

# COMPENDIUM

A Collection of Good Works Published by the Pensacola Junior College Foundation, Inc.

## VOLUNTEER CORNER



BETTY GAIL PETERS

“When I was asked to serve on the PJC Foundation Board, it was easy to accept because of my desire to show support for higher education. The opportunities PJC afforded my two daughters to take college courses while finishing high school was such a positive experience! (I was so grateful at the time for the excellent use of their extra time and educational talents.)

“It has been most rewarding for me to work among other Foundation Board members and the PJC staff and learn how to do volunteer jobs better and more efficiently. It also has been a real confidence builder to learn how fundraising as a group can be easy!

“PJC tends to concentrate on discovering the talents of volunteers and putting those to work. This makes volunteering a natural thing to do! I often find that I can help out in ways that directly relate to my interior design business, whether it is helping with arrangements for a special event, lending items from my store, or contacting other business associates.

“I so enjoy the friendliness and openness to the community that PJC shows as one of its top priorities. It is always so comfortable being there.”

— Betty Gail Peters

## Thank You and Farewell

### Charles Atwell Retires as President of PJC

Charles A. Atwell retired as Pensacola Junior College president Jan. 31 to undergo treatment for liver cancer.

In observance of PJC’s golden anniversary, Atwell was inaugurated as the college’s fourth president on Sept. 8, 1998, exactly 50 years after PJC first opened its doors.

Atwell was chosen to lead the school following a nationwide search. He had served as PJC’s executive vice president since 1986.

Soon after his arrival at PJC, Atwell established the PJC Academy of Teaching Excellence to recognize outstanding teachers. He also began a program to grant emeritus status to outstanding retired faculty. The Academy was the first of its kind in the state and has since been copied at several other colleges.

In 2000, Atwell led the college with an unprecedented capital campaign that raised more than \$5 million for the PJC

Foundation. He also has been instrumental in establishing the Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund to provide higher education opportunities to qualifying residents of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. His goal is that no student be turned away from an education because of financial reasons.

Atwell was one of four recipients of a Kellogg Leadership Grant for Community College Administrators and one of an elite group of college administrators to attend the Harvard Graduate School of Education Institute for Higher Education in 1997.

Atwell received his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Florida. He taught in public schools for four years and served on the faculty and staff at Palm Beach Junior College, Auburn University, and Virginia Tech before coming to PJC.

*Continued on Page 3.*



## From Hoops to Honors, This Robinson Scholar is a Winner

When Michael Montgomery graduated from Woodham High School in May 2001, his friends thought he would choose a college based on its basketball program. After all, Michael had proven his talent as an outstanding varsity basketball player on the courts at Woodham High year after year.

So it was not surprising that the first scholarship offers Michael received were from college athletic departments. In fact, Pensacola Junior College was among those hoping to add Michael’s name to its basketball roster.

Although Michael says he was impressed with PJC’s basketball program, he chose to attend PJC because it also offered a strong academic foundation and an outstanding honors program.

As Michael contemplated his future, he realized that obtaining a degree in electrical engineering would leave little time for other activities.

“In high school I played basketball all the time,” Michael said. “But at PJC, I did not feel that I could spend that much time on basketball and still keep up my studies.”

Dropping basketball may have added time to his schedule but it also took away the scholarship assistance that Michael needed for tuition.

“Getting the Robinson Honors Program scholarship

meant I was able to pursue my dream of becoming an electrical engineer,” Michael said.

As he nears completion of his first year as a Robinson Scholar, Michael readily admits it has been a challenge. He has worked particularly hard in his calculus classes to overcome math deficiencies he had in high school.

But the work has paid off.

When Charlie Schuler, Honors Program chair, recently took a group of Robinson Scholars to visit Florida State University and Florida A&M, he helped Michael check the status of his math classes.

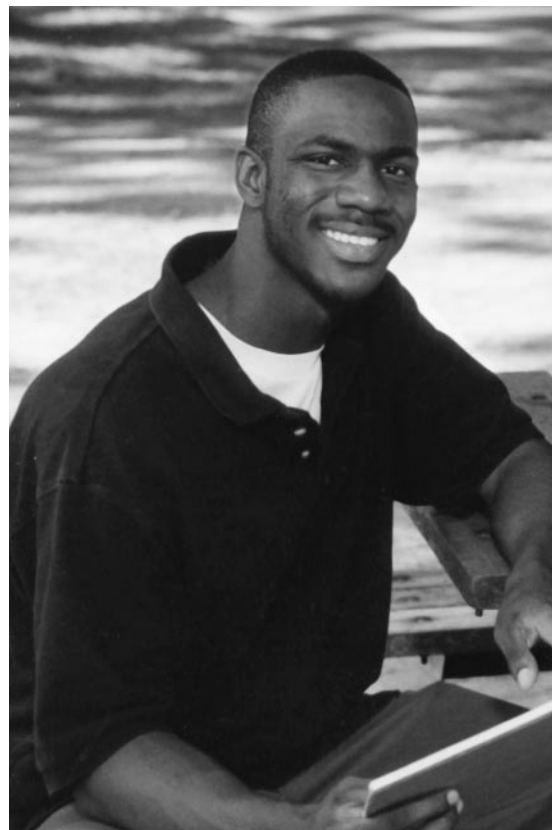
“We found that Michael’s math classes at PJC are right on track with what is offered in engineering at FSU and FAMU,” Schuler said.

