



An International Organization for the  
Community College Baccalaureate Degree

# BEACON

P.O. Box 60210, Fort Myers, Florida 33906  
(239) 489-9012 • www.accbd.org

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## WHAT IS THE CCBA MISSION?

*To promote the development and acceptance of the community college baccalaureate degree as a means of addressing the national problems of student access, demand, and cost.*

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## 3 Texas Community Colleges to Grant Bachelor's Degrees

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved Brazosport College in Lake Jackson, South Texas Community College in McAllen and Midland College in Midland to offer bachelors degrees. All three schools want to offer degrees in applied science and technology fields that correspond to the needs of industries near their campuses. Most noteworthy was a request from Dow Chemical Co. asking that Brazosport offer the four-year degrees so employees had the credentials for promotions.

El Centro was not successful in having the degree that they requested approved. They wanted one bachelor's degree in interior design and will try to get the Legislature to approve its wishes in the next session. In Texas, the colleges would get to offer up to five bachelor's degrees in applied science and applied technology, which put more emphasis on hands-on work than a traditional bachelor's degree. The degree programs must obtain accreditation, a process that would take at least a year.

## It's About Access!

### Community College Baccalaureate Association Fourth Annual Conference

The fourth annual conference, scheduled to be held in San Francisco from February 28 through March 1st, is shaping up to be the best yet. The conference will begin with a cocktail reception on Saturday night. Sessions will be held throughout Sunday, will conclude by noon on Monday. This schedule represents a change from the previous format in order to minimize scheduling conflicts for those who wish to attend events that are being held on the Saturday before the League for Innovation Conference Innovations 2004, officially begins.



*(continued on page 3)*

# ***Baccalaureate Teacher Education Program***

## **Northern New Mexico Community College**

**Jose Griego y Maestas, Ph.D., Dean of Instruction**

Northern New Mexico Community College (Northern) is planning to implement a baccalaureate program in teacher education by Fall 2004. Northern's constitutional status as a normal school with a mission to "prepare teachers for the Spanish speaking population of northern New Mexico" gives the College the legal authority to offer a baccalaureate program in teacher education. In light of the teacher shortage crisis in the College's service area, and the impact it is having on student achievement, Northern recognizes the urgency of providing this important service to the community. New Mexico public schools currently employ about 21,000 classroom teachers. Based upon projected public school enrollment growth, and on teacher attrition and retirement rates, New Mexico will need approximately 1,850 new teachers each year for the next ten years. While the state trains approximately 1,200-1,300 new teachers each year, not all become teachers and some are recruited through better salaries to other states.

Northern already has an approved alternative licensure program in elementary, secondary and special education with an enrollment of 266 students, and 55 graduates. Northern has researched and learned valuable lessons from other community college baccalaureate programs throughout the country, which will be implemented to serve students with a quality Teacher Education program:

1. Northern will implement a quality baccalaureate program that focuses on teaching and learning, accessibility, and support for student success.
2. Northern will use a baccalaureate program implementation task force with participation and involvement of all offices on campus.
3. Challenge: Northern will become one college/one faculty/one curriculum and instruction committee.
4. Northern will use "modmester" - demographics of community indicate the College should promote short, intense evening and weekend classes.
5. Course development for science-biology education; math education; elementary education, exceptional child education translated to development of 70 courses.
6. Northern will obtain Governor's, legislative and NMCHE approval.

7. Northern will seek NCATE accreditation to meet national standards.
8. Northern will seek USDOE Title 4 approval for financial aid to juniors and seniors.
9. Northern will seek NCA approval and name change to a college rather than community college.
10. Northern will adapt process and workload change from open door at lower division to restricted admission at upper level.
11. All four-year faculty will have same pay schedule as all Northern faculty.
12. Faculty 12-month contracts may be necessary during first year of the program
13. Northern has learned that key ingredients to early success have been respect for community college mission, and adequate funds for planning and implementation.

## **Community College Baccalaureate Programs Provide Access**

Regional universities do not always provide ready geographic, financial, or academic access to serve everyone. "Adult" education has taken on a new meaning, as older students are entering the community college system. The Department of Labor estimates that the average worker will hold four to six jobs in two or three different career areas in the course of his or her employed life. Where will these adults receive the training necessary to make these shifts? Lower tuition costs and convenient geographical location at community colleges mean greater opportunities for significantly more students. For adult learners who own a home, are raising families, and have jobs, taking classes at a local college is often the only viable option.

