



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Connections Academy Announces Dual Credit Program with University of Maryland University College

-- Program Will Expand Educational Opportunities for Eligible High School Seniors Enrolled in the Academy --

Baltimore, Md. (April 16, 2010)—National Connections Academy (NaCA) today announced the launch of a dual credit program with University of Maryland University College (UMUC). The program launches in August of 2010.

The agreement gives eligible NaCA students the opportunity to enroll in up to seven credits of first-year UMUC courses while pursuing a high school diploma. Students who successfully complete a UMUC course will earn both high school and college credit, which can then be applied to a diploma or degree program.

The dual credit program offers NaCA students more than 65 UMUC courses, ranging from core subjects like math, science and history, to a variety of electives, including criminal justice, world languages, sociology, and computer science.

“As an institution committed to expanding educational opportunities in Maryland and around the world, we seek partnerships and programs that help make college courses and degrees more accessible to students,” said UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge. “Given that history and mission, we are especially pleased and proud to collaborate with National Connections Academy to offer this dual credit program for high school seniors to help prepare them early for future success.”

“Our new dual credit program with UMUC is a valuable opportunity for NaCA high school seniors who are interested in accelerating their college experience. At National Connections Academy our high-quality program meets the needs of students who want a more flexible and personalized approach to education. A like-minded partner, UMUC is a highly-regarded institution that delivers innovative and engaging courses. We are very pleased with this collaboration,” said Steven Guttentag, NaCA’s Head of School.

In order to be eligible for admission to the program, a NaCA student must be a high school senior at least 16 years of age, have at least a 3.5 grade-point average and obtain written permission from an appropriate school official.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The university’s official name is “University of Maryland University College” or the acronym “UMUC” only.

About University of Maryland University College

University of Maryland University College, headquartered in Adelphi, Maryland, is the largest public university in the United States, serving 90,000 students and offering 130 undergraduate and graduate programs online and on-site. In addition, UMUC is one of the largest public providers of online higher education in the nation. UMUC boasts a 60-year history of service to the military and currently enrolls an estimated 50,000 military service members, veterans, and their family members each year. The university offers face-to-face instruction at 21 locations throughout Maryland and educational services in 27 countries and more than 150 locations worldwide, including the Middle East. UMUC is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and is a constituent institution of the University System of Maryland, an agency of the State of Maryland.

About National Connections Academy

National Connections Academy is a leading high-quality, highly accountable virtual private school serving K-12 students nationwide. National Connections Academy delivers top quality, personalized education for students that combines talented teachers, a proven curriculum, and technology tools to create a supportive and successful environment for children who want an individualized approach to education. In National Connections Academy's Personalized Performance Learning® approach, students use daily lesson plans and curriculum materials provided by National Connections Academy. Teachers develop a learning plan for each student, whose progress is tracked through a proprietary, web-based Learning Management System. For more information, visit www.NationalConnectionsAcademy.com or call 877-804-NaCA (6222).

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Media Contact:

Allison Bazin
(609) 247-0275
abazin@connectionsacademy.com