For Immediate Release

Image Included: Photo of J. Dan Rothwell

National Communication Association Honors J. Dan Rothwell With ‘Community College Outstanding Educator’ Award

APTOS, CA — At the recent National Communication Association (NCA) Conference in New Orleans, Cabrillo College Communications Studies Department Chair J. “Dan” Rothwell was named ‘Community College Outstanding Educator.’ The NCA is the nation’s largest organization dedicated to communication, with members including researchers, educators and professionals in the communication industry.

“The Cabrillo College faculty, staff and students are thrilled for Dan,” said Renee M. Kilmer, Cabrillo College vice president of instruction. “A tremendous asset to Cabrillo’s instructional program and faculty leadership, he is highly regarded by his peers and loved by his students. As NCA is the flagship organization for the communication industry, this is a highly prestigious honor.”

The members of Cabrillo College’s Communications Studies Department unanimously nominated Rothwell for the award, which is the second teaching award he has received in the past 18 months. In 2010, Rothwell received the Ernest L. Boyer International Award in Teaching, Learning and Technology, conferred jointly by the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, Florida State College, and the National Council of Instructional Administrators.

“Dan is many things, but above all else, he’s an exceptional teacher,” said Kanda Whaley, NCA award nominator and Communications Studies instructor at Cabrillo College. “Over and over again I’ve heard his students say they have to work hard, that the content is challenging, and that Dan’s expectations are high. But they always follow that by saying how fun his classes are and how much they’re learning. One student even referred to his classes as ‘life changing’.”

Both the $300 check that Rothwell received for the NCA’s Community College Outstanding Educator award and the $5,000 check he received for the Ernest L. Boyer award he donated to the Cabrillo College Foundation, to be put toward student scholarships for Communications Studies majors.

About Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions or for
lifelong learning and personal enrichment. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.

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