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NEWS RELEASE

Editors: A bio of Dr. David Gregory follows this release.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIAS honours nursing scholar

Award-winning academic to receive honorary diploma

June 23, 2006 – An award-winning nurse educator received an honorary diploma today at SIAS Wascana Campus's annual graduation ceremonies in Regina.

"Dr. David Gregory has been ubiquitous in his contributions to health and nursing education," says Dr. Bob McCulloch, president and CEO of SIAS. "But while his commitment has had far-reaching impacts, he continues to contribute at a grassroots level, too. He exemplifies much of what SIAS values, and we are delighted to recognize his contributions with an honorary diploma in Science and Health."

"To be recognized by one's peers is perhaps the greatest compliment which can be accorded to a person. To receive an honorary diploma in Science and Health from SIAS is especially significant to me," says Dr. Gregory. "I have come to know SIAS as a place of excellence in teaching, as a leader in technological innovation, and as centre for the application and uptake of knowledge. I take great pride to now be affiliated with SIAS and share in its ongoing successes."

Dr. Gregory was the guest speaker at SIAS Wascana Campus's graduation ceremony today. About 900 students are graduating from SIAS Wascana this year; they are among approximately 4,000 students who will graduate from SIAS across the province.

Dr. Gregory is a professor and former dean of nursing at the University of Manitoba. He has been a leading contributor to the development of nursing education, including programs that have expanded access to Aboriginal students. Since 2004, Dr. Gregory has been the scholar in residence for SIAS's nursing faculty.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. Almost 12,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 27,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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Additional information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com



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BIO – HONORARY DIPLOMA RECIPIENT

Dr. David Gregory, RN, PhD, is a professor and former dean of nursing at the University of Manitoba. He is also a professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee and an approved faculty member in the Native Studies Graduate Program at the University of Manitoba. Since 2004, Dr. Gregory has served as scholar in residence for the nurse educators at SIAST.

Dr. Gregory began his career with Health Canada, working from 1982 to 1984 as a community health nurse in God's Lake Narrows, Manitoba. There, he learned about the need for interprofessional education and collaborative patient-centered care.

As an administrator, Dr. Gregory was instrumental in developing and establishing a doctorate program in cancer control – a collaborative educational partnership between nursing and medicine. He worked with the University of Manitoba's Northern Medical Unit to implement delivery of *Primary Care Skills* to registered nurses employed by Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. Dr. Gregory co-chaired a task force, *Against the Odds: Aboriginal Nursing ~ National Task Force on Recruitment and Retention Strategies* (Health Canada, 2002). The findings have implications for the education of Aboriginal students across the health care professions. Recently, the University College of the North (Thompson and The Pas) invited Dr. Gregory to help revitalize nursing education in northern Manitoba.

Dr. Gregory is a board member with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN), and he is chairing CASN's task force on patient safety. The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety funded Dr. Gregory to conduct a pilot study on patient safety from an education-systems perspective. His latest work in this regard, *Patient Safety: Where is Nursing Education?*, is in press with the Journal of Nursing Education.

Dr. Gregory's leadership has been recognized by the CASN (Award for Academic Administrative Excellence, 2001) and the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses (Award for Excellence in Professional Nursing Administration, 2000). Dr. Gregory is recognized as a leader in nursing education. He is an accomplished administrator who has demonstrated a real commitment to interprofessional education.

Dr. Gregory received an honorary diploma from SIAST on June 23, 2006.