And it hasn’t been all work.

Michael says the “extras” such as the Honors Program trips to Atlanta and to the Smoky Mountains have broadened his horizons and helped him grow as an individual.

But what about basketball?

“The basketball decision was hard,” Michael says. “I had been playing since I was in sixth grade. But I know that when I’m through college and have a job, I’ll look back and know I made the right decision. For now, I can still play pick-up games at the recreation center.”



## I N S I D E

- PJC Foundation President’s Message
- Celebrations
- PJC Then and Now
- Alumni Profile
- Barbara Bush
- 2001 Grande Buffet
- Universal Scholarship
- Scholarship Recipient Letter
- Charles Atwell Retires
- Scholarship Spotlight
- New Scholarships

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**DIANE APLEYARD**  
PJC Foundation President

How do people make a difference?

Recently I had the opportunity to visit Focus: Hope in Detroit. Founded in 1968 following the Detroit riots by a priest and a suburban housewife, Focus: Hope began with two lofty goals — to eradicate racism and poverty in Detroit. Thirty years later, here's what they have accomplished:

- 49,000 volunteers
- 850 paid staff
- 47,000 meals each MONTH for children under 6, mothers, and elderly
- Montessori Daycare for 200 children
- Fast Track — a program that brings teenagers up to speed in reading and math so that they can proceed into other career building programs
- Machinist Training Institute that provides state licensed and accredited training in precision machining and metalworking
- Center for Advanced Technologies — integrating hands-on manufacturing training and academic learning in a production setting and educating advanced manufacturing engineer-technologists at world-competitive levels
- Information Technologies Center that provides industry-certified training programs

The story of Focus: Hope is a story of vision and determination. It is a story of a couple of people who saw a problem and decided to do something about it. They are having amazing success.

Here at PJC, we also have many examples of vision and determination. The latest is the launch of the Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund. The goal? Eradicate illiteracy in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties and make sure that any qualified student who wants to go to PJC can do so.

Sounds simple. It will require passion and commitment to meet this goal. I urge you to find your way to help.

Sincerely,

**Diane Appleyard**  
President, PJC Foundation, Inc.

## SURF OUR NEW WEBSITE! We want to hear from you.

Learn about the various programs you've made available through your generosity, join the Alumni Association, experiment with the gift and planned giving calculators and more at [www.pjc.edu/foundation](http://www.pjc.edu/foundation).

# CELEBRATIONS

## Going Places in Style

The first graduating class of Robinson Scholars, along with some faculty and friends, recently presented a spring fashion show and luncheon at New World Landing. PJC's Jazz Chorus provided entertainment. All proceeds from the event will be used to support scholarships and study opportunities for the Sandra and Grover Robinson III Honors Program.



Judy Diaz



Latricia Gill-Brown



Rosemarie Long



Todd Neuman



Guangping Zeng

## Recognizing Teaching Excellence

Five PJC faculty members have been chosen to receive the Academy of Teaching Excellence award for the 2001-2002 academic year. Judy Diaz, Latricia Gill-Brown and Guangping Zeng were chosen from the full-time faculty. Rosemarie Long represents the adjunct instructors, and Todd Neuman is the Outstanding New Faculty Member for this year.

The award recipients and nominees were honored with a dinner prepared by the Culinary Management students and served in the Culinary Arts Dining Room.



## Winning With Brainpower

The PJC Brain Bowl Team won the Two-Year College Brain Bowl Championship in Tallahassee. PJC team captain Jonathan Carp earned the Most Valuable Player award for scoring the highest number of points at the tournament. Other team members are Katherine Gonzalez, Michael Hood, Joshua Showalter, Ron Vega, and Kenneth McAferty, instructor.

## Honoring Donors

The Foundation's top donors were recognized recently at a ceremony dedicating the Wall of Honor (pictured at right with Bill Hamilton, athletic director) in the Barfield Administration Building. The Community Wall of Honor features a display of plaques with the names of 29 Pacesetter Donors who gave \$50,000 or more and 87 Major Donors who gave \$5,000 or more to the capital campaign. More than 400 PJC faculty and staff who donated to the capital campaign also are recognized on the Employee Wall of Honor.



Acting president, Dr. Tom Delaino, and Florida Trustee of the Year and former PJC Trustee, Elba Robertson, enjoy festivities during the donor wall dedication.

## Seniors Swim to Success

The Pirate Swimmers outscored all the other women's teams at the United States Masters Swim Meet at Auburn University in February. Marjorie Stone won high point in her age group, 75 to 79. Other high point scorers were Sally Menk, 60 to 64; Kay Miller, 65 to 69; and Betty Kennedy, 70 to 74. Swimmers Dee Dee Carroll, Jessie Watson, Katherine Clarke, Audrie Owsley and Dotty Whitcomb all finished in at least the top three in their age group.

