



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2012

## **THE POLITICS OF MAPS**

### **Cascadia Community College Takes a Closer Look at Redistricting**

(Bothell, WA) – Students gathered Monday afternoon on the campus of Cascadia Community College for a pre-election day civics lesson about the redistricting of the 1<sup>st</sup> legislative district and 9<sup>th</sup> congressional district. Representative Luis Moscoso (D-1<sup>st</sup> LD) and an elections specialist from the Office of the Secretary of State joined Cascadia and University Washington Bothell faculty to explain how redistricting impacts voter turnout and election results.

More than 125 students attended the panel discussion, asking questions ranging from basic questions such as, “Is it too late to register?” to “How does redistricting impact vulnerable, transient populations?”

“We wanted a pre-election day event that didn’t focus on a specific race or issue, and that was still relevant to our student population,” says event organizer, Jessica Ketcham Weber, PhD, an English Professor at Cascadia. “The idea was to contextualize for our students that maps are fluid, not static. They are constructed by humans, so are not immune to special interests and political parties.”

The event is part of Cascadia’s campus-wide integrated learning theme. Every year a topic is chosen around which instructors from all different disciplines work to plan curriculum and develop activities that relate to the theme. This year’s theme is maps.

#### Panel Participants (from right to left)

Rep. Luis Moscoso – Democrat, 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District

Jesus Perez, PhD - Cascadia Professor

Nick Pharris, PhD – Office of the Secretary of State

Erin Richards – Cascadia Professor

Camille Walsh, JD, PhD – UW Bothell Professor

*Cascadia Community College transfers more than 70% of its students to four-year degree programs. It has earned a national reputation for its high transfer rate and innovative approach to student-centered learning. Cascadia Community College is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex and/or gender, disability, national origin, citizenship status, age, sexual orientation, veteran’s status, or genetic information.*

Please direct media inquiries to Cascadia's Director of College Relations, Meagan Walker, at [mwalker@cascadia.edu](mailto:mwalker@cascadia.edu) or (425) 352-8491.

###