Northern's transfer rate to universities has traditionally been very low (approximately 17 percent); students' commitments to family and employment have made attendance at the closest universities (UNM and NMHU) 90 miles away extremely difficult. The community, as the Board of Regents, and staff and faculty at Northern is very supportive of this program. They anticipate that approximately 75 percent of the 400 students tracking in the Associate Degree in Teacher Education program would qualify for and pursue the Bachelor's degree.

*(continued on page 3)*

## **Education Program...** *(continued from page 2)*

### **Budget Request to New Mexico Legislature**

Northern is requesting \$200,000 from the 2004 New Mexico legislature to start the teacher education baccalaureate program by fall, 2004. Northern currently commits \$207,153 to the teacher education program. This request is for start up of the teacher education program only. The higher level of funding for upper division courses will generate enough revenue to sustain the program in the future. Northern currently receives \$100 per student credit hour for our lower division coursework in teacher education; this amount will increase to \$300 per student credit hour for upper division course work.

#### **START UP REQUEST FROM 2004 LEGISLATURE:**

One full-time faculty .....	\$44,000
One full-time advisor .....	\$39,000
Library holdings .....	\$47,000
NCATE professional services .....	\$20,000
Teacher Resource Development Laboratory .....	\$50,000
<b>Total: .....</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

Projected Enrollment (2004-05): .....	75 pre-service teachers
Revenue from upper division FTE: .....	\$337,500

Projected Enrollment (2005-06): .....	125 pre-service teachers
Revenue from upper division FTE: .....	\$562,500

Projected Enrollment (2006-07): .....	150 pre-service teachers
Revenue from upper division FTE: .....	\$675,000

Jose Griego y Maestas will chair one of the Rotating Round Tables at the CCBA conference in February to bring us up to date about progress in New Mexico.

## **Access!...** *(continued from page 1)*

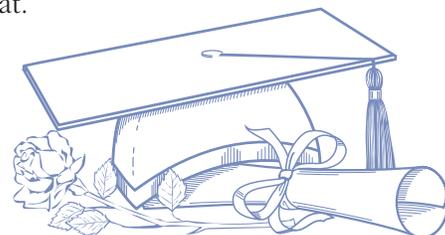
Sessions will address issues of four-year degree implementation, innovative programs, teacher education issues, and University Center models. There will be special attention to Canadian programs and an update from Jamaica.

#### **Sample program titles include:**

- The Implications of the Community College Baccalaureate for the Relationship Between Community Colleges and Universities
- NPTNJ: New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey: A Unique Partnership to Deliver Alternate Route Teacher Education
- The First Two Years of a New Undergraduate Psychology Degree: Problems and Solutions
- Collaborative Programming at the Community College and the University: Bridging the Gap Between Separate Post-Secondary Cultures

- 2+2+2 Partnerships
- Community College Baccalaureate Degree Plans for High School Students
- Gekinoo'imaagejig: Fond du Lac Tribal & Community Teacher Education Program

There will be a report about a recent nation-wide survey of issues relative to access to postsecondary education in general, and the community college baccalaureate movement, in particular. News from six states will also be presented in the popular Rotating Round Tables format.



# ***Essay Contest***

**\$1,000 prize for winner AND**

**\$1,000 for the winner's community college**

The CCBA is conducting an essay contest again this year to gather the input of those who are most affected by the issues of access and cost, the students. We ask that any community college, any organization within a community college, or any student enrolled in a community college submit as many entries as they would like, one per student. The winner will receive \$1,000 and will receive a trip to the CCBA annual conference that will be held in San Francisco in late February. The club or college where the winner is enrolled will also receive \$1,000.

## ***Community College Baccalaureate Association Essay Contest Awards, Rules and Regulations Awards***

The individual with the winning essay will receive \$1,000, as well as airfare, hotel accommodations, and conference registration to the Fourth Annual Community College Baccalaureate Association Conference, It's About Access, in San Francisco from February 28 - March 1, 2004.

