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For Immediate Release

December 16, 2010

Longtime El Camino College Director of Student Development to Retire

Longtime El Camino College Director of Student Development Harold Tyler will retire at the end of this month, after 35 years of service.

Tyler's contributions through the past four decades have led to the success of thousands of El Camino College students. He knew all five of the college's presidents, and has enjoyed watching ECC grow and change.

"Harold is a great success story for El Camino College, as both a student and an employee," said El Camino College President Thomas M. Fallo. "Through his actions and words, he shows others, especially students, the importance of hard work and service. His legacy at El Camino College will be the many students he helped guide to a successful future."

Reflecting on his time at ECC, Tyler noted that what he will miss most is working with students.

"El Camino College is a special place, I never thought I'd get to this point, to retirement," he said. "So many of our students come back to visit and it is great to see them so successful. That has been the best part of my job. Watching them grow here as students and then seeing them do so well in their professions – what a great thing, to be a part of their life."

Tyler started his higher education journey at El Camino College, where he earned an associate degree in 1975. As an ECC student, he served as an officer with student government. The dean of men at the time, Dr. Henry Kirk, recognized Tyler's leadership potential and strongly suggested that he apply for a specialist position in the Student Activities Office when he graduated. Tyler landed the job and 13 years later became director of student development.

"Dr. Kirk was a great mentor for me, he showed me what service is all about: make it relevant, make a difference," he said. "I learned a lot. Soon, I got it. It's not about individual accomplishments; it's about getting it done and making it happen."

Tyler continued his education at California State University, Dominguez Hills, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business.

When not in the Student Development Office, Tyler can often be found on the courts. As a youth, he played on the Compton High School basketball team, and was a volunteer assistant coach for the ECC basketball team from 1973-75. He has announced Warrior basketball games for the past three years.

Still an avid basketball player, coach, and fan, Tyler is looking forward to coaching his grandson when he retires, in addition to spending time with his four grown children and grandchildren, and watching Oakland Raiders football games.

Tyler is scheduled to address the El Camino College Class of 2011 this spring as the commencement speaker.

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