Cerritos College and Brandman University Partner to Give Students an Early Advantage

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NORWALK, Calif. - May 11, 2010 - Officials from Cerritos College and Brandman University signed an Early Advantage Educational Partnership (EAP) agreement on Friday, May 7.

Brandman University Chancellor Gary Grahm, Vice Chancellor of Enrollment and Student Affairs Saskia Knight, Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Linda Lacy and Vice President of Student Services Dr. Stephen Johnson signed the agreement in a special signing ceremony.

“We are pleased to partner with Brandman University in offering our students seamless transition to the university and early access to its various resources and services,” said Dr. Linda Lacy, Cerritos College president/superintendent. “This partnership is a win-win for students and both institutions.”

By enrolling in Brandman’s EAP program, Cerritos College students will be admitted to Brandman University’s Irvine campus while still attending Cerritos College and taking transferable coursework. At the same time students will have access to enhanced cooperative academic and student services including the University’s advising services, information sessions, technology support, and educational plans. It will also allow students to lock in their academic catalog giving them the ability to transfer all

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completed coursework contained in the agreement. Brandman University will waive all application fees for students participating in the EAP program.

“Brandman University establishes Early Advantage Partnership agreements with community colleges like Cerritos College to provide students with a clearly defined path to pursue their higher education,” said Gary Brahm, Chancellor of Brandman University. “These types of partnerships between community colleges and Brandman University will continue to play an important role in students pursuing their educational goals at a time when the economic crisis is forcing the California State University and University of California systems to limit enrollments.”

Cerritos College students are eligible to enroll in the EAP program immediately and can take transferable coursework in the following programs: Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Development, Legal Studies, Liberal Studies, Organizational Leadership, Psychology, Social Science and Sociology. The EAP program also includes Brandman’s new Bachelor’s in Business Administration degree offered online and at the Irvine campus.

Cerritos College students can apply for the program after they have fulfilled 12 transferable credits at their respective school with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher from all schools previously attended. Students can transfer to Brandman University anytime up to one year after their last term of attendance at Cerritos College. Transcripts from all previous colleges attended must be submitted with the application to verify GPA eligibility.

Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

Brandman University, formerly Chapman University College, is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and focuses on meeting the unique needs of the more than 10,000 working students it serves both online and through 25 campuses in California and Washington. Brandman University is part of the Chapman University system and is known for providing students with more than 200 degrees, credentials, certificates and professional development programs. www.brandman.edu.

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