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Higher Education Employment Growth Moderates

Greater Demand at Community Colleges and for Part-Time Staff

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (November 16, 2009) -- Higher education jobs declined incrementally (3,500 or 0.2 percent) in September compared to 2008, indicating the recession may have affected academe at least on a short-term basis. However, the trend in the number of jobs in higher education continues to be relatively stable on a longer term basis. The number of jobs in higher education grew 1.7 percent in the most recent quarter compared to the prior year, according to the free Higher Education Employment Report from HigherEdJobs.com (<http://www.higheredjobs.com/link.cfm?q=3&y=2009&id=3>).

This growth occurred despite the downturn of the current economic cycle in which the employment economy lost 7.3 million jobs since the beginning of the recession.

"The number of advertised job openings in higher education -- which can be considered a proxy for new job formation in the industry -- has decreased significantly as a result of the economy. Historical patterns are evident, but at a lower level, possibly indicating slowing job growth for academe in the future," said John Ikenberry, president of HigherEdJobs.com.

Other findings from the latest report on higher education jobs and job openings:

- Colleges and universities have returned to a more traditional staffing pattern regarding the ratio of faculty to administrative hires. If the historical pattern holds, academe will be looking more for faculty than non-faculty in the last quarter of this year.
- Demand for education professionals continues to be strong at community colleges, driven in part by the economy as workers return to local institutions for re-education and re-training.
- The ratio of part-time postings in higher education declined during the expansion until 2006, but then started to increase as the recession took hold. That ratio continued to rise in Q3 2009.

HigherEdJobs.com is the leading source for jobs and career information in academia. During 2008, more than 2,900 colleges and universities posted over 67,000 faculty, administrative and executive job postings to the company's web site. HigherEdJobs.com is visited over two million times each month by 700,000 unique visitors. HigherEdJobs.com is published by Internet Employment Linkage, Inc. that is headquartered in State College, PA, and has an accounting and operations office in Oak Park, IL.

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