First Annual JSCC Male Mentoring Academy Fundraiser Banquet Held

Kenansville, North Carolina March 22, 2010 – The first annual James Sprunt Community College Male Mentoring Academy Banquet was held by the Academy’s members, The Scholarly Men of Success, on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Hosted in the Ed Emory Auditorium at the Duplin County Cooperative Extension Building in Kenansville, NC, the banquet was a fundraiser for the mentoring academy program. The mentoring program is designed to increase graduation and retention rates at James Sprunt Community College. The event raised approximately $8,000.

Following the invocation by Reverend Marvin Clowney, Sr., Dr. Lawrence Rouse, President of JSCC, and Mr. Eric Coman, Kenansville Town Manager, opened the proceedings with brief remarks. The keynote speaker, Mr. Jimmie Ford, member of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges, gave an entertaining and inspirational presentation. His remarks were addressed directly to the participants in the mentoring program, instructing them to stay on the right path, and encouraging the potential within each participant. Entertainment was provided during the dinner portion of the event by Dexter Stevens and Preparation, and The George Sisters of Warsaw.

Mr. Melvin Felton, Special Needs Advisor for Student Support Services Program JSCC and Mr. Jimmy Tate, Director of Strategic Initiatives, JSCC, leaders of the mentoring academy program, spearheaded the fundraiser. Ms. Jeanine Cavaneugh, Senior Administrative Assistant to the VP of College Advancement, handled the decorations and setup for the event.

The Academy wishes to thank all those who supported, attended, and donated to the fundraiser. Sponsors for the event were Mr. Reginald Kenan, Attorney at Law, Warsaw, Mr. Toney Bond, VP Student Services JSCC, District Attorney Dewey Hudson, Dr. Lawrence Rouse, President, JSCC, Dr. Mott Blair, Four Oaks Bank, Wallace, Liberty Tax Service, Wallace, Mayor Charlie and Harriot Farrior, Wallace, Pollock & Pollock, Attorney at Law, Burgaw, Anita Powers, Attorney at Law, Wallace, Kent Harrell, Attorney at Law, Burgaw, Phillips & Phillips, Attorney at Law,
Kenansville, Biberstein Attorney at Law, Burgaw, Kenan Attorney at Law, Burgaw, Duplin Winery, Rose Hill, Judge James Faison, Murphy Family Ventures, LLC., Wallace, Tonya Lacewell Turner, Attorney at Law, Burgaw, Pender Memorial Hospital, Burgaw, New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, H&R Block and Tempe B. Garriott, Wallace, Christina Rivenbark, Attorneys at Law, Wilmington, House of Raeford, Inc., Rose Hill, and Whole Harvest Foods, Warsaw.

The academy participates in mentoring activities such as seminars, workshops, educational tours, counseling, mentoring, and cultural events. The program objectives are to provide awareness of health issues that are important to this population during the funding period, provide weekly seminars on learning styles, goal setting, time management, career planning, diversity, budgeting, note and test taking, reading for understanding and study skills. Additional goals include career and educational mentoring through opportunities to shadow successful minority male college students, provide specialized supportive counseling and activities that increase their chances for completing higher education and obtaining a degree, and provide financial aid, grant, and scholarship information.

###

Mr. Jimmie Ford, member of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges was the keynote speaker. Dr. Lawrence Rouse, President, JSCC. Mr. Melvin Felton, Special Needs Advisor for Student Support Services Program JSCC. Mr. Jimmy Tate, Director of Strategic Initiatives.