FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 3, 2010

Massachusetts Community Colleges & Vocational/Technical High Schools Sign Statewide Articulation Agreement

A statewide articulation agreement in the academic discipline of Drafting has been established between the 15 Massachusetts Community Colleges and Chapter 74 approved Secondary Career/Vocational Technical High Schools (28 Schools) across the Commonwealth. The statewide agreement, a first of its kind, is the result of a yearlong collaboration between the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Division of Vocational Education and the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office (MCCEO).

“This is just one example of how Massachusetts Community Colleges are fulfilling their mission and creating pathways for students to have access to higher education here in the Commonwealth,” said Bill Hart, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office. “In a uniform and consistent way, this historical collaboration allows for vocational high school drafting students to enroll at community colleges and be awarded credits for work completed at the vocational high school level,” said Hart. “It also supports a seamless continuum of education for students while streamlining the agreement process.”

Last spring, the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education formed a Statewide Articulation Agreement Taskforce consisting of representatives of faculty and administration from the Chapter 74 Vocational Technical High Schools and the Massachusetts Community Colleges for the purpose of investigating and creating the State’s first articulation agreement. The Taskforce Committee, chaired by Jan Motta on behalf of the MCCEO determined the Drafting program would be the first articulation to be implemented. Additional statewide articulation agreements are being considered and will be forthcoming.

“MAVA is excited that the collaboration with the Massachusetts Community Colleges has resulted in a statewide drafting articulation agreement,” said David Ferreira, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational administrators. “This is a win-win situation with vocational technical school graduates being well prepared to continue their education at our quality community colleges in the Commonwealth. We are encouraged that this articulation model will be expanded to many additional occupational career paths.”

-End-

The Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office (MCCEO) works on behalf of the presidents of the fifteen Community Colleges in Massachusetts, currently representing more than 200,000 students in every region of the Commonwealth. MCCEO provides key information on current issues and policies connected to the community colleges in Massachusetts. Through policy initiatives, research and strategic outreach to business/industry, policy stakeholders, and media outlets, MCCEO assists the community colleges in Massachusetts in fulfilling their collective mission.