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## **Mesa Community College Winner Of 2007 CHEA Award For Institutional Progress In Student Learning Outcomes**

**Washington** — The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), a leading Washington-based, private, nonprofit organization, has awarded the *2007 CHEA Award for Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes* to Mesa Community College. Representatives of the college have been invited to accept the award at the 2007 CHEA Annual Conference, being held January 29 – 31 in Washington.

Mesa is one of five institutions picked from a nationwide pool of 31 to receive this honor. The institutions were judged on the basis of four criteria – all centered around student learning outcomes:

- 1) Articulation and evidence of outcomes;
- 2) Success with regard to outcomes;
- 3) Information to the public about outcomes; and
- 4) Using outcomes for improvement.

In addition to these criteria, Mesa showed outstanding achievement in these areas:

- Attention to outcomes embedded in an institutional culture;
- Good use of current technology in the methods and tools to track outcomes;
- The extensive use of faculty and strong faculty support;
- Institutional leadership that is dedicated to the importance of outcomes;
- Approaches to outcomes that can be replicated at other institutions.

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“Given the current debate regarding the role of student learning outcomes in accreditation, Mesa Community College serves as a solid example of the enormous progress that institutions are making through the implementation of comprehensive, thoughtful and effective initiatives. We are delighted to recognize this distinguished institution with this award,” said Judith Eaton, president of CHEA.

To schedule an interview, or for more information, please contact Richard Porter at 202.955.6126 or at [porter@chea.org](mailto:porter@chea.org).

*Created in 1996, the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) is an organization of nearly 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities and is the only higher education institutional membership association to be created by a referendum of college and university presidents. CHEA scrutinizes accrediting organizations for quality (“recognition” of accrediting organizations), based on self-created standards, and also serves as an advocate on accreditation issues to government. Currently, CHEA recognizes 60 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations. Additionally, CHEA hosts numerous conferences and produces various publications on matters relating to accreditation. For more information, visit CHEA’s Internet site at [www.chea.org](http://www.chea.org).*