

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Tuesday, March 27, 2007

**CONTACT:** Karen Hamilton, (207) 767-0116, ext. 4  
E-mail: [khamilton@mccs.me.edu](mailto:khamilton@mccs.me.edu)

## **Community Colleges Honor 2007 All-Maine Academic Team**

AUGUSTA, Maine – Dennis King, Chair of the Maine Community College System (MCCS) Board of Trustees, praised the accomplishments of 11 community college students who were named to the All-Maine Academic Team at a ceremony today at the Senator Inn in Augusta. The team, which recognizes the academic achievements and leadership qualities of two-year college students, is sponsored in part by Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for two-year colleges.

The students being honored include: **Mark Castonguay** of Livermore Falls; **E. Jeanette Hatch** of Medford; **Katherine J. Cummings** of Brewer; **Tina Willett** of Clinton; **Michaele C. Black** of Presque Isle; **Michael C. Schell Jr.** of Saco; **Heather A. Huntley** of South Portland; **Lori Barbee** of Cherryfield; **Maria Evans** of Robbinston; **Nicholas Johnson** of Sanford; and **Troy Williams** of York Beach. (See bios below.)

Michael C. Schell Jr. was also honored as Maine's New Century Scholar in recognition of having achieved the highest All-USA Academic Team application score in the state. He will represent Maine at the American Association of Community Colleges' annual convention in April, where he will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

"These eleven students are being recognized for their high academic achievement and their contributions to their communities. Individually, and collectively, they are making their college, their community and our state a better place," said King, addressing the crowd, which included students' family members, college faculty and staff, and several legislators.

At the ceremony, each of the students received a \$500 scholarship from KeyBank. King and MCCS President John Fitzsimmons, both gave remarks recognizing the students' achievements.

The All-Maine Academic Team is part of the national Phi Theta Kappa program ([www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org)), an international honor society for two-year colleges designed to recognize academic excellence, leadership, and community service. Each of the Maine team members has also been selected by their colleges to compete for a spot on the All-USA Academic Team, which is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, the American Association of Community Colleges and *USA Today*. The All-Maine Academic Team program is co-sponsored by KeyBank, *Bangor Daily News*, Creative Awards of Scarborough, and the Maine Community College System ([www.mccs.me.edu](http://www.mccs.me.edu)).

More information information on the New Century Scholar Program is available at <http://www.ptk.org/schol/aaat/newcent.htm>.

## **Members of the 2007 All-Maine Academic Team**

[For more detailed bios and photos go here](#)

**Mark Castonguay**, *Central Maine Community College, Auburn*

**Residence:** Livermore Falls **Age:** 20 **GPA:** 3.956

**Major:** Business Administration **Achievements:** Vice President, Alpha Phi Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa; United Way Volunteer; Maine licensed pharmacy technician; President's Honor Roll; Z.A. Mersereau Scholarship for Academic Excellence recipient; Skowhegan Savings Bank Scholarship recipient; Irving B. Isaacson Scholarship recipient.

**E. Jeanette Hatch**, *Eastern Maine Community College, Bangor*

**Residence:** Medford **Age:** 39 **GPA:** 3.517

**Major:** Business Management/Office Administration **Achievements:** Student Senate Secretary; American Red Cross Blood Drive volunteer; Manna Ministries turkey and food drive volunteer; Winterfest and Tech Day activities; Phi Theta Kappa (President, 2005-2006); Casino Night Fundraiser coordinator and participant; Valentine Rose Sale; Children's Miracle Network Halloween Fundraiser volunteer; Milo Christian Academy volunteer secretary; Coldbrook Grange (in Medford) volunteer; EMCC Enrollment Center Student Service Award (2006) recipient; Catherine "Kay" Lebowitz Scholarship (2006) recipient; Phi Theta Kappa Five-Star Level recipient for the Beta Beta Omicron Chapter at EMCC.

**Katherine J. Cummings**, *Eastern Maine Community College, Bangor*

**Residence:** Brewer **Age:** 24 **GPA:** 3.980

**Major:** Computer Aided Drafting & Design/Liberal Studies **Achievements:** Phi Theta Kappa Public Relations Officer and member; EMCC Building Construction Advisory Board past member; University of Maine Black Bear Marching Band past member; Phi Theta Kappa Beta Beta Omicron Scholarship (2006) recipient; All Soul's Congregational Church Scholarship (2006) recipient; EMCC Student Senate Scholarship (2006) recipient, and Central Maine Harley Davidson Scholarship (2005) recipient.

**Tina Willett**, *Kennebec Valley Community College, Fairfield*

**Residence:** Winslow **Age:** 37 **GPA:** 3.77

**Major:** Business Administration Accounting **Achievements:** Phi Theta Kappa member; Student Senate member; General Advisory Council member; Team Leadership Committee member; Safety Committee member; Alumni Council member; Clinton summer softball league committee member; Dean's List fall 2005 to spring 2007.

**Michaele C. Black**, *Northern Maine Community College, Presque Isle*

**Residence:** Presque Isle **Age:** 19 **GPA:** 3.96

**Major:** Liberal Studies **Achievements:** Student Senate President; Opportunity Maine Campaign; NMCC Resident Assistant; NMCC Campus Organizations Committee chair; Northern Maine Chamber Orchestra; Dean's List fall 2005, spring 2006, fall 2006; Phi Theta Kappa member.

**Michael C. Schell Jr.**, *Southern Maine Community College, South Portland*

**Residence:** Saco **Age:** 29 **GPA:** 4.0

**Major:** Liberal Studies **Achievements:** Phi Theta Kappa, SMCC Learning Assistance Center tutor; Appalachian Mountain Club volunteer; Dean's List fall 2005, spring 2006; State of Maine New Century Scholar.

**Heather A. Huntley**, *Southern Maine Community College, South Portland*

**Residence:** South Portland **Age:** 31 **GPA:** 3.76

**Major:** Computer Applications and Administrative Management **Achievements:** Phi Theta Kappa Vice President of Service; The Portland Club of Altrusa International scholarship recipient; American Cancer Society volunteer; March of Dimes volunteer; Leaf Triad volunteer; Christmas Giving Tree sponsor; Hurricane Katrina fund raiser volunteer; Caleb Adult Learning Center computer tutor; Americorps SERVE Maine volunteer; Small School PTA volunteer.

**Lori Barbee**, *Washington County Community College, Calais*

**Residence:** Cherryfield **Age:** 44 **GPA:** 4.0

**Major:** Early Childhood Education **Achievements:** Narraguagus High School's Promoting Individual Education volunteer; Cherryfield Recreation Committee; Special Families Weekend volunteer for annual three-day event for families with special needs children; Finance Authority of Maine's Quality Child Care Education Scholarship recipient, 2005-2006.

**Maria Evans**, *Washington County Community College, Calais*

**Residence:** Robbinston **Age:** 26 **GPA:** 3.3

**Major:** Business Management **Achievements:** Bernard Osher Scholarship recipient; Dean's Award recipient; WCCC TRIO Outstanding Achiever Award recipient.

**Nicholas Johnson**, *York County Community College, Wells*

**Residence:** Sanford **Age:** 22 **GPA:** 3.84

**Major:** Web Development **Achievements:** Student Senate Vice President; Animation Club President; Dance Dance Revolution Club President; Phi Theta Kappa officer; Dean's List.

**Troy Williams**, *York County Community College, Wells*

**Residence:** York Beach **Age:** 19 **GPA:** 3.88

**Major:** Liberal Studies **Achievements:** Phi Theta Kappa member; National Dean's List, President's List; Lions Club Scholarship recipient; National Honor Society member.