FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 22, 2014

Media Contact: Aya Abelon, Public Affairs; (562) 653-7878

NORWALK, Calif. – May 22, 2014 - Cerritos College honored more than 700 graduates during its 56th annual commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 17.

The Cerritos College Board of Trustees and administration presented degrees and certificates earned during the 2013-2014 academic year. More than 1,800 students are receiving degrees and certificates this year, including 254 students receiving the new associate degree for transfer (AAT/AST.)

Dr. Manuel Baca, president of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, served as the commencement speaker. He congratulated the graduates and shared his community college experience and how it helped him prepare for success.

For Abner “Ace” Caguoia, it has been a solid four years at Cerritos College. He grew up in the Philippines, and traveled to the United States in 2007 when he was 18.

Since he enrolled at Cerritos College in 2010, he has been active in student clubs and student government, volunteering at numerous campus events. He also works as a peer counselor for the College’s School Relations office and created the campus’ official promotional video for prospective students in 2013. Currently, Ace is working on a student government election “how-to” video for the Student Activities office, which aims to improve the election process and increase campaign participation.

The summa cum laude graduate is transferring to the University of California, Los Angeles with confidence. He is already making connections with UCLA’s student organization Transfer Partnership, a support group for transfer students.

“Cerritos College helped me decide what to do with my life. Now, I’m ready for the next step,” he said.

Download a copy of the commencement program
About Cerritos College: 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/](http://www.cerritos.edu/).

-END-