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College and Community Relations  
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### **GROSSMONT COLLEGE NAMES PROFESSOR GARY PHILLIPS DISTINGUISHED FACULTY 2006-2007**

**El Cajon** - The people who nominated Gary Phillips for Grossmont College's 2006-2007 Distinguished Faculty medallion deserve a medallion themselves. Compiling all their colleague's contributions and service to the college took a heck of a lot of work.

And there was one more event they didn't list, in the pages and pages of documentation, because it hadn't happened yet. But it certainly describes him: when his name was announced during the President's Convocation, he wanted his peers to go accept the medallion with him.

"I did not earn this award by myself," he said. "It was a collaborative effort between me and every other faculty, staff, or administrator with whom I worked. Distinguished Faculty is not an honor earned by the individual; it is a group effort."

Phillips has been part of, and many times, the leader of, group efforts in his more than two decades on the Grossmont College campus. They include the Academic Senate, Academic Rank Committee, ICC, the LRC/Tech Center Task Force, Accreditation Committee, Curriculum and Textbook Committees, and eight hiring committees.

He has been English Dept. chair since 1999 and responsible for course development and continuing development of Project Success. He has been active in community outreach, professional conference presentations, and workshop participation and development, including

the Novel Writer's Workshop, established in 2004. He is also the author of both scholarly and commercial books, including *The Essentials of Tutoring: Helping College Students Develop Their Writing Skills*.

Phillips' selection was announced by Beth Smith, Academic Senate president.

"As I rose from my seat and walked forward to the stage, I was in a daze," he said. "When I finally arrived on stage and turned around, I almost collapsed, because every person in the room was standing and applauding. Overwhelmed would be an understatement. In the audience stood many faculty who, in my opinion, should have received this honor."

Phillips was presented the Distinguished Faculty medallion by Smith and Grossmont Interim President Dr. Dean Colli. He also received an honorarium from the Grossmont College Foundation.

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