

Dr. Delores A. Parker Receives 2006 Leadership Award from the National Council on Black American Affairs

Dr. Delores A. Parker, vice president for academic and student services of the North Carolina Community College System Office, received one of three Leadership Awards from the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA) during the 86th Annual Convention of the American Association of Community Colleges. Parker, who has led the academic and student services division since November 1999, was recognized for her commitment to improving educational opportunities and professional development for African-American students, faculty and administrators in the community college system.



Dr. Parker and NCBAA President Dr. Woodland

The Leadership Award, presented during the annual NCBAA breakfast on April 23 in Long Beach, California, recognizes her commitment to initiating programs emphasizing access, success and retention of African-American Males in postsecondary education. Dr. Parker's leadership led to the first North Carolina Community College System 2005 Minority Male Mentoring Best Practices Conference. She also led a successful partnership with North Carolina Central University to host the 2006 Conference "African American Males in Education: Collective Works and Responsibility."

She has been instrumental in obtaining Achieving the Dream funding from the Lumina Foundation to increase the success of community college students, particularly those who have been underserved in postsecondary education, and instrumental in gaining continued funding of the North Carolina Transitional Assistance to Biomedical Sciences grant from the National Institutes of Health to increase the participation of minority students in baccalaureate programs.

In presenting the award, Dr. Calvin Woodland, president of the National Council on Black American Affairs and president of Capital Community College in Hartford, Conn., noted "Dr. Parker is a social activist who is forever vigilant to the causes that insure justice and fairness for the African-American community."

Also attending the event in support of Dr. Parker were H. Martin Lancaster, president of the North Carolina Community College System, Kenneth L. Whitehurst, associate vice president for academic and student services for the system, and Wanda White, director of Student Development services for the system. "Dr. Parker has been a visionary leader whose work in support of underrepresented students in postsecondary education is a hallmark of excellence in preparing a highly trained workforce through the North Carolina Community College system," Lancaster said.