FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FKCC Retains Tyree Through 2012
“Interim” to be Dropped from Title June 15

KEY WEST, FL, March 22, 2010—The District Board of Trustees of Florida Keys Community College voted unanimously to extend the contract of Interim President Dr. Larry W. Tyree through June 2012 at their monthly meeting that took place this afternoon on the Key West campus. Tyree, who took the helm in November at the beginning of a sabbatical for President Dr. Jill Landesberg-Boyle, will officially shed the “interim” title and become “President” at the expiration of Landesberg-Boyle’s contract on June 15, 2010.

This decision comes on the heels of last month’s vote to extend Tyree’s interim contract six months to cover the period of time needed to conduct a national search for a “permanent” president. However, the board decided that retaining Tyree for two more years would be in the best interest of the institution, given his extensive experience and track record, as well as the need for stable leadership as the college deals with the rigorous process of reaffirmation of accreditation with the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

“We’re very happy that Dr. Larry has agreed to stay,” says Board Chairman Spencer Slate. “I think it’s going to be good for the college; he’s going to help us get through re-accreditation, which he’s been through many times before.”

Over the past five months, the veteran leader has been widely lauded by faculty, staff, and trustees alike—particularly concerning transparent communication and ensuring shared governance. Many also credit Tyree for improving employee morale.

“My wife, Donna, and I have simply fallen in love with the Keys, but more importantly we have fallen in love with this college; the faculty and staff are truly special—and they share a deep passion for serving the students and the needs of Monroe County with quality
programs and services,” says Tyree. “I see enormous potential for FKCC and I couldn’t be happier to be here for a longer run.”

This will be the ninth presidency for the Pensacola-native, whose career includes more than a decade of service at both Santa Fe Community College and Gulf Coast Community College, in addition to five interim presidencies across the nation since 2002. He also spent time as Professor and Director of the University of Florida’s Institute of Higher Learning.

Dr. Tyree’s legacy of leadership and service has been widely recognized with numerous awards and accolades from various educational institutions and organizations across the country. Among his many distinctions, are the following:

- “Meritorious Service Award,” Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, 2006
- “National Leadership Award,” American Association of Community Colleges, 2004
- “President of the Year,” Florida Association of Community Colleges, 1992
- “One of the Most Effective College and University Presidents in the United States,” 1986

Dr. Tyree has a Doctorate of Education from Indiana University, as well as a Master of Education and Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Florida.

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