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For Immediate Release

Moorpark College Recognized as a 2020 Champion of Higher Education *College has received the honor five consecutive years*

Moorpark, Calif. (November 23, 2020) – Moorpark College is pleased to announce that it has been chosen by the Campaign for College Opportunity as a 2020 Champion of Higher Education for the fifth consecutive year. Of the state’s 116 community colleges, only 12 received this prestigious award. A virtual ceremony was held Nov. 19 with California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and Assemblymember Marc Berman, who recognized the honorees from California community colleges and California State University campuses.

“It is an honor to have Moorpark College recognized once again as a Champion of Higher Education,” said Julius Sokenu, Interim President of Moorpark College. “This award is a tribute to the outstanding dedication of our faculty and staff. I am especially proud that our first-generation and underrepresented students excel in transfer because our faculty and staff have high expectations of all students, which they couple with high support.”

The Campaign for College Opportunity recognizes colleges that exhibit dedicated leadership in working to ensure strong transfer pathways on their campuses. Moorpark College consistently demonstrates one of the highest rates of associate degree for transfer (ADT) conferrals per 50 full-time equivalent students in California.

“It is rewarding to see Moorpark College recognized for the efforts of its employees, faculty and staff who so strongly prioritize student success and achievement,” said Chancellor Greg Gillespie.

“Moorpark College provides a strong foundation for students who wish to transfer to a four-year university to pursue their career goals,” added Board Chair Bernardo M. Perez.

The virtual celebration highlighted the *Advancing Higher Education Equity Speaker Series: Committing to Transfer as a Key Racial Equity Strategy*. Over 300 attendees representing California’s higher education leadership, elected officials, corporate sponsors and civic and business leaders honored Moorpark College and the other Champions of Higher Education.

Information on the more than 150 associate degrees for transfer, career education certificates and proficiency awards offered at Moorpark College can be found at MoorparkCollege.edu/Academics.

About Moorpark College

Moorpark College is one of three colleges in the Ventura County Community College District and annually serves more than 14,000 students. Founded in 1967, Moorpark College is fully accredited and has the highest six-year completion rate within the California Community College System. The Campaign for College Opportunity named Moorpark College a 2020 Champion of Higher Education for the Associate Degree for Transfer Pathway. It is also a designated Hispanic-Serving Institution. The college's signature career/technical programs include nursing, radiologic technology, biotechnology and journalism. The college's America's Teaching Zoo is the only associate degree exotic animal training program in the country. To learn more, visit MoorparkCollege.edu or follow @MoorparkCollege on social media.

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