

**DELAWARE TECH AWARDED NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT (June 16, 2010)**  
***Renewable energy and sustainability programs to be developed***

**Newark, DE** — Delaware Technical & Community College has been awarded \$785,000 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to educate students and the local community about wind, solar, and bio-fuel renewable energy technologies and environmental sustainability. This three-year grant will fund a program entitled *Energizing STEM Education*, which will be developed and housed at the **Stanton campus**.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields are central to U.S. economic competitiveness and growth and play a significant role in helping society develop ways to live and work more sustainably. The NSF funding will be used to energize the STEM curricula by incorporating renewable energy topics into existing technology programs, including electronics and computer engineering, chemistry, biotechnology, and chemical processing. The multi-year project will teach students about the concepts of sustainability and how to incorporate renewable energy technologies into their lifestyles. Outreach activities in the form of workshops, camps, middle and high school student enrichment activities, and teacher internships will follow. An experienced interdisciplinary team, including engineering and technology faculty, business representatives, and industrial advisory committees will participate in the development and implementation of the STEM program.

The addition of sustainability and renewable energy topics into new and existing courses, with extensive hands-on and applied curricula, will address the need for development of a workforce ready for new green industry opportunities. “Our offerings are fully aligned with the Governor’s vision which has produced new mandates and incentives to drive the ‘greening’ of existing jobs and create new energy-related jobs for Delawareans,” said Delaware Tech President Orlando J. George, Jr. “We are proud to be partners in the State’s commitment to capitalize on economic development opportunities while making Delaware an even better place to live.”

Senator Ted Kaufman (D-Del.), the only engineer in the Senate, agrees: “One of Delaware Tech’s strengths has always been its flexibility in adapting itself to the demands of the workforce and preparing its students for the jobs of tomorrow. Delaware Tech has made a smart and savvy decision in focusing part of its curriculum on clean energy technology training. In order to create real economic growth in the United States, we need more scientists and engineers to develop the most innovative technology systems, and we need the best-skilled workforce to build, install, and maintain them. Delaware Tech’s foresight and reputation for excellence creates a great environment for Delawareans to gain STEM degrees, which will serve them and the country well for a very long time.”

This NSF grant is part of Delaware Tech’s vision for energy education that includes three energy education instructional facilities—one in each county—and an applied energy program. Initial offerings include energy auditing and weatherization (currently available), followed by energy management (available this fall), solar technology, and off-shore wind. For more information about applied energy programs at Delaware Tech, visit <http://www.dtcc.edu/AppliedEnergy/>.