Seven Pirate Swimmers, ranging in age from 56 to 78, will leave for Hawaii on May 10 to participate in the National Championship Swim Meet. They are Marjorie Stone, Jessie Watson, Sally Menk, Dotty Whitcomb, Jack Graph, and Dee Dee and Dick Carroll.



## PJC Then and Now

### Two Decades and Three Kids Later, Lady Pirates Basketball Still Ranks First

Just like most freshmen, Karen Hubert-Frye experienced a lot of "firsts" when she entered PJC in August 1981. For the first time she was out on her own, enjoying a campus much larger than that of her hometown high school.

But more importantly, Karen's athletic scholarship made her the first recruit of PJC's first full-time Lady Pirates basketball coach, Vicki Carson. Added to that, Karen was the first Lady Pirate to measure over six foot tall.

And topping the list, Karen was the first PJC athlete from either the men's or women's programs to be named to the Florida All-State Academic Team.

"We were a very young team with 11 freshmen and only one returning sophomore," Karen recalled. "But in spite of being Coach Carson's first recruits, we won the Panhandle Conference both years that I played.

The second year, we were even ranked sixth in the nation."

The team's success was not limited to winning games. Six of the team members, including Karen, graduated from PJC, transferred to Division I colleges and graduated with bachelor's degrees.

Karen continued her education with a basketball scholarship to Murray State University in Kentucky. She says the transition from PJC to a large university was easy both on the court and in the classroom.

"I graduated from PJC with a 3.4 grade point average and then made even better grades at the university because I had gotten such a good academic foundation at PJC," she said.

Actually, Karen admits that PJC's academic strength enticed her just as much as getting the chance to play for Coach Carson. When Karen graduated in the top 10 percent of her class at Escambia High School (in Atmore, Ala.), she received scholarship offers from several four-year universities in Alabama.

"I met Coach Carson and looked at PJC's athletic and academic programs," Karen reminisced. "Coach Carson was new but she had good vision for the basketball program, and PJC had a lot to offer me academically. That is really why I selected PJC over the University of South Alabama."

After graduating from Murray State with a bachelor's degree in sociology and political science, Karen returned to Pensacola for a career in social



Coach Vicki Carson and Karen Hubert-Frye

**"I met Coach Carson and looked at PJC's athletic and academic programs. Coach Carson was new but she had good vision for the basketball program, and PJC had a lot to offer me academically. That is really why I selected PJC over the University of South Alabama."**

—Karen Hubert-Frye

work. From 1988 to 1992 she also spent her evenings and weekends as an assistant to Coach Carson, tutoring the players.

Two decades after coming to PJC, Karen is enjoying another "first" with the Lady Pirates. She is the first former player to be named president of the Lady Pirates Basketball Booster Club.

Coach Carson says it is quite fitting that Karen is the first alumni player to head the Booster Club because of her years of support for the team. Carson emphasized that the Booster Club is the heart of the women's basketball program because it generates funds to bring student athletes to see the college and plays an important part in recruiting.

"I chose Karen as my first recruit because I wanted her as a player and as a role model athletically and academically for the other players," Carson said. "Now, through the Booster Club, Karen is a role model again for this generation of players. Her influence on the team has come full circle."

During the past season Karen has solicited support for the team, spent time encouraging the players, and taken visiting high school players to the games.

"This year as booster president has been a very positive experience for me," Karen said. "I have especially enjoyed going to all the games with my children because PJC has been so influential in all our lives."

Karen's daughter Kanesha, 15, has been going to PJC's summer basketball camp since she was five years old. Now she is a varsity star in basketball and track at Escambia High School. This, of course, delights both her mother and her special godmother, Vicki Carson.

Karen's sons, Anthony, 12, and Layton, 8, also have been regulars at PJC's Father and Son basketball camp each summer.

Looking back over her long association with women's basketball at PJC, Karen says some of her favorite memories come from the Alumni Game that Coach Carson uses to kick off the season in early November.

"We always have a good turn-out of alumni players for the game," Karen said. "We enjoy getting together once again to play, share stories and show pictures of our kids."

## ALUMNI PROFILE



Karen Hubert-Frye

### EDUCATION:

Pensacola Junior College, A.A., 1983  
Murray State University, B.S.,  
Sociology/Political Science, 1985

### OCCUPATION:

Human Services Counselor,  
Florida Department of Children and  
Families, Disabled and Elderly

### FAMILY:

Husband: Layton Frye  
Three children: Kanesha, age 15;  
Anthony, age 12; and Layton, age 8

### CURRENT AFFILIATIONS:

PJC Lady Pirates Basketball  
Booster Club, President  
Escambia High School  
Girls Basketball, Assistant Coach  
Englewood Baptist Church, Member  
Order of Eastern Star, Member

### PJC EXPERIENCE:

Lady Pirates Basketball Team, Player  
Lady Pirates Softball Team, Manager  
Florida All-State Academic Team  
Minority Academic Award

"I always tell prospective players they cannot pick a more excellent school than PJC because it is so well rounded, academically and athletically. PJC definitely gave me two of the best years of my life.

