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Contact: Adam Gal, President
(613) 727-4723 ext. 7139 (office)
gala@algonquincollege.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION REJOINS COLLEGE STUDENT ALLIANCE

OTTAWA – The Algonquin College Students' Association (SA) has rejoined the College Student Alliance (CSA) — an organization now consisting of 23 Ontario college student councils — after a four-year absence.

“The return of the Algonquin SA to the CSA is a testament to the great work that the CSA is doing on behalf of Ontario's college students,” says Justin Falconer, president of the CSA.

“Our board likes the positive steps the CSA has taken with recent staff additions and internal reforms,” says Adam Gal, president of the Algonquin SA. “Joining now makes perfect sense since the CSA has never been in a better position to advocate for its members.”

The SA's nine-member board rejoined the CSA on Nov. 1, 2004. The strong level of communication between the CSA and the Ontario provincial government was a key factor in the SA's decision.

“The government doesn't listen to individual student associations,” says Cassandra Meldrum, a director with the Algonquin SA. “The government listens to the CSA since it represents most of college students' associations in the province. Joining them is a strong move for our students.”

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The CSA is equally pleased with the SA's decision to rejoin after actively pursuing the SA's membership for much of 2004.

“Algonquin has a strong history of student success and student government solidarity,” says Matt White, vice-president of CSA's eastern region. “The policies, procedures and structure that the Algonquin SA has developed are among the best in the province — and dare I say — the country.”

The cost for joining the CSA will be absorbed into the SA budget. Algonquin students will pay no extra fees for admission and can expect the same level of service to be delivered by the SA.

The Algonquin College Students' Association is a not-for-profit association with over 14,000 student members. Formed in 1970, the Students' Association's mission is *to create an environment that inspires a passion for student success*. This success comes from the services, facilities, and student government the SA provides to its members.

The College Student Alliance has been an advocacy and services organization for Ontario's college students since 1967. The CSA currently represents 16 colleges and 23 student councils with over 100,000 full-time student members throughout the province.

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