

August 12, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter of support for a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Medical Imaging program at Palm Beach State College (PBSC). I currently serve as Dean and Vice President of Medical Affairs at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, Florida. I previously served as Department Chair of a basic neuroscience department at Albany Medical College (AMC) while maintaining a busy functional neurosurgery practice and serving as division chief in the clinical department, hence I am well positioned to comment on the benefits of adding the BS degree in Medical Imaging program to what PBSC is currently offering.

The Medical Imaging program at PBSC began almost three decades ago providing entry-level imaging technologists to address workforce demands in Palm Beach County hospitals and other imaging healthcare settings. Palm Beach State College currently prepares associate in science (AS) degree graduates in Radiography, Sonography, CT and MRI. The program's success is illustrated by the high national exam pass rate and the nearly 100% job placement rate of graduates.

The demand for medical imaging personnel continues to be significant. Palm Beach County hospital clinical affiliates will benefit from this BS degree program. Ultimately patients in our area will benefit from the advanced training of our imaging professionals.

The Medical Imaging Business Partnership Council has requested the development of an upper-division credential for Registered Technologists (RT) in Medical Imaging who are seeking career advancement. This BS program will provide a pathway for graduates from AS programs in Sonography, Radiography, Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Therapy by expanding their skills in supervision, management, administration and clinical specialties (CT, MRI, Interventional Radiology) with an emphasis on new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and computer-aided diagnostics (CAD).

I believe adding the BS program in Medical Imaging would be an asset to Palm Beach State College's current offerings and the community in a whole will benefit by having available more skilled medical imaging personnel. This proposal has my full support. Please feel free to contact me with further questions.

Best regards,



Julie G. Pilitsis, MD, PhD, MBA
Dean and Vice President for Medical Affairs