"I've always been impressed with the administrative support of the women's basketball program. Back when I was a player, we could expect to see President Hartsell in the stands watching us play, and the same can be said of Dr. Atwell when he was vice president and president. With that kind of support from the president on down, we knew that learning was as important as playing, and that really inspired us to do our best."

## Victoria Snowden Scholarship Receives Gift From Outstanding Teacher



### Giving Back

Teaching Excellence award winner Judy Diaz has contributed her \$1,000 stipend to the Foundation for the Victoria Snowden Scholarship. Victoria, the 18-year-old daughter of Carol Hemmye, died unexpectedly last year. Diaz and Hemmye both teach on the Warrington campus.

Diaz said the Teaching Excellence stipends are often used for travel or for conference expenses, but she wanted her stipend used for something that would directly benefit the college.

"PJC has given me a lot over the years, and I wanted to give something back," Diaz said. "I felt so honored to receive the Teaching Excellence award; I wanted to make it a memorable occasion.

"I chose to give the stipend to the Victoria Snowden Scholarship because Carol and I have been friends and co-workers since Victoria was a baby. That scholarship is very special to me," she said.

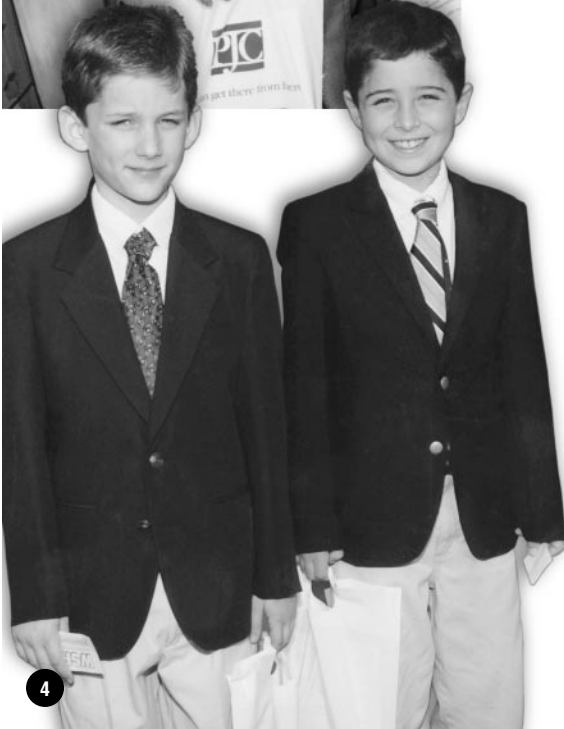
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## Charles Atwell Retires

Thomas Delaino will lead PJC as acting president while a committee searches for a permanent replacement for Charles Atwell. Delaino has been with the college for nearly nine years. He taught at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. and worked at Sante Fe Community College in Gainesville, Fla. for 17 years. He has three degrees from the University of Florida.



1. PJC Development Guild members and volunteers Deborah Coble, Dona Usry, Tootie Waneck, Karen Montee, Brantley Vinson, Anne French, Pam Speer, Gwen Snowden, Diane Gup, Carolyn Fleming, Jean Calvert and Clara Wimberly.  
 2. Barbara Bush speaks at PJC  
 3. Kyle Mertins and Mary Elizabeth Bush  
 4. William Warren and Matthew Blackwell



## First Lady of Literacy Barbara Bush Campaigns for PJC's Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund

Pensacola Junior College rolled out the red, white and blue carpet for former first lady Barbara Bush, Feb. 15, as she helped launch the Foundation's new Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund.

Affectionately known as the nation's first mom, Bush began her visit by reading to more than 200 area children in the Ashmore Auditorium. She spent almost an hour with the fourth and fifth grade students, talking to them about the importance of education and reading "Thank You, Mr. Falker," a book whose main character struggles with reading. To further encourage reading, each child was given complimentary books, "Thank You, Mr. Falker" and "Pink and Say," both by author Patricia Polocco, by WSRE's Educational Services and the Ready To Learn First Book Program. First Book is a project that distributes quality children's literature to families in order to bring a focus on the importance of literacy.

That evening, Bush addressed an audience of more than 800 in the Lou Ross Center and humorously recounted her experiences as first lady, mother of President George W. Bush and Gov. Jeb Bush, and grandmother of 14.

"Don't lend your car to anyone you gave birth to or they gave birth to," she advised.

On a more serious note, Bush spoke about the main reason for her visit, emphasizing

the importance of reading and education to children and adults.

"One of the best things you can give is an opportunity for education. In return, there will be better citizens in your community," Bush said.

Bush's appearance raised more than \$100,000 toward the goal of a \$1 million endowment for the new scholarship fund. When fully funded, this endowment will yield \$50,000 annually. Bush also donated her speaker's honorarium to the Florida Literacy Coalition, designated for the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative.

To offset expenses, the Children's Reading was underwritten by Sacred Heart Health Systems and PJC's sister organization WSRE Public Television. WSRE Public Television sponsored this special children's literacy event as part of the PBS Ready To Learn service. The Evening with Barbara Bush was underwritten by Network Telephone, SunTrust Bank of Northwest Florida, Charles and Carol Carlan, BellSouth and the PJC Foundation. Additional sponsors for the evening include Skopelo's on the Bay, Lamar Advertising and Sam's Club.

