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Media Contact:

Dr. Michael A. Moodian

Brandman University

949-585-2994 (direct)

Moodian@chapman.edu

BRANDMAN UNIVERSITY INVITES CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES TO STATEWIDE DEBATE

Tom Campbell, Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman to be asked to share their “Solutions to the California Financial Crisis”

Irvine, Calif. – August 3, 2009 – Brandman University, a separate, fully accredited university within the Chapman University system focusing on working students, has extended an invitation to California’s leading Republican gubernatorial candidates – Tom Campbell, Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman – to participate in a statewide debate at its Irvine campus this fall.

“Brandman University extended the invitation to the leading Republican gubernatorial candidates because it is important that California voters have the opportunity to hear directly from the candidates as to how they propose to address the state’s fiscal crisis,” said Dr. Michael A. Moodian, assistant professor of social science at Brandman University’s School of Arts & Sciences. “The debate will be a prime opportunity for the southern California business community to take an active role in determining the future of the state’s politics.”

The proposed 75-minute debate will be co-moderated by Moodian and a second moderator who will be announced at a later date.

The suggested program “Solutions to the California Financial Crisis” will feature each candidate answering questions, half of which will be developed by the moderators and the other half submitted by California citizens via email and Twitter prior to the event. Each candidate will be given two minutes to answer a question followed by a two minute response by each of the other candidates. The order of questioning per candidate will be chosen randomly and give all participants an equal amount of speaking time.

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Brandman University Debate Invitation

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Dates that have been proposed for the debate are October 20, November 3 and December 8, 2009. Major candidates who enter the race in the coming months will also be extended invitations to participate. A similar event for the Democratic Party hopefuls is being planned for later this year.

These gubernatorial debates are a part of Brandman University's new ForeSight conference series, designed to encourage debate and inspire action to improve the communities in which we live.

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About Brandman University

Brandman University (www.brandman.edu) which is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, focuses on meeting the unique needs of the more than 10,000 working students it serves both online and through 24 campuses in California and the state of Washington. Brandman University is a member of the Chapman University System and is known for providing non-traditional students with in-demand degree and certificate programs, individualized support services, top-tier instructors and technology-driven teaching environments.

About Chapman University

Founded in 1861, Chapman University is one of California's oldest, most prestigious private universities and is home to over 4,000 undergraduate students and 1,500 graduate students at its home campus in Orange, California.