Dr. Carol F. Probstfeld (“feld pronounced as field”) is the sixth president of State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota. Established in 1957 as Manatee Junior College (later Manatee Community College), SCF is the area’s oldest and largest public college with more than 44,000 graduates. With campuses in Bradenton, Venice and Lakewood Ranch and a robust online presence, SCF serves 27,000 credit students annually and another 14,000 participants annually take noncredit programs. Dr. Probstfeld was named SCF president in January 2013 by the College’s Board of Trustees. She previously was appointed interim president in late 2012.

Dr. Probstfeld came to SCF in 2003 when then-president Dr. Sarah Pappas asked her to accept the position of vice president of business and administrative services. As vice president, she oversaw the $50 million annual operating budget for SCF, a $100 million enterprise and major economic driver in the region; she was responsible for the College’s human resources, technology, facilities, finance, business services, and student financial aid operations; she led the critical incident management team, facilitated the development and implementation of the College’s strategic plan, and led an expansion of online learning opportunities for students.

As president, Dr. Probstfeld has reaffirmed her commitment to building and nurturing relationships and focusing on enhancing the student experience. During her 20-year career in higher education, Dr. Probstfeld achieved a proven track record of fostering strong relationships with the community through collaboration and partnerships. Her higher education experience -- as a student, as an adjunct faculty member and as an administrator -- ranges from small private institutions to large public colleges and allows her to benefit from many perspectives in different educational settings.

Before coming to SCF, Probstfeld served as vice president for finance and administration, chief financial officer and treasurer for Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, Calif., and Notre Dame College of Ohio in South Euclid, Ohio.

Dr. Probstfeld is the Chair-Elect of the Council of Presidents of the Florida College System, and is active in several local organizations, including Manatee Memorial Board of Governors, the Bradenton Area EDC, and Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. She previously served as a steering committee member and chair of the Florida College System Council of Business Affairs. In recognition for her outstanding professionalism, expertise and service to the Florida College System, she was selected as the Ken Jarrett Award recipient in 2009.

Dr. Probstfeld enjoys attending student plays, concerts, ballgames and club events and speaking with community groups. When her busy schedule as SCF President allows leisure time, she practices her underwater photography skills while diving worldwide.

Dr. Probstfeld is from Whittier, Calif. She received her doctorate in Organizational Leadership from Argosy University, an MBA from John Carroll University, and a bachelor degree in Accounting and Marketing from California State Polytechnic University. She lives with her husband, Bill Murphy, and their "fur children" – Harpo and Kelly, both smooth-coated red Brussels Griffons, and Nixie, a Portuguese waterdog.

Updated 03-15