Cabrillo College Ethics Bowl Team is Only Community College Team to Qualify for National Championships in Chicago and Places Seventh Overall

APTOS, CA — Cabrillo College today announces that its Ethics Bowl team finished seventh overall in the national championship of the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl held in Chicago at the end of February. They were among the top 37 qualifying teams from the 10 regional competitions. They missed qualifying for the semi-final match by only two points!

Sponsored by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (IEB holds regional and national competitions involving hundreds of college and university students across North America. Absolute requirements for success in the IEB include strong analytical skills, intensive research, tight teamwork and the ability to think quickly.

In December of 2017, the Cabrillo team placed second in the California regional competition, making them the only Community College team to qualify in an open regional competition for the National Championship. In the semi-final round, the Cabrillo College Ethics Bowl team defeated the team from Stanford University and narrowly finished behind Arizona State University (ASU) in the final round of the regional competition. This 2nd place finish qualified the team to advance to the National Championship.

“This is a remarkable success, and we are again so proud of our Ethics Bowl team,” said Claudia Close, Cabrillo Philosophy Instructor and Ethics Bowl Team Faculty Coach. “The success becomes even more remarkable when one notes that Cabrillo finished higher than both the team from Stanford and the West Point team, who won the National Championship last year.”

Last year, Cabrillo’s Ethics Bowl team became the first community college team in the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl’s 21-year history to win a regional competition against four-year colleges and universities. Following that win, Cabrillo’s team advanced to the National competition in Dallas, Texas.

The Cabrillo team members include: Ella Carroll, Jane Tobias, Cameron Ellis, Liv Johansson and Connor Degraff. The Cabrillo Ethics Bowl team is coached by Cabrillo Philosophy Department faculty Nancy Brown and Claudia Close.

The Association for Practical and Professional Ethics organizes 11 Regional competitions throughout the United States and Canada. Student teams research, analyze and construct arguments, defending their assessment of the significant moral issues involved in current social, legislative, medical, business, and general interest events. Students must demonstrate that they have considered the facts of the case, can comprehend and articulate the underlying relevant ethical principles, defend their claims about how the case should be resolved, and answer challenges to their arguments put forward by the opposing side.
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 empowers students to be effective communicators, critical thinkers, and responsible world citizens. With a commitment to quality and equity, we connect all learners to pathways that propel them from where they are to where they aspire to be, including: academic, personal, and career growth.

# # #