

# PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

from President Gregory Adam Haile, J.D.



*Together we serve.*

## COLLEGE NEWS

### Town Halls Provide Informed Sessions to Help Employees Cope

The College has hosted ten town halls since the outbreak of COVID-19. The objective is to share college-wide developments and operations from senior leaders. Each town hall features presentations to help employees cope during the crisis. Topics have covered mental and emotional well-being, the impact of the pandemic on the local economy, and cybersecurity. External presenters have included Isaac Prilleltensky, Ph.D., of the University of Miami and author of "The Laughing Guide to Well-Being: Using Humor and Science to Become Happier and Healthier;" Kelly Merbler, executive coach; Dr. Matthew Anderson, life coach; Dr. Jerry Parish, Chief Economist and Director of Research, Florida Chamber Foundation; and Jason Manor, supervisory special agent with the Cyber Crimes, Miami Division, FBI. The seventh town hall also featured a musical performance by Broward College students Robert Zea and Rodrigo Romero.



*Click to view the May Town Hall*

### Talent and Culture Launches Resources on Effective Stress Management: Surviving and Thriving in Difficult Times

The resources feature workshops designed to help employees balance multiple priorities while managing stress and anxiety related to the pandemic. The opportunities include: calming sessions called Purposeful Pauses with Dr. Lisa Elsinger, program manager of Wellness at Broward College, every Tuesday at 3 p.m.

- Interactive group sessions with Dr. Matthew Anderson, counselor, consultant and life coach, on Wednesdays at noon from May 13 to June 1.
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) interactive webinars entitled, "Managing Anxiety: Coronavirus Fears and Concerns through CIGNA" on Mondays at 3 p.m. from May 18 to June 1.
- A four-session Group Coaching program with Vena Sterling, district director, Talent Management at Broward College, on Thursdays at 3 p.m. from May 21 to June 11.

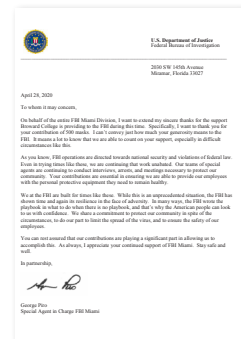
### President Haile Supports Food Distribution at City of West Park

On Saturday, May 16, President Haile joined commissioners and other leaders from the City of West Park in support of a Feeding South Florida Food Distribution event at McIntyre Park. The leaders served hundreds of residents, helping deliver boxes of groceries directly to cars. The Food Distribution, which takes place across several sites throughout the county each week, assists some of the most vulnerable populations to access necessary supplies during the pandemic. The City of West Park is a Broward UP™ municipal partner and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in June 2019 with the College to help meet its goals of retaining and promoting employment opportunities and economic growth among residents.



## FBI Miami Division Thanks Broward College

The Division Head, George Piro, expressed appreciation to the College for its contribution of 500 masks to the office. “I can’t convey just how much your generosity means to the FBI. It means a lot to know that we are able to count on your support, especially in difficult circumstances like this,” wrote Piro in a letter to President Haile. “As you know, FBI operations are directed towards national security and violations of federal law. Even in trying times like these, we are continuing that work unabated. Our teams of special agents are continuing to conduct interviews, arrests, and meetings necessary to protect our community. Your contributions are essential in ensuring we are able to provide our employees with the personal protective equipment they need to remain healthy.” The donation of masks to the FBI was part of the College’s overall support to frontline workers with necessary PPE.



## Nine Faculty Members Honored as 2019-2020 Professors of the Year

In recognition of their invaluable work in the classroom and support to student success, Broward College named nine faculty as 2019-2020 Professors of the Year. The awardees are full-time and part-time professors who work across the College’s main campuses, including online. They were nominated by their peers and students, and the nominations reviewed by a selection committee on each campus. The Professor of the Year award is one way the College honors the dedication, innovation, and creativity of its teaching staff. The awardees are:

