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Congresswoman Gives American Government Lecture at Florida Keys Community College



L to R: FKCC Foundation Board member Justin Kawaler, FKCC president Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle, Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Student Government President Erin Mayer, FKCC Board of Trustees Chairman Ed Scales

Key West, FL, April 2, 2009—Florida Keys Community College’s students, faculty, staff, and community members welcomed Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen to the Key West campus this past Friday. The group gathered in the college’s library to hear a lesson from the Congresswoman, who was invited to be a guest History Instructor.

The Congresswoman, a senior member of the Florida Congressional Delegation and former Florida certified teacher, presented a lesson on “American Government and Politics”. She explained her job in the United States House of Representatives, as well as her background as a Cuban immigrant raised in South Florida and the passion for education that fueled her political career. The Congresswoman discussed how she has been working with representatives from FKCC and other Keys organizations to change public policy and secure federal funds to improve our community. She followed the lecture by taking questions from the audience with topics ranging from education in the Keys to the crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan, Africa.

FKCC President, Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle, presented Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen with a befitting token of appreciation for her continued support to the southernmost college: a canvas printed photograph by FKCC photography instructor, Alex Holst, of the campus landmark Torii Gate, which resides in the dive lagoon and was created by ceramics instructor, Jay Gogin. The College’s faculty council, headed by English Professor EJ Miller-Laino, formally proclaimed the Congresswoman an Honorary Faculty Member and presented her with the framed document. The Congresswoman was also given an FKCC “island living, island learning” t-shirt by Student Body President, Erin Mayer, which she immediately put on, much to the students’ delight. The Congresswoman then joined students, faculty, and staff for a seafood picnic, donated by Shrimp Shack, at the college’s Clark Maxwell Environmental Habitat park.

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