**"One of the best things you can give is an opportunity for education. In return, there will be better citizens in your community."**  
 — Barbara Bush



5. Barbara Bush and Christian Garman, WEAR-TV Morning Anchor  
 6. Pensacola Children's Chorus  
 7. Congressman Jeff Miller greets Saul Horacek and Pat Horacek, PJC Math Instructor  
 8. Barbara Bush reads, "Thank you, Mr. Falker."

# 2001 Grande Buffet

## Holiday Event Celebrates PJC's Friends, Foundation and Future

The December chill quickly gave way to the warmth of Foundation friends gathering to celebrate another successful year at the sixth annual Holiday Grande Buffet.

A dazzling ice sculpture of a cheery fireplace hung with red stockings set the stage for a mouth-watering meal prepared by the Culinary Management students.

Entertainment from PJC's Woodwind Quintet added to the festivities as guests browsed through items for the Silent Auction, a first for the yearly dinner. Items for auction ranged from a portrait of former president George Bush, to an original Peter King handcrafted pottery dish, to golf lessons, to season tickets for the Pensacola Opera.

Calling the evening a "thank you" from the college and the Foundation, PJC President Charles Atwell pointed out the generosity of those who give the lifelong gift of education and hope.

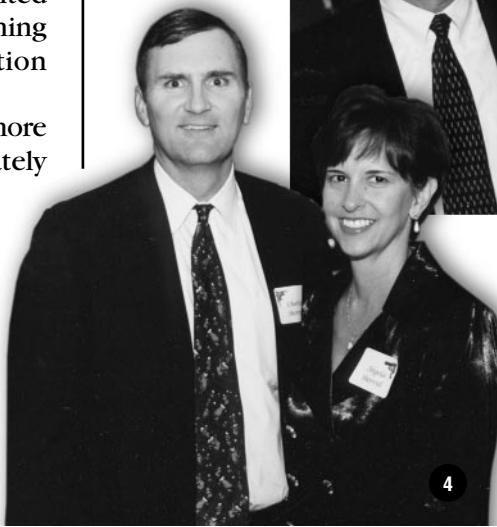
Due to these gifts, Atwell cited unprecedented growth in scholarships, endowments, teaching chairs, academic programs, and construction projects. For instance:

- In the past year, the Foundation awarded more than 300 scholarships totaling approximately \$200,000.
- The Ami Lee Wilder Memorial, the college's first memorial endowed scholarship, has grown from \$20,000 to almost \$125,000.
- The Chadbourne Foundation Endowed Scholarship began as a civil engineering scholarship helping four students per year; now it assists 34 students enrolled in any program of study.
- Five teaching chairs have been established, two have been awarded, and the others are fully funded and are accruing interest toward the first awards.
- The Health Sciences Complex at Warrington will increase the capacity at that campus by one third.
- The Robinson Honors program has grown to more than 100 students, all of them Bright Futures Scholars.

"I want you to know how much the administration and Board appreciate your work," Atwell said. "But, most of all, our students and prospective students thank you."

Sponsors for the evening were Joe Lovoy and Premier Beverage.

Items for the Silent Auction were donated by the Naval Aviation Museum, Whitney Bank, AmSouth Bank, Allan Peterson, Greg Woodfin, Joyce Mannarino, Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts, Brenda Carraway, Betty Gail Peters, Joey Box, Dillard's, PJC Cosmetology Department, PJC Athletics Department, WSRE-TV, Ernest Hand, Pensacola Opera, Patti Russell, Diane Gup, Parisian, Premier Beverage, Susan and John O'Connor, Ron Miller, Jan Cavanaugh, Pensacola Greyhound Track, Daniel Wilson, Dillard's Salon, Steinmart, Patti Russell, Peter King, TGI Friday's, Barnes and Noble, Ellen Wulf, Ladies Quarter, Aegean Breeze, Craig Springer, Royal Cup, Folletts PJC Bookstore, Doug Hill, Chris Cormier, and Madison's Restaurant.



1. Charles Atwell and M.J. Menge
2. Issac Brigham and Angela McCorvey
3. Denis and Maureen McKinnon Sr.
4. Charles and Angela Sherrill
5. Patti and Michael Taylor



6. Marie Young and Essie Moore
7. Roger and Mary Anne MacDonald; Greg and Tara Woodfin
8. The PJC Development Team: (from left to right) Patrice Whitten, Betty Wasson, Lynn Hobbs, Rosemary Ropke, Robin Hiers, Julie Blaine, Kat Miller and Barbara Looney

### Universal Scholarship Paves the Way for Students to Get There From Here

"You can get there from here" will be more than a catchy slogan for many future PJC students, thanks to the newly established Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund. This scholarship will pay tuition and fees for deserving residents of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.

The Universal Scholarship is intended for those students who do not qualify for financial aid, yet who do not have the financial means to afford tuition. Students who do qualify but are not awarded financial aid because there's only so much to go around may also receive Universal Scholarships.

