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ANNA KWONG HONORED BY *PACIFIC COAST BUSINESS TIMES* AS ONE OF TOP 50 WOMEN IN BUSINESS

Kwong Recognized as a Leader in Higher Education

SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 26, 2018 -- *Pacific Coast Business Times* honored Anna Kwong last week as one of its 12th Annual Top 50 Women in Business across the tri-county region of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura. Kwong, who was recognized as a leader in higher education, has been chair of Antioch University Santa Barbara's (AUSB) Master of Business Administration program in Social Business, Non-Profit Management, and Strategic Leadership since 2016.

The award recognizes top female executives and business owners in finance, higher education, professional and insurance services, nonprofits, agriculture, technology, industry, real estate, and construction. *Pacific Coast Business Times* is a weekly business journal that is now in its seventeenth year of publication.

"I am honored and humbled to join the list of outstanding recipients who I have long admired and respected," Anna said. "As the Chair of the MBA Program, this would not have happened without the dedication and support of the entire AUSB MBA team. These include the faculty, staff, advisors and community leaders who have worked ...side-by-side with me. The students have been amazing as well. Thanks for the encouragement of my own family, particularly my daughter."

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Anna also lived in the UK and Canada before becoming a U.S. citizen in 2002. She has more than 25 years of experience in business, leadership, and management in various types of overseas trading and joint ventures.

Prior to joining Antioch, Anna was a faculty member in California Lutheran University's MBA program for more than 20 years. Anna also served as interim chair of AUSB's MBA program before the position became permanent in February 2016.

(More)



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As program chair, Anna has added flexibility to the MBA curriculum to allow students to customize their educational experience. Innovations have included a face-to-face version of the program that works side-by-side with the hybrid track and multiple start dates throughout the academic year. She has also emphasized the importance of hiring faculty who have strong practical experience in the business world. In addition, she introduced an early alert system to support at-risk students to ensure the highest graduation rates.

Anna serves as a role model for aspiring women business leaders. More than 80 percent of the students currently enrolled in the MBA program are female. "I was inspired to see AUSB's MBA chair honored because it shows the investment the university has placed on having a rigorous and respected socially conscious business program here in Santa Barbara. The program helped me launch several initiatives that promote social justice," says MBA program alumni Kathy Burba, who is also a retired colonel from the U.S. Army.

About Antioch Santa Barbara

With more than 4,500 distinguished alumni, Antioch University Santa Barbara (AUSB) has been honored to serve the diverse communities of Santa Barbara and the central coast of California since 1977. In 2017, we celebrate our 40 year anniversary of bringing the Antioch tradition to Santa Barbara. AUSB is proud to graduate leaders in the fields of education, clinical psychology, business, and writing - and to offer bachelor's degree completion programs that elevate our community.

About Antioch University

Inspired by the work of pioneering educator Horace Mann, Antioch University provides learner-centered education to empower students with the knowledge and skills to lead meaningful lives and to advance social, economic, and environmental justice. With campuses in Keene, New Hampshire; Los Angeles; Santa Barbara; Seattle; and Yellow Springs, Ohio; Antioch University is a bold and enduring source of innovation in higher education. Antioch University also includes a Graduate School of Leadership and Change and Antioch Online. The University is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)3 institution and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

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