACC website at www.facc.org. However, highlights of Governor Crist's first proposed budget are:

- A total funding increase of \$66.4 million, an increase of 6% over the current base budget
- A college operating budget increase of 5.4% in state funds
- The highest per-FTE funding in the history of the System at \$3,991 per FTE. This is an increase of \$220 or 5.8%.
- An amount of \$58.2 million is recommended for Capacity - improved access, salary compensation, funding the Community College Formula
- \$4.2 million in new state revenues is recommended to fund the Educator Preparation Institutes. This alternative form of certification will be a major source of producing new classroom teachers to alleviate the public school teacher shortage in Florida
- Succeed Grants for Workforce Program were funded in the amount of \$20 million. These grants are used for start up funds for such professions as nursing, teaching and emerging technologies.
- Student tuition will remain constant as proposed in the Governor's Budget.
- The Governor recommended \$6 million for First Generation in College Scholarships, an increase of \$1 million.
- The Dr. Philip Benjamin State Matching Program was fully funded in the amount of \$39.1 million

"...a new website will be unveiled...completed by late March 2007..."

New Website

As mentioned in the last issue of *Current*, we are in the process of completely overhauling our computer systems to ensure that the data is fully-integrated and in order to dramatically upgrade our services to members. We are in the data conversion stage right now and it is our goal to have the entire process completed by late March 2007. While you will not see any change in our website or online services until then, I

can promise you that in April you will be impressed! As part of this process, a new website will be unveiled that will enable members to register for conferences and convention online, pay dues electronically and update their own profile information, among other enhancements. I eagerly anticipate the "ribbon cutting" on our new system as we update our computer systems and website, and enhance services to members.

Publications and public relations

Another major change you will see this year will be in the areas of publications and public relations. For years, we have done great things and had many successes as a collective group, but we only tell our story to the community college world. We will be developing a public relations effort this year that will begin to inform the general public about our activities and the good work being done by FACC members in cities and colleges across the state.

Our publications also will be undergoing a facelift in 2007. For many years, *Current* has been supported by member dues and since 2006 been an electronic publication. We are planning to work with our affiliate members to determine if a higher-quality, published version of the magazine would be of interest and if it could be supported by advertising revenues. If so, we

Message from the President

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I am honored to be writing to you for the first time as your president. My election in Tampa in 2005 was a very special time for me, and the days and months since have seemed like a whirlwind! However, the Florida Legislature is reconvening soon and it is time to get to the serious business of representing your interests in Tallahassee and enhancing the long list of benefits every FACC member enjoys.

The first "executive decision" I would like to issue is a call for members to stand ready in case they are needed. Whether it is a legislative issue that requires the strength of letter-writing or personal visits, or a volunteer to assist in helping with one of the many FACC meetings, events and community outreach programs, we need your help! I spoke to one "observer" at our Tampa convention last year and he told me that he had never seen so much member involvement and participation at an association event. That was quite a compliment coming from a person who had served as an association executive for more than twenty years and had managed dozens of similar events! The not-so-good news is that, for whatever reason, the high level of member participation has not always translated into the FACC advocacy effort. I don't mean to be critical, but I do want to send out an urgent plea to every member of the Association! Get involved, volunteer, write letters and help us achieve our legislative goals for the benefit of FACC, every Florida community college, and yourself!

I was able to talk a little about my goals as your president during my acceptance speech in Tampa. Several involve our advocacy efforts since we have a new governor, a revamped legislature and many new key committee leaders. With that new environment, we all need to work together to succeed in Tallahassee. However, there are other areas of membership service I would like to impact during my tenure.

First, as Mike Comins mentioned in his message (*page 6*), we are entering an exciting time in the life of the Association in terms of our data management, communications and website presence. I am very excited about these developments and encourage every member to utilize the dramatically improved benefits that can be accessed later in the Spring.

Second, with the incredible work being done by FACC and the modest cost to belong, there is no reason that we do not have EVERY community college employee in our ranks. I will be working with each of you to increase our membership and, therefore, our effectiveness and ability to do even greater things!

