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SCCC instructor earns statewide teaching award

CORTEZ/MANCOS – A full-time faculty member at Southwest Colorado Community College’s West Campus here has received notable recognition from the Colorado Community College System’s online consortium. Melinda Green was awarded the 2010 Gold Medal Faculty Award in Computer Information Science from CCCOnline.

Green was honored for her exemplary work teaching and developing online computer technology classes for the last two and a half years. She teaches web design, desktop publishing and Photoshop for CCCOnline, which is available to students throughout Colorado, the country and even some in foreign countries.

CCCOOnline is comprised of the 13 CCCS colleges and offers online classes for students who find it difficult to take classes in a regular classroom setting.

“This is such a wonderful recognition of Melinda’s talents and a testimony to her dedication to higher education,” said Shannon South, Dean of the SCCC’s West Campus. SCCC is a division of Pueblo Community College.

Green is also a full-time faculty member at the West Campus, where she teaches a variety of courses in computer graphics, business, office and computers. Among her instructional courses are web design, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, desktop publishing, Microsoft Office, 3D animation, Flash and beginning computers.

“The classes Melinda is currently teaching here at SCCC are called ‘hybrid courses’, which are a combination of both classroom instruction and online work,” said Dennis Seibel, SCCC Coordinator of Academic Services. More hybrid classes are being added every year at SCCC.

“In her more than two years she has been teaching for us, I cannot recall a single instance where I had a complaint from a student or had an issue with her Quality Assurance,” said Ralph Newby, Computer Information Science program chair for CCCOnline, who nominated her for the award in the CIS division.

“She makes certain she is in the class on a regular basis and helps students through issues they have with the software,” he added. “I have received comments from students commending the job she has done in the class,”

Green has been a Montezuma County resident since 1980. In 2000, she began teaching at San Juan Basin Technical College, which merged with Pueblo Community College in 2009. During that time, she has taught a variety of courses such as English and Business Communications, as well as computers, graphics and web design. She was named the SJBTC’s 2006 Faculty Member of the Year.

Green has bachelor’s degrees in English, journalism and secondary education from Kansas State University. From 1980 to 1996, she and her husband, Sam Green, owned the Dolores Star, which in 1985 became one of the first newspapers in the nation to adopt desktop publishing and layout using computers. When not teaching, Melinda enjoys outdoor sports and running.

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Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21st Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest Colorado campuses.