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Minneapolis Community and Technical College Selected
as Finalist for National Award
Winning Schools to Receive \$30,000 from MetLife Foundation

JANUARY 4, 2008< Minneapolis Community and Technical College is one of six institutions nationwide selected as finalists for the prestigious 2008 MetLife Foundation Community College Excellence Award.

The others are: Harry S. Truman College in Chicago, Queensborough Community College in New York, South Texas College, The Community College of Baltimore County, and Yakima Valley Community College in Washington.

The MetLife Foundation Community College Excellence Award honors institutions that are effective in helping students from underrepresented populations to succeed in postsecondary education. Every two years, the award goes to two colleges that make significant institutional commitments to helping first-time college-goers, new immigrants, working adults, welfare recipients, high school dropouts, and other populations with limited college experience and success prepare for further education or for a family-supporting career.

³We are proud to recognize these community colleges for doing their part to increase college success for underrepresented students,² says MetLife Foundation President and CEO Sibyl Jacobson. ³Our nation needs every community college student, particularly those from low-income and minority groups, to succeed in their educational programs. These colleges have set ambitious goals for themselves and their students<and they are making real progress in supporting student success. Their efforts are inspiring.²

Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC) is Minnesota¹'s most ethnically diverse college. Located in downtown Minneapolis, MCTC enrolls over 11,000 students and more than 80 languages and unique dialects are spoken on campus. ³We are pleased to be a finalist for the 2008 College Excellence award,² states MCTC President Phillip Davis. ³The success of our students contributes to the social, economic and cultural vitality of our community.²

In April 2008, at the annual meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges, two colleges will receive the MetLife Foundation Award and \$30,000. The winners must demonstrate that they have innovative strategies for improving student outcomes, the ability to carry out those strategies, and the evidence that shows that they are showing results for a significant number of students.

³The goal is to highlight colleges that not only create supportive learning environments on campus, but that are committed to continuous improvement over time in improving student outcomes, particularly for the students who traditionally have the hardest time staying with and succeeding in their chosen educational programs so they can succeed in the economy and in life,² says Marlene Seltzer, president and CEO of Jobs for the Future, which administers the awards. ³Since 2002, this award and the achievements of the finalists and winners have inspired other institutions to follow their lead.²

MetLife Foundation, established in 1976 by MetLife, has contributed more than \$90 million to education programs that cultivate effective learning environments, including community colleges dedicated to lowering dropout rates, raising enrollment, and fostering the academic accomplishments of all students. For more on MetLife Foundation, go to: <http://www.metlife.org>
<<http://www.metlife.org>>

Jobs for the Future is a leading innovator in strategies to improve

education and career opportunities for youth and low-skilled workers nationwide. Learn more at: <http://www.jff.org> <<http://www.jff.org>>

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