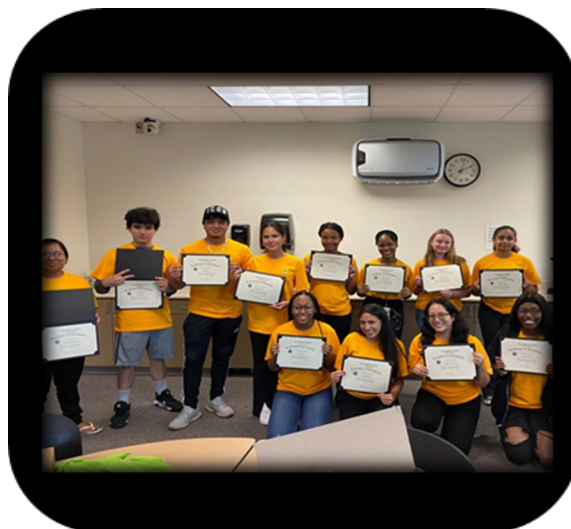


INTRODUCING

SATC: Spring Semester Kickoff

ISSUE NO 2. | Spring 2024



What is SATC?

The STEM Articulation and Transfer Collaborative (SATC) grant, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, is designed to provide intensive support resources for students pursuing careers in STEM (with a special focus on chemistry & biology disciplines) attending Palm Beach State College with a transfer goal of FAU. The grant is led by Associate Dean Dr. Becky Mercer, P.I., and Brandon White, Coordinator.

FREE TUTORING

The SATC Program offers Chemistry tutoring services. To book a tutoring session please contact:

Bruna Sharkey
sharkeyb@palmbeachstate.edu



UPCOMING STEM EVENTS

- [SATC Events](#)
- [National Science Foundation Events](#)

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- [PBSC Foundation](#)
- [Aunt Bertha Financial Assistance](#)
- [Scholarship Search Engine](#)

STEM ASSOCIATIONS

- [List of STEM Associations](#)

Upcoming Spring 2024 Collaborations

Florida Atlantic University



Figure 1. Former PBSC and SATC Student Androff Cesar presenting poster board at FAU in 2023.

Brandon White, The SATC Coordinator, will serve as the PBSC representative for FAU's 14th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Research (OURI). Brandon will serve as the point of contact for students who would like to participate in the event as poster board presenters. The FAU Symposium will be taking place on April 5th, 2024. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to share their research with the academic

community and make new connections with FAU! All PBSC students are welcome to submit a poster board proposal for consideration. Please email NSF SATC Grant Coordinator Brandon White, at whiteb@palmbeachstate.edu, for more information. Submission deadline is February 26, 2024. For more information on the FAU OURI Symposium, please visit <https://www.fau.edu/our/>.



Figure 2. FAU Transfer Advisor Ana Ostolaza speaking with our students at PBSC Boca Raton Campus 2023

FAU Admissions Transfer Counselors will also be on our Palm Beach Gardens, Boca Raton, and Lake Worth campuses throughout this semester to help guide students that are interested in attending FAU post-graduation. Students can connect with Mrs. Claudette Robertson on the PBG campus in the Burt Reynolds Student Center room 138 from 9 am to 4:30 pm, on the following dates: February 14th, February 28th, March 13th, April 3rd, April 17th, and May 1st.

STEM Student Panel



Figure 3. Fall 2023 Student Panel at PBSC Boca Raton Campus

The STEM Student Panel series will provide a live Q/A with three STEM students at PBSC and FAU, Bruna Sharkey, Nico Vilceus, and Kenley Ruiz. Participants can expect to gain valuable insights on balancing work/school, making career connections, and finding the right pathway for their goals in STEM from students who have successfully done it themselves. This series is also a great way for participants to network with other like-minded STEM students and build mentorship support. All PBSC students and faculty/staff are welcome to attend virtually or in-person. This series of events will take place in March 2024 on the Palm Beach Gardens and Lake Worth Campuses. Please check our Engage page for details. [SATC Engage](#). Read on for more information on our panelists: Bruna is a PBSC alumna now completing her Biology B.S. degree at FAU's Honors College in Jupiter, FL with a goal of becoming a Dentist. Nico is a current PBSC Engineering student with goals of becoming a Mechanical Engineer at FAU. Kenley is a recent PBSC graduate preparing to attend FAU for Computer Science with a focus on programming.

STEM Student Panel



Figure 4. Fall 2023 STEM Career Panel for Engineering at Boca Raton Campus

This April the SATC program will be hosting a series of Career Panels featuring professionals from across the STEM fields. Topics will range from career experience insights to advice for students planning their own pathway into the field. STEM disciplines represented this term will include Mathematics, Computer Science, and Engineering. We are excited to share our Mathematics panel will be partnered with Math Awareness Week at PBSC during the first week of April! Please check

our Engage page for exact dates and times. [SATC Engage](#)

SATC + AAAS Blog



The SATC Program recently published an article with the American Association for The Advancement of Science (AAAS) that officially went live on December 1st, 2023. The article highlights SATC's Lab Research Training program designed to provide students with extracurricular undergraduate research experience and fundamental lab skill training in Biology, Biotechnology, and Chemistry. The article is used to share valuable insights on the program's creation and facilitation with the Higher Education community so others can replicate and adapt the program at their home institutions to better support their STEM students. Use the link below to check out the article!

