For Immediate Release

**Cabrillo Foundation Donors Brian and Patti Herman Provide $27,289 Gift to Support Cabrillo Tutorials Center**

APTOS, CA — The Cabrillo College Foundation today announces that Foundation donors Brian and Patti Herman have generously provided $27,289 to support the Tutorials Center at Cabrillo College. This gift will enable the Tutorials Center to provide services to 300 students per semester and will provide the Tutorials Center the added flexibility to reduce the size of tutoring groups. Smaller groups will ensure that Cabrillo’s tutors can better address individual concerns and improve the effectiveness of tutoring, thereby increasing student success.

Executive Director Melinda Silverstein said, “Brian and Patti Herman are generous, long time donors who have been supporting Cabrillo College since 2001. They have a passion to support youth in our community and have given to the Cabrillo Advancement Program, the Cabrillo College Foundation President’s Circle, Cabrillo Stage and student scholarships.”

Over the past several years, student needs for tutoring have increased while state funding to community colleges has decreased. State budget cuts reduced funding for tutoring by $25,566 or 48% for 2013-14, causing a reduction of services from 300 students per semester down to 156 students per semester. The Herman’s gift fills the funding gap, enabling the Tutorials Center to continue to provide services to 300 students per semester.

“This very generous gift will allow the Tutorials Center to meet the needs of more students by both expanding the number of peer tutors and the subjects offered,” said Lori Chavez, Cabrillo College Tutorials Coordinator. “The increased academic support will result in enhanced academic success, thereby affirming our motto: Sharing Knowledge, Achieving Success. We greatly appreciate this kind of support from our community.”

The Cabrillo College Tutorials Center’s mission is to provide free, high-quality academic support in a comfortable learning environment. The Tutorials Center helps to improve student retention, transfer, and graduation rates by providing academic support in a one-on-one or small group size environment. Tutors at the Tutorials Center are Cabrillo College students who provide support to approximately 300 students each semester. Student tutors provide one to two hours of tutoring per session and reflect Cabrillo’s ethnically and linguistically diverse population.

“I can attribute all of my success as a student at Cabrillo College to the intelligent, hardworking, and caring staff at the Tutorials Center - it has been an invaluable resource in helping me excel through my Nursing prerequisites,” said Noah Dahl, Cabrillo College Nursing student. “The inviting atmosphere is exceptionally conducive to learning and the
professionalism of the staff is unmatched. I would recommend the Tutorials Center to any serious student at Cabrillo College."

Student tutors support a wide range of students including those focused on Basic Skills, Career Technical Education, Disabled Student Services and Learning Skills. In addition to providing academic support to Cabrillo College students, the Tutorials Center provides student tutors with paid professional work experience. Accredited by the College Reading & Learning Association, Cabrillo's Tutorials Center has one dedicated coordinator who manages and schedules many student tutors according to student tutoring needs.

Among its benefits, small group peer tutoring allows students to understand the subject and also how others perceive and may struggle with it; it facilitates current and future academic and professional collaboration with others; it builds interpersonal skills and it facilitates the development of goal-oriented, peer support networks.

**About The Cabrillo College Foundation**

The Cabrillo College Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1962 to raise private donations for the support of Cabrillo programs. Private support is used for student scholarships, research and educational programs, faculty and departmental support, facilities, and equipment. Of the 1,400 community colleges in the nation, the Cabrillo College Foundation ranks among the top 2%.

Local citizens, college staff, faculty and Cabrillo trustees serve on the 27-member foundation board, representing all geographic areas. Over the last ten years, the foundation has raised over $32 million for college initiatives. The foundation built an endowment of over $21 million.

**About Cabrillo College**

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions or for lifelong learning and personal enrichment. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.

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