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Florida Community College, Anne Arundel Community College and Skagit Valley College Named Top Digital Community Colleges

*Second annual survey by the Center for Digital Education and
American Association of Community Colleges*

By News Release - April 2004

The Center for Digital Education and the American Association of Community Colleges named the nation's top digital community colleges in the second annual Digital Community Colleges Survey. The Digital Community Colleges Survey -- Launched in October 2003 -- examined and assessed how community colleges have progressed in using information technology to deliver services to their students, faculty and staff. College officials responded to a set of 18 questions and community colleges were ranked according to a four-point scale, providing Web site addresses and background data for final verification and validation.

Presidents at nearly 1,000 community colleges across the nation were invited to participate in the survey. Winners were grouped into three categories based on city and student population: Large/urban, mid-sized/suburban and small/rural.

"For years the [Center for Digital Education](#) has been advocating the use of technology to improve services and the student experience in our nation's community college system," said Marina Leight, director of the Center. "Results of the Digital Community Colleges Survey show that great progress has been made. We are very pleased to honor and showcase the community colleges that have made outstanding contributions in education technology."

Dr. George R. Boggs, president and CEO of the [American Association of Community Colleges](#) (AACC), agrees that technology can be a very potent vehicle in expanding access to education and enhancing services to students and the community.

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"The colleges recognized by the Digital Community Colleges Survey award raise the bar for effective digital outreach and provide valuable models for others to adapt," he said.

Top 10 Digital Community Colleges

Large/Urban:

1st Place: [Florida Community College](#), Jacksonville, Fla.

2nd Place: [Central Piedmont Community College](#),
Charlotte, N.C.

3rd Place (tie): [Arizona Western College](#), Yuma, Ariz.

3rd Place (tie): [Utah Valley State College](#), Orem, Utah

4th Place: [Fox Valley Technical College](#), Appleton, Wis.

5th Place: [St. Petersburg College](#), St. Petersburg, Fla.

6th Place (tie): [Miami-Dade College](#), Miami, Fla.

6th Place (tie): [San Joaquin Delta College](#), Stockton,
Calif.

7th Place (tie): [Daytona Beach Community College](#),
Daytona Beach, Fla.

7th Place (tie): [Laramie County Community College](#),
Cheyenne, Wyo.

7th Place (tie): [Tallahassee Community College](#),
Tallahassee, Fla.

8th Place: [Piedmont Virginia Community College](#),
Charlottesville, Va.

9th Place: [Jefferson State Community College](#),
Birmingham, Ala.

10th Place (tie): [Darton College](#), Albany, Ga.

10th Place (tie): [Houston Community College](#), Houston,
Texas

Mid-sized/Suburban:

1st Place: [Anne Arundel Community College](#), Arnold,
Md.

2nd Place: [Montgomery County Community College](#),
Blue Bell, Pa.

3rd Place: [Indian River Community College](#), Fort Pierce,
Fla.

4th Place: [Hibbing Community College](#), Hibbing, Minn.

5th Place (tie): [Brevard Community College](#), Cocoa, Fla.

5th Place (tie): [Cerro Coso Community College](#),
Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

6th Place: [College of DuPage](#), Glen Ellyn, Ill.

7th Place: [Herkimer County Community College](#),
Herkimer, N.Y.

8th Place: [Edison Community College](#), Piqua, Ohio

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9th Place: [Diablo Valley College](#), Pleasant Hill, Calif.
10th Place (tie): [Collin County Community College](#),
Plano, Texas
10th Place (tie): [Northwestern Connecticut Community
College](#), Winsted, Conn.

Small/Rural:

1st Place: [Skagit Valley College](#), Mount Vernon, Wash.
2nd Place: [Minnesota West Community and Technical
College](#), Worthington, Minn.
3rd Place: [Rogue Community College](#), Grants Pass, Ore.
4th Place: [Patrick Henry Community College](#),
Martinsville, Va.
5th Place: [Blue Ridge Community College](#), Weyers
Cave, Va.
6th Place: [Cascadia Community College](#), Bothell, Wash.
7th Place (tie): [Lehigh Carbon Community College](#),
Schnecksville, Pa.
7th Place (tie): [Piedmont Technical College](#), Greenwood,
S.C.
8th Place: [Central Wyoming College](#), Riverton, Wyo.
9th Place: [Panola College](#), Carthage, Texas
10th Place (tie): [Lake Sumter Community College](#),
Leesburg, Fla.
10th Place (tie): [Quinebaug Valley Community College](#),
Danielson, Connecticut

Florida Community College retains its first-place ranking from the previous year's survey in the Large/Urban category. Like all of the survey's top finishers, Florida Community College officials and staff have worked hard to develop and implement technology systems that deliver services, information and resources to prospective students, current and returning students, distance learners, employers, job applicants and the community.

"We view this important recognition as validation of our efforts to create the best possible technology environment for our students," said Dr. Rob Rennie, vice president of technology and chief information officer at Florida Community College.

Carole A. McCoy, vice president of learner support services at Anne Arundel Community College, said her college is pleased to have such national recognition for an often overlooked segment of the college, the hard-working information technology staff who create

systems that allow students, staff and faculty to access information and perform tasks easily online.

Skagit Valley College Dean of Technology, Steve Bradley, credits his students, faculty and staff for the college's award-winning technology innovations. "In our diverse, far-flung district punctuated by remote, rural communities and islands, our focus has been on using technology to make higher education available to students and to help them be successful in their pursuit of learning," Bradley said.

The Center for Digital Education is a national research and advisory institute providing industry and education leaders with decision support, research and services to help them effectively incorporate new technologies in the 21st century. The Center publishes a series of special reports and white papers, produces over a dozen education events each year, and provides an array of market intelligence programs and special projects.

Based in Washington, D.C., the American Association of Community Colleges is a national association representing the nation's 1,151 accredited community, junior and technical colleges. The colleges comprise the largest sector of higher education, serving almost half (45 percent) of U.S. undergraduates, an estimated 10 million students each year.

News Release

