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SELECTION OF PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2009 DISTINGUISHED PATRON AWARD RECIPIENTS

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REPORT: In 2007, the Board established the Portland Community College Distinguished Patron Award to recognize extraordinary levels of service to the College.

Two Patron Awards were bestowed at the 2007 Commencement ceremony. In 2008, the Board bestowed one Patron Award at the PCC Foundation Scholarship Banquet.

The District President nominates Barbara Raz and Mary Holmstrom to receive the 2009 PCC Patron Award.

Barbara Raz joined the Computer Information Systems faculty at PCC in the early 1970s and retired in 1998 with 25 years of teaching. In 2003, she joined the PCC Foundation Board. She has chaired the Foundation's Development Committee for the last several years, and has been a key champion of the Foundation's Faculty/Staff/Retiree and Board Giving campaigns, as well as other fundraising efforts. She is well-known for her unique approach to inspiring others to give—often wearing a different themed hat to each Foundation Board meeting to promote a new fundraising campaign. Under her leadership of the Development Committee the Foundation has increased its annual giving by 30% in the last two years, including meeting the aggressive Miller Foundation scholarship matching goal, which will enable the PCC Foundation to receive an additional \$320,000 in scholarship funds from the Miller Foundation.

As a Foundation donor for over 20 years, Barbara has given and pledged over \$50,000 to the PCC Foundation. She was instrumental in creating and endowing a scholarship for Computer Information Systems students, to ensure students

for years to come would be able to access the benefits of computer training and a strong career. In addition, she is a member of the Amo De Bernardis Legacy Society and has included PCC in her estate plans. As a PCC faculty member, PCC Foundation Board leader, and PCC Foundation donor, Barbara has improved the educational programs of the College and helped thousands of students achieve their goals. Through her own gifts to the PCC Foundation and by motivating others to give, she has made a lasting impact on Portland Community College.

Mary Holmstrom began her career at PCC in 1983, when she began teaching writing and English part-time at the Rock Creek Campus. She left the college and returned five years later to teach humanities and African Literature at the Cascade Campus, where she taught until 2001. In 1991, Mary co-founded the Cascade Festival of African Films with Cascade faculty member Michael Dembrow. A native South-African, Mary saw a critical need – and opportunity – to show films that portrayed African people and culture from their own perspective, and not mainstream Hollywood's. Nearly two decades later, what started out as just a few films each year has become the College's pre-eminent community event – a month-long celebration of African culture and film that attracts 4,000 to 5,000 people each year to film screenings and discussions. During that time, Mary has logged thousands of volunteer hours supporting the festival, attending committee meetings, selecting films, developing grant proposals, and crunching budget figures. Each year, the Festival must raise contributions from local foundations and corporations, in addition to the support it receives from the College. This year, Mary and her husband Bob, made the first gift to establish an endowment for the Festival. Through Mary's vision 19 years ago and her tireless dedication since then, the Cascade Festival of African Films has become one of the College's signature events, reaching tens of thousands of Portland area residents. And, thanks to Mary and her husband's historic gift – a major step has been taken to ensure that the Festival will continue for another 20 years.

RECOMMENDATION: To award the 2009 Portland Community College Distinguished Patron Award to Barbara Raz and to Mary Holmstrom at the PCC Foundation Scholarship Banquet April 30, 2009.