Broward College Now Tops in the Nation in Jack Kent Cooke Scholars as Two Earn Honor for 2013

Broward College students Miklos Haranghy and Duckenson Joseph are among the newest recipients of the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarships. With their naming, Broward College becomes the community college with the greatest number of JKC Scholarship recipients in the nation. The JKC Scholarships, the nation’s most prestigious monetary awards of their type, are awarded by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, headquartered in Landsdowne, Va.

Haranghy, of Pembroke Pines, attends the Judson A. Samuels South Campus and Joseph, of North Lauderdale, attends the North Campus. Both plan careers in engineering and will graduate in May. They become the college’s 11th and 12th JKC scholarship recipients.

Haranghy, a native of Hungary, came to the United States with his sister and mother to get away from persecution by Hungary’s Gypsy mafia and physical abuse at the hands of Haranghy’s father. Joseph, a native of Haiti, came to the U.S. just before the devastating earthquake of 2010. When Haitians chopped down most of the wood on the island after the earthquake for wood charcoal, it stimulated Joseph’s thoughts and he has since begun research into identifying alternatives to wood charcoal for Haitians.

Broward College Partners with Kazan Federal University

Earlier this month, Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr., traveling in Russia as part of the Fulbright Community College Administrators Seminar Award (CCAS), signed two memoranda of understanding (MOUs). The MOUs were signed to collaborate and partner on cultural and education relationships with Kazan Federal University in Kazan, Russian Federation.

The agreement between Broward College and Kazan Federal University will encourage interactions between the two higher education institutions, strengthen academic contacts, as well as establish, develop and enhance academic collaboration. Additional benefits of the cooperation include conducting joint research projects, the exchange of expertise and programs in field of mutual interest, and the exchange of literature, textbooks and publications.

The signing ceremony was attended by Vice-Rector for International Relations Linar Latypov, President of Broward College J. David Armstrong, Jr., and Fulbright Program Director Joel Ericson.
Broward College’s mathematics team won first-place in the Florida Two-Year College Mathematics Association’s annual Mathematics Olympics, held at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. Broward College triumphed over runner-up Miami Dade College North Campus, the two-time defending champion, and third-place Miami Dade College Kendall Campus by a margin of 60 points. In all, 25 teams from 15 community and state colleges competed.

Broward entered three squads in the competition. Team Alpha, who won the title, was made up of Fei Chi, Frankie Encalada, Ben Babtsov and Carlos Correa. Team Beta was made up of Juan Hurtado, Andres d’Elia, Stephen Williams, and Miguel Botet. Team Gamma consisted of Guillerma Rangel, Gian Paolo Simone, Bruce Sequin, Vanessa Suarez. Babtsov also finished third in the individual portion of the competition, which drew about 100 competitors.

Six Broward College faculty members have been named Professor/Adjunct Professor of the Year, an annual award for innovative, talented educators who not only bring their “A” game to the classroom every day, but also inspire students and impact their lives in a meaningful way.

This year’s honorees from the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus are: Professors of the Year Dr. Christopher Johnston (English) and Deborah Kondelik (visual and performing arts) and Adjunct Professors of the Year Jose Rivera (mathematics) and Jodie Weinstein (social science).

Representing North Campus are Professor of the Year Paul Moore (business administration) and Adjunct Professor of the Year Bruce Weinberg (visual and performing arts). South Campus is represented by Professor of the Year Dominique Charlotteaux (education) and Adjunct Professor of the Year Jenna Reed (science and wellness).
We’ll begin this report with a Workday update. For those who have missed it, Workday is a new cloud-based system that the college subscribes to that provides an integrated business management system. The software will replace a major portion of the consortia software product known as “CID.” A team of dedicated college staff have been working on the Human Resources module, Human Capital Management (or HCM), as well as payroll. The entire system is based on workflows rather than the traditional database format. As a result, implementation of this system requires a review of every single process that Broward College has, then the team works to build it from the ground up. Each approval path, who has to review, who must approve, what documentation is required, who is the process owner, etc. must all be analyzed and reconstructed. This review also provides an opportunity to streamline and improve the way we do business in every area. We are on schedule to go live with HCM in July.

During the first week of April, we kicked off the implementation of the financial module. This module includes everything from budgeting to procurement to accounts receivable and payable. It provides an opportunity to build processes that will allow us to acquire goods and services more efficiently, process travel requests and reimbursements quicker, pay bills sooner and centralize our backup documentation making audits easier. The finance module is expected to go live early in 2014.

On another note, long time member of our team, Alex Denis took a position with the City of Miami Beach. After years of commuting to and from Broward College each day, Alex now walks two blocks from his home to his new office. We thank Alex for his years of dedication and leadership, and wish him the absolute best in his new position.

