

News Release

South Seattle Community College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 10, 2007

Outstanding Faculty to be Honored at Conference

South Seattle Community College instructors Howard Andersen, Automotive Technology, and Sara Baldwin, English as a Second Language (ESL), are to be honored with awards for excellence in teaching.

The awards will be presented by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) in Austin, Texas in May. The ceremony is a part of the 2007 NISOD International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence. Andersen and Baldwin were selected for the honor based on evidence submitted by faculty, staff, students and administrators.

Andersen has worked at South since 1993. He is continually looking for ways to improve the Automotive Technology program at the college. For example, he has taken an active role in learning emerging technologies, taking several advanced classes in hybrid technology with the goal of implementing them into our program. He has received grants allowing him to return to industry, where he has left with more than just updated skills. In 2003, he spent ten weeks at Car Stereo Latino where he learned about installing high tech stereos and alarm systems. Being the only native English speaker at this shop, it increased his awareness and sensitivity to students whose first language is not English, a characteristic of many of South's students.

Baldwin has worked at South since 1985. She is the founding director of the college's Intensive English Program for international students. She is the project coordinator for the school's successful federal grant that focuses on transition of ESL program students to college-level courses. This has opened more opportunities for the students, including greater earning potential and a better standard of living. She has also helped create a language lab to help these students succeed in their chosen programs. She has played a large role in helping the college exceed its transition goal, which was set at 16 percent by 2007; the number currently stands at 29 percent. Baldwin is a past recipient of the Dan Evans Innovation Award, named for the former governor. She is also chair of the Seattle Community College District Professional Leave Committee, which reviews and recommends instructor projects that are aimed at benefiting students, instructional programs, the college and community.

For more information about NISOD and the Excellence Awards visit their website at <http://www.nisod.org>.

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