

News Release

South Seattle Community College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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South Seattle Community College Honors Outstanding Graduates

South Seattle Community College is pleased to announce the 2004 recipients of the President's Medal.

This year's awards went to Mina So, who graduated with an Associate of Arts degree (3.63 GPA) and Sheryl Whittus, who graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Accounting (3.91 GPA).

The criteria for selection for the President's Medal include a student's grade point average, rigor of course work, and obstacles that had to be overcome, or other extenuating circumstances. Evidence that the student has provided extra help and service to a college department, division, office, service unit, or the college community in general is also considered in awarding the honor.

Both students certainly have met and overcome challenges in their life. Along the way they have also served those around them.

Mina So came to the college and finished her GED after dropping out of high school at 17. A year later, she returned to the college and has never looked back, volunteering in activities that served both students, staff, and the community. She plans to attend Seattle University and pursue a bachelor's in Nursing.

After being laid off at Boeing, Sheryl Whittus decided to pursue a career outside of manufacturing and chose the college's Accounting program. As a student in the program, she led a team of students in providing volunteer income tax assistance. The result has been \$174,000 in total refunds for struggling lower income families.

The presentation of the medals took place at South Seattle Community College's 34th Annual Commencement, which was held on June 17.

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