The 20th Anniversary of September 11, 2001

Message from Dr. Powell:

We all woke up on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 having no idea that our world was about to change. It’s one of those solemn days in history where many of us remember exactly where we were and exactly what we were doing when we first got word about what was happening in New York City. A few hours later, the Twin Towers had fallen, the Pentagon had been attacked, and everyday Americans had given their lives to stop another plane headed to Washington, D.C.

This week, we mark the 20th anniversary of that tragic and harrowing day. We pay tribute to the nearly 3,000 Americans who died that day and the many Americans who died subsequently in the fight against terrorism. We give thanks to our military members, first responders, law enforcement officers, and all of the women and men who protect our country and each of us. We are especially grateful for and inspired by our employees and students who have served or are currently serving in the military, including at least 98 student veterans and 17 active-duty service members or reservists.

We know some of our community members lost loved ones during 9/11 and we especially hold them in our hearts this week. On this 20th anniversary of one of America’s darkest days, perhaps the greatest tribute we can make to all those who died on 9/11 and the many loved ones they each left behind is a recommitment to bettering our world however we can.

While few of us will ever fight terrorists, each of us can fight terrorism in our own lives by working against all forms of hate, intolerance, and discrimination. We do that best by loving and supporting one another – this week and every week.

We will not forget. We will work for world peace.

Thomas H. Powell
Interim President

Message from the FCC Center for Student Engagement:

In remembrance of this solemn day, and to recognize the almost 3,000 lives lost, the Center for Student Engagement (CSE) invites members of our College community to pick up ground flags, available in H101 or at the Security Desk in the Student Center, and plant them in the mulched area of the Memorial Garden located in the Quad between the Student Center and B/C buildings. Flags are available all this week and will remain in the garden through September 30th.

We also invite any students or staff who are active duty or retired military veterans and current and former/retired first responders to stop by CSE (H101) to pick up a free meal voucher to Smooth Joes (good through September 30th) in appreciation for your service.