"There remains that middle group, many of them working single mothers or part-time students, whose college costs are swelled by child care and other related expenses, and who often fall in the financial aid gap," said former PJC President Charles Atwell concerning the need for the new scholarship.

In the 2000-2001 school year, 984 students who met the financial need criteria applied for scholarships at PJC. Only 436 were awarded scholarships, and 548 students were turned away because of a lack of scholarship dollars.

Closing that financial aid gap will come closer to reality with the Foundation's goal of reaching a \$1 million endowment in 2007 that will yield \$50,000 annually.

If you would like to donate or know more about the Universal Scholarship and Adult Literacy Fund, call the PJC Foundation office at 850-484-1560.

October 24, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Amanda Selbo. I was a recipient of the In Town Business Women's Scholarship. The courses I needed to get my degree this semester required that I attend full-time. My appreciation goes far beyond the financial aspect. Thanks to your scholarship and grants provided, I am able to accomplish my goal in the shortest time possible. I will re-enter the workforce with a degree and a new-found level of self esteem. I hope you continue to provide scholarships because there are many people like me who, after a divorce, think that minimum paying jobs and poverty are their destiny. Thank you for helping me realize that I can stand on my own two feet and giving me a hand up to do so.

Sincerely,

Amanda Selbo

### ELECTRONIC GIVING

The College Development/Alumni Affairs and Foundation offices can now accept donations via electronic transfer. Set up an automatic monthly or quarterly donation and have it automatically withdrawn from your checking account or credit card. Designate your gift for the greatest need or a specific program or scholarship. For more information call Kat Miller, 850-484-1564.

# Charles Atwell Retires as President of PJC

“I was on the PJC Board of Trustees when Dr. Atwell was vice president and also president. I was very impressed with his knowledge of community college administration. He is a very dynamic leader, a hands-on leader. In my travels across the state, I often met people from other community colleges who knew him, and they always complimented his leadership. I am sad to see him leave.”

— Bill Byrd, Past Chair, Board of Trustees



“Dr. Atwell’s untiring dedication and hard work exemplified the unselfish love he has for the college and the community. He has accomplished what some do not do easily, and he has earned the respect and admiration of those fortunate enough to have been a part of PJC during his leadership.”

— Pat Crews, Staff Assistant to the President



“I deeply appreciate Dr. Atwell’s commitment to the mission of the college and his commitment to the students. That was very evident during the year and a half that I worked with him on the capital campaign. I can’t say enough about his leadership style. He surrounded himself with very capable people and, because of this, the college will continue to thrive. However, we will still miss his leadership.”

— Tommy Tait, General Chair, Capital Campaign



“As a Board of Trustees member and chair, I couldn’t ask for a better person to work with than Charles Atwell. He has brought the college so far in both counties, with new facilities and new programs for the students. When he became president, I knew he would do a good job, and he did. He has left the college in good condition and in good hands. He has been an inspiration to us all.”

— Elba Robertson, Past Chair, Board of Trustees



“Dr. Atwell brought a true academic concern to his position as president. He really raised the bar for PJC’s students and faculty. As Board of Trustees chair, I participated in his inauguration ceremony, and I was so pleased that he would be taking the helm of PJC. Then I was delighted to see the wonderful job he did.”

— Diane Appleyard, President, PJC Foundation; Past Chair, Board of Trustees



“Dr. Atwell’s sincerity, excitement, and passion for education was apparent to philanthropists. Through his vision, people could see a way to support PJC. Just look around at the expansion on the campus — the land acquisitions, the construction on the Warrington campus. Look at the technology in the buildings. Not only did he help raise the money, he worked hard to ensure that the state provided matching funds for the donations raised.”

— Patrice Whitten, Executive Director, PJC Foundation

“One of Dr. Atwell’s most notable contributions has been his involvement with the Florida Council of Community College Presidents. On that council, he has served on the steering committee and been chair of the legislative committee. Over the years he has had a very positive influence on community college policies statewide.”

— Larry Bracken, Executive Director, Government Relations

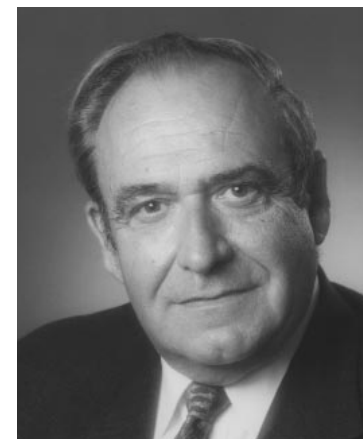


“I was the attorney for PJC while Charles Atwell was vice president and president. I found him to be a visionary — he could look to the future, see the needs of the college, and get us moving there to meet those needs. He was good at implementing plans and moving the college forward. He will be sorely missed.”

— M.J. Menge, PJC Attorney, Retired

“I’ll truly miss Dr. Atwell’s professional leadership and mentoring, but I look forward to a continued strong, personal friendship with him.”

— Isaac Brigham, Vice President for Student Affairs



“From the time I came to PJC in 1989, I found Dr. Atwell to be very supportive of the dental program and very knowledgeable about what we were doing. Through his involvement, we completely remodeled our dental clinic. This was a

tremendous expense, but he made that commitment to support the dental program and then followed through. I am very saddened by his retirement. His position will be filled, but he will not be replaced.”

