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**NACUBO Honors Innovation and Achievement in Campus Management and Finance**

**Seattle, WA (July 21, 2014)** – The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) today recognized eight higher education business professionals and five higher education institutions for excellence and achievement in the management of college and university business operations and financial affairs.

The awards are given each year as part of NACUBO’s annual meeting. This year’s conference is taking place in Seattle July 19-22 under the theme, “Scaling New Heights.”

“We recognize and congratulate these deserving individuals and institutions for their commitment to high standards in their fields and developing creative finance and management strategies that strengthen their institutions,” said NACUBO president and CEO John Walda, who handed out the awards during a special reception July 20 at the Washington State Convention Center.

**2014 Distinguished Business Officer Award**

**Edward DesPlas**, executive vice chancellor for Business Affairs at Dallas County Community College District; and **F. Robert Huth**, vice president for Business and chief financial officer at Stetson University (Fla.) are recipients of the 2014 Distinguished Business Officer Award. This honor is NACUBO’s highest and recognizes outstanding achievement in the field of business and financial management in higher education.

Individual achievement was also recognized with the following awards:

**2014 Tax Award**

**Anne W. Jetmundsen**, tax advisor at the University of South Florida is the recipient of this year’s Tax Award which recognizes individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to

NACUBO's tax advocacy efforts, educational programs, and publications focusing on higher education tax compliance and administration.

### **2014 Professional Development Award**

**Ruth A. Johnston**, associate vice president for Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability and associate vice provost for Organizational Excellence at the University of Washington received the 2014 Professional Development Award in recognition of her outstanding individual contributions to NACUBO professional development activities as well as the association's publication programs.

### **2014 Rodney H. Adams Endowment Management Award**

This award recognizes outstanding individual contributions to professional development activities in the area of university endowment and investment management. **Don Fehrs**, principal, Risk Management and Research at Evanston Capital Management is this year's honoree.

### **2014 Daniel D. Robinson Accounting Award**

This honor recognizes excellence and leadership of an individual who demonstrates a continuous commitment to the advancement of college and university accounting and reporting. This year's recipient is **Karen Craig**, a consultant with NACUBO.

### **2014 Rising Star Award**

The NACUBO Rising Star Award identifies future leaders in higher education in the areas of finance, administration, and business, known for their innovative and meaningful contributions to the improvement of their profession and the efficiency of their institution.

Two recipients received the honor this year: **Jean Vock**, assistant dean for Finance and Administration at the University of Arizona, Eller College of Management; and **Melody S. Bianchetto**, associate vice president for Finance at the University of Virginia.

### **2014 Innovation Awards**

In addition to individual awards, NACUBO also recognizes colleges and universities for achievement in the areas of process improvement and resource enhancement.

This year's Innovation Awards recipients are:

**The University of Colorado System** for increasing transparency and accessibility by producing its [2013 Annual Financial Report](#) in HTML; the **University of Nebraska-Lincoln** for its innovative [Self-Serve 24/7 Vehicle Dispatch](#) system that is dramatically improving fleet efficiency and management; **John Brown University** (Ark.) for its [Zero Landfill Initiative](#)

which has dramatically increased campus recycling efforts and promoted significant cost savings; **California Institute of Technology** for its capital revolving fund known as the Caltech [Energy Conservation Investment Program](#); and **Yavapai College** (Ariz.) for its Instructional Cost Dashboard, a web-based management tool that automates the production of discipline level instructional cost of faculty productivity data.

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***About NACUBO***

*NACUBO, founded in 1962, is a nonprofit professional organization representing chief administrative and financial officers at more than 2,100 colleges and universities across the country. NACUBO's mission is to promote sound management and financial practices at colleges and universities.*