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CONTACT: Jodie Pozo-Olano
Sequoia Public Relations
804-986-6911/ Jodie@sequoiapr.com

**NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR ONLINE LEARNING SPONSORS FIRST REGIONAL SUMMIT
WITH UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

-- 2004 Online Teaching and Learning Institute Speakers include: NACOL CEO Tim Stroud, CA State Superintendent Jack O'Connell, and CA Assemblymember John Laird --

WASHINGTON, DC, July 19, 2004 – The North American Council for Online Learning (www.NACOL.org), an international K-12 non-profit organization representing educators, school administrators, and students involved in online learning in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, will co-sponsorship of the 2004 Online Teaching and Learning Institute, July 21 – 23 in Santa Cruz, California.

The University of California College Prep Online Project (UCCP), the largest provider of online learning courses for high school students in California, will hold its annual Online Teaching and Learning Institute. The Institute provides online educators and administrators with professional development opportunities not normally available to teachers in a traditional education environment

“We believe forums like the UCCP’s Institute present opportunities for educators to hear from experts in the field and to learn new methods to boost successful student participation in online learning. As participation in virtual learning continues to grow, the exchange of what works is valuable and facilitates the growth and development of quality programs,” said Tim Stroud, CEO of NACOL and featured speaker at the UCCP 2004 Online Teaching and Learning Institute.

NACOL’s co-sponsorship of this event marks the first of three professional development regional institutes to be offered to educators. The second regional institute will be held in Plano, Texas November 5-6, 2004 and Baltimore, Maryland April 14-15, 2005.

At the Institute, national and state leaders will lead sessions and provide participants with tools, information and resources in five (5) areas:

- Collaboration: Sessions will provide tips on building community support and working with university partners.
- Content & Curricula: Experts will present on course management systems, elements of quality curriculum and building student support procedures.
- Implementing Online Courses: Presentations will include best practices from online educators on school environment, budgeting and school, and student needs.
- Teaching & Learning: Sessions will include discussions about successful teaching strategies and how to build a successful learning environment.
- Training & Technology: Hands-on workshops on how to build courses and demonstrations of technology solutions.

The 2004 UCCP Online Teaching and Learning Institute will be held July 21 – 23, at Monterey Bay, Santa Cruz. Additional information is available at:

<http://www.uccp.org/institute/index.htm>.

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About University of California College Prep Online Project

The UC College Prep Online Project (UCCP) is a University of California academic initiative to develop and deliver quality online courses, test prep and academic support services to students across the Nation and beyond. UCCP also provides online content for classroom use and teacher training in educational technology. UCCP was created in 1999 to equalize access to college preparatory courses and materials by providing students and schools with curricula that may not be available otherwise.

About NACOL

The North American Council for Online Learning (NACOL), founded in September 2003, is the international K-12 non-profit organization representing the interests of administrators, practitioners, and students involved in online learning in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. NACOL's mission is to increase educational opportunities and to enhance learning by providing collegial expertise and leadership in the K-12 online teaching and learning marketplace. The association strives to achieve this mission by leading initiatives to conduct research to enhance quality K-12 online learning; encourage collaboration among practitioners in the online learning marketplace; and promote the success and effectiveness of online learning.