

For Immediate Release

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News from Polk State College

PSC President and District Dean Will Receive National Awards

Two Polk State College administrators have been chosen to win national Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Awards. PSC President **Eileen Holden** is receiving the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction. **Patricia Jones**, District Dean of Academic and Student Services, is receiving the Administrator Award of Distinction

These awards will be presented at PTK's 2010 Annual Convention in Orlando in April. Phi Theta Kappa is the national honor society for two-year college students.

College presidents and campus CEOs are selected for the Gordon Award based on outstanding efforts given toward promoting the goals of Phi Theta Kappa. The Distinguished Administrator Awards is awarded to top administrators at two year colleges who have demonstrated a strong level of support for PTK.

Dr. Holden became president of PSC in February 2006. She brought to PSC and Polk County 23 years of community college experience as an instructor and administrator. From 2001 to 2006, Dr. Holden served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Technical Education at Broward Community College. From 1987 to 2001, she worked at Palm Beach Community College as a Program Manager, Division Chair and Dean of Academic Affairs. Dr. Holden also served as a faculty member at community colleges in Washington and Texas. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Education and a doctorate in Higher Education Administration.



Dr. Holden currently serves on numerous boards of Polk County civic groups, including Polk Works, Polk Vision, Polk Museum of Art, United Way of Central Florida, Central Florida Development Council and East Polk Committee of 100. On the statewide level, Dr. Holden serves as chair of the Policy and Advocacy Committee for the Florida College System Council of Presidents. She is active in the Florida Association of Community Colleges and has served as the President of the Florida Community College Activities Association.



Dr. Jones came to PSC in July 2005. Prior to assuming her current position, she was Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences. As District Dean, Dr. Jones works on college-wide initiatives such as curriculum development, occupational technical programs and the Honors Program. She received her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Virginia. She also holds a Master of Science and Teaching from the University of Florida and a BA from the University of Virginia.

Dr. Jones began her career as an instructor of biology at the John Tyler Community College in Midlothian, Virginia. Then she served as Dean of Instruction at Germanna Community College in Fredericksburg, Va.