Third, I want to tag onto what Mike said about public relations. We need to do a much better job of telling the story of Florida's great community colleges! I intend to put a very focused emphasis on working with colleges and the media to make every young person and their parents understand that community colleges are a high quality education source in our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president. I encourage all of you to get involved in FACC as we endeavor to move forward on these, and many other missions this year!

Jeff Allbritten, FACC President

...CEO MESSAGE continued from page 6

could move forward with our plans to create a first-class, color magazine that would be informative and help to promote the community college causes and employees.

Watch for great changes this year! I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming FACC event!

Mike Comins, FACC CEO



FACC President
Dr. Jeffrey Allbritten

"Get involved, volunteer, write letters and help us achieve our legislative goals..."

President

News from the members...

HENRI SUE BYNUM has become the President of Academic Affairs at Indian River Community College.

LINDA P. CROLEY becomes the Dean of Student Services for Lake City Community College.

DR. CHARLES HALL has received the 2006 Richard L. McLaughlin Award for Volunteer of the Year, District #2, from the Florida Economic Development Council. Dr. Hall is President of Lake City Community College.

DR. ANNETTE HUTCHINSON was named Nursing Program Director by Polk Community College.

JEANNE JACOBS, President of Miami Dade College's Homestead Campus, was appointed to the American Council of Education's Office of Women in Higher Education.

DR. DOLORES TETER has been appointed Acting Associate Provost, Caruth Health Education Center, St. Petersburg College (Tarpon Springs Campus).

STAN VITTETOE was recently named Senior Vice President, Administration and Personnel for St. Petersburg College.

TONJUA WILLIAMS assumed the post of Provost for St. Petersburg College Tarpon Springs Campus.

Been promoted or have great news? Share it by sending the details to FACCpublications@aol.com!

News from our Community Colleges...

BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE announced that it will construct a unique historic structure at its Titusville campus to showcase historic structures that were in danger of being demolished but now serve new purposes.

LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE has received a \$241,500 grant to fund alternative certification preparation for math and science professionals from North Central Florida. The grant was awarded by the National Science Foundation Robert Noyce Scholarship fund.

2007 Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

21-22 Trustees' Annual Legislative Conference
22-23 Presidents Council--Tallahassee
23 Region III Conference, LSCC South Lake Campus

MARCH

6 Opening Day of the 2007 Regular Legislative Session
22-23 Presidents Council--Tallahassee

APRIL

6 FACC SPRING HOLIDAY--Offices closed
6 Region I Conference, GCCC
13 Region IV Conference, PCC
13 Faculty Commission joint conference, PCC
20 Region II Conference, FCCJ
26-27 President's Council, Tallahassee

MAY

10-11 Curriculum Commission, Institutional Effectiveness Commissions Conferences, SJRCC
16-18 Student Development Commission Conference, SJRCC
18 Facilities Commission Conference, SPC EpiCenter
24-25 Presidents Council, Tampa
28 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY--Offices closed
31-June 1 Institutional Advancement, Technology, and Learning Resources Commissions joint conferences, SPC

JUNE

5-7 Adult and Continuing Education Commission

Conference, Sanibel Island

13-15 Presidents Council Retreat, PGA National Resort, Palm Beach

JULY

4 Independence Day Holiday--FACC Offices Closed
11 Career and Professional Employees and Administration Commissions conferences, Location, TBA (in conjunction with Membership Workshop)
12-13 FACC Membership Development Workshop, Location, TBA
13 FACC Board of Directors Meeting, Location, TBA
26-27 Council of Presidents, Location TBA

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

3 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY-- FACC Offices Closed
26 Board of Directors Meeting (tentative), Location TBA
27 Legislative Summit, Location, TBA
27-28 Council of Presidents, Location TBA

OCTOBER

25-26 Council of Presidents, Location TBA

NOVEMBER

22-23 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY-- FACC Offices Closed

