

April 15, 2010

10-085

SELECT PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2010  
DISTINGUISHED PATRON AWARD RECIPIENTS

PREPARED BY: Kristin Watkins, Associate Vice President, College Advancement

APPROVED BY: Dr. Preston Pulliams, District President

REPORT: Virginia Finders found her calling to teach later in life. After raising a family of five, she returned to school and decided to take math, the subject she considered to be her least favorite. Much to her surprise she found that she both enjoyed and excelled at math. She eventually became a math instructor at PCC's Cascade Campus. Lee Finders, Virginia's husband, was an attorney who is well remembered for his volunteer legal work for seniors.

Through a bequest made in 2009 to the PCC Foundation, the late Virginia and Lee Finders established two memorial scholarships in the names of their sons, Robert and Joseph, who died in their youth. The Robert L. Finders and Joseph B. Finders Scholarships will support PCC students who have graduated from Grant High School, where the Finders children attended school. Endowed with a gift of over \$600,000 these two scholarships comprise largest private contribution to date for both the PCC Foundation and the College. The scholarships will support deserving PCC students for generations to come. The Finders scholarships will provide five full tuition scholarships for academic year 2010-11.

The impact of Lee and Virginia's gift is far-reaching; their thoughtful generosity has and will continue to inspire other PCC retirees to include PCC in their wills, expanding access to education and training for students. Through a bequest, PCC retirees like Virginia can forever share the gift of learning. Virginia and Lee are recognized as posthumous members of the Amo DeBernardis Legacy Society. Their philanthropy demonstrates extraordinary dedication to the College.

RECOMMENDATION: To award the 2010 Portland Community College  
Distinguished Patron Award posthumously to Lee and  
Virginia Finders at the PCC Foundation Scholarship Banquet  
May 6, 2010.