



Date: August 5, 2004
For Immediate Release

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Area based report released– Community Colleges Ranked

Napa and Solano Community Colleges fared the best in rankings of Bay Area Community Colleges, calculated and published by an East Bay educational research and consulting firm.

“The rankings show a need to improve the graduation rates at our colleges,” said Gene Judson, President of FirstDegree, the organization that publishes the list. “It is striking that nobody has really compiled this before.”

Coming on the heels of the California Performance Review’s proposal to overhaul the governing apparatus of the California Higher Education system, the report compares graduation rates of the Bay Area’s twenty-four colleges. It is composed from data found on the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office website.

Most colleges promote a student success rate based on credit received per class taken and students various educational goals, instead of graduation rates, Judson pointed out. The trade-marked FirstDegree report, Community Colleges Ranked, is calculated using the number of Associate degrees conferred, full-time equivalent student population and approximating a three-year time frame to complete a degree.

“These are degree-granting institutions,” said Judson. “We understand that our community colleges have broad missions, but the public and the students deserve better results.”

FirstDegree is a firm based on San Leandro, California.

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