



**President Carol Quinn receives her Presidential Plaque from CEO Michael Comins and Incoming CEO Michael Brawer.**

## Convention a GREAT success!

More than 400 FACC members from across the state assembled for the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual FACC Convention at the International Plaza in Orlando to "Reflect on the Past, and Focus on the Future." In a year unlike any other, change characterized the state of the community college system like never before. With the establishment of the Florida College System, the hiring of a new CEO, and the various colleges name changes throughout the state, it has been an extraordinary year.

FACC 2008 President Carol Quinn (PJC) presided over convention with good humor and enthusiasm. The fun began on Wednesday during the Opening Session when the hotel's fire alarms activated sending more than 300 people out into the street. Fortunately, there was no fire. President Carol Quinn showcased her usual quick wit when she told the crowd that if the alarms went off a third time, everyone should meet for beverages and just enjoy the rest of the afternoon! After much laughter, the program continued with the announcement of the winners of the

Chancellor's Exemplary Practice Awards, the President's State of the Association of Address, the recognition of the Honorary Life Award winners, and the candidates for state office speeches.

Convention was filled with activities and events including commission and region meetings, educational/professional development sessions, social events, and the trade show. Again the exemplary practice sessions were noteworthy. Presentations by experts both within the system and from out of state signified that the depth and quality of these sessions were exceptional. Opportunities to network, share ideas and collaborate with colleagues from around the state were plentiful. For the more than 90 first-time attendees, coming together throughout convention to discuss issues and share best practices was invigorating.

*...CONVENTION continued on page 2*

## Convention News



**Enjoying the Cruise and Casino Party**



**Enjoying the Presidential Gala!**

...CONVENTION continued from page 1

At Thursday night's Presidential Gala, Gulf Power CEO Susan Story highlighted the need for Florida's colleges to continue to provide access and higher education opportunities to students in the state. She told the crowd about her experience as a community college student in Alabama and the difference community college made in her life. On Friday, FCCAA joined FACC again this year to present its annual Hall of Fame Awards at the Closing Luncheon.

Other major awards announced included the Chapter of the Year, Indian River State College, Commission of the Year, Student Development, and the Region of the Year, Region IV. We also salute Professor of the Year Susan Taylor of North Florida Community College. Congratulations to all our winners!

Convention would not be possible without the hard work and support of our region directors and their committees. Once again, they contributed to the success of the convention by staffing and planning many convention tasks, and we are grateful. Thanks also are due to our sponsors and exhibitors whose contributions help make our Convention possible year after year.

From the entire FACC staff, a big thank you to those who attended, presented, assisted, and collaborated on the 59th Annual Convention.

### Testament to a great Convention!

What a pleasure it was to participate in my first FACC Convention. The time and effort that was put into getting our new Association Management System updated and in service for our members was definitely worth it. Everyone who attended had the opportunity to use the new online registration feature that was announced in the December 2006 Post Convention issue of Current. The new registration system allowed us to quickly post check and credit card payments, to register people quickly and efficiently on-site, and overall helped the process flow smoothly.

The Registration Office was a blast to work in and I want to thank Sylvia Campbell from PJC and her Region I team for being so helpful! We did not lack for volunteers to keep everything straight and in running order. They kept all of the attendees spirits uplifted with a big smile and a hearty, "Welcome to Convention!" Thank you to Bobbi Moran, CFCC and Joyce Traynom, Chipola for their continued dedication and help with credentials. I want to thank everyone for putting up with my quirky sense of humor as well ladies.

I also want to thank the FACC State Office team of Michael Comins, Marsha Kiner, Eileen Johnson and Tina Ingram who work so hard every year and for making my first FACC Convention experience awesome!

*Adrienne Bryant*  
*Membership Database Coordinator*

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 Doug Ryan Consulting

## 2008 Award Winners

### *Trustee of the Year*

Mr. Thomas Huggins, III, Hillsborough Community College

### *Finalists:*

Ms. Carey Goodman, Florida Keys Community College  
 Mr. Frank Messersmith, Tallahassee Community College  
 Mr. Frank Stafford, Central Florida Community College

### *Outstanding FACC Board Member Award*

Ms. Evelyn Ward, Chipola College

### *Dr. James L. Wattenbarger Award Winner*

Mr. Ron Fahs

### *FACC Honorary Life Award Winners*

Dr. Jeff Allbritten, FACC Past President  
 Mr. Ron Fahs, Director of Facilities Planning and Budgeting at the Division of Community Colleges, retired  
 Dr. Thomas Delaino, President of Pensacola Junior College, retired  
 Dr. Robert McLendon, President of St. Johns River Community College, retired  
 Dr. Sarah Pappas, President of Manatee Community College, retired  
 Mr. Morris Steen, President of North Florida Community College, retired  
 Mr. Ed Cisek, Vice Chancellor for Financial Policy at the Division of Community Colleges, retired  
 Dr. Patricia Windham, Associate Vice Chancellor for Education, Division of Community Colleges, retired

### *Rural Campuses Commission Exemplary Practice Award*

Dr. Richard Morrill, Sumter Campus Librarian;  
*Project:* Teaching Fallacies at Sumter Campus

### *Faculty Commission Award Winners*

### *Professor of the Year*

Professor Susan Taylor,  
 English Instructor, North Florida Community College  
 "Time Management for College Students"

### *Finalists:*

Adam C. Gifford, MBA, MHRM  
 Economics & Business Instructor, Lake-Sumter Community College  
 "Who the Heck is Beardsley Rum?"  
 Dr. Barbra Nightingale  
 Professor of English, Broward Community College  
 "Taking the 'Mean' Out of Meaning"

