

Careers & Workforce Subcommittee

February 20th, 2025
9:00 AM
Morris Hall (17 HOB)

Meeting Packet

Daniel Perez
Speaker

Berny Jacques
Chair

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Careers & Workforce Subcommittee

Start Date and Time:	Thursday, February 20, 2025 09:00 am
End Date and Time:	Thursday, February 20, 2025 11:00 am
Location:	Morris Hall (17 HOB)
Duration:	2.00 hrs

Meeting Florida’s workforce needs: panel discussion on apprenticeships, including strategies to expand participation in apprenticeships and preapprenticeships across the state

NOTICE FINALIZED on 02/13/2025 4:40PM by Vernon.Andrea

Panelists' Bios

Santa Fe College President Dr. Paul Broadie II has spent his career committed to expanding academic programs, student services, community partnerships, and campus facilities. He is focused on supporting student success by expanding workforce development and liberal arts offerings at the college, while maintaining the elite status of the institution.

The president continues to guide the college through the ever-changing landscape of higher education, further advancing the college's mission by expanding access into rural communities, offering programs for non-traditional students, and partnering with business and industry to ensure students have the skillset needed to succeed beyond the classroom.

One such initiative, ACB Excel, offers parents rapid credentialing for higher wage in demand jobs while their children engage in academic-enriching activities that support their wellbeing. Another innovation, the establishment of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, provides faculty a dynamic resource center to share best practices, hold workshops and collaborate across disciplines.

In Fall 2023, the college opened the Academy of Science and Technology, a STEM-focused high school enabling students to earn their high school diploma, A.S. degree, and two industry credentials at no cost to them or their families.

This fall, the college will open the Cellon Institute for Skilled Trades and Advanced Manufacturing. This new facility will double the instructional space for the college's Welding and HVAC programs, while introducing a new program in Advanced Manufacturing to support the needs of business and industry in the community.

Dr. Broadie holds a Ph.D. from Colorado State University, an M.B.A. from Long Island University and a B.S. in Business Administration from Mercy College.

Erica Mattis is the Executive Director of the Florida Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors Association (FRACCA) and Air Conditioning Contractors Association of Central Florida (ACCA/CF). Both associations represent the HVAC industry throughout the state and the Central Florida area.

Since taking over the reins of FRACCA and ACCA/CF, Erica has met with numerous local and state representatives to help both grow and find ways to fund the apprenticeship programs in the state. Erica also worked on adding Palm Beach Air Conditioning Contractors Association (PBACCA) to FRACCA, helping to grow the membership with 60 new members.

Erica has been in the hospitality industry for over 30 years, and serving people and giving back has been a huge priority. Actively involved with the Orlando Sports Foundation, which raises money each year for Breast Cancer research through numerous fundraisers including a 5K which Erica started and has over 700 runners.

Erica is dedicated to actively promoting apprenticeship programs throughout the state and helping the next generation of skilled professionals in the HVAC trade industry.

Peter M. Dyga, CAE, is the President & CEO of Florida's largest contractor organization, Associated Builders and Contractors Florida East Coast Chapter, as well as the ABC Institute, the ABC Cares Foundation and ABC Service Corp.

Peter has served in this capacity since November of 2011 and previously was the ABC Chapter Vice President of Government Affairs for twelve (12) years. Prior to his career at Associated Builders and Contractors, Peter worked for the Florida Legislature, from 1992-1999.

Peter is a native Floridian, graduate of the University of Florida, as well as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute of Organizational Management and has earned his Certified Association Executive credential from the American Society of Association Executives. Peter is active as well in the Florida Society of Association Executives.

The ABC Florida East Coast Chapter has two active student chapters (Florida International University and the Florida Institute of Technology) and holds numerous industry collaboration events every year.

In addition to supporting construction management education, the ABC Institute Apprenticeship College is Florida's single largest provider of apprenticeship education, investing over $2 Million locally each year in safety, management and apprenticeship education for nearly 1,000 craft and industry professionals.

Born in Rochester, Michigan, Commissioner Chris Johnson relocated with his family to Florida in 1982, where they eventually settled in Largo. Proudly cheering for the Packers, Chris attended Largo High School and then enrolled at St. Petersburg College, where he graduated in 1991.

Chris followed his parents' entrepreneurial footsteps in 1993, working in the trade for the family business – Piper Fire Protection, Inc. Founded by his father in 1986 in Largo, the company steadily grew into a full-service fire protection business.

After Chris took the lead as President and CEO in 2000, electrical services were added, renaming the company to Piper Fire Protection and Electrical Services. The company now employs 220 people in Pinellas and Sarasota counties and serves communities throughout Florida's West Coast.
In furthering his service to the local community, Chris was elected as a Largo City Commissioner in 2022.

Commissioner Johnson has a wife, Kim, and six children (a son, Jeremy, and five daughters, Megan, Amanda, Madelyn, Jami, and Ashley).