— Lou Fazio, Professor of Dental Health; Recipient, Margaret Moore Nickelsen Endowed Teaching Chair for Health Sciences



“Dr. Atwell will be missed. As a leader, he was most knowledgeable of the legislative process and its effects on the community college system and PJC. He has a great wit and is a mentor to a lot of us in administration. I know I am a much better administrator due to his sharing of his talents.”

— Dick Bedics, Provost, Milton Campus

“Charles Atwell deftly balanced the pragmatism of running a large complex organization with the idealism inherent in the enterprise of teaching and learning.”

— Heijia Wheeler, Vice President for Academic Affairs



“I interviewed Dr. Atwell for the first story I wrote for *The Corsair*. Even though he was busy, he sat down, gave me his time, and made sure I had all the information I needed for the story. I was impressed with Dr. Atwell’s open door policy. His support for the journalism program was also shown in other ways. He made sure we had good equipment and he seemed genuinely proud of our awards.”

— James Hagan, Editor, *The Corsair*



“Dr. Atwell possesses a strength so solidly based in integrity, knowledge and experience that it allowed those of us who worked for him to do our jobs with confidence. I came to PJC to work with Dr. Atwell and have enjoyed a great 10 years with a wonderful boss and a dear friend. While he is no longer sitting here behind his desk, I

still turn to him for advice and counsel and find that the strength is still there.”

— Tom Delaino, Acting President



“One of the many things that impressed me about Dr. Atwell was that when he became president, he immediately embraced the Foundation and got behind our fundraising efforts. He was the impetus for getting the capital campaign started, and he worked tirelessly to make sure it was successful. He was sincerely concerned about the people at the

college, the faculty, the students. I’m sure they could feel it. I know the Foundation volunteers could feel it.”

— Bo Carter, Past President, PJC Foundation

“Dr. Atwell was a great leader and a caring, compassionate man. I worked under his leadership when he was vice president, then after accepting the presidential post, and to the day he retired. During all that time he never changed his demeanor.”

— Sharon Sanders, Administrative Secretary, President’s Office

“Dr. Atwell hired me six months after he came to PJC. I was immediately impressed with his quick wit and his sense of humor. Humor played a vital role in his leadership style. He enjoyed being at PJC, he enjoyed his leadership role, and encouraged those around him to enjoy themselves also. Looking back I realize that I was the first of many women he would bring into the senior leadership of the college. In addition to being a mentor, coach and educator, Charles Atwell is a shrewd business person. He was fiscally responsible and strategic in running this multi-million dollar business.”

— Betsy Smith, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement



“Dr. Atwell was truly a ‘people’s president’ who possessed a wonderful sense of humor and had a wonderful way of dealing with people. He was also a scholar who set very high standards and held high expectations for PJC’s faculty and students as well as himself. Even with the demands of running a college as large as PJC, he continued to do research and publish. When I wanted to get my doctorate and could not find an appropriate program nearby, he encouraged me to apply for a sabbatical and go away for my doctoral program. Then he mentored me all through the dissertation process. He will be hard to replace.”

— Joan Ziel, Dean, Student Affairs

“I have been privileged to work closely with Dr. Atwell as past president of the Faculty Association and as a former chairperson of the Academy of Teaching Excellence. It has been a very positive relationship as we have shared similar goals and objectives for the faculty and for the college in our positions. While we might not have agreed on certain issues, I have always been able to express my opinions and the rationale for change to him without hesitation or doubt of being rebuked or rejected. I have respect for this man who truly does have the pursuit of academic excellence as a primary focus. I am proud to have learned so much from Dr. Atwell, not only from his academic position but also from his personal side as well.”

— Sharon “Jo” Spencer, Professor of Mathematics

## Scholarship Spotlight

In recent months far reaching budget cuts on the Istate and national levels have limited the financial aid available to community college students. Scholarships open the door for students who otherwise might be turned away from higher education.

Following are examples of scholarships that are filling the financial gap for PJC students.

### African-American Memorial Endowed Scholarship

PJC’s Black History Committee has established an endowed scholarship in memory of PJC’s deceased African-American employees.

“As the first chair of our Black History Committee, Ellen Lett made raising funds for scholarships a top priority,” said James Grant, scholarship chair for the Black History Committee. “When she died, we wanted to have a scholarship in her memory. Over the years, the scholarship has grown to an endowed scholarship that honors all of our African-American employees who are deceased.”

When the scholarship is awarded each year, the Black History Committee holds a ceremony recognizing the accomplishments of those employees honored by the scholarship and their names are read from a memorial plaque.

Those honored are Ellen Lett, Anthony “Tony” Gaines, Ethel Warren, Robert Walker Jr., Mae N. Chenier, Maude R. Jackson, Garrett T. Wiggins, Joyce P. McNeal, Freddie M. Washington, Carl E. Johnson, Brenda Williams, Lillie J. Frazier, Annie McCormick, and Alton R. Williams.