### *Vivian M. Dellinger Outstanding Faculty Member Award 2008 -*

Dr. Ana Ciereszko, Miami Dade College



*Trustee of the Year,  
 Thomas Huggins, III and  
 Commission Chair  
 Nancy Watkins*

...AWARDS continued on page 4

...AWARDS continued from page 3

***Distinguished Service Award Winners***

Dr. Dolores Teter, St. Petersburg College  
Mr. Michael Comins, CEO, FACC

***Colleges with 50 Percent or More Employees as Members***

Central Florida Community College  
Chipola College  
Florida Keys Community College  
Gulf Coast Community College  
Indian River State College  
Lake City Community College  
Lake Sumter Community College  
North Florida Community College  
Northwest Florida State College  
Pasco-Hernando Community College  
Polk Community College  
Saint Johns River Community College  
Santa Fe College  
South Florida Community College  
College Center for Library Automation

***Region 1 - Unsung Hero Award Winners***

Natalie Henri-Bennett, College Center for Library Automation  
Evelyn Ward, Chipola College  
Meagan Bishop, Gulf Coast Community College  
Robin McNeill, Northwest Florida State College  
Tammy Henderson, Pensacola Junior College  
Shannon Young, Tallahassee Community College

***Region 2 - Unsung Hero Award Winners***

Chris Pemberton, Florida Community College at Jacksonville  
Fernando Figuerrez, Florida Community College at Jacksonville  
Toni Briley, Lake City Community College  
Bethany Jenkins, Lake City Community College  
Barbara Fields, Santa Fe College

***Region 3 - Unsung Hero Award Winners***

Debbie Cook, Central Florida Community College  
Josh Murdock, Valencia Community College  
Shirley Kennedy, Brevard Community College  
Tim Kane, Lake-Sumter Community College  
Elizabeth Velazquez, Seminole Community College

***Region 4 - Unsung Hero Award Winners***

Dory Lock, Manatee Community College  
Robin Robinson, Polk Community College  
Tammy Cappleman, St. Petersburg College  
Cynde Mercer, Pasco-Hernando Community College  
John Shandlay, Edison College  
Glenna Ross, Hillsborough Community College

...AWARDS continued on page 5



***College Center for Library Automation Chapter President Tammy Elliott presents the Unsung Hero Award to Natalie Henri-Bennett.***



...AWARDS continued from page 4

***Region 5 - Unsung Hero Award Winners***

Lori Starling, Indian River State College  
Beverly Walker, Broward College  
Marie Reddy, Palm Beach Community College

***Learning Resources Commission Award Winners***

***Professional Librarian Exemplary Practice Award***

Shelia Hiss, Director of Library and Learning Resources  
North Florida Community College  
“Starbooks: Internet Café @ the NFCC Library”

***Library Support Staff Exemplary Practice Award***

Joshua Murdock, Manager of Learning Support Services  
Valencia Community College – West Campus  
“Learning Support Service Collaborative Redesign”

***Facilities Commission Award Winners***

Campus Sustainability Award  
Broward Community College  
David Armstrong, President

Special Recognition  
Central Florida Community College

***Student Development Commission Award Winners***

***Student Leader Connection Award***

Jeannie Christy, Pasco Hernando Community College

***Faculty Connection Award***

G. David Price, Santa Fe College

***Cameron Hall Practitioner Award***

Leroy Darby, Brevard Community College

***Exemplary Practice Award Winner***

Kathleen von Balson, Florida Community College at  
Jacksonville, Kent Campus  
“SMART Goals Workshop for SOAP: Standards of  
Academic Progress”

***Institutional Effectiveness Commission Winners***

***Exemplary Practice Award***

Dr. Edythe Abdullah, President Downtown Campus, Florida  
Community College at Jacksonville and Dr. Kathleen Ciez-  
Volz, English Professor, Florida Community College at  
Jacksonville - “The SIRIUS Project”



***Student Development  
Commission Exemplary  
Practice Award Winner  
Kathleen von Balson  
receives her award from  
President Carol Quinn  
and Student Development  
Chair-Elect Geoffrey  
Fortunato.***

...AWARDS continued on page 6

...AWARDS continued from page 5

**Instructional Innovation Commission Winners**

***Exemplary Practice Award***

Cherry Ward, Professor Chipola College  
“Test Journals: Helping the Under-prepared Student Succeed”

**Equity Commission Winner**

***Lifetime Achievement Award***

Ardease Johnson, Palm Beach Community College

**Occupational Workforce Education Commission Winner**

***Exemplary Practice Award-Winner***

John Gardner, Chipola College  
“Automotive Technology Program”

**Adult and Continuing Education Commission Winner**

***Exemplary Practice Award-Winner***

Pattie Durham, Indian River State College  
“Adult Education to College Transitioning and Success Fair”

**Career & Professional Employees Commission Winners**

***Exemplary Practice Award - Co- Winners***

Lynn Dallas, Brevard Community College  
“Facility Dog”

Kathleen Gamble and David Edmonds, Palm Beach Community College  
“The Online Faculty Credentialing Database Process”

***Exemplary Practice Award - Finalists***

Joe Nunes and Joanna Branham - “How to Say It: Crucial, Practical and Sensitive Conversations”

Jeannine Burgess and George Reese, Palm Beach Community College - Take a Walk on Your Website”



