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July 10, 2007
**Rice Awards Presented to
Cabrillo College and Sacramento City College**

SACRAMENTO, CA - The 2007 John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Awards were presented to Cabrillo College's **Digital Bridge Academy (DBA)** and Sacramento City College's **Respect, Integrity and Self-Determination through Education (RISE)** program at the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (BOG) meeting yesterday.

The two Rice Awards, represented in a black gilded falcon with a black glass disc nestled under the wing, were presented to honor the memory of the late John W. Rice yesterday. Dr. Rice tirelessly advocated for equity in the California community colleges when he served on the Board of Governors from 1992 to 2000. He is the father of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

"I am honored that the Foundation for California Community Colleges continues to recognize the memory of my father through the John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Award," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice wrote in a letter to BOG President Kay Albani. "The Foundation's work to support non-discrimination in California Community Colleges is a wonderful living memory to a man who was dedicated to promoting excellence in education."

A college president and academic senate president nominated this year's award recipients. Staff from the community colleges and from the System Office served on the selection committee. There were many nominees but the two recipients clearly demonstrated an outstanding achievement in student equity.

The 2007 Award Winners are:

Cabrillo College's Digital Bridge Academy (DBA) Program is an exemplary program that targets the under-prepared students for college success. This program provides a new educational model that is based upon acceleration as a cohort rather than remediation and stand-alone student services. This helps them reassess their previous educational experiences, recognize their own and others' learning and interaction styles, understand their true abilities and motivation profiles, and teaches them how to operate in the kind self-managing work team environment found in many modern workplaces, where better opportunities are available to them. Some of DBA's achievements are:

- Issues of racism and social inequalities and their impacts on students are critical elements of the DBA curriculum. Faculty is directly and explicitly engaged in embracing and supporting diversity and equity.

Public information inquiries:

Ron Owens

916. 327. 5356

Chancellor's Office,
1102 Q Street

Sacramento, CA 95811-6549

- Served 50 students, trained 15 faculty members from 6 colleges, and will train 35 faculty from 9 community colleges this summer.
- Conducted in depth research of their students to better understand the needs of under-prepared students. 80 percent of the Bridge students had maintained a higher grade point average after the Bridge Semester than before.
- Since 2003 the DBA has been endorsed and funded by private and public foundations for a total of \$3,372,250 million dollars including: the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (\$1,300,000); the James Irvine Foundation (\$922,250); National Science Foundation (\$750,000); and David and Lucile Packard Foundation (\$400,000).

Dr. Brian King, Superintendent/President, Cabrillo College, acknowledged DBA Director Diego Navarro, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Renee Kilmer, and Cabrillo Community College District Board of Trustee Member Rebecca Garcia. "Cabrillo College is honored to receive this prestigious John W Rice," he said. "The Digital Bridge Academy is at the forefront of meeting the needs of our diverse community in Santa Cruz County."

Sacramento City College's Respect, Integrity and Self-Determination through Education (RISE) Program is a collaboration of faculty, staff, and students dedicated to the success of all Sacramento City College students. The **RISE** program was established in 1999 to serve all academic probationary and dismissed students. **RISE** has expanded its services beyond probationary students to include: Basic Skills New Student Orientations, Student Ambassadors, Community/High School Outreach and Recruitment, Club Organizations, International Service Work Projects, In-Class Tutorial Projects, College Tours and Explorations, and a Foster Youth Support Program (currently in the planning stages). This program provides personalized counseling, tutorial services and education enrichment experiences through such activities as university tours, campus volunteer projects, and cultural lecture series. Some of **RISE's** achievements are:

- The successful course completion rate for all **RISE** students for fall 2006 was 57.1 percent compared to 57.6 percent for the College as a whole.
- Since 1999, 87 **RISE** students have transferred to four-year universities. In 2006, 23 **RISE** students transferred to UC Berkeley, UCLA, University of Southern California, UC Davis, CSU San Diego, CSU Fullerton, and CSU Sacramento.
- Thirteen **RISE** students and staff took part in a service work project in San Ignacio, Belize to complete an elementary school for 400 Belizean children. The 17-day work project was inspirational and exciting for both the **RISE** students as well as the San Ignacio community.
- **RISE** students and staff raised the entire \$15,000 for the trip through car washes, poetry performances, grant writing, and many other community fundraisers.

While speaking at the presentation yesterday morning, Sacramento City College President Arthur Tyler recognized RISE Program Directors Keith Muraki and Juan LaChica. He also acknowledged Roy Desmangles, RISE Counselor, Michael Poindexter, Vice President of Student Services, Delecia Nunnally-Robertson, Dean of Counseling and Student Success, and Linda Stroh, Academic Senate President. "The wonderful staff and faculty have all done an excellent job. They've worked hard and have inspired successes," he said. Turning to the four **RISE** students wearing black, red and white t-shirts, Tyler added: "For all that you do...my hats off

to all of you for receiving the award.”

Clara Rice, who attended the ceremony, recalled the memory of her late husband and thanked everyone for continuing to support the John W. Rice Awards.

Prior John W. Rice Diversity and Equity Award recipients were: **2006**, Don Dorsey, Dean, Student Affairs & Activities, Foothill College, the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, and Riverside Community College District; **2005**, Charles West of Bakersfield College and Abel Nunez of Taft College; **2004**, Dr. Nadine Hata of El Camino College, Earnest Moreno of East Los Angeles College, and Sierra College; **2003**, Dr. Dibaker Barua of Golden West College and Cabrillo College; **2002**, Dr. Brenda Flyswithawks of Santa Rosa Junior College and Pam Chao of American River College; and **2001**, George Ow, Jr. of Cabrillo College.

The California Community Colleges is the largest higher educational system in the nation comprised of 72 districts and 109 colleges with more than 2.5 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training and basic skills education, prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions and offer opportunities for personal enrichment and lifelong learning. The System Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges system, please visit www.cccco.edu.

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