Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that Jeff Thies, Ph.D., is the new Executive Director of Developmental Education at PCC.

PCC is an open-access institution, and we are redesigning Developmental Education to ensure that all students coming here can develop reading, writing and mathematics skills needed to realize their education goals.

With more than 14 years as a community college faculty member and administrator, Jeff has the experience and expertise to lead our ongoing improvements, including fully implementing the College’s Developmental Education Redesign Plan. I am confident that with Jeff at the helm, we can meet College-wide Strategic Plan goals, instill a culture of continuous improvement and support our campuses as they provide consistent instruction and student services.

Jeff currently is Dean of Academic Studies at Lee College, a Hispanic-Serving Institution in Baytown, Texas. He has provided leadership in maintaining instructional programs, and in planning strategies to ensure student persistence, as well as proper staffing, class scheduling and facility utilization.

At Lee, Jeff recently worked with faculty to create a new core curriculum, implemented non-course-based alternatives for Development Education and partnered with local school districts to create state-mandated college preparatory courses. He also is an adjunct faculty member in Mathematics.

Jeff is familiar with Arizona, having served at Central Arizona College in various capacities, including Developmental Specialist and Faculty in Mathematics, and serving as Chair of Science and Mathematics. He also has taught Mathematics at junior high schools and high schools in the state.

Jeff has a Ph.D. in Higher Education from The University of Arizona. He received a master’s degree in Education from Northern Arizona University and a bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education from Arizona State University.

Jeff will report to Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Dr. Erica Holmes and will co-chair our Developmental Education Council meetings. His first day at work is March 2. Please join me in welcoming Jeff to the College.

Lee D. Lambert,
Chancellor