The community college in which the winner is enrolled, or a designated student organization within the community college, will also be awarded \$1,000. Essay Rules and Regulations

All essays must comply with the following contest rules before submission:

- Each contestant may submit only one essay.
- No literary form other than an essay will be accepted for judging.
- Contestant must be currently enrolled in a community college.
- Essay must be typed using 12-point type.
- Essay text is limited to a maximum of 500 words and a minimum of 400.
- Essay must reflect the contestant's own research, writing and original thinking.
- Essay must have the following at the top of the first page submitted:
  - Essay title
  - Author's name, address, telephone number and email address
  - Community college name, address, telephone number

- Additional essay pages must have the author's name typed at the top right hand corner.
- Entries must be postmarked by December 15 or emailed by midnight of the same date to Beth Hagan, Community College Baccalaureate Association, P. O. Box 60210, Ft. Myers, FL 33906 or BHagan7@aol.com.
- Essays will become the property of the Community College Baccalaureate Association. The essays may be printed in educational publications and used in the future to promote the CCBA mission.

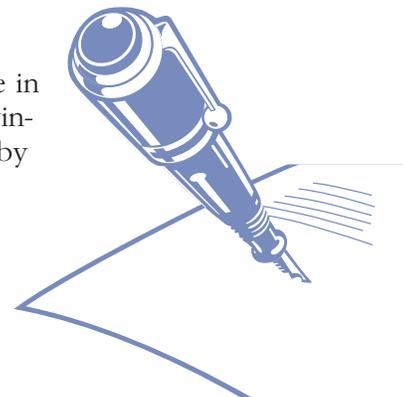
### **Essay Topics**

Contestant must choose to write about one of the following three topics:

- "Why it's important for me to earn my baccalaureate degree while I live at home."
- "Should my state offer bachelor's degrees in our community colleges?"
- "Why I need easier access to a baccalaureate degree."

### **Judging**

Judging will take place in early January and the winner will be notified by February 1.



# ***Closing the Degree Divide 2003 Conference Deemed a Success***

Despite the challenges of walking distance, rain and competitive events, the 2003 CCBA Conference was deemed a success. Conference evaluations (and there were plenty!) were unanimous about the value of this event as a learning experience. Attendees mentioned the following as "things liked most":

"Opportunity to dialogue with colleagues," "Everything was very informative," "Content was on target," "The feisty presenters," "Variety, diversity of presenters," "Breadth of presentations," "Case studies," "Excellent scheduling of sessions," "Networking," "Discussion groups," "Interaction," and "A sharing of ideas and programs, a lot has unfolded in 3 short years."

## ***Membership Application***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

College/Campus \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

College Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### **Membership Information: Check One.**

- | <b>Membership Level</b>                       | <b>Annual Dues</b>                            |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Member | \$500.00                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member    | \$100.00                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New CCBA Member      | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing CCBA Member |

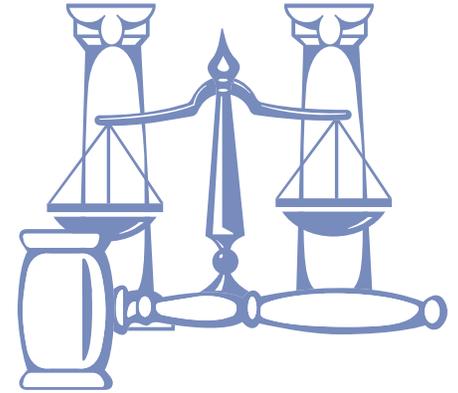
### **Payment Information:**

*Please submit payment by check in U.S. dollars, payable to:  
Community College Baccalaureate Association*

Please return this form with your check to: Laurie McDowell, Director  
Community College Baccalaureate Association  
P.O. Box 60210  
Fort Myers, FL 33906-6210

# ***William Rainey Harper College to Investigate Offering Baccalaureate Degrees***

Harper College, Palatine, Illinois, is investigating whether it should offer a limited number of four-year degrees. Before this can be done, Harper administrators must face the challenge of addressing the legislature to change the rules and convincing taxpayers that this makes sense. The two boards that govern community colleges, the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board would have to amend their administrative rules to allow baccalaureate degrees. The degrees also would need to be accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. Illinois community colleges are partly funded by property taxes. The formula calls for schools to be supported by one-third taxes, one-third state aid, and one-third tuition. The public would need to approve the plan as well. Harper intends to begin this process with a well-crafted survey.



The bachelor's degrees that they are pursuing are work force-oriented, and industry-driven, and limited to disciplines where degrees are not easily accessible to area students. Harper students who are enrolled in the dental hygiene program must transfer to either Milwaukee or southern Illinois to finish their degrees.

Illinois has the nation's third largest community college system and is home to the first one, Joliet Junior College founded in 1901. Illinois has 48 community colleges. At least one additional downstate institution has begun to investigate conferring baccalaureate degrees.

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