



Maine Community College System

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

CONTACT: Helen Pelletier
207-767-0116, ext. 3
207-215-4652 (cell)
hpelletier@mccs.me.edu

Dr. WILLIAM H. CASSIDY TO RETIRE AS PRESIDENT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AUGUSTA, ME—MCCS President John Fitzsimmons today announced that Dr. William H. Cassidy will retire as president of Washington County Community College in Calais on December 31, 2009, after a distinguished 36-year career in Maine public education.

Cassidy has served as president of WCCC since 2003. Under his leadership, the school has added new academic programs, undertaken a number of significant capital improvements, and formed new articulation agreements and partnerships with colleges and universities in Maine and New Brunswick. His tenure has also been marked by an increased emphasis on volunteerism and the role of the college in the life of the local community.

“I am grateful to Bill Cassidy for the wonderful job he has done at WCCC over the past six years,” said President Fitzsimmons in announcing Cassidy’s retirement. “He will leave the college a much stronger institution, and he will leave behind him a legacy of dedicated service, strong personal integrity, and a deep commitment to increasing educational and economic opportunity for the people of Washington County.”

A native of Calais and a graduate of Calais Memorial High School, Cassidy returned home to serve as president at WCCC after three decades in education at both the secondary and post-secondary levels. Previously, he had served in a number of senior administrative posts within the Maine Community College System, as an associate commissioner within the Maine Department of Education, as director of the Waterville Regional Vocational Center, and as a teacher at the middle, high school, and college levels.

A lifelong learner, Cassidy holds credentials from Northern Maine Technical College (he is the only MCCS president to have graduated from one of the System’s seven institutions), the University of Maine at Machias, Husson College, the University of Maine, and Nova Southeastern University.

A search for Cassidy’s successor will begin immediately with a goal of having a new president in place by the start of the 2010 spring semester.

A photo of President Cassidy is available upon request.

#####