



# Cambridge College

1000 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617-868-1000 or 800-877-4723

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kimberly Dunbar  
Communications Coordinator  
Cambridge College  
W: 617-873-0228; C: 781-296-7368  
[kimberly.dunbar@cambridgecollege.edu](mailto:kimberly.dunbar@cambridgecollege.edu)  
[www.cambridgecollege.edu](http://www.cambridgecollege.edu)

August 1, 2008

### **Cambridge Mayor E. Denise Simmons speaks to Cambridge College MITP Graduates**

**CAMBRIDGE, MA**—Cambridge College alumna and Mayor E. Denise Simmons spoke to over 60 Cambridge College Medical Interpreter Training Program (MITP) students at their graduation ceremony on **Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> in Room 152, 1000 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge.**

Mayor Simmons, who received her M.Ed. from Cambridge College in 1979, was able to share some words of encouragement and speak to the value of their College education. “I chose Cambridge College because of its practical applications and it offered me an education that would help me serve the public. I know that what you have learned will help you better serve your patients,” said Mayor Simmons.

The Cambridge College Medical Interpreter Training Program was launched in 2000 as one of the first college-based medical interpreting programs in the United States. Its objective is to help Boston-area hospitals better care for non-English speaking patients while providing a professional career opportunity to bilingual College students. In 2005-06, the College added two advanced courses in Mental Health Interpreting to its curriculum. In 2006-07, medical interpreting in American Sign Language was added. Over 400 students, native speakers of 14 different languages, have graduated as certified medical interpreters.

E. Denise Simmons is the first African-American female mayor of Cambridge. On Monday, January 14, 2008 Simmons was elected mayor of Cambridge by the Cambridge City Councilors in a unanimous vote. Prior to her election as mayor, Simmons served as a member of the City Council since 2002.

Mayor Simmons was an elected member of the Cambridge Public Schools' School Committee from 1992 to 2001.

Founded in 1971, Cambridge College is a private, non-profit institution dedicated to providing academically excellent, time-efficient, and cost-effective higher education for a diverse population of working adults for whom those opportunities may have been limited or denied. Cambridge College has sites in Cambridge, Springfield, and Lawrence, MA; Memphis, TN, Chesapeake and South Boston, VA; Augusta, GA; Ontario, CA; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

###