To fill the vacant position, we’ve hired John Dunnuck as the Vice President of Operations. John comes to the college with a strong and diverse background that is uniquely suited for the operations position. John has managed a number of large local government operations, including Emergency Medical Services, Planning, Building and Zoning, Purchasing, Parks and Libraries. John has a strong project management background that he obtained while working at the South Florida Water Management District where he successfully led the Project Management function of the $12 billion Everglades Restoration Program. We ask that you join us in welcoming John to the team.

Finally, in an effort to organize ourselves in a way that allows our educational leadership to focus more on strategic plan goals one and two (Student Success, and Penetration and Retention), we are moving to a system for the provision of administrative services that we call a Customer Driven Services model. Under this model, the campuses become customers who help to develop service level standards and the administrative staff will be held accountable for delivering consistent and high-quality service. Examples of service level standards may include items like painting building exteriors every 10 years, repainting interiors every five, or the completion of technology work orders within specified timeframes. This will provide more of a one college approach to the delivery of facilities, cashiering, security, and information technology services, and will afford opportunities for us to deliver college-wide services more cost efficiently. Our goal is to improve the level of service provided to the college and to reduce costs in the process. If we can do this, and we firmly believe we can, the savings can be directed toward more student success initiatives. We also believe that this Customer Driven approach provides for better utilization of resources across campuses, reliable standards, easier budgeting and more consistent management. In a nutshell, a smaller and more efficient footprint for administration at Broward College advances student success; and isn’t that why we’re here?
A Travel Photoblog: President Armstrong Travels to Russia as Fulbright Community College Administrators Seminar Awardee
Faculty Spotlight: Deborah Hefferin

Deborah Hefferin, professor of communication on North Campus, has spent 27 years at Broward College as an active, involved faculty member. She recently found her workload has gotten a wee bit more hectic, but she doesn’t mind a bit. In fact, she says, she’s honored.

Hefferin has spent her career as an active writer of scholarly publications, workshop leader and presenter. Among her current commitments are as honors coordinator for North Campus, curriculum committee chair and a member of the General Education Outcomes and Assessment Team. She also serves as editor of the FCA Journal and represents the Southern States Communication Association on the Legislative Council of the National Communication Association.

Her newest task is as one of eight national appointees selected by National Communication Association (NCA) President Dr. Steven A. Beebe to his task force seeking ways to create common standards to be used in entry-level speech courses. “Every NCA president gets to have a pet project. I’m thrilled to have been asked to be part of it,” she says. “I’m the only community college person on it.”

In the past, she served as president of the Florida Communication Association and makes herself widely available as a member of committees and programs focusing on the teaching and assessment of speaking and listening competence. She was recognized by NCA as the 1996 Outstanding Community College Educator and cited her for outstanding contributions to the field of communication assessment. She was named the recipient of the Nationsbank II Endowed Teaching Chair in 1997 and the Sun-Sentinel Endowed Teaching Chair in 2006.

Hefferin grew up in the Chicago suburbs and came to Broward College after 11 years at Sauk Valley College, in Dixon, Ill. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Northern Illinois University, where she also has completed doctoral study.

Second Annual Alumni Hall of Distinction Awards This Fall

Graduation is just around the corner, which means thousands of students will take their places among a distinct group of people: Broward College Alumni.

Broward College Alumni are local health care professionals, law enforcement officers, automotive technicians and teachers. Broward College’s graduates have gone on to become successful authors, heads of state, corporate executives and entertainers.

In 1983, the college started bestowing the Distinguished Alumni Award and the impressive slate of recipients includes current staff and faculty, local business and community leaders, and nationally recognized individuals in a variety of professions.

Last year, under the leadership of the Vice Chair of the Broward College District Board of Trustees, Sean Alveshire, the college hosted its inaugural Alumni Hall of Distinction Awards and Reception, where seven former students, including Shubert Chang, Dr. Robert Easton, David Sirois, Michael Borrone, Diana Hunter-Gonzalez, Michael Nyitray and the Honorable Chip LaMarca, were lauded for their service to our community, to the college and for their professional achievements.

This fall the second annual Alumni Hall of Distinction Awards and Reception will take place at the Ralph R. Bailey Concert Hall on Broward College’s A. Hugh Adams Central Campus. This promises to be a great evening and a chance to celebrate the accomplishments of our former students. Tickets for the Alumni Hall of Distinction Awards and Reception are $50 each and include admission to a pre-ceremony reception.

