



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Citrus College Superintendent/President Receives “Woman of the Year” Honor**

*Glendora, Calif.*—Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College, has been named a “Woman of the Year” by Senator Anthony Portantino (SD25). Dr. Perri was honored at a special ceremony in Pasadena on March 26 where 10 women were recognized for their contributions and accomplishments within the 25<sup>th</sup> Senate District. “This year’s Women of the Year of SD25 are each exceptional and unique in their advocacy to help others,” said Senator Portantino. “They represent the best in the district and it is my privilege to recognize their successes.”

Dr. Perri was named Citrus College’s superintendent/president in 2008 and has had a distinguished career in academia for over 30 years. “Dr. Perri was selected because of her outstanding leadership and commitment to student success,” Senator Portantino said. “When we looked at what she has been able to accomplish at Citrus College, it was clear that Dr. Perri should be honored because she continues to advance the college’s stellar reputation as a leader in higher education,” Portantino said.

As superintendent/president, Dr. Perri oversees a \$71 million operating budget and serves the communities of Azusa, Claremont, Duarte, Glendora and Monrovia. “It was a truly an honor to be selected as a Woman of the Year,” said Perri. “Senator Portantino has been a champion for education and the empowerment of individuals through academic achievement. A goal we both support.”

Dr. Perri previously served as president of Cuyamaca College in Rancho San Diego. She also held the position of vice president of instruction at San Diego Mesa College, dean of instruction/career education at Mt. San Jacinto College in Riverside County, and associate dean of academic affairs at Hostos Community College of the City University of New York.

“Dr. Perri’s strong desire to see students succeed is inspirational,” said Dr. Barbara Dickerson, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. “The fact that she was recognized by Senator Portantino with this honor speaks volumes about her leadership and the contributions she has made to Citrus College and the San Gabriel Valley. Dr. Perri’s direction and service to the institution, the communities we serve, and especially to our students, is invaluable.”

After earning an associate degree in dental hygiene, a bachelor’s degree in dental health education and a master’s degree in health education, Dr. Perri earned an additional master’s degree in organizational development and a doctorate in human and organizational development. Later, Dr. Perri completed

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Harvard University's Institute for Management and Leadership in Education and Cornell University's Community College Administrative Leadership Institute.

"I am a product of a community college, and I believe in the transformative nature and power of our nation's community colleges," Perri said. "It is a privilege to be in a leadership role at Citrus College, a nationally recognized community college which is supported by a dedicated faculty, caring staff and a visionary Board of Trustees."



Dr. Geraldine M. Perri receives the Woman of the Year honor from Sen. Anthony Portantino on March 26.



Citrus College Board of Trustees celebrate Dr. Perri's honor in Pasadena. Pictured, left-right: Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, vice president; Dr. Barbara Dickerson, president; Senator Portantino; Dr. Perri; Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, clerk/secretary; and Mrs. Susan Keith, member.