**Wattenbarger Award Winner  
Ron Fahs with Mike Comins  
and Dr. Dennis Gallon**

...AWARDS continued on page 7

## **Membership Awards**

### ***2008 FACC CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

Indian River State College

### ***2008 REGION I - CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

Chipola College

### ***2008 REGION II -CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

Lake City Community College

### ***2008 REGION III -CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

Central Florida Community College

### ***2008 REGION IV -CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

South Florida Community College

### ***2008 REGION V -CHAPTER OF THE YEAR***

Indian River State College

### ***Greatest Percentage of Employees as Members***

Chipola College

### ***College with the Greatest Percentage Increase of Members Over the Previous Year***

Broward College

### ***College with the Greatest Numerical Increase of Members Over Previous Year***

Miami-Dade College

### **2008 SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

In Recognition of 100% Full-Time Employees as Members  
Chipola College



**Chapter Membership Award Winners  
for 50% or More Members**

## More pictures from the 2008 FACC Annual Convention

### 2008 Annual Convention



1 - Region I meeting with VP-Elect for Regions & Chapters Dennis Storck and Region I Director Sylvia Campbell.



2 - President Carol Quinn's welcome at the Opening Session.



3 - TCC's Renee Maples enjoying the Cruise and Casino Party.

4 - Trying to beat the dealer.



5 - Keynote Speaker Susan Story, CEO of Gulf Power, along with Pensacola Junior College Board of Trustees Chair, Vincent R. Andry, and PJC President Ed Meadows.

**Get in the news! The next issue of *Current* will be published on February 15 and the deadline will be January 31! Be sure to email your articles and high resolution pictures to [publications@facc.org](mailto:publications@facc.org)!**



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# Message from the Outgoing President

Can you believe that a year has already passed since I was installed as your President at the Wyndham in Orlando? It is amazing how a few challenges will make the year fly by!! With state budget cuts, changes in the college system, updating the membership database, and hiring a new CEO, FACC has certainly had a busy year.



Carol Quinn  
FACC Outgoing  
President

I couldn't ask for a better ending to my term than the 59th Annual Convention. Doug Ryan Consulting, the Convention Planning Committee, and the FACC staff did a phenomenal job of planning and organizing one of the best conventions ever.

As I said in my closing speech, as much as I would like to think this past year was about me, it wasn't. It was about each of you. It was about celebrating your success and the success of FACC. Without all of you, FACC would not be the great organization that it is!! Even though this has been a year of challenge and change, it has been a great year for FACC. I thank all of you for your support and encouragement throughout the year. I will always treasure the opportunities that I had traveling throughout the state meeting colleagues and establishing new friendships.

Thank you to the staff—Mike, Marsha, Tina, Adrienne and Eileen you are great. You have always shown me such great respect and have always had a “can do” attitude. I wish you well and will miss working with you.

*"Without all of you, FACC  
would not be the great  
organization that it is!!"*

If you aren't involved, you need to get involved. If you are involved, I want to encourage you to stay involved. You will definitely obtain great personal and professional growth from the effort. I want to challenge you one last time to help bring in more members. We currently have close to 8,000 members. If each and every one of you would bring in just one new member, imagine the possibilities and goals that we can achieve! I am counting on each and every one of you to continue to

show Will Benedicks and executive committee the same support that you have shown me. Together we can make this an even better association.

## We're closed for the holidays!

*The FACC offices will be closed for the holidays as follows:*

**December 22, 2008 through  
January 5, 2009**

**Our best wishes for a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON  
to every FACC member, family and friends!**

# Message from the Incoming President

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It was my honor to accept the gavel from Carol Quinn in Orlando last month as I assumed the office of FACC President. The honor is very humbling and I am very grateful to everyone who has helped give me this opportunity. I will do everything I can to advance this association and our profession during my tenure in office.

While I am humbled, the task is also very daunting. The economy, budget cuts, competition for state resources, need for membership growth, and the usual pressures of time constraints and the frantic pace of everyday life will certainly pose real challenges to the FACC Board, staff and membership as a whole.

Even facing those obstacles, I assume the office of FACC president with an optimistic outlook and great enthusiasm for what I believe will be a great 2009. Thanks to the stellar service of outgoing CEO Mike Comins, we have a talented and service-oriented staff to help us achieve our goals. On behalf of every member of FACC, I want to thank Mike for everything he has done to make our association the best it can be.

I also welcome our new CEO, Mike Brawer and look forward to working with him. We have established membership growth and an effort to have an even greater impact in state legislative and regulatory issues as two of our most important goals during the next twelve months. These two efforts go hand-in-hand because without a representative membership, any attempts to be truly effective in Tallahassee will be difficult.

Increasing our numbers isn't done by sending out brochures or writing letters. It's achieved one-on-one at the local level by committed members who reach out to their colleagues to tell them about the value and importance of FACC membership. Mike and I will do our part as we travel around the state to visit with your regions, chapters and commissions. I ask you to make the same commitment to help in this important effort. Invite your colleagues to attend an FACC event and help them join us!

I mentioned the challenges we'll be facing to find the resources for everything we would like to do and to have an effective advocacy effort. We have fabulous professional assistance in Tallahassee and other areas throughout the state. What we'll need is your involvement when we ask you to write or call your legislators or to participate in events focused on impacting legislative and regulatory issues.

I suppose the underlying message I'd like to leave with you this month as I begin my term of office is to get involved. Attend meetings, invite your colleagues to join, respond when we ask you to write letters or make a call. It's your association and I am confident that, with your help, we can make 2009 our best year yet.



