Executive Summary:

The Nuclear Technician Scholarship Project will fund scholarships for students enrolled in DCTC's new Nuclear Technician program while helping support recruitment, program development and equipment purchases. The new program of study will launch fall semester 2010 in partnership with Xcel Energy, with an independent sister program at St. Cloud Technical College. The scholarship project will help launch and sustain the Nuclear Technician program while ensuring enrollment of fully qualified students with the aim to produce superbly trained nuclear technicians for the nuclear power industry.

Nuclear Technician Program

Outcome: A.A.S. degree, occupational diploma

Objectives & Benefits

Train continuous pool of diverse candidates for entry-level technical trade positions at nuclear power generating plants with goal to support design, construction, operation, and regulation of nuclear facilities while ensuring safe management of nuclear materials

Make swift positive impact on area economy by providing displaced workers who possess core technical skills with employment opportunities in nuclear industry; promote successful enrollment and graduation of underrepresented students through comprehensive recruiting, mentoring and academic advising plans.

Provide mentoring experience with nuclear technology professionals during capstone student internship at Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant

Curriculum

Xcel Energy providing Engineering Support Personnel Pressurized Water Reactor Systems training materials that support the curriculum requirements of NEI Uniform Curriculum Guide for Nuclear Power Plant Technician, Maintenance, and Nonlicensed Operations Personnel Associate Degree Programs; existing technical curricula, delivered both in-class and online, fulfill 80 percent of degree requirements while providing coursework crosswalked into Xcel Energy apprenticeship program

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