DECEMBER

17-Jan. 1, 2008-- WINTER HOLIDAYS -- FACC Offices Closed

Encountering John Adams: Braintree and Boston

*A One-Week NEH Landmarks Workshop for Community College Teachers
First Session July 8-14, 2007; Second Session, July 15-21, 2007*

The workshop is devoted to studying John Adams' life and thought as revealed in the letters, essays and documents he wrote, the marginal notes he made in the books he read, the homes he lived in and the artifacts he collected. Reading his words and considering his deeds in his very own physical surroundings helps us to understand his frame of mind and recognize the great difficulties and challenges he faced. We read the Massachusetts Constitution in the room in which he drafted it; climb Penns Hill and look out at Boston harbor from the same spot where Abigail Adams watched the battle of Bunker Hill and described it in letters to him; sit in the small kitchen in which John hosted meetings of revolutionary leaders; and inspect the art works he acquired abroad and treat them as clues regarding the impact that European culture had upon his thoughts and feelings.

In addition to intensive work at the Adams National Historical Park, participants do hands-on research activities at the Massachusetts Historical Society which houses the Adams Papers, the Massachusetts Archives which houses the Massachusetts Constitution and documents relating to its ratification, and the Boston Public Library which houses his personal library. Four seminar meetings provide a thread of analytic and chronological continuity and integrate the specific lessons learned at the landmarks.

Each participant has his or her own room in a modern and well maintained dormitory suite at Boston College. The campus is close to several trolley lines that provide good access to downtown Boston and Cambridge. Each participant receives a \$500 stipend to help cover housing and meal expenses and a travel subsidy to help meet transportation expenses.

Joint Spring Conference set for later this spring

Who: Technology, Institutional Advancement, and Learning Resources Commissions

Where: St. Petersburg College, Seminole Campus and Holiday Inn Hotel Harbourside, Indian Rocks Beach, FL

Dates: May 31 – June 1, 2007

Spring Region IV Conference set for April 13th

The Polk Community College chapter of FACC is busy preparing for the Spring Region IV Conference. The conference will be held on

When: Friday, April 13th

Where: Polk Community College Campus, Winter Haven, FL

The chapter will have a dynamic Key Note speaker in the morning, a delicious lunch and interesting breakout sessions to choose from in the afternoon as well as valuable door prizes as always! Plan to stay over and enjoy beautiful Cypress Gardens located here in Winter Haven. There will be discount coupons available. Hotel and Restaurant information will also be provided. The chapter hopes to see you in April!

*For more information
please check our website
[www.bc.edu/sites/
johnadams](http://www.bc.edu/sites/johnadams) or email us at
adams.landmarks@gmail.com.*

DBCC damaged by tornado...

The Deland Campus of Daytona Beach was damaged by a tornado that hit on February 2, 2007. The college set a reserve today of \$1.5million for estimated. Roofing will be, as usual, the big issue.

At the same time, a lot of people deserve a big thank you for their efforts after the storm. Randy Spiwak, and the entire staff at DBCC, moved quickly with an excellent contractor and by Saturday p.m. all exposed buildings with roof damage were dried in with temporary roofing. The Deland Campus

reopened February 5th. The emergency plans and execution were outstanding and, no doubt, saved the college and Consortium additional lost dollars. Our information indicates FEMA has been authorized for Volusia County for Category A and B damages. This would include debris removal and emergency preparations.

Manager and our GBS adjuster, Cheryl Fountaine. (Cheryl was at the scene and supplied these photos). Chancellor David Armstrong is coordinating for GBS (our adjusting firm) and J.S.Held Company (our roofing engineers). They will begin working with the college and their contractor (who did a remarkable job) to complete the long-term repairs in record time.

This was just an outstanding effort by everyone involved with the college... our thanks to all and our prayers go out to all the victims.

More scenes from the tornado...



