June 27, 2007

TO: 2007 Summer Academy Participants

FROM: Rosie García, Vice President of Instruction
José Rivera, Vice President of Student Development

SUBJECT: Welcome and Thank You!

We are excited that you will be participating in Del Mar College’s sixth annual Summer Academy. A committee of dedicated faculty and staff has worked to bring this activity together, and we again thank them separately and collectively. We acknowledge that prior preparation is evidence of the importance of the work you are about to undertake. The following history of the College’s summer academy will assist in better understanding our excitement about the two days of work.

The Del Mar College Summer Academies had their beginning in 1999 in the mountains of Colorado as an AAHE activity. Del Mar began the learning college dialog as faculty and other professionals participated in activities and research that began forging the College’s path to a more learning-focused institution.

Five years ago, the summer academy model became a part of the College’s strategy to solve problems and to plan with learning as the focus. The 2002 Academy focused on the Learning College, while the 2003 Academy focused on Developmental Education within a learning-college framework. The 2004 theme concentrated on a data-driven dialog and widened the perspective to include more areas of the College focused on learning. The 2005 Academy focused on assessment in preparation for the SACS Reaffirmation. The 2006 Academy continued the journey in exploring excellence in assessment and retention.

This year’s theme – “Weaving Assessment into DMC’s Learning College Journey” – will move us toward fully utilizing the new WEAVEonline® system, and to continue spreading the comprehension and understanding of the entire assessment and how student learning outcomes are connected to assessment. Your participation is needed to bring your important prospective to the table as we deal with this year’s topics:

• Moving Toward a New System of On-line and Assessment with WEAVEonline®
• Improving the Assessment Process
• Enhancing the Understanding and Development of Student Learning Outcomes

We thank you for your dedication to the College and willingness to commit your time and talent to the 2007 Summer Academy. We look forward to working in partnership with you to attain exciting and positive results.