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NACOL Releases *Online Teacher Support Programs: Mentoring and Coaching Models*

PHOENIX, AZ, October 28, 2008 – The North American Council for Online Learning (NACOL) released the new report, *Online Teacher Support Programs: Mentoring and Coaching Models*, at the annual Virtual School Symposium today.

This research report studies teacher mentoring programs that several virtual schools developed to support new instructors. Successful mentoring programs are key in developing effective new virtual school teachers and to offer a strong model for collaboration and improvement with experienced faculty coaches.

Susan Patrick, NACOL President & CEO said, “Virtual schools are wonderful collaborative learning environments for teachers and students alike. Rich, interactive mentoring models are instrumental in developing effective novice virtual school teachers and in supporting the continued growth of experienced virtual school teachers. They allow all teachers to develop instructional skills and communications capabilities to help create 21st century models of teaching in a Web 2.0 world. This groundbreaking report looks at mentoring programs that provide excellence in online teaching.”

The complete report is available online at: www.nacol.org.

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About VSS

NACOL hosts the annual Virtual School Symposium (VSS), October 26 – 28, 2008 in Glendale, AZ. It is *the* leading K-12 online learning events with 1000+ attendees. VSS brings together national, state, district, private and virtual school program experts to learn about latest trends, challenges and opportunities in e-learning and gain access to the latest research. Organizations contributing to the financial support of this cutting-edge conference on K-12 online education include eClassroom, Insight Schools, Odysseyware and Pearson Education.

About NACOL

The North American Council for Online Learning (NACOL) is an international K-12 non-profit association advocating online learning to increase access to high-quality education and represents the interests of educational stakeholders, providers and students worldwide.