



NEWS STATEMENT

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ACHIEVE NAMES LAURA SLOVER SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, PARCC AND STEPHEN PRUITT VICE PRESIDENT, CONTENT, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES WILL ENSURE THE SMOOTH DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARCC ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

WASHINGTON – November 2, 2010 – Achieve is pleased to announce that Laura Slover has been named Senior Vice President, PARCC and that Dr. Stephen Pruitt will serve as Achieve’s Vice President, Content, Research and Development.

Ms. Slover has worked at Achieve since 1998, most recently serving as the Vice President for Content & Policy Research, where she led Achieve’s efforts on the development of Common Core State Standards. In her new role, she will provide critical leadership of a new unit at Achieve that is tasked with supporting the design, development and implementation of the assessment system developed by the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), a consortium of 26 states that received a Race to the Top assessment award. Achieve serves as the PARCC consortium project manager.

Dr. Pruitt recently came to Achieve from the Georgia Department of Education, where he held a number of positions including Chief of Staff to the Commissioner of Education. Earlier roles in Georgia included serving as Associate Superintendent of Assessment and Accountability, Director of Academic Standards and Program Manager for Science. As the Vice President, Content, Research and Development, Dr. Pruitt is leading the development of Next Generation Science Standards, Achieve’s international benchmarking and analysis work, and other content-driven research and development as well as state technical assistance.

Both Ms. Slover and Dr. Pruitt began their professional careers as teachers.

“These organizational changes will ensure that PARCC gets the focused and high-level attention a project of its size and importance deserves, while also making certain that Achieve continues its critical content, research and development work,” said Michael Cohen, Achieve’s President. “Laura and Stephen are well-known experts in their field and are well-

positioned to provide the leadership and technical expertise that states advancing the college-and career-ready agenda have come to expect from Achieve.”

To learn more about Achieve and PARCC, visit www.achieve.org.

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Created in 1996 by the nation’s governors and corporate leaders, Achieve is an independent, bipartisan, nonprofit education reform organization based in Washington D.C. that helps states raise academic standards and graduation requirements, improve assessments, and strengthen accountability. Achieve is leading the effort to make college and career readiness a national priority so that the transition from high school graduation to postsecondary education and careers is seamless. To make college and career readiness a priority, in 2005 Achieve launched the American Diploma Project Network. Starting with 13 original states, the Network has now grown to include 35 states educating nearly 85 percent of all U.S. public school students. Through the ADP Network, governors, state education officials, postsecondary leaders and business executives work together to improve postsecondary preparation by aligning high school standards, assessments, graduation requirements and accountability systems with the demands of college and careers. For more information about the work of Achieve, visit www.achieve.org.