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## News Release

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Date: June 17, 2008

**For Immediate Release**

### **Mercer Professor Honored with Community College Spirit Award**

TRENTON, N.J.—At its annual Trustee Conference on June 16, the New Jersey Council of County Colleges presented the 2008 Community College Spirit Award to Mercer County Community College Professor of History and Faculty Assistant to the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Linda Bregstein Scherr for her exemplary service to New Jersey's community colleges.

“Since its inauguration in 1993, the Community College Spirit Award has been an honor bestowed to those who embody the community college spirit – perseverance, dedication and excellence,” said Dr. Richard Wellbrock, Council chairman.

Scherr was recognized for her leadership and service as co-chair of the General Education Coordinating Committee, a group of academic officers and faculty who have worked to develop a uniform general education model for New Jersey's 19 community colleges.

In September 2007, Gov. Jon Corzine signed A3968/S2535, a new law that promotes the seamless transfer of New Jersey community college associate degree graduates into baccalaureate degree programs at public four-year colleges and universities throughout the state.

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Under the new law, each public higher education institution will enter into a collective statewide transfer agreement in consultation with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New Jersey Presidents' Council.

“The General Education Coordinating Committee’s work will ensure that community college students throughout the state take the right general education courses to smoothly transfer to four-year colleges and universities,” Wellbrock added.

Scherr has been a member of Mercer’s faculty since 1998. She currently teaches western civilization and world history. As faculty assistant to the vice president of academic and student affairs, Scherr oversees the college’s general education program and curriculum development. In addition, she serves as the chair of the social science department and served as chair of the liberal arts program, the college’s largest transfer program.

Scherr is also chair of the honor’s program council and a member of the faculty association executive committee.

Scherr holds a Ph.D. in ancient history from the University of Pennsylvania and an A.B. with honors in history and near eastern studies from Cornell University.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state association representing New Jersey’s 19 community colleges. As an independent, trustee-headed organization that joins the leadership of trustees and presidents, the Council is the voice of the community college sector before the state legislature and other branches of government. The Council is also the state coordinating organization for all community colleges in New Jersey.