LaGuardia Community College

February 8, 2008

LaGuardia Community College President Gail Mellow To Deliver Robert H. Atwell Lecture at the American Council on Education Conference

WHAT: LaGuardia Community College President Gail Mellow, author of the book “Minding the Dream: The Process and Practice of the American Community College” and passionate advocate for community colleges, will deliver the Robert H. Atwell Lecture at the American Council on Education Conference. She is only the 2nd community college president to deliver this prestigious lecture in its 90-year history. Mellow will address nearly 1,500 higher-education leaders with her lecture entitled “Each and All: Creating a Sustainable System of Higher Education”

WHEN: Sunday, February 10, 5pm


BACKGROUND: Mellow’s lecture presents a compelling argument for investing in community colleges to better educate current students, as well as to reach a larger group of Americans who cannot effectively participate in the U.S. economy without at least an associate degree. Community colleges have been largely responsible for our sizable middle class. The extraordinary accomplishments of community colleges that educate almost half of U.S. undergraduates have been hidden in plain sight, she argues. Their invisibility impairs the higher-education system and the nation. Currently, the U.S. spends almost 3 times more to educate each 4-year college student than it does for students at community colleges. President Mellow calls for an investment to develop innovative pedagogies, so that the U.S. remains economically competitive and our middle class is strong and productive. At the conference, President Mellow will showcase the innovative pedagogies developed by LaGuardia’s dedicated faculty and staff.

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