Cabrillo program selected as finalist in national initiative

APTOS — Cabrillo College announced Monday that its Students Transitioning in Academics: Reaching Success (STARS) program was selected out of a field of 217 nominations as a finalist for the 2014 Examples of Excelencia, a national initiative to identify and promote programs that are at the forefront of advancing educational achievement for Latino students in higher education.

As part of the recognition, Cabrillo’s STARS program was honored at the annual Celebración de Excelencia, held on Sept. 30 at the St. Regis Hotel in Washington, D.C. in partnership with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO).

“Cabrillo College is honored to receive this recognition as a finalist, especially amongst such a competitive field of outstanding programs,” said Dr. Laurel Jones, president and superintendent of Cabrillo College. “The STARS First Year Experience provides students with a fun and supportive cohort-based learning environment. Our research demonstrates that students who enroll in learning communities are more likely to accomplish their transfer and career goals, and have better long-term success.”

As a result of the positive impact of the STARS program, Cabrillo College will be featured in the 2014 edition of the publication “What Works for Latino Students in Higher Education Compendium” and included in Excelencia’s searchable online Growing What Works database, which profiles selected evidence based programs and institutions from across the U.S. In addition, the program will be included in a national press release and highlighted in an online broadcast to more than 10,000 Excelencia in Education constituents.