November 18, 2004

05-030   <u>AUTHORITY TO APPLY TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM: DEAF STUDIES</u>

PREPARED BY: Amy Alday-Murray, Curriculum Manager, Portland Community College

APPROVED BY: Guy Sievert, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Portland Community College

Preston Pulliams, District President, Portland Community College

REPORT: This new certificate will provide students with the option to pursue a certificate of completion in the field of Deaf Studies. The new certificate will be part of the current Sign Language Interpretation program (SLIP). The impetus for the addition of the certificate is the result of the recent SLIP program review. Local employers were surveyed regarding the viability of such an option and are in support of the new certificate. Currently, students who are unable to achieve a simultaneous interpretation with 70% accuracy, a requirement for the interpretation internship, do not receive any form of certification for their proficiency in American Sign Language and their knowledge of Deaf culture. The addition of the certificate also allows for an educational pathway to employment for those who wish to learn American Sign Language to pursue other careers than that of an interpreter. Career areas include working with Deaf people in the areas of education, psychology, or social work. Graduates may obtain employment as

student life counselors at residential schools for the Deaf, as educational paraprofessionals in programs for Deaf children, or at other public and private agencies that serve Deaf individuals.

The certificate of fifty credits includes course work that is already offered in the current PCC program and a practicum experience with an onsite mentor.

RECOMMENDATION: That the college be authorized to submit an application to the State Board of Education for a one-year certificate of completion in Deaf Studies.

Resolution 05-030 was moved for approval by Director McKinney and passed unanimously.