[AAAS SATC Article](#)

Figure 5. SATC Lab Program Student, Camila Triana, from Fall 2022 Chemistry Cohort in Boca Raton

Collaborate with the SATC Grant!

We are excited to kick off 2024 with lots of exciting events and collaborations across the college community. We want to invite you to join us in providing support to our PBSC STEM Students in their journey to graduation! Here are just a few ways we can collaborate this year:

- Invite classroom visits from SATC staff who can promote STEM academic resources, career exploration tools, and extracurricular activities at PBSC.
- Visit our yearly SATC lab programs on Palm Beach Gardens, Lake Worth, or Boca Raton campuses to encourage students and provide mentorship.
- Participate in the yearly STEM Professional Panel series as a speaker to share your personal academic and professional journey with students or bring along your class to support your students' growth by networking with professionals and other like-minded STEM students.
- If you are interested in collaborating in any capacity, please contact SATC Coordinator Brandon White (whiteb@palmbeachstate.edu).

Meet Yeral Vidal



Yeral is a recent AA PBSC graduate (23) from the Dominican Republic that connected with the SATC program through Advising in Spring 2021. He is an excellent student who knows that the key to success is to be a student of life.

How has the SATC Program impacted your academic journey?

- The SACT program provided me with a smooth academic pathway by guiding me through each step in the whole process of becoming a successful college student, from the right classes and professors to the best schedule that worked for me every term.

How did you decide on your major?

- After a long but very effective conversation my advisor pointed me in the right direction by considering my personal interests and desired future income. We discussed all kinds of fields and jobs, and I found myself most interested in Dental Hygiene with a long-term goal of Dental School.

What does academic and personal life balance mean to you?

- Balancing my academic and personal life has been one of my biggest challenges due to personal issues and a very busy work schedule outside of school. To me it means that my academic, personal, or work life should interfere with each other, and I must manage my time accordingly to make room for all of them.

How does your culture influence the way you define success?

- I'm from the Dominican Republic which is an underdeveloped country so not many people get to study what they want and graduate from college. For me, graduating college is my biggest success and one of the most important steps into my future.

What are 3 things you can't live without?

- I can't live without the love and support from my mom, siblings, and my girlfriend. They are my support system, and these relationships mean the most to me.

Describe an academic or personal obstacle you have had to overcome.

- One of the biggest obstacles I had to overcome was the language barrier between English and Spanish but with practice and giving myself much grace, I found myself overcoming this obstacle!

Meet the SATC Team!



Brandon White is the current Program Grant Coordinator for the National Science Foundation (NSF) STEM Articulation and Transfer Collaborative (SATC) grant at Palm Beach State College. He has over eight years of higher education experience working in numerous departments and roles both inside and outside the classroom ranging from Student Life to Academic Affairs. Throughout each position he has gained key insights of the education community, and the unique mixture of elements required to foster student success. A graduate in Communication Studies (20) from Florida Atlantic University, Brandon has a deep passion for connecting people and building community wherever he goes.



Jada Brooks is SATC's Outreach Specialist. She graduated from PBSC in 2017 and shortly after continued her education at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University as a Business student graduating in 2019. After earning her bachelor's degree, she volunteered with a non-profit organization named City Year for 2 years, which is when she fell in love with working in education. In the Fall of 2021 Jada earned an opportunity to go back to where it all started and landed her current position at PBSC.



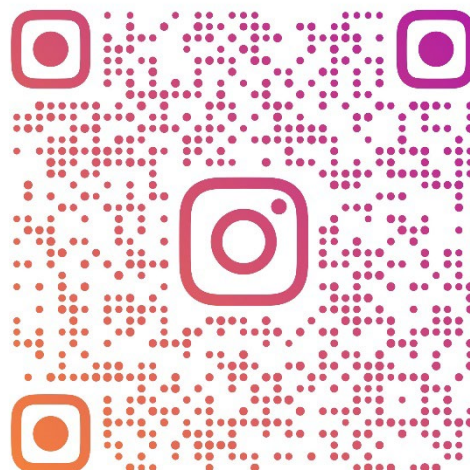
Becky Mercer is the Associate Dean for Science and Mathematics at Palm Beach State College's Palm Beach Gardens campus. She earned her B.A. in biological sciences (Spanish minor) from the University of Southern California and her Ph.D. in metabolic biology from Columbia University. Previously she served for 5 years as PBSC's STEM education director. Becky is interested in increasing student access to hands-on research, and in supporting faculty projects that complement student learning outside the classroom. She has served as PI on several NSF projects to increase participation of underrepresented groups in STEM and published extensively on a variety of biomedical research topics.

Scan this QR Code to connect with us and gain more information on the SATC program!



You can also contact SATC Outreach Specialist Jada Brooks directly for more information:
brooks@palmbeachstate.edu

Scan this QR Code to check out our Instagram page!



PBSCSTEM

ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE RESOURCES

01

PBSC Calendar-

<https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/AcademicCalendar/default.aspx>

02

PBSC Advising-

<https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/advising/>

03

PBSC Student Learning Center-

<https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/slc/>



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY RESOURCES TO KEEP IN MIND

01

Apply Now- FAU

LEARN Program
<https://www.fau.edu/learn/apply/>

02

FAU College of Science-

<https://science.fau.edu/>

03

Post PBSC Graduation-

<https://www.fau.edu/admissions/transfer/>

