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Engineering Our Future NJ: Creating a Vision, Implementing Effective Models, May 11

Conference addresses the need to instill engineering in K-12

HOBOKEN, N.J. — "If someone can figure out the algorithm for a routine job, chances are that it is economical to automate it," according to the authors of *Tough Choices or Tough Times*, the report from the new Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, issued this year by The National Center on Education and the Economy.

To address this reality, Stevens Institute of Technology has introduced an initiative designed to provide students with the technological skills and perspectives to succeed in the 21st century, global economy: Engineering Our Future NJ (EOFNJ). Now in its second phase of statewide dissemination, this program is training 2,000 teachers, enlisting school administrators and engaging business and higher education partners in providing engineering experiences for all students in elementary, middle and high schools.

Sharing the rationale for K-12 engineering and providing some practical models to introduce engineering to all students is the focus of a one-day summit for 250 K-12 educational leaders, "Engineering Our Future NJ: Creating a Vision, Implementing Effective Models." The conference will be held at Stevens on Friday, May 11. In addition to school principals and administrators, attendees will include representatives from higher education, government and industry. The conference is co-sponsored by Stevens, The New Jersey Department of Education, The New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association/FEA and Verizon Communications.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Bissinger Room, the morning's speakers include Dr. George P. Korfiatis, Provost and University VP at Stevens, who will offer welcoming remarks and deliver the keynote, "Innovation as a Learning Objective." Korfiatis will be followed by Ioannis Miaoulis, president of the Museum of Science in Boston, whose talk is titled, "Why K-12 Engineering?"

At 1:00 p.m., Virginia Ruesterholz, president of Verizon Telecom, will discuss "Business's Role and Stake in Growing the Next Generation of Engineers." Lucille Davy, commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education, will close the conference with her talk, "Preparing Our Children for Success and Citizenship in a Global Economy."

More than 25 breakout sessions, led by higher education and industry representatives, will precede the afternoon presentations. These sessions, which will be held in The Babbio Center, include:

- "Engineering is Elementary: Engineering and Science Curriculum," with speakers Bess Mitsakos, Wallace School (Hoboken) and Carol Shields, Stevens.
- "Design and Global Engineering: What Does the Modern Engineer Look Like?" presented by Daryl Lundin, Parametric Technology Corporation.
- "Research on the Impact of K-12 Engineering on Student Learning," presented by Dr. Cathy Lachapelle, Museum of Science, Boston.
- "Why Are There Still Underrepresented Groups in Engineering?: Understanding the Issues," presented by Susan Metz, Stevens and Women in Engineering Programs & Advocates Network.

Contact: Stephanie
Mannino, +1-201-216-
5602,

What: Engineering Our Future NJ Conference: Creating a Vision, Implementing Effective Models.

When: Friday, May 11, 2007, 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Who: George Korfiatis, Provost and University VP, Stevens; Ioannis Miaoulis, president of the Museum of Science, Boston; Virginia Ruesterholz, president, Verizon Telecom; Lucille Davy, commissioner, N.J. Department of Education.

Where: The Bissinger Room (4 th Floor of the Wesley J. Howe Center) and The Babbio Center, Stevens Institute of Technology. Please call 201-216-5602 for more information

About Stevens Institute of Technology

Founded in 1870, Stevens Institute of Technology is one of the leading technological universities in the world dedicated to learning and research. Through its broad-based curricula, nurturing of creative inventiveness, and cross disciplinary research, the Institute is at the forefront of global challenges in engineering, science, and technology management. Partnerships and collaboration between, and among, business, industry, government and other universities contribute to the enriched environment of the Institute. A new model for technology commercialization in academe, known as Technogenesis®, involves external partners in launching business enterprises to create broad opportunities and shared value.

Stevens offers baccalaureates, master's and doctoral degrees in engineering, science, computer science and management, in addition to a baccalaureate degree in the humanities and liberal arts, and in business and technology. The university has a total enrollment of 1,850 undergraduate and 2,980 graduate students, and a worldwide online enrollment of 2,250, with a full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty of 140 and more than 200 full-time special faculty. Stevens' graduate programs have attracted international participation from China, India, Southeast Asia, Europe and Latin America. Additional information may be obtained from its web page at www.stevens.edu.

For the latest news about Stevens, please visit StevensNewsService.com.

Stephanie.Mannino@stevens.edu

Stevens Institute of Technology, Castle Point on Hudson, Hoboken NJ 07030-5991 USA +1.800.458.5323

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