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El Camino College Counselor Wins Ford Freedom Unsung Award

El Camino College counselor Elaine Moore was recently honored by the Ford Motor Company as a winner of the annual Ford Freedom Unsung Award, celebrating individuals who have made significant contributions in their communities.

Awards were presented to individuals in the areas of community, education, military, and youth. Honorees were selected based on outstanding accomplishments, including unique and valiant acts that positively impact lives in their immediate or widespread community.

Moore, who recently retired after 31 years at El Camino College, was selected as an honoree in the education category.

Moore is one of the founders of El Camino College's Project Success, a program designed to increase the retention, persistence, academic performance, and graduation success rates of inner city students transitioning to college. These goals are achieved by promoting student-centered learning and assisting in the development of diverse learning communities. Project Success also provides multicultural faculty, staff and peer mentoring, university and cultural heritage field trips, counseling, early alert mid-semester grade reports, math tutoring, student fundraising activities and scholarships, and required cultural and student success classes.

As faculty coordinator and counselor, Moore has provided exemplary leadership to Project Success for 26 years and her work has resulted in the development of a state model for other educational institutions' multicultural support programs.

A campus and community leader, Moore developed a transfer agreement program in 2010 that simplifies the admissions process for ECC students seeking transfer to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The program is modeled after the agreements between El Camino College and the University of California and California State University systems. These agreements have assisted thousands of ECC students transfer successfully to universities within the state.

The HBCU transfer agreements specify the number of transfer units and specific grade point averages required for admission. Some of the institutions also offer priority consideration for housing and transfer scholarships, in addition to waiving application fees.

Moore has also served on numerous committees in support of education and student success. Among her other awards and accolades, Moore is the 2010 recipient of the prestigious John W. Rice Diversity Award by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.