### A. HUGH ADAMS CENTRAL CAMPUS



Professor  
Laura Raymond



Dr. Noelle Crooks



Professor  
Wesley B. Wright



Professor  
Michael O'Neill

### NORTH CAMPUS



Professor  
Valerie Ebert

### JUDSON A. SAMUELS SOUTH CAMPUS



Professor  
Rhonda Bobb



Dr. Brandi Coverson-Ridore

### ONLINE CAMPUS



Professor  
Jillian Wojcik

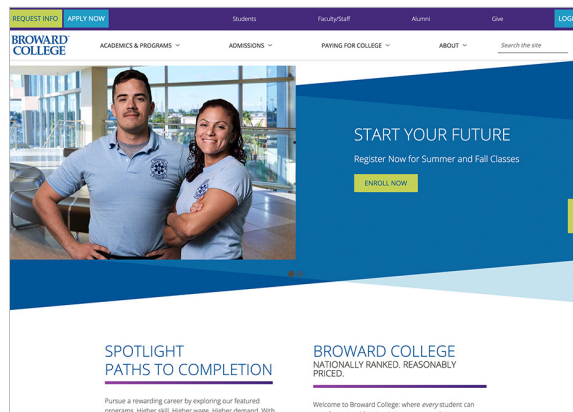


Professor  
Jason Aiken

## It’s Live - New BROWARD.EDU Launched on May 17

The College’s new website went live on Sunday, May 17. The user-focused site features improved search functions, audience-specific navigation, and a mobile-first design. The platform offers easier content administration, a flexible design system, and tools to assist with publishing accessible content. The home page focuses on prospective students and supporting the enrollment process. It also allows current students to navigate the array of services and resources offered by the College.

On the Student section of the site, visitors will immediately find quick links to the most commonly requested items, such as D2L and campus maps. The website’s improved search function will also help visitors find information quickly and easily, including a calendar of events and a news feed.



## Broward College Provides Free Workforce Certificate Programs During COVID-19

The comprehensive list of courses offers basic and specialized skills training intended to support those looking to develop new skills as they navigate uncertainty as a result of COVID-19. The courses are self-paced and can be completed in as little as one month. The classes are offered at no cost and have a final exam. On completion, participants receive a certificate of skill, and in some cases, an industry certification. Most of the courses are open access and available to everyone, including recent high school graduates. Participants will save between \$199 and \$499.



Courses include Creating Webpages, Creating WordPress Websites, Fundamentals of Supervision and Management, Successful Job Search, Keys to Effective Communication, Managing Customer Service, Marketing Your Business on the Internet, Personal Finance, and Small Business Marketing on a Shoestring. There is also an Integrating Technology in the Classroom course available to teachers who live and work in Broward UP zip codes and an industry certificate offered in Retail Industry Specialist.

These recently launched courses are in addition to several online courses already available to residents and city employees in Broward UP communities.

## Institutional Events and Talent and Culture Hosts Trivia Night

It was a time of socializing with a twist of trivia, that brought employees together in the college-wide engagement activity. Throughout the hour, participants were tested on general knowledge trivia and fun. There were also breakout rooms, which facilitated interaction between different employees across the College. Additional employee engagement events are scheduled in the coming weeks.



## STUDENT NEWS

### Students get CARES Funding

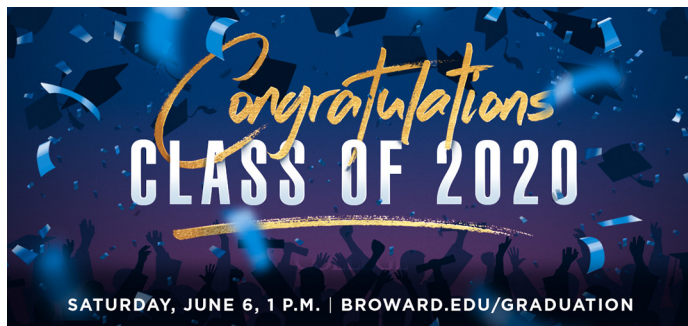
The College has launched the Student Emergency Aid (SEAhawk) Grant to disburse federal emergency funding awarded through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to assist students financially impacted by the outbreak of COVID-19.

Of the \$27 million received from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, approximately 50 percent will go directly to students who are struggling to meet basic needs, such as housing, food, health care, child care, as well as students who otherwise could not afford the course materials and technology necessary to support their learning. The College will utilize the remaining 50 percent to expand student access to remote learning programs, build information technology capacity to support such programs, and train faculty and staff to operate effectively in a remote learning environment.



The U.S. Department of Education allocated funding based on the College's population of students eligible for federal Pell Grants. Students must apply by June 15.

### Virtual Spring 2020 Commencement Planned



To celebrate spring 2020 graduates while adhering to guidelines established for social distancing due to COVID-19, Broward College will host a virtual commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m. The commencement speaker is Andy Henriquez, master storyteller and author of "Show Up for Your Life: 7 Principles to Living an Extraordinary Life". Participation is optional for graduates, who may still have the opportunity to participate in person in the fall 2020 commencement. More than 4,000 students have met the requirements for the spring 2020 graduation. Among them, 2,200 students earning associate degrees, 223 completing bachelor's degrees, and 108 veterans in various degrees.