Sports Concession Fundraiser at FCCJ

The FCCJ Chapter is currently participating in a fundraising partnership with the FCCJ Athletics Program. FACC members at each of FCCJ's five campuses (Downtown, Kent, North, Open and South) are taking turns manning the concession stand at the basketball games this season. It's a fun activity and the chapter enjoys watching the men's and women's basketball Stars. The Chapter will receive 40% of the proceeds at the end of the season. The chapter is exploring the possibility of running the concession stand at the baseball games as well.

Pictured here, from FCCJ's North Campus, are: Preston Hodges (son of Catherine), Kerry Roth, retiree Harry Hodges, Catherine Hodges (no Harry and Catherine, are not related).



LSCC's FACC Halloween Bash!

LSCC's Pumpkin Carving Contest and Pie Fundraiser was in conjunction with Student Life's annual Pumpkin Bowling competition and Pizza with the President. The bash was held Wednesday, October 25 at the Leesburg Campus. Students, Faculty and Staff were asked to bring their carved pumpkins to the Pumpkin Carving Contest for their chance to win the prize for Best Carved Pumpkin. Pumpkin Bowling was open to any Student, Faculty or Staff member. They had to get together 3 people for a team and see if they could win the coveted Pumpkin Bowling

Trophy! While that competition was going on they could enjoy a slice of homemade pie, and help support FACC scholarship fund. Following the bowling and pumpkin carving competition, students were invited to Pizza with the President where they could join an open forum with Dr. Mojock, LSCC President, give input on student issues and concerns, and enjoy FREE PIZZA!!

LSCC Bake Sale - Erin O'Steen Activities Co-Chair (left) and Tim Kane, FACC Chapter President (right)



CFCC installs news officers, supports charities

CFCC's chapter of FACC had its annual officer installation luncheon on Wednesday, January 24. The chapter had a record turnout of over 80 members for this catered affair. Dr. Dassance, CFCC President swore in the new FACC executive board.

FACC is again sponsoring a fundraiser for the March of Dimes. **Blue Jeans for Babies.** Money raised goes to the March of Dimes to help prevent birth defects. This year it will be during the months of March and April, starting on Friday (March 2) and ending on Friday, April 27, (we skip Spring Break week). FACC encourages members to join in making a "fashion statement that saves babies" in Pink + Blue Jeans for Babies. FACC will be participating in the United Way Day of Caring on Feb 24 at Evangeline Booth Gardens, an apartment complex of independent seniors managed by the Salvation Army. Activities include taking residents shopping, washing cars, moving furniture, replacing light bulbs, washing and cutting hair, working in their gardens, etc. This will be the eighth consecutive year. FACC kicked off their fundraising by offering chocolate roses for Valentines Day. Last year, the chapter ran out of roses, so it ordered more this year. It is an inexpensive and tasty way to show someone you care.

FACC Chapter Helps Meet Pappas' Goal

MCC FACC Chapter Activities for February 2007:

- February Carnation Fundraiser for Valentines Day (the local chapter sold flowers with a profit of over \$1000 for our scholarship fund)
- Participation in Tallahassee Leadership meeting Feb 8-9th (Sue McDougal, our Past President attended).
- Support Our Sports - the MCC basketball team (On Feb. 24th, the local chapter will attend the basketball game and make lots of noise; afterward, the chapter will provide a dinner for the players and coaches)

Other spring activities:

- Participation in Career Employee Development Days
- Participation in MCC 50th Anniversary Open Houses in April and May

The MCC Chapter of the Florida Association of Community Colleges (FACC) presented President **Dr. Sarah Pappas** with a \$1,000 check that will be matched by The Foundation for MCC Inc. The money is for four \$500 scholarships for MCC students – a step toward Dr. Pappas' goal of securing 50 scholarships in recognition of MCC's 50th anniversary.

*Have a comment, thought
or question? A story idea?
FACCpublications@aol.com!*

Book scholarship pays dividends for DBCC Chapter members

For many college employees the benefit of tuition reimbursement is critical to pursuing higher education and perhaps landing a promotion or changing careers. Tuition is not the only expense that needs to be considered though – the cost of textbooks needed for a course can in some cases be as much as or more than the cost of tuition.

