## For more information:

Mary Gotschall, 202-336-6744 or <a href="mary.gotschall@apscu.org">mary.gotschall@apscu.org</a> Bob Cohen, 202-336-6836 or <a href="mary.gotschall@apscu.org">bob.cohen@apscu.org</a>

## **Association Confers GREAT Award on Zephyrhills Graduate**

**Washington, D.C. – March 8, 2011** - The Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities (APSCU) today is awarding its highest graduate achievement honor to Jim Williams, of Zephyrhills, Florida.

Williams is among five graduates of APSCU institutions scheduled to receive the honor during a ceremony on Capitol Hill. The Graduate Recognition for Excellence, Achievement and Talent (GREAT) Award recognizes former students who have demonstrated outstanding academic and personal achievement. Williams is a graduate of Everglades University in Sarasota, Florida.

Williams, 38, has worn many hats during his productive life: A law enforcement officer, a helicopter pilot, a husband, student, and father. He currently serves as President of Bear Defense Services, a company that helps the U.S. Military units in combat situations identify and disarm Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). Williams earned a Bachelor's of Science in Aviation Technology from Everglades University in Sarasota, Fla., in 2006. While enrolled full-time at Everglades, Williams was also working full-time as a Helicopter Patrol Officer at the Tampa Police Department. His dedication to on-going service included helping to train his fellow police officers in the latest in surveillance camera technology; this volunteer duty for Tampa PD brought Williams into contact with a company that works with the US Armed Forces overseas to improve security for troops. Williams ultimately became a contractor with Gyrocam Systems after retiring from Tampa PD.

Recently, he was promoted to President of Bear Defense Services, an affiliate of Gyrocam.

## **About APSCU**

The Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities is a voluntary membership organization of accredited, private postsecondary schools, institutes, colleges and universities that provide career-specific educational programs. APSCU has more than 1,800 members that educate and support over one million students each year for employment in over 200 occupational fields. APSCU member institutions provide the full range of higher education programs: Master's and doctoral degree programs, two- and four-year associate and baccalaureate degree programs, and short-term certificate and diploma programs. Visit APSCU at <a href="www.apscu.org">www.apscu.org</a> or follow us on Twitter: <a href="@apscunow">@apscunow</a>. On September 22, 2010, APSCU changed its name from the Career College Association.