Dr. Will Benedicks  
FACC Incoming  
President

*"I ask you to make the same commitment to help in this important effort. Invite your colleagues to attend an FACC event and help them join us!"*

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# Message from the Outgoing CEO

I am excited and relieved to report that the 2008 FACC Convention was excellent! Despite the challenges of the economy, weather and a couple of fire alarms, I am very pleased with the results. We installed Dr. Will Benedicks as the 2009 FACC President. We elected new state officers. New region directors and commission chairs were elected. Congratulations to Will, Martha, Byron, Gary and the new board members. Thanks to Bill Mallowney and the bylaws task force, we approved a boatload of amendments to the bylaws. The Cruise and Casino party was a big hit. I only wish we were playing with real money!



Mike Comins  
FACC Outgoing CEO

There are literally hundreds of arrangements that must be made in order to put on such an event. The details are sometimes overwhelming, but it is *always* rewarding to see how FACC members step up to serve. Let me add my thanks to the FACC members who collected meal tickets, set-up the internet room, handled AV, ran the registration desks, collected door prizes, managed the elections process, took care of decorations, and the many others who contributed to the effort. It simply would not be possible to have convention without the help of our members.

Even though it embarrasses them for me to do so, I really have to comment on the FACC staff. I don't remember ever leaving the office for convention feeling so prepared. The success of the convention is evidence of their creativity, organizational skills, long hours, and team effort. They were simply awesome. Thank goodness for rubber bands to relive the stress.

*"I must tell you that it has been an extraordinary honor for me to serve as your CEO. Working at FACC satisfied my desire to make a difference by helping you to make a difference."*

Convention also marks the end of the term for 2008 FACC President Carol Quinn. Throughout her term, Carol was masterful in leading the board through the many challenges that were faced. Her wit and tell-it-like-it-is style were enjoyable. Her commitment and level of participation will always be a great example for her successors.

The close of convention and the end of Carol's term also draws me closer to the end of my time with FACC. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, I will be returning to my entrepreneurial roots as a marketing and government relations consultant. I will be on the lookout for opportunities to help the colleges cope with the tough economic times ahead.

I must tell you that it has been an extraordinary honor for me to serve as your CEO. Working at FACC satisfied my desire to make a difference by helping you to make a difference. Community college people certainly made a difference in my life.

It's been a privilege for me to work so closely with the Council of Presidents. I long valued the partnership between FACC and the COP. The ability to speak with one voice is admired and respected by those involved in the legislative process. I am confident that the one-voice approach combined with the colleges' reputation of accomplishment will lead you to overcome any obstacle that lies ahead.

I leave knowing that you are in good hands. Your FACC team, Marsha, Eileen, Adrienne and Tina, have and will continue to do a great job in handling the affairs of the Association. The newest team member, Mike Brawer, is now anxious and ready to take over the reins. I wish Mike and FACC nothing but the best and great success.

I have made countless friends during my association with FACC. I will miss you all. I can't bring myself to say goodbye, so let's leave it at, see you later FACC. You rock!



# Message from the Incoming CEO

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Let me begin by saying I am honored and humbled to have been selected as the chief executive officer of the Florida Association of Community Colleges. I look forward to being actively involved. I begin my tenure with big shoes to fill. Outgoing CEO Mike Comins is a longtime community college colleague of yours who has made a significant and positive impact in the system and your Association through his various positions as a college administrator, lobbyist, and FACC president and CEO. Mike has left the ship in great shape. However, as we transition and move ahead, it is vital that we don't lose sight of the challenges we face, and continue to build upon the positive impact he has made on the system and the FACC.

There are opportunities for all community college and state college staff, from every facet of our system, to participate in the growth of your Association and the advocacy for its future. Some people may ask why join the FACC, or why advocate for the system? At the most basic level, lack of support from legislators may mean the diminishment of your program or college's financial support. On a more personal level, it may be the difference between getting funds for salary increases or not. At the professional level, it means having access to a network of others state-wide, who are doing the same work as you, so you can share your experience and develop your professional skills. Networking is one of the most beneficial aspects of belonging to any professional association. Moreover, with regard to advocacy, strong legislative support can result in increased funding or minimizing of cuts in difficult budget times, such as now.

All college employees, including faculty, administrative and professional, technical, and support staff, can play some role in the advocacy process simply by becoming a member of the FACC. Membership organizations such as FACC represent a concentration of constituents. The state college system has upwards of 33,000 employees at all levels. This represents a huge constituent base and legislators can not help but pay attention and listen to what their constituents have to say, especially if they are visible and persistent in communicating their cause. After all, you are the people who voted the legislators into office and will vote again in the next election! They listen to what you have to say and your grassroots advocacy efforts, simply through membership in FACC, can make a difference in future legislative decisions. There is power in numbers and the more state college employees that get involved locally with FACC, the more influence we can wield upon the legislative process. Your presidents and the Division staff do a great job of keeping the state college issues in the forefront of the legislative process, but they need your support, through your Association, in order to sustain that effort at the highest level.

It is going to be among my primary goals in this position, hopefully over the next several years, to significantly increase membership in the FACC. Presently, the FACC membership is comprised of approximately 25% of all community college employees, just a bit fewer than 8000 individual members. I think we can do better. Many Associations have as much as 70% or more of all eligible constituents as members. I see no reason that we, as a state college system, can not reach such a lofty goal as 25,000 individual members. To this end, I challenge all Chapters to devise innovative ways to attract new members at your college. If every existing member of FACC simply recruited one new member over the next year, our numbers would double immediately. I also challenge all college presidents to integrate and support membership as a professional development resource, and to assure that the need for FACC membership is at the forefront for all of your employees, new and incumbent.



