

CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

Governing Board Agenda

Meeting Date: February 24, 2009

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Item Title</u>	<u>Responsible Agents</u>
	Emeritus Distinction Rio Salado College	Dr. Rufus Glasper Dr. Linda M. Thor

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Governing Board award Emeritus Status to Carl Matthusen.

Justification

After nearly 34 years of distinguished service, Carl Matthusen could easily be called the “father” of Rio Salado’s three radio stations, filling the role of Founder and/or General Manager for KJZZ-FM, KBAQ-FM and Sun Sounds of Arizona. His contributions to these stations and to public radio are enormous on a local, regional and national scale.

During Carl’s tenure, the barely-on-the-radar station once known as KMCR was transformed into KJZZ, a national public radio station that has since earned hundreds of news, jazz and popularity awards. The station is currently the 3rd highest ranked station in the Valley, with nearly 300,000 listeners each week. After six years of persistence and diligence by Carl, KBAQ-FM was established in the early 1990s as the Valley’s only classical radio station in cooperation with ASU, and now it proudly boasts of 115,000 weekly listeners and numerous awards.

Likewise, during the 1970s Carl teamed up with community advocates and expanded public radio’s mission to provide information to those who cannot read print materials because they have a disability. That effort ultimately led to the creation of Sun Sounds of Arizona, now a role model among members of the International Association of Audio Information Services. Comprised of three studios statewide and more than 500 volunteer readers, Sun Sounds brought a national focus to Arizona when it received President George H.W. Bush’s 1,000 Points of Light award.

As they enter the digital age, all three stations are on solid footing and well positioned for continued growth and service.

Additionally, the Friends of Public Radio Arizona was founded under Carl’s leadership and annually generates nearly a half million dollars in support for the stations. Further, Carl has established a solid reputation as an outstanding leader on the national scene in public radio, having served on the National Public Radio Board of Directors from 1990-1996 and as its Chairman for four years.

Carl’s three decade record of exceptional service warrants granting him emeritus distinction.

Funding	Approvals/Certifications
<p><u>Source:</u></p> <p><u>Account Identification:</u></p>	<p>Chancellor _____</p> <p>Academic & Student Affairs _____</p> <p>Business Services _____</p> <p>Human Resources _____ ITS_ _____</p> <p>Res Dev & Cmty Relations _____</p> <p>College President _____</p>