

April 21, 2011

11-096

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2011
DISTINGUISHED PATRON AWARD RECIPIENT

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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.

To date, six Patron Awards have been bestowed. Award recipients include Richard and Sharon Helzer, and Doreen Margolin (posthumously, 2007); Norma Jean Germond (2008); Barbara Raz and Mary Holmstrom (2009); and Lee and Virginia Finders (posthumously, 2010).

For the 2011 Patron Award, the District President nominates the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

Over three years ago, representatives of the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation approached the PCC Foundation, among others, to discuss innovative ways to support PCC and our state's community colleges. The result of those conversations was the Miller Scholarship Challenge, a three-year challenge grant issued to all 17 community colleges in Oregon. The Miller Foundation offered \$1.5 million annually to be split amongst the institutions, if each could meet an allocated amount in new and increased scholarship gifts. Being the largest institution, the PCC Foundation had the greatest amount to raise in new/increased scholarship contributions. For three years straight, the PCC Foundation successfully met the Miller Challenge, thanks to the enthusiastic response of close to a thousand donors within the College and externally in our community.

The impact of the Miller Challenge has been extraordinary. Measured in dollars, through their

matching grant, the Miller Foundation will have contributed a total of \$960,000 over three years to the PCC Foundation. In turn, the PCC Foundation has raised \$1.6 million in new and increased scholarship contributions. This amounts to a total of over \$2.5 million in scholarship gifts generated as a result of this matching challenge!

Most significantly, approximately 700 PCC students will have received Miller Scholarship Awards as a result of this match. These are students who otherwise would not have received much needed financial assistance.

Miller Scholarship recipients are especially worthy of support. Last year, 171 PCC students received Miller Scholarships and all qualified for financial aid; 128 of those students had an expected family contribution (or EFC) of zero. That means that these students had such low incomes that they had no money to pay for college. Yet by the end of their summer term, these students with the help of Miller Scholarships earned an average GPA of 3.52.

PCC is committed to access and success for all students. By creating the scholarship challenge, the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation inspired citizens in our region to join PCC in advancing its institutional vision. For this reason, the District President recommends the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation for the 2011 Patron Award.

RECOMMENDATION: To award the 2011 Portland Community College Distinguished Patron Award to James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation at the PCC Foundation Scholarship Banquet on April 28, 2011.