Michael Brawer  
Incoming FACC CEO

*"There are opportunities for all community college and state college staff, from every facet of our system, to participate in the growth of your Association and the advocacy for its future. "*

Incoming  
CEO Message

...INCOMING CEO continued on page 14

December 2008

...INCOMING CEO continued from page 13

I also offer my services to come to your college and help. I hope to visit each of your campuses over the next year or so, and would like to do that in conjunction with your membership development efforts. Please do not hesitate to let me know of your membership development ideas and activities so FACC staff and I can facilitate and participate in your efforts.

Again, I am looking forward to working with and for all of you. Despite the difficult financial times for the education system overall in Florida, we have the opportunity through your FACC to show our unity and strength, and maintain the influence of the biggest and best college system in the country.



**Platinum Sponsor Gary Clark, Regional President of Energy Education, Inc. receives a plaque from Trustees Commission Chair Nancy Watkins for Energy Education's sponsorship of this year's convention.**

## Retirees Commission offered first "Chapter Exemplary Practice Award"

*Nancy Buhl, Chair, Retirees Commission*

The award packet was emailed to all FACC chapter presidents after its approval at the annual Retirees Commission meeting in November. The chapter that demonstrates retiree participation in specified areas will be recognized at the next annual convention and receive \$200, which could be used to support retiree activities. The criteria for the prestigious FACC Chapter of the Year Award also provides a new section that allows points for retiree inclusion in chapter activities.

The PBCC chapter is a good example of retiree participation. Retirees at PBCC participate in fund raising, social and community service events for the chapter. Two retiree members serve on the executive committee and the chapter provides non-college funds to help support their participation in region and state activities. The President-elect is responsible for reaching out to colleagues before they retire to join FACC or maintain their membership information, postal addresses, etc. For many years, the Chapter's membership coordinator has been forwarding all FACC information and publications, via email or the USPS, to its retiree members. Another good suggestion from a Retirees Commission member at the annual meeting was to appoint a retiree member to the chapter's board to be responsible for these same duties. These are a few suggestions to get you started on keeping your retiree members involved and, also, to get you started earning points for our new Chapter Exemplary Practice Award.

Retiree's years of experience and their time availability are valuable resources. Our chapters and their retiree members just need to reach out to each other to make our Retirees Commission a vital asset in FACC.

...RETIREES continued on page 16



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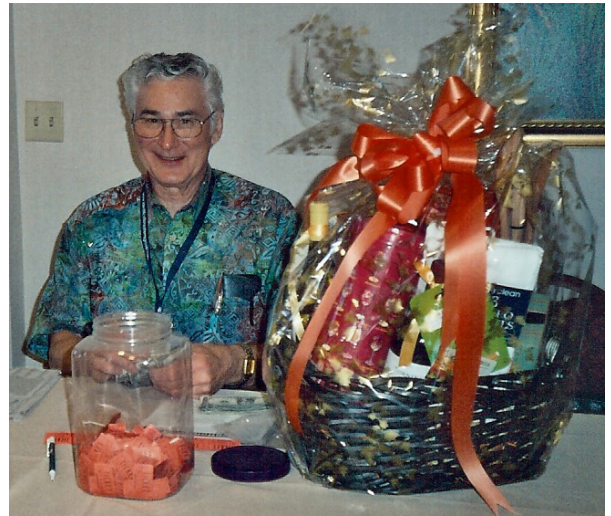
...RETIREES continued from page 14

Many thanks go to Harry Hodges who provided an outstanding basket worth \$300 at the FACC Convention that earned over \$500 for our commission. Our only opportunity for raising funds is at the annual convention and your continuing support is always greatly appreciated.

The 2009 Officers for the Retirees Commission are:

Harry E. Hodges, Chair (FCCJ),  
Nancy A. Buhl, Chair-Elect (PBCC),  
Dolores M. Teter, Secretary/Treasurer (SPC).

Please show your support for them and make the coming year as rewarding as 2008 has been for me.



**Harry Hodges with the gift basket he provided.**

## CPEC's Extraordinary Commission Meeting

On Thursday morning, November 20, CPEC had an extraordinary commission meeting. First of all, when we began we had room for 60 spectators—we had to go “borrow” more chairs from the room next door! Our Commission meeting was entirely made up of the CPEC Innovators Exemplary Practice Award Presentations. We had presenters from five colleges:

- Marion Kane from Lake-Sumter Community College
- Flossie Jackson from Indian River State College
- Lynn Dallas and Kat from Brevard Community College
- Jeannine Burgess and George Reese from Palm Beach Community College
- Kathleen Gamble and David Edmonds from Palm Beach Community College
- Joanna Branham and Joe Nunes from Valencia Community College

All of these presenters were wonderful—and that is when the NEXT extraordinary thing happened! The CPEC Commission offers three award prize money amounts—first is \$700, second is \$200, and third is \$100. For the first time ever there were ties....not just one, not just two, but THREE!

The first prize went to Lynn Dallas and Kat for the presentation “Facility Dog” and the first prize ALSO went to Kathleen Gamble and David Edmonds for their presentation “the Online Faculty Credentialing Database Process.” That’s right, a tie. Both presentations were awarded \$700.

Second prize went to: Flossie Jackson for her presentation, “Student Success Services Student Flow/Training Process”. And then, again, the second prize ALSO went to Joanna Branham and Joe Nunes for their presentation “How to Say It; Crucial, Practical & Sensitive Conversations”.

...CPEC continued on page 18



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*...CPEC continued from page 16*

So Flossie Jackson and the team of Joanna Branham and Joe Nunes will each receive a check in the amount of \$200.

And then, not to be outdone, the third place prize went to: Marion Kane for her presentation "Ask Us Anything Tent Event" and ALSO to Jeannine Burgess and George Reese for their presentation "Take a Walk on Your Website". Marion and the team of Jeannine and George will each received a check in the amount of \$100.