In 2001, members of the DBCC Chapter established a scholarship program that provided partial reimbursement for materials such as textbooks or software that were requirements of the courses being taken by members. In order to qualify for the stipend, members must be in good standing for a minimum of one year. Just recently, a total of \$854 was reimbursed to nine members who had taken classes in the fall 2006 semester.

According to longtime member and scholarship committee chair, Linda Sullivan, "We first established the fund with contributions coming from fund raising events such as the Annual Pasta Dinner, State matching funds and other donations directly from members. Hopefully members who are receiving scholarship reimbursements will consider making payroll deductions to this fund to benefit future recipients."

Taking over the helm for 2007 is Chapter President, Dr. Theodore Sofianos. "Without employer tuition reimbursement and scholarship programs like this, the cost of pursuing a higher degree would probably be out of reach for most DBCC employees," commented Ted. "The continuation of the FACC Book Scholarship program will be my priority this year along with raising funds to assist delegates to attend conferences and the annual convention."

Spirit of the Season at FCCJ

The FCCJ Chapter of FACC sponsored the 2nd annual Spirit of the Season Holiday Party on December 2. FCCJ employees and their spouses dined on appetizers and desserts, shared a few drinks with friends, danced to the tunes of the Noel Friedline Quartet, won some great door prizes and enjoyed the camaraderie of the evening.

The Chapter defrayed most of the ticket cost by participating in several fundraisers throughout the year, so that the cost to employees was only \$25 per ticket. The party was attended by about 100 people. The Chapter's goal for 2007 is to increase ticket sales to 150 and reduce the cost to \$20 per ticket for this year's party, which is scheduled for December 1.

Standing: Barbara Felder, Amelia Bowers
Sitting: FCCJ President Steven Wallace, Steve Bowers, Amelia Wallace.



Left to right: Rosa Frazier, Katrina Winfield Howard, Barbara Felder, FACC President Susan Chappell, Staci Roth, Monica Johnson.



GCCC year off to a fast start

Wow, where to begin since Conference. Lets start off by saying the chapter had a great Charity function to support the Panama City Rescue Mission. The Chapter rallied all the employees to gather sweatshirts, hats, and gloves we donated 99 sweatshirts, 20 hats, and 50 pairs of gloves.

The chapter also started a recycling program of used toner cartridges to date raising \$153.90. It also had a Valentines Day fundraiser; selling beautiful carnations and candy boxes filled with all kinds of goodies and balloons. They have also ordered a 4x 6 banner that will advertise all of our supported events. The banner will read "SPONSORED BY FACC." The chapter have also started a monthly newsletter informing everyone on campus what FACC is accomplishing and will accomplish and giving them updates on the legislative issues.

Gulf Coast and FSU have just completed there first Habitat for Humanity house and FACC will be purchasing a Swing Set for the kids to play with in their new backyard. The chapter also have in the first stages of design a T-shirt celebrating Gulf Coast's 50th anniversary and the proceeds of the sale of the shirt will go into the FACC fund.

The chapter also plans to have at least one function per month that will be sponsored by FACC in addition to helping sponsor this year an activity at KidFest, and Relay for Life. They also invited Michael Comins to be part of the Welcome back celebration in August to get the faculty and staff excited about being part of a great organization. The chapter is also starting to work on and organize the Notebook to enter in this year's competition and is currently working on and improving the Gulf Coast, FACC web page so look for new and exciting things in the next few weeks. The chapter has many plans and activities that will be happening this year; you will see great things from this chapter this year.

PHCC announces meeting schedule

PHCC/FACC Chapter scheduled meet/greet meetings at each campus during the first 2 weeks of February. Board members met with FACC members and potential members at each campus (East, North and West).

The chapter is participating in the **Book Scholarship** program for Spring 2007. Kate Planer is chairing and can be contacted at the West Campus for information.

East Campus FACC members sponsored a **football lunch** for February 2nd.

