

September 21, 2006

07-010

APPROVE THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF AN
ADDITIONAL THREE COLLEGES FOR RECEIPT OF FUNDS
FROM THE GATES GRANT TO REPLICATE THE PCC
GATEWAY TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

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REPORT:

In March of 2003, the College received a \$4.8 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to enhance and replicate its Gateway to College program. In November of 2004, the College received an additional \$5.4 million to expand the number of replication sites from 8 to 17. Gateway to College, a program of PCC Prep Alternative Programs, serves high school dropouts aged 16 to 20. Students earn high school credit to complete their high school diploma while pursuing an AA degree at PCC.

Nine (9) colleges have been funded in the replication project so far; two (2) are starting their third year with students, three (3) are starting their second year, and four (4) opened their doors to students this term. The three (3) sites selected this year will open to students in the fall of 2007. This brings the total number of sites to twelve (12).

PCC has been invited to submit a proposal for additional funds for both local program enhancement and for additional replication. A decision on this proposal is expected by the end of the calendar year.

Throughout the replication, sites have been selected through a competitive process dictated by the grant: a rigorous process of discovery, formal letters of interest that are rated by a diverse review team of PCC staff and outside experts, site visits to top-rated colleges, applications for planning funds including a proposed scope of work, and a competitive review of final proposals. The Gates Foundation has also reviewed the selection of sites.

Three colleges have been selected for this fourth round:

Monroe Community College, Rochester, NY: to receive a grant of \$350,000 over three (3) years.

San Antonio College, San Antonio, TX: to receive a grant of \$300,000 over three (3) years.

Massasoit Community College, Brockton, MA: to receive a grant of \$300,000 over three (3) years.

The discovery phase of the fifth round of site selection has just begun. Five (5) sites remain to be selected.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors approve the competitive selection of the fourth round site selection of colleges based on the Gates Grant: Monroe Community College (\$350,000), San Antonio College (\$300,000), and Massasoit Community College (\$300,000). Contracts will be negotiated and executed for these projects upon Board approval.