**First prize went to Lynn Dallas and Kat**

The Career and Professional Employees Commission were very happy to award these individuals their prizes—even though it comes close to “breaking the bank” with our Commission. Our Commission is committed to honoring the individuals who show their initiative, knowledge and outstanding work in highlighting and helping their individual colleges. All of these innovator award presentations were outstanding. For copies of each of their presentations, please e-mail Marie Reddy at Palm Beach Community College, [redmym@pbcc.edu](mailto:redmym@pbcc.edu), and a copy of the PowerPoint presentations will gladly be sent to you. You will find many great ideas in these presentations. FACC as an organization has many individuals who contribute in an extraordinary manner to their respective colleges. If you, or your college, is in need of individuals to present at a workshop or a development day, please consider any one of these individuals—they will add much to your program. All of us at the commission meeting thoroughly enjoyed the presentations. Colleges—support your career and professional employees.....they are the backbone of the college!

## Region II holds conference

Santa Fe College FACC Chapter recently hosted the FACC Region II Conference. Guests from the region II FACC chapters, consisting of Florida Community College Jacksonville, Lake City Community College, North Florida Community College and St. Johns River Community College, made the trek to Santa Fe for our Safari Conference.

We visited the wilds of the Santa Fe Teaching Zoo where former FACC and SFC Professor of the Year Jack Brown answered the question, “So you think you work in a zoo?” and we learned more about the Reading Safari program for youth in the Santa Fe community. Many of us had our picture taken with the ancient Galapagos tortoise as you can see. Later, we moved on to a legislative update, region business meeting and lunch followed by an adventure into the next frontier at the Santa Fe Planetarium.





## Region III presents its “Chapter of the Year Award”

CFCC Chapter’s Dan Figler and Jean Scheppers accepted the award for Region III Outstanding Chapter of the Year and Debbie Cook accepted the Unsung Hero Award at the 2008 FACC Annual Convention. Joe Wallace accepted the FACC award for best Annual Report.



## Two Receive FACC Distinguished Service Award

Once again during convention, FACC honored two of its most dedicated and outstanding members who have shown an exceptional commitment to the Association. Dolores Teter of St. Petersburg College and Michael Comins, CEO, were both recognized on Thursday evening during the Presidential Gala for their truly distinguished service to the Association.



Dolores, who has been an active member of FACC since 1982, served FACC in many capacities over the years while working at three different colleges. She served as a Chapter President, Secretary, Treasurer, Region Director, Vice President of Regions & Chapters, and Chair of a State Standing Committee. On her campus and statewide, she is admired and known for her commitment to FACC, gentle approach to any task, and her professionalism.



Although Dolores retired from St. Petersburg College in October, she will continue to be an active and involved member of FACC through the Retirees Commission. Congratulations to Dolores!

*President Quinn makes presentations to Mike Comins (above) and Dolores Teter (below)*

FACC CEO Michael Comins also was recognized for his contributions to FACC. As a former FACC President and long-time member, Mike’s dedication and service to the Association have been exceptional. His community college career began at Hillsborough Community College. Working with the college chapter, he served in many capacities before running for state office and serving as Hillsborough’s college lobbyist. During Mike’s tenure as CEO, FACC improved its technological abilities, enhanced its advocacy efforts and became more effective at communicating with and involving members in the Association’s activities.

At the end of the year, Mike will be leaving FACC to explore other career opportunities. His years serving FACC both as a member and CEO were invaluable. Thank you Mike and good luck!

## CFCC active at Annual Convention

The CFCC Chapter of FACC sent 18 delegates to the Annual Convention held November 19-21, 2008.

CFCC received a special recognition award from the FACC Facility commission for all that CFCC does to promote sustainability. Judges were so impressed by how close CFCC came (within 4 points) in comparison to the size of institution that won, Broward Community College, that they wanted to give a special recognition to CFCC.



**Joe Wallace accepts the FACC award for best Annual Report.**

CFCC also received first place for the Annual Report and second place for the college's new magazine Connections.

Region III was charged with providing AV services this year, and CFCC stepped up to the plate and provided some equipment, and 12 volunteers to transport equipment during the Convention. We received a delightful email of thanks from Region III director Shelby Fiorentino for being the college she can always count on. Thank you Shelby.

Thursday morning Edith Ramlow, Jean Scheppers and Connie Tice presented a workshop on community and college partnerships. It was well received, and questions and comments kept the workshop buzzing right up until the last second of the allotted time.

CFCC chapter members were honored to receive the Region III Outstanding Chapter of the Year award, as well as a Membership award, accepted by Membership chair Cara Bennett, for maintaining a membership roster above 50 percent of the total CFCC employees. Debbie Cook won the Unsung Hero award and it is a testament to her modesty that she was so completely surprised to have won.

Our own Marian Smith accepted the mantle of chair of the Library Resources Commission as Edith Ramlow, also our own, stepped down. Joe Wallace was elected chair-elect of the Institutional Advancement Commission, and Jean Scheppers accepted the position of director-elect of Region III.

On November 25, Dr. Dassance and the CFCC Chapter of FACC presented the Annual Fall Harvest Luncheon for all employees of CFCC. More than a hundred guests dined with us, and we were entertained by the children of CFCC's Childhood Development Center and Lab. The 3 to 5 year old children not only sang several delightful Thanksgiving songs; they also provided the "hand" made turkey centerpieces for our tables.

