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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE AND EVENTS PROFESSIONALS RECOGNIZED FOR
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT**

FORT COLLINS, CO — Collegiate conference and events professionals were recognized for their achievements at the Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors-International (ACCED-I) 29th Annual Conference in Boston, MA. These individuals and institutions have demonstrated high achievement in the field of collegiate conference and event planning and were recognized during the Association’s awards gala on March 24, 2009.

ACCED-I award recipients include:

Ngoc Nguyen, conference services coordinator, Cal Poly Pomona State University, received the Outstanding New Conference and Events Professional Award.

Webster University, St. Louis, MO, received the Outstanding Institutional Achievement Award for their achievement with Webster Works Worldwide (WWW), an annual community service day, held on the main Webster University campus in St. Louis, and throughout the University’s extended campus network which includes more than 100 campuses in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Since the start of Webster Works Worldwide in 1995, more than 18,000 volunteers have given more than 80,000 hours of service

The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to **Jennifer Beattie**, conference coordinator, Georgia Institute of Technology, for her service to the Association.

Tim Copeland, senior consultant, SunGuard Higher Education received the Association’s Session of the Year Award for his session “Interactive Marketing Essentials for Conference and Event Professionals” presented at the 2008 Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

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The Jack Thornton Distinguished Service Award was presented to **Rita Stewart**, director of conferences and special events, Ball State University, for service to the profession and ACCED-I.

Kisha Blackwell, program manager, conference and visitor services, University at Maryland, College Park, received the Outstanding Individual Achievement Award for her leadership and outstanding work with the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference (PYIC) helping 16, 000 youth celebrate the dawning of a new political era held on the campus in conjunction with President Obama's inauguration.

ABOUT ACCED-I

The Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors-International was founded in 1980 and currently has a membership of over 1,400 professionals at educational institutions in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. ACCED-I is the only independent educational association dedicated to professional growth and development in the collegiate conference and events profession. For further information on the Association, contact ACCED-I at (877) 502-2233 or browse ACCED-I's website at www.acced-i.org.

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