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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Heritage University partners with Wenatchee Valley College to offer four-year degrees at WVC**

Toppenish, Wash. – Heritage University and Wenatchee Valley College (WVC) have announced a partnership to offer four-year degrees in business administration, criminal justice and early childhood studies at WVC's Wenatchee campus. Heritage University classes in those programs will be offered beginning in the fall of 2015. A Heritage University office with full-time staff will open to serve students enrolled in those classes, as well as those looking to take advantage of these new opportunities at WVC.

The public is invited to commemorate the partnership on the WVC Wenatchee campus on **Tuesday, April 28 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** The event will begin with a ceremonial signing of the memorandum of understanding between the two schools followed by a free barbeque lunch. Participants will learn more about the new partnership and the joint programs being offered.

WVC President Dr. Jim Richardson is elated about the additional opportunities this partnership will provide Wenatchee Valley residents to earn four-year college degrees while staying close to home. "The more opportunities we can create for higher education in the Valley, the more reasons our residents have to stay and thrive here," said Dr. Richardson.

Heritage University President Dr. John Bassett echoed his sentiments on the partnership between the two institutions. "We couldn't be happier to join forces with WVC and serve the higher education needs of the residents of the Wenatchee Valley," said Dr. Bassett.

Heritage has hired Brent Carter to serve as regional enrollment manager for the new Heritage University at WVC office. Brent has years of management experience in the healthcare and education fields. He's worked for Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital in Yakima, and Group Health Northwest and Kaiser Permanente in Washington, Oregon and California. Brent helped bring the University of Washington MEDEX Physician Assistant Program to Central Washington University.

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*Heritage University is a non-profit, independent, regionally accredited institution of higher education offering undergraduate and graduate education across the state of Washington. Visit our website, [www.heritage.edu](http://www.heritage.edu).*

*Wenatchee Valley College enriches North Central Washington by serving educational and cultural needs of communities and residents throughout the service area. The college provides high-quality transfer, liberal arts, professional/technical, basic skills and continuing education for students of diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds. Visit our website, [www.wvc.edu](http://www.wvc.edu).*

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