The event can be viewed at [broward.edu/graduation](http://broward.edu/graduation).

## Celebrating Nursing Graduates

On Friday, May 8, Nursing faculty and administrators led by Dean Sara Turpel hosted a Drive-Through Pinning Parade for nursing graduates. The 90-minute celebration recognized as part of Nurses Week, replaced the traditional candlelight ceremony as a safe and creative way to salute the 116 students who completed

the program. Graduates followed a processional line, where Dean Turpel and her team presented them with a candle, a copy of the Nightingale Pledge, their Broward College nursing pin, and a flower. As a token, Dean Turpel also provided students with a personal note.



## Ana Alexandra (Alex) Flores Named First Environmental Science Bachelor of Science Teaching Garden and Food Forest Fellow

The Environmental Science Bachelor of Science program (ESBS) has named Ana Alexandra (Alex) Flores Moreno the recipient of the first Teaching Garden and Food Forest Fellow. The ESBS Teaching Garden and Food Forest on the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus is funded through a substantial gift from the Gardening for Good Fund through the Broward College Foundation. The gift primarily supports student fellowships to establish and operate the teaching gardens and food forest for the next three years. Each fellowship lasts for two semesters and rotates to a new student fellow each semester during the funded period.

Flores was born in Baja California in Mexico, where she lived for 16 years. After moving to Florida and graduating from South Broward High School, she attended Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), before Broward College, where she is pursuing a degree in environmental science with a focus on biosecurity. Flores previously volunteered in the food forest at FGCU, and at ECHO (an NGO addressing food insecurity in the Americas). She has an interest in plants, particularly desert plants found across the southwest region of the United States, and horticulture. She also has an interest in environmental policy and intends to pursue a master's in the subject.



Applications for the fall 2020 Fellow position will be available on August 10 at [broward.edu/environmentalscience](http://broward.edu/environmentalscience).

## Broward College Drive-Through Pinning and Carnation Ceremony Featured on Several News Outlets

The ceremony on May 8 to celebrate the 116 Nursing graduates and which coincided with Nurses Week, attracted media outlets.

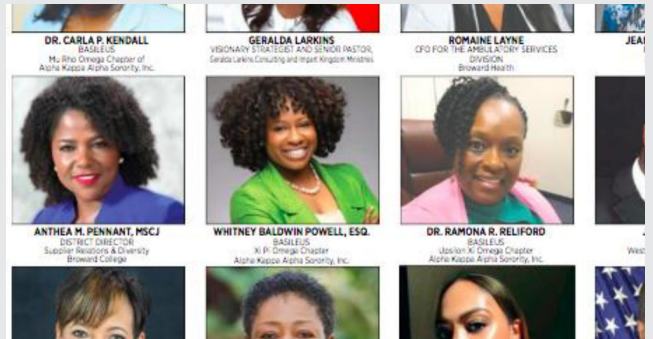


Click to view the story



Click to view the photo gallery

**Anthea Pennant**, the district director of Supplier Diversity was named among 50 of South Florida’s Most Influential and Powerful Black Professionals of 2020 nominated for Legacy’s 2020 Power Issue. The Power Issue appeared in the Miami Herald and the Sun Sentinel on May 6.



**President Haile** was also recognized in the same issue for his selection in the inaugural 2020-21 Class of the Aspen New President’s Fellowship.



## FOUNDATION NEWS

### Alumni and Friends Network Highlights Graduates on the Frontlines

The Broward College Alumni & Friends Network, which works in partnership with the Broward College Foundation and the Office of Advancement, has been actively engaging and highlighting nursing and health sciences graduates of Broward College. The objective is to learn about their roles in the outbreak of COVID-19 and share their journey as a form of inspiration with students and the community. Their stories are featured on the website, newsletters, and social media.

The individuals profiled are a few examples of the impact of Broward College graduates, including those working in areas outside of healthcare and nursing. It is estimated that 70 percent of the individuals working on the frontlines against coronavirus have a degree from a community college across the nation. Their stories remind us of how vital Broward College and our graduates are to the health and vibrance of our economy.

You can read about more of Broward College’s Alumni Heroes on the Alumni & Friends Network’s [website](#) and social media platforms: [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#).



Click to watch this video highlighting local heroes who were "Empowered by Broward."

### Five employees were recognized at the ninth town hall on May 22, for their service to Broward College.

Supervisors read statements of recognition for those retirees who participated in the virtual meeting. They were also commended by President Haile and through a video message from Chair of the Broward College Board of Trustees Gloria Fernandez. Their retirement plaques were delivered by mail.



