



**For Immediate Release**  
Monday, February 9, 2009

Contact: Kristina Tirloni  
(512) 219-4990  
(800) 252-9743, ext. 4990  
[kristina.tirloni@tgslc.org](mailto:kristina.tirloni@tgslc.org)

## **TG Launches Online Forum, Positive+Balance Community<sup>SM</sup>, to Provide Financial Literacy Tools for Campus Administrators, Educators**

Round Rock, TX — Last year, results from a survey by the Jump\$Start Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy reported secondary and postsecondary students still struggle with understanding fundamental financial skills, and more programs should be offered to help them. To address this growing issue, TG has launched an online forum, the [Positive+Balance Community<sup>SM</sup>](#) (PBC), for **financial aid professionals** and **educators** seeking reliable financial literacy solutions and program support.

Users can download financial literacy courses, presentations, and training materials prepared by TG and partnering organizations. They may post their own program content for peer feedback, or use the site to establish collaboration between institutions in developing new materials.

“Our goal for the Positive+Balance Community is to provide a single location, an online library so to speak, that focuses on helping professionals,” said Margie Harvey, TG financial literacy program manager. “These individuals are the day-to-day source to whom students turn for help understanding the implications of financing a postsecondary education.”

Besides being a one-stop resource sharing site, the online forum hosts a Community Blog section, the latest news regarding financial literacy, and recommended Web links that include sites specifically geared to students seeking financial literacy information and other government resources.

“TG has taken the lead in assembling a community of financial literacy professionals from colleges located throughout the country,” said Mark Mielke, financial aid advisor for Texas A&M University. “This form of communication, exchanging ideas, experiences, and information, helps all financial literacy programs become more effective.”

**(more)**

**(TG press release, continued)**

“Many people may not be aware of how to start a financial literacy program on their campus,” said Rhonda Beauchamp, Loan Officer for Texas State Technical College in Waco. “I found out how to start one by attending the Financial Literacy Symposium presented by TG in June. I’m very excited to get in a discussion group and share my ideas and to learn from others.”

Users can create a personal profile page and use the site to search for other members by name, job title, school location, and other criteria — even personal goals and interests. Users can also contact members to create groups, collaborate, discuss projects, and plan events.

“Providing financial literacy resources that make educators and financial aid administrators’ jobs easier and more effective is part of our ongoing mission at TG,” Harvey said. “The online forum is one component of TG’s entire financial literacy program, which also includes training for officials looking to organize programs at their campuses, and materials for students to use to help understand future financial decisions.”

For more information on TG’s financial literacy programs, including requests for consultation support, please visit [www.tgslc.org/positivebalance](http://www.tgslc.org/positivebalance).