***Have you been promoted or have great news?  
Share it by sending the details to  
[publications@facc.org](mailto:publications@facc.org)!***



# Dr. Robert L. McLendon Jr. retires from SJRCC

This spring, hundreds of students will don the royal blue caps and gowns, adjust their tassels and walk across a stage before family and friends to receive their degrees knowing little of the man who has brought them and countless others the opportunity to become the nurses, teachers, officers and leaders of tomorrow.

On October 31, 2008, Dr. Robert L. McLendon Jr. signed his last check, composed his last memo and held his last meeting for an institution he painstakingly developed and nurtured for the last 36 years.

## Farewell

McLendon's final day as President ended with a heartfelt farewell before faculty, alumni, family and friends. McLendon's remarks reflected his memories of and gratitude toward his family, SJRCC Trustees, former colleagues and incoming President Joe Pickens.

Melissa Miller announced during the ceremony that \$10,000 was raised in his honor toward a scholarship to benefit one of McLendon's favorite programs, Florida School of the Arts.

McLendon closed the ceremony acknowledging the audience for their attendance and support. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart," he said. "Looking out I see the dedicated faculty, staff and students who give the very essence necessary to make the College the outstanding academic success it is," adding with a nod to Pickens that he would take the calls until midnight.

## Joe Pickens takes helm

With a "to-do" list left behind by his predecessor, former state legislator Joe Pickens began his first day as President of St. Johns River Community College on a quiet Saturday morning. As the College's former special counsel to the president, Pickens said working on Saturday was part of his normal routine while serving in the legislature. "With three campuses, there's a lot of unfinished business and ongoing projects that need completing," Pickens said.

As for his own to-do list, Pickens said he would continue to consider various changes while keeping the College on its current course. His only immediate plan is to increase his presence in Clay and St. Johns counties and build on the solid academic foundation left by outgoing president Robert L. McLendon Jr.

Pickens, whose legislative district included sections of Clay and Putnam counties, said that becoming more visible within the College's district is the first step in moving the College forward. "The College can't reach its full potential without involvement from the community," Pickens said. "I need to listen carefully to what the community wants and needs."



**Incoming SJRCC President Joe Pickens re-presents McLendon with the Civil War collage from his office, inscribed with a new, personal farewell.**

## Edison State College unveils a new logomark

In August, Edison College was renamed Edison State College. The historic change was just the beginning of Edison State's expanded mission. Edison State President Dr. Kenneth Walker tasked the college's Marketing Department to create a new logo to demonstrate the college has entered a new era.

The logo Edison State College is unveiling today maintains Edison State's signature elements, the diamond, torch and the traditional blue color. It incorporates yellow and orange to give the logo a vibrancy and three-dimensional look.



A branding campaign is now underway to promote the values and characteristics shared by Thomas Alva Edison and the college, i.e., hard work, determination, innovation, and belief in one person's ability to impact the world in a positive way.

## LCCC brings joy for the holidays

The Lake City Community College Chapter held its annual Holiday Reception Wednesday, December 3, in the Barney E. McRae Jr., M.D. Medical Technology Building.

Each year at this time the officers are sworn in for the coming year's service. As, for the past several years, Nonie Silcox, retired FACC member, has had the honor of swearing in the new FACC officers. The new officers are (secretary) Amie Smith, senior staff assistant; (membership chairperson and treasurer) Toni Briley, academic/career advisor; (president-elect) Frances Ash, human resources specialist I; and (president) Bethany Jenkins, public information specialist (*see picture above*).



This is a special time for the faculty and staff to bring some happiness and surprise into the lives of the children represented by the Third Circuit Guardian Ad Litem Program of Lake City. There are over 160 children in the Lake City area under the care of this organization. Since November 19, gifts and monetary donations were accepted at several locations across campus for this special project.

The reception consisted of finger foods, desserts, and punch. Door prizes were awarded to the person holding the winning number and concluding the program, Sandy Tice spoke to the group about the purpose of the Guardian Ad Litem program after which she was presented with all the gifts and donations collected for the children.

Congratulations to the newly installed officers and wishing the best of holiday seasons to all.

## PBCC employees win multiple awards at Convention

Multiple awards were awarded to various PBCC departments and employees at the FACC 59th Annual Convention in Orlando.

Within the Career and Professional Employees Commission, Kathy Gamble, academic coordinator, and David Edmonds, senior analyst, won the 2008 Innovator Exemplary Practice Award for their innovation of the online faculty credentialing database (OFCD). They tied for first place with Brevard County Community College, and each received a monetary award and a metal.

The electronic system collects faculty credentials from all four campuses into a central location for more efficient processing. The OFCD roster includes information about advanced degrees, graduate courses, licensure and proposed courses.

In addition, the FACC Instructional Innovation Commission awarded Jeannine Burgess, director of PBCC's Instructional Technology, and George Reese, multimedia and computer gaming specialist, third place for green screen technology reinvention and application to education. They did this through their innovation Walk on your Website, an interactive way for faculty to communicate and connect to their students through the Internet via video and sound.

Additional first place prizes were awarded to PBCC's College Relations and Marketing team. FACC's Institutional Advancement Commission presented CRM with four awards.

Within the state's larger community colleges (above 5,000 FTE), CRM won first place poster – biotechnology poster – written by Gwenn Adams and designed by Debbie Shackley and Reinhold Tamayo. First place was also awarded to CRM for class schedule (print) – Summer Youth College – designed by Candy Lall Dass.

The team won second place brochure – science and environmental programs brochure – written by Gwenn Adams and designed by Reinhold Tamayo. They also won second place campus-wide magazine – Contact magazine – contributing writers Gwenn Adams, Tabatha McDonald and Mark Udry, edited by Dr. Grace Truman and designed by Kari McCormick.

