

Valencia Foundation
Report to the Board of Trustees
May 2016

New foundation board member to begin this fall

Paul C. Perkins Jr. was approved to join the foundation board. Born and raised in Orlando, he developed a passionate desire to seek justice at an early age by watching his father display his skills in court and serve as a business and civic leader in the community. He graduated from Morehouse College and UF College of Law. He is a volunteer leader with the Legal Aid Society, Trinity Prep and Safe House. Several other candidates are in the peer-review stage and will be approved to begin their terms during 2016-17. Please contact Geraldine with recommendations.

Donations support expanded learning for teachers and students inside the classroom and out

In the decade between 2005-06 and 2014-15, the foundation disbursed \$31 million, including more than \$7 million for endowed faculty chairs. Here are three recent examples:

Professor Rob McCaffrey used the Sue Luzadder Chair in Communications to purchase integrated media touchscreens. This technology provides students with a medium through which to produce journalistic prose and create supporting video content, offering students experience with emerging digital media. The screens are now deployed on campus.

Professor Steve Cunningham used the Tupperware Chair in Community Quality to bring in the brilliant Brazilian artist Clovis Junior. Clovis exhibited paintings on campus and interacted with students, he offered an art class at Central Avenue Elementary, and he donated a valuable painting to Valencia Foundation for the next Taste for Learning silent auction for scholarships.

Professor Brian Macon used the Raymer F. Maguire Jr. Chair in Mathematics to build a student community for those pursuing STEM careers. "At a non-residential college there is a strong need to create a sense of belonging and help students with shared interests connect and network outside the classroom," he says. The program's goal is for students to create long-term bonds and deep connections with professional STEM leaders, faculty members and each other.

Foundation assists nursing graduates in taking licensing exams immediately

Eight years ago, nursing professors discovered that their graduates were delaying their national exams (NCLEX-RN) because they could not afford the registration fee. So, grads would save up, while working minimum-wage jobs, moving further and further away from the immediacy of their learning experiences – and potentially impacting their test scores. The foundation stepped in to fund the fee of \$310 each for every eligible graduate, \$78,000 to date.

Combine committed and seasoned professors, comprehensive learning, extensive clinical experiences, and students who wish to succeed with modest funding to reach a winning formula: Valencia's most recent class of first-time exam takers scored 100 percent. Valencia's 2015 annual average was 95.2 percent. The 2015 average in the state of Florida was 72.02 percent.

Join us as we plan an exciting future

Tuesday, May 24, 11:35 a.m. lunch, 12 to 1:30 meeting, **Full Board Meeting**, West Campus Special Events Center.

Thursday, Sept. 15, 11:35 a.m. lunch, 12 to 1:30 meeting, **Full Board Meeting**, location TBA.

Saturday, May 20, 2017, **Taste for Learning Celebrating Valencia's 50th Anniversary**, Rosen Shingle Creek Resort.