



Early Summer 2020

Tech Times

The Newsletter of the College of Technology -
Center for Next Generation Manufacturing

COLLEGE OF
TECHNOLOGY



www.nextgenmf.org

A National Science Foundation Center of Excellence



GREAT EDUCATION
FOR REAL CAREERS

180 Skills Online Manufacturing Program Launches

The College of Technology and Center for Next Generation Manufacturing is partnering with the Governor's Workforce Council to provide online learning opportunities in manufacturing for unemployed workers in Connecticut through the 180 Skills platform. 180 Skills provides short-term online skills training for the manufacturing sector. Their library of skills training was developed in partnership with manufacturers. The initiative was developed in response to the increase in unemployment due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Summer Teacher Virtual Workshop

The Connecticut College of Technology's Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing, a National Science Foundation Center of Excellence, will present the Engineering & Technology Challenge Program's 2020 Summer Teachers' Workshop. This program will be held through an online platform.

This exciting four-day workshop provides the opportunity for you to connect with your peers from across the United States in an online workshop. This program is very highly rated by all the teachers and faculty who have participated in the previous in-person version of the program. The workshop will help you learn how to instruct your students in developing essential teambuilding skills as well as providing technology related experiences to help you integrate your learning into your STEM classroom and lab environment. The teambuilding, professional, and technical skills presented in the Program are designed to be directly applicable to your classroom.



College of Technology Named Innovative Program of the Year for High Impact Technology Exchange Conference

Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch has been awarded the HI-TEC Conference Innovative Program of the Year for the Connecticut College of Technology. This award represents HI-TEC's commitment to recognize innovation in advanced technology education. The Innovative Program Award is designed to recognize a team of advanced technology education professionals that has designed and implemented a significant innovation, which has led to a positive impact on student enrollment, retention, and/or advanced technological education.



CT Community Colleges Respond to COVID-19 Pandemic

The Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers located at the CT Community Colleges were able to provide an immediate response to the PPE shortage that healthcare workers faced when the COVID-19 pandemic reached Connecticut. Being focused on manufacturing, technology, and engineering, it was only natural to step up and help address the shortage of PPE and ventilators amid the COVID-19 pandemic.



College of Technology Programs Approved

Over the course of the Spring 2020 semester, the College of Technology's Curriculum Committee and Site Coordinators Council approved options under the Technology Studies pathway. Following the College of Technology Program Replication procedure, the Data Science Option that was originally developed and approved at Northwestern CT Community College was also approved for implementation at Tunxis Community College, Gateway Community College, and Capital Community College. Tunxis Community College also proposed a Technology Studies: Energy Management Option A.S. degree and Energy Management certificate that were approved.



Resources for Online Manufacturing Education

In response to the rapid transition to online courses following the shutdown of campuses nationwide, the College of Technology and Next Generation Manufacturing Resource Center gathered a list of resources that educators can incorporate into their curriculum. These resources are all available online and cover topics related to manufacturing, engineering, and technology. Videos, labs, and testing platforms can be found within the resources. As a bonus, there are also resources that can help students plan for their careers and information on how to make online materials accessible.



2020 Epsilon Pi Tau Gamma Phi Chapter Induction Ceremony

This year the Gamma Phi Chapter of the Epsilon Pi Tau Honor Society for Professionals in Technology held a virtual ceremony on May 1, 2020. Eighty-four students from the CT Community Colleges were inducted through a virtual ceremony that was posted on the Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing website and Facebook page. We look forward to resuming our regular in-person ceremony next year.



New Building at Tunxis to Become Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center

Tunxis Community College announced a new building has been purchased adjacent to campus which will become the college's new Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center.

The 44,000-square-foot former manufacturing building, built in 1968, was purchased by the state of CT on January 31 for \$1.3 million, and sits on six acres at 21 Spring Lane in Farmington. Tunxis plans to renovate 10,000 square feet of the building initially for the college's advanced manufacturing technology programs, which will expand the college's manufacturing classroom and lab space, create training opportunities for advanced manufacturing, and allow room for future program growth.

Upcoming Events

[High Impact Technology Exchange Conference](#) - July 29-30, 2020 - Virtual Conference

[Summer Teacher Virtual Workshop](#) - August 3-6, 2020 - Online Workshop

[National Career Pathways Network Conference](#) - October 15-16, 2020 - Virtual Conference



The Connecticut College of Technology (COT) is a consortium of all 12 CT Community Colleges and ten public and private universities that was formed through CT legislation in 1995 to establish seamless pathways in engineering and technology. Among its goals are to bring together educators and industry, and to be responsive to workforce needs in Connecticut. It also provides seamless career pathways for students to earn certificates, associate of science and bachelor of science degrees in engineering and technology disciplines, with no loss of credit upon transfer. Since 2004, the COT has received four rounds of National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education funding for the Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (RCNGM) and Next Generation Manufacturing Resource Center (NGMRC) as well as additional project grants.

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Our mailing address is:

College of Technology
Tunxis Community College
271 Scott Swamp Road
Farmington, CT 06037

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