Broward College employees who are interested in volunteer opportunities at the Alumni Hall of Distinction Awards and Reception and/or the American Dream Luncheon on Nov. 7 should contact the Office of Advancement’s Events Division at 954-201-7470 or events@broward.edu for more information.
Inaugural Poet Richard Blanco Visits Broward College

Broward College South Campus concludes its celebration of National Poetry Month with an event at 7 p.m. featuring Richard Blanco reading from his works and participating in a Q&A and book signing at the Performing Cultural Arts Theatre. Earlier in the day, he conducted an interview and conversation at the Broward College South Campus Regional Library.

Blanco made history earlier this year when he read his poem “One Today” at President Obama’s second swearing in January. He was the first Hispanic and openly gay poet — and youngest — to read at an inauguration.

Reservations are suggested for this evening’s event. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Barbra Nightingale at 954-201-8873 or bnightin@broward.edu.

Holocaust Exhibit at Central Campus through May 3

A special exhibit at Broward College, consisting of storyboards with photographs from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a collection of books about the Holocaust created by Professor Ben Botero and Andrew Dutka, special collections/archives librarian, is on display at the Broward College Archives on the fourth floor of the University/College Library from through April 23. The exhibit will then be on display in the lobby of the Institute of Public Safety (Building 22) from April 29 to May 3.

Equality Across Campus Informs, Provokes Dialogue

Central Campus’ fifth annual Equality across Campus highlighted events over three days earlier this month and offered three presentations that provoked dialogue and inclusion on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. More than 50 percent of bullying incidents in elementary and middle schools are based on gender or orientation issues; 80 percent of students harassed as gay identify themselves as heterosexual and 90 percent of school shootings involve boys taunted with anti-gay epithets.

The film “Bullied: A Teaching Tolerance Documentary” by the Southern Poverty Law Center was screened, followed by a Q&A from the college’s Safe Zone Team. Members of the South Miami-based Yes Institute also visited the college to “Take a Look at Gender” — a multifaceted presentation featuring a discussion led by a transgendered Broward College student and the challenges and triumphs she has faced in her personal journey. Shane Windmeyer, a nationally recognized speaker, also discussed “What’s Your Gay Point Average?”

Broward College Alumnus Named to Head Airport Authority

Henry Rodriguez, a Broward College graduate and Sarasota real estate investor and developer, has been elected the head of the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority. Rodriguez, who was appointed to the authority board that governs the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport in 2010, will serve as chairman until November.

Rodriguez is the chairman, founder and CEO of Woodmere Capital Group, a Sarasota-based real estate investment firm and also serves on the boards of Enterprise Florida, the state’s economic development agency, and Space Florida. He was chairman of Gov. Rick Scott’s transition team for policy and economic development and was a member of former Gov. Charlie Crist’s transition team for economic development.

Former Broward College Minister, Acclaimed Writer, Dies

Writer and speaker Richard Francis Xavier “Brennan” Manning, a Franciscan priest who worked in campus ministry at Broward College in the late 1970s and early 1980s, died on April 12. He was 79.

Manning left the Franciscan order in 1982 to marry, and at the same time began his writing career. He wrote 16 books, including All is Grace, his last book, which chronicled his battles with alcoholism. Among the others were: The Ragamuffin Gospel, Abba’s Child, The Parable of Willie Juan, and Ruthless Trust.
Broward College will hold its spring 2013 commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m. at the Broward County Convention Center. Some 2,787 students are eligible to participate in the spring ceremony and approximately 821 will attend and receive their degrees as part of the event.

The spring graduating class includes graduates representing 88 countries. The oldest graduate is 69 — with 70 over the age of 50 — and the youngest is 16. More than 2,400 associate’s degrees will be awarded as well as 135 bachelor’s degrees. Broward College alumna Paola Mariselli will be the commencement speaker. She graduated with highest honors with an associate’s degree in management information systems and earned multiple awards and scholarships, including the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship in 2008. She went on to earn a bachelor’s degree and will be attending Harvard this fall.

Visit www.broward.edu to watch a live feed of the event starting at 10 a.m. on May 4.

Carol Faber has announced her retirement. She has been the leader and director of WINGS (Women Investigating New Goals and Services) at Broward College during the program’s entire 30-year history and made it one of the region’s most recognized programs.

Originally, the Displaced Homemakers Program (as it was called) was formed when several Florida community colleges receiving grant funding to start programs to provide career exploration, support and training to assist women entering the workforce for the first time or returning to the workforce. With a target of at least 200 women served annually, WINGS has assisted more than 6,000 women in getting the help they need to find a job or enter the college to begin a new career. Carol also launched the Girls Can Program which offers professional development and academic success skills to teenage girls.

Broward College and community-based organizations in Broward County will miss Carol’s innovative, committed leadership. Best of luck, Carol, and thank you.