The **Employee Appreciation Flower Sale** will be held during March with the flower delivery March 27th. Jennifer Curtis, West Campus FACC, is chairing this fund/friend maker. Paperwork for requesting/purchasing flowers will be online as well as hard copy available upon request.

PHCC Chapter meetings are held the fourth Friday of each month at alternating PHCC campuses.

The **Change War** fundraiser will be chaired by Phyllis Wrench once again. Phyllis will challenge all campuses during February and the challenge will end March 31st to collect the most change (portion of the money raised will be part of the prize and remainder of funds will go to the chapter).

The chapter members are operating the **concession** at the Performing Arts Center on West Campus during the show season. Volunteers operate the stand during the intermission(s) during the weekend performances. The refreshments are purchased by the chapter, sales reimburse the treasurer and profits are part of the fundraising efforts also are received by the treasurer.

Balloon bouquet(s) is an ongoing effort to promote and raise funds for FACC. Higher visibility of this service is being explored.

In the planning stage(s) are a gift basket raffle (around Mother's Day), money tree/50/50 drawing, safety/first aid kit sales, silent auction (chapter members donating services to be auctioned).

Get your chapter in the news! The next issue of *Current* will be published on June 2nd and the deadline will be April 27th!
Be sure to email your articles and high resolution pictures to FACCpublications@aol.com!

PBCC kicks off year with several networking events

FACC Members and guests gathered at McKenna's Place in Palm Springs, for good food, fun and conversation. The Chapter also sponsored a Happy Hour at McKenna's Place. Pictured at the Social Hour at Rosalitas Mexican Restaurant are: (L to R) Jeannine Burgess, Chapter President, and Dr. Helen Franke, Assistant to the President.



*Come celebrate the past and embrace
the future of student development at the*

40th ANNIVERSARY STUDENT DEVELOPMENT SPRING CONFERENCE

St. Augustine, Florida, May 16-18, 2007

“Celebrate the Past: Embrace the Future,” hosted by St. Johns River Community College, will draw about 150 community college employees including: vice presidents; academic advisors and counselors; admissions, assessment, career development, disabled student services, enrollment management, financial aid, international student recruitment, special populations, student activities and student development personnel; and instructional faculty.

The celebration will begin on Wednesday, May 16th, at 1:00 PM with the “Recognition of Past Chairs”. All of the Past Chairs of the Commission have been invited to participate. Thursday, May 17th, Dr. Armando Ferrer, MDC; Dr. James Martin, PJC; and Dr. Portia Taylor, SFCC will address a few of student development’s “Hot Topics- Past, Present and Future.” This panel of Chief Student Affairs Officers, moderated by Dr. Glen Moore, SJRCC Provost, promises to set the stage for conference participants as they continue to prepare Florida’s students for the “flat world of the 21st century.” No celebration will be complete without a party- “Pierre’s Big Birthday Barbecue Bash.” In the evening, join Dr. Robert L. McLendon, Jr. at the “President’s Reception,” honoring all conference participants. Historic Flagler College will host the Commission on Friday, May 18th, for the “Exemplary Practice Presentations and Awards Luncheon.”

Interspersed throughout the conference will be informative exhibitors, a legislative update, the newcomer orientation, numerous professional development sessions, a restaurant hop and Ancient City tour, Pierre’, the parrot, and much more.

For complete information including the Call for Programs and Conference and Hotel registration information, visit www.facc.org/SDC/Index.htm, or contact Sally Myers, Chair, at sallymyers@sjrcc.edu or 386-312-4037. If you’d like to be add Conference Sponsor, contact Charlene Latimer, Past Chair, at latimec@dbcc.edu.

See you in St. Augustine!

*Visit [www.facc.org/SDC/
Index.htm](http://www.facc.org/SDC/Index.htm) for more
information about this
important conference.*



CURRENT Deadlines 2007

Deadline

April 27
July 14
August 28
November 17

Publish

June 2
August 10
September 28
December 8

Florida Association of Community Colleges
113 East College Avenue
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 222-FACC (3222)
(85) 222-2327 (Fax)
www.facc.org

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