#### WILLIAM "BILL" ALBERT

William "Bill" Albert served as an information technology specialist with the College for 19 years. In addition to his technical skills, colleagues describe him as a friendly person who likes to help people.



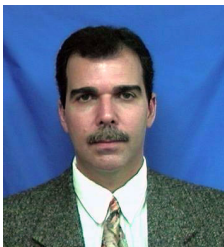
#### MARIA HILLS McPARLAND

Maria Hills McParland, assistant professor in the Arts, Humanities, Communication and Design Pathway, started her career at Broward College as an adjunct professor of Speech Communication in September 2006. She was hired as a full-time faculty member in 2008 on the North Campus.



#### JUAN SILLER

Juan Siller, campus safety officer on the Judson A. Samuels South Campus, started working for Broward Community College in November 1996. He has been a corporal, sergeant, and an officer throughout his 24 years of service.



#### JAMES URGOLA

James Urgola, an administrative specialist in the Academic Success Center (ASC) on the Judson A. Samuels South Campus, has worked at Broward College for 19 years. When the Word Processing Center closed in 2006, he transitioned to the Learning Resource Center, currently known as the ASC, providing vital computer support to students.



#### DONALD WALDEN

Donald Walden, manager of the Omni Auditorium, has been employed at the institution for 34 years. He was hired in 1984 as a part-time stagehand for the Gold Coast Opera, then a year-and-a-half later as the full-time technical director, and then later promoted to his current position.

The May 26 Board meeting was held in a virtual format. Joining Chair Gloria Fernandez were trustees Matthew Caldwell, Zachariah “Reggie” Zachariah and student trustee Erika Noel, president of the A. Hugh Adams Central Campus Student Government Association (SGA). Below are highlights from the main presentations.

### Report on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Process

The Board was updated on the recently concluded fifth-year interim review process for the College’s accreditation with SACSCOC. Renee Law, associate vice president, Institutional Planning and Effectiveness, explained the process which began almost two years ago with a cross-functional team. The team was required to prepare an interim review report which was submitted in September of 2019. This was followed by an on-site visit by SACSCOC representatives, in February 2020. As part of the visit, the team also assessed locations added since the last quinquennial visit – Miramar West and international centers in Spain, Bolivia, and China. The site visit to Bolivia was coordinated virtually. At the end of the assessment period, the SACSCOC team held a meeting with the executives of the College and provided positive feedback. They offered no official recommendations for changes, which is unusual in any of their reviews. AVP Law thanked the more than 150 people across the College, including those at the international centers, who worked together to ensure the report was complete and the site visits were successful.



Members of the SACSCOC with Broward College representatives during the site visit in Spain.

### Board of Trustees Approve the Reduction, Removal and/or Refund of Fees for the Spring, Summer and Fall 2020 Terms

The College has been granted temporary authority by the Board to reduce, remove and/or refund tuition and fees for students who have been or could be affected by the transition to remote learning. The decision follows a full review of standard and laboratory fees to ensure the services or materials for which those fees are being charged are still being offered in remote learning. The College will facilitate the removal and refund of specific laboratory fees for spring session 4 and summer sessions 1 and 2, the return of tuition and fees for students who withdrew from spring session 4 after the move to remote learning, and the removal and reimbursement for parking fees for session 4 of spring and the summer term. This is an estimated cost of around \$1.5 million. Moving forward, the Board has also temporarily granted the College the authority to make decisions on fee reimbursement or removal for the 2020 summer and fall terms.

### Board Offers Condolences to Trustee Caldwell on the Passing of his Father

The Board and President Haile expressed condolences to Trustee Matthew Caldwell and his family on the passing of his father, the late Matthew Caldwell affectionately known as “Wild Bill.” An excerpt from Trustee Caldwell’s tribute to his father’s memory at the funeral was also shared. In response, Trustee Caldwell thanked the Board and the College for their support.

### Broward College Foundation Provides Update on Communications with Donors During COVID-19



Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the Broward College Foundation Nancy O’Donnell-Wilson explained the communication strategy used to engage donors, alumni, and the community since the outbreak of the pandemic. She said that from the outset, her office decided to suspend solicitation to allow focus on non-profits who assist first responders and healthcare organizations. Since March, the Foundation has focused on deliberate and authentic communication with constituents using a combination of traditional and new platforms. These include letters, newsletters, video messages, social media, phone calls, and webinars. The objective is to show how the College was caring for the community and share key decisions made by the institution. VP O’Donnell-Wilson said, as a result, there has been growth in engagement and a record number of people who have opened and responded to the messages. She said the Foundation would strategically resume solicitations this summer as students will need help to recover and retool.