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TRUSTEES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
Cook County and State of Illinois

ARAB HERITAGE MONTH - 2007
HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE

THE CHANCELLOR

REPORTS

that the City of Chicago, Mayor Richard M. Daley, has proclaimed the month of November to be Arab American Heritage Month in Chicago, and encouraged all citizens to be aware of the many contributions that Arab Americans have made to our country; and

that Harold Washington College proudly joins with the City of Chicago in celebrating Arab American culture and its contributions to the Arts and Sciences; and

that Harold Washington College's Arab Heritage Month Committee, convened and Co-Chaired by Assistant Professor Athir Mahmud of the Department of Computer Information Systems and College Advisor, Saed Rihani, with the capable assistance of students from the newly organized Organization of Arab Students, Instructors, and Staff, also known as OASIS, and coordinated events throughout the month of November; and

that Harold Washington College's Arab Heritage Month Committee collaborated with the Department of Humanities' Huminifest-Oh on November 8, 2007 to put on two events, the first being "Cultural Exchange: Myths and Influences of Arab Culture," an interactive discussion led by Professor Mahmud and Chair and Assistant Professor David Richardson of the Humanities Department where the discussion sought to dispel myths and stereotypes with respect to Arab Americans; Assistant Professor Richardson also gave a talk entitled "Arab Scholarship and Philosophy: The Western Tradition's Missing Link"; and

that OASIS sponsored the documentary "Control Room: Different Channels, Different Truths" which was shown November 12, 2007; and

that on November 13, 2007, OASIS invited members of the Harold Washington College community to attend an afternoon celebration of Arab food, music, and culture during an OASIS General Body Meeting; and

and concluded with a presentation by the Honorable Judge William Haddad from the Cook County Circuit Court, and a presentation by Ibtisam Asfour and Lori Saleh from Arab American Family Services, during the week of November 26-29, 2007. The lectures highlighted the Contributions of Arab Americans in the areas of the Arts and Sciences, as well as a discussion of the Arab World and its Heritage. A generous sampling of Arab food was served on both days; and

that the events of Arab Heritage Month were attended by over 300 persons including students, faculty, administrators, and guests.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne D. Watson
Chancellor

February 7, 2008