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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 16, 2007
14319
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Cleveland State's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service Receives 2007 Pollie Award for Best Non-Broadcast Video "You Should Run for Office"

Cleveland State University's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service recently received a 2007 Pollie Award from the American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC). The Center's DVD, "You Should Run for Office," won honors of a Silver Award in the category of Television: Best Non-Broadcast Video.

The prestigious Pollie Awards are the world's only showcase of Political and Public Affairs excellence hosted each year by the AAPC. The focus of the Pollie Awards rotates each year between the political and public affairs fields, with this year's Pollie Awards recognizing achievement in campaigns not only in the United States but around the world. The competition includes 13 categories. The video has been a regular feature on The Ohio Channel – Ohio PBS – with more than 600 copies of "You Should Run for Office" distributed to colleges, universities, political organizations and libraries nationwide. Participants in the video include Eric Fingerhut, Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio General Assembly Members Barbara Boyd and Vern Sikes, and co-chair of the Republican National Committee, JoAnn Davidson.

"You Should Run For Office" was produced to encourage more women and members of minority groups to participate in the election process thereby increasing their authority and knowledge in the legislative system. When term limits were enacted in Ohio in 1992, a two-term restriction was imposed on the length of service for members of the Ohio General Assembly. An unintended consequence has been the reduction of the number of women and minority candidates winning these offices, thereby reducing pluralistic representation in the Ohio Statehouse.

Understanding that the quality of our representative democracy is based upon the quality of citizen participation, The Center created this DVD/CD package to inspire Ohioans to run for public office. The video focuses on the careers of former and current members of the Ohio General Assembly while documenting the opportunities and challenges of becoming a public servant through the election process.

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Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service Receives 2007 Pollie Award
for Best Non-Broadcast Video "You Should Run for Office"**

The video's executive producer is the Center's Director, Senator Grace Drake; writer, producer and editor of the video is Doctoral Candidate Lisa Thomas; and co-producer is Research Assistant Michael A. Smith.

The Ohio Center for the Advancement of Women in Public Service was founded to promote the advancement of careers of women in public service within the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government at the national, state and local levels. The Center produces research on the state of women's careers in public service, and identifies particular barriers to the movement of women into positions of authority and leadership while devising strategies to address barriers.

For further information about the Center or DVD, call (216) 687-9273. The web address is <http://urban.csuohio.edu/womenscenter/>.

For more information or media inquiries, contact Nancy Carlucci Smith, Communication Account Representative, in the Cleveland State University Department of Marketing and Public Affairs, at (216) 523-7294 or (216) 687-2290.

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