Other FACC Convention highlights include Jeannine Burgess being elected FACC Region V president. Seventeen members from PBCC, including 3 retirees, attended the convention.

## Chipola awards seven scholarships

The Chipola College Chapter recently awarded seven scholarships to children of college employees. Scholarship recipients and their parents are, from left: Evelyn Ward, Kendyl Ward, David Hilton, Marshall Hilton, Mikey Smith, Bonnie Smith, Kylee Shores, Lisa Shores, Kevin Shores, Cassie Mitchell, Joyce Mitchell and Debbie Goines. Not pictured is Matthew Goines. Since 1993, FACC has paid tuition for nearly 100 students through the FACC Scholarship Endowment funded through concession sales at college sports events.

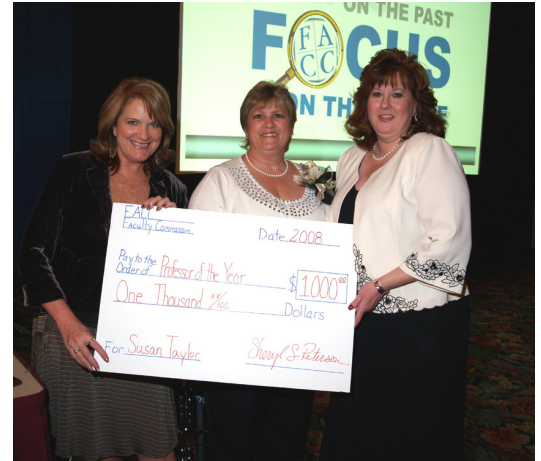




## NFCC's Taylor Named Professor of the Year

North Florida Community College English instructor Susan Taylor has been awarded the 2008 FACC's Professor of the Year Award for Instructional Excellence. Taylor received the award at the 59th Annual FACC Convention in Orlando on November 20.

Taylor was one of three state finalists to compete for the prestigious award and competed against instructors from Lake-Sumter Community College and Broward College. Her presentation entitled "Excuse me, but I seem to have misplaced my modifier!" featured a classroom teaching scenario on correctly placing modifiers to ensure that audiences clearly and accurately understand written and verbal messages. The presentation, made to the FACC Faculty Commission, was critiqued based on presence, speaking, auxiliary materials and communication of concepts.



**Professor of the Year – Susan Taylor, NFCC, receives her award from Faculty Commission Chair Sheryl Peterson, SPC, and President Carol Quinn at the Presidential Gala.**

In other awards, Sheila Hiss, Director of Library and Learning Resources at North Florida Community College, and NFCC's Marshall Hamilton Library staff have been awarded an Exemplary Practice Award by the Florida Association of Community Colleges (FACC). Hiss was among two presenters chosen from around the state by the FACC Learning Resource Commission to vie for the prestigious award. Her presentation centered on the library's Starbooks Internet Café and Patio and how the additions of the café in 2005 and the patio in 2008 benefit the NFCC Library and students of the college.

## Sister and brother graduate from SCC Criminal Justice Academy

Jennifer and Robert Durkee squabbled alot while they were growing up. They grew a bit closer in high school, when Robert took up Motocross racing, and Jennifer took an avid interest in his sport. Now the siblings have something else in common: They're both going to work in law enforcement.

The Durkees graduated together on Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2 of 54 students to graduate this term from Seminole Community College's Criminal Justice Academy.



Jennifer, 26, of Sanford, will be sworn in Jan. 5 as an officer with the Sanford Police Department after passing the Florida Department of Law Enforcement police officer exam. Robert, 24, of Orange City, hopes to become a deputy sheriff with Seminole County.

Having worked for a few years as an investigative aide with the Sanford police, Jennifer wanted to advance her career by becoming a sworn officer. And she knew her brother was ready for a career change.



"I looked at a lot of other things to do and was never completely interested or excited about them," Robert says. "Law enforcement is never going to be boring. You can really get wrapped up in your work."

With their motivation strong and their enthusiasm high, the two plunged into the seven-month program that included intense physical training and boot camplike drilling, defensive tactics and firearms training. Each relied on the other for moral support - and developed a bond they hadn't had before.

"As nerve-racking as it was with the drill, not knowing what we'd gotten ourselves into, it was good to know that no matter what, he was still there with me," Jennifer recalls. "I can do anything when he's there."

The physical training was "an obstacle" for Jennifer, especially after working an eight-hour day. "After a while, you get run down and tired," she says. "I had to push her," Robert says. "She's not quite as athletic as I am."

**2009 FACC  
President Will  
Benedicks,  
Barbara Pippin  
(left), Professor  
Dora Romero (3rd  
from left), and  
Marsha Kiner  
during a recent  
visit to the  
Broward College  
Chapter.**



## FKCC collaborates on dual enrollment program

Just a year ago, Florida Keys Community College President Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle, who was new on the scene, and Monroe County School Superintendent Randy Acevedo gathered around a board room table to find ways of strengthening the Dual Enrollment program which allows high school students to earn free college credit. They charged their staffs with their vision: increase access to the program and expand course offerings to vocational students.

One year later, the mission was accomplished and the two leaders were amazed to see the recent fall reports which show the program offerings had grown by 25%, and the enrollment had increased 30% over last year. More high school students are taking Dual Enrollment classes on both the high school campus and after school at the college campuses in Key West, Marathon and Coral Shores. So far this fall term, students and their parents have saved \$122,000 in free college tuition. "I am ecstatic with the results," remarked College President Dr. Boyle. "Dual Enrollment classes not only offer rigor in the high school curriculum, but they help prepare students for success after high school. And, who can argue against free college credit?" she added.

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