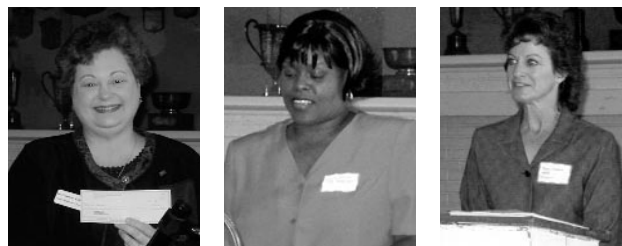
Scholarship recipients for 2002 are Dwain A. Murray Jr. and Erica Williams.

### Vivian A. Huber Memorial Endowed Scholarship

The Pensacola Women’s Alliance has established a second endowed scholarship. The new scholarship is in memory of Vivian Huber, an active member of the Women’s Alliance who died unexpectedly in July 2000. The scholarship is designated for licensed practical nurses (LPN) who are going back to school for a degree in registered nursing (RN).

Vivian Huber had been a top student in PJC’s nursing program and then worked for many years as a registered nurse at Sacred Heart Hospital. Contributions for the scholarship came from family and friends and the Women’s Alliance organized and sponsored the scholarship.

“This is a wonderful way to remember Vivian and to honor her memory,” said Paula Drummond, a long-time friend and Women’s Alliance member. “Vivian was a fantastic person and a dedicated nurse.”



Above, left to right: Claudette Coleman, director of PJC’s Nursing Department; Contina Moore and Peggy Abbott, scholarship recipients  
Left: PC President Charles Atwell and Michol Hite; PWA member.

### NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

Cantonment Rotary Club  
Culinary Scholarship

Edward Wilson Turner  
Memorial Scholarship Endowment

Diagnostic Medical Sonography  
Scholarship

Dr. Joseph & Theresa M. Dennie  
Endowed Scholarship

Dr. & Mrs. Fenner McConnell  
Endowed Scholarship

Dream Makers Scholarship

Ernest W. Russo, Sr. Scholarship

APWA Emerald Coast Chapter  
Endowed Scholarship

Aaron Lee Thomas  
Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Pensacola Women’s Alliance  
Endowed Scholarship

Vivian A. Huber  
Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Disciples in Christ  
Endowed Scholarship

Leslie Jennings Preer  
Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Mary Jane Elizabeth C. McCort  
Memorial Endowment

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## Robinson Scholars Reading Room Opens Doors for Learning and Friendships

The dedication of the Robinson Scholars Reading Room represents another rung on the ladder of success for PJC's honors program.

The reading room is an extension of the Sandra and Grover Robinson III Honors Program. Jill and Grover Robinson IV established the Robinson Honors Program endowment in honor of his parents' dedication and many years of service to PJC and the community.

When the Robinson Honors Program began in August 2000, Charlie Schuler, program chair, envisioned more than a strong academic magnet program.

"I wanted to create a college within a college," Schuler explained. "I did not want this to be a 'drive-through' college where students never get to know the person sitting next to them in class. This should be a chance for students to make friends who will be important to them forever."

Schuler added that students often underestimate the importance of solid friendships in the learning process.



Charlie Schuler, Honors Program chair; Adam Clark, honors pre-law major; and Bethany Brown, honors art major

"This reading room plays a significant part in forming those friendships. It gives the students a place of their own to study together, to spend time together, to form a bond," he said.

Keeping the classes small and taking the students on group trips also has contributed to that sense of community within the honors program, Schuler said.

Recent trips have included visiting museums in Atlanta and St. Petersburg as well as studying the natural beauty of the Smokey Mountains. This summer there will be trips to England and Italy.

Although the program has grown from 60 students to 102 students in the past year, Schuler sees evidence that the increase has not hindered the "family feeling" found in places like the Robinson Scholars Reading Room.

"Students who didn't know each other two years ago are now planning to room together at the University of Florida and Florida State next year," he said.



Top: Honors students, Beth Burleson, Katie Krasnosky and Beth Coseo at the dedication of the Robinson Scholars Reading Room.



Bottom: Narla Zinermon, assistant professor of English; Marion Wernicke, English Department head; and Jennifer Cannon, honors student.

## The Sky's the Limit for PJC's President's Club

President's Club members were treated to a "Celestial Celebration" of grand opening activities for PJC's planetarium last fall. The two-day event included a new planetarium show, children's activities and a live depiction of Galileo himself.

The planetarium's premiere of "WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars," featured original hit songs, call-in segments with Dr. Cosmos, interplanetary weather reports, solar system traffic reports and cosmic news.

The weekend also included the Lyceum presentation of "Galileo," a powerful history of the Renaissance visionary whose discoveries opened the door to space. The show featured veteran actor and director, Roy Henderson, who worked

for five years with the prestigious Royal Shakespeare Company in England.

The President's Club offers friends of the college an opportunity to directly influence the quality of education by generating unrestricted funds. These funds allow the college to focus on areas of greatest need, including scholarships, faculty mini-grants, and program enhancements.

President's Club members are recognized publicly for their support of the college and offered complimentary tickets to many college-sponsored events as well as invitations to special receptions.

If you would like to become a President's Club member, call Kat Miller at the Foundation office, (850) 484-1564.

## COMPENDIUM

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