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## Alumni Profile

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*Linfield College*

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# Moss combines banking, service

Banking and community service go hand-in-hand for Patricia Moss '85.

Moss, president and CEO of Cascade Bancorp and CEO of Bank of the Cascades, is a leader in both the banking industry and the Bend community, where she's made her home for the past 32 years.

For her efforts, Moss has been named by *US Banker Magazine* to its annual "Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" list for 2005. This is the third year she has been named to the distinguished list, which profiles individuals whose professional achievements and personal integrity have made them icons of influence in the workplace, at home and within their communities. The ranking traced more than 5,000 women in banking across the U.S.

Moss said the award reflects the achievement of her entire group.

"It's flattering," she said. "But I clearly understand that I'm there because of the performance of my team. The credit goes way beyond me as a person."

That team philosophy extends beyond the workplace to the community as well. In addition to serving on a number of boards, she is former president of the Bend Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Bend Rotary, and vice chair of United Way, and was named Central Oregon's Citizen of the Year and Soroptomist International Woman of Distinction.

She considers community service a natural responsibility.

"In order to have a great community, you have to contribute your part," Moss said. "We all have to do what we can do to build a community that thrives in the next generation."

Moss has practically grown up with Bank of the Cascades. She was a teller when the bank opened its doors in 1977, and she has worked her way up to the top position, earning a degree from Linfield's Adult Degree Program along the way. With an associate's degree from Central Oregon Community College in hand, Moss spent nearly a decade picking up classes from various institutions before enrolling at Linfield. Eighteen months later, she earned a management diploma.

"I ended up with the right solution with Linfield," said Moss, who attended night, weekend and video classes, while juggling the responsibilities of being a young mother and full-time employee at Bank of the



Fueled by a diploma from Linfield's Adult Degree Program, Patricia Moss '85 has led Bank of the Cascades through enormous growth. She was recently named to a list of "Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" by *US Banker Magazine*.

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Cascades. "It allowed me to get my degree, but not have to put my career or family on hold while I completed it. It was so important to me to gain that theoretical knowledge and earn my business degree."

Donna Meddish, former Central Oregon area advisor through Linfield's Adult Degree Program, was impressed by the young career woman.

"She seemed as if she could do anything she took on," said Meddish. "She came to the first class with a binder organizing her work history. The quality of her work immediately stood out. I guess that's why she's accomplished as much as she has."

A self-described people person, Moss said the banking industry combines people and strategy, two of her favorite things.

"I love numbers that tell a story," she said. "I like to look into the future to help strategize what we'll be."

— Laura Davis