**Bold Three-Part Plan Helps Displaced Workers**

By Eric Pope  
*Tech News Editor*

In December Lawrence Technological University unveiled a bold, three-part plan to help displaced workers take advantage of new academic programs developed to help strengthen and diversify Michigan’s economy. The University is offering grants for an unprecedented 50 percent of tuition to 400 displaced workers and is also opening up career networking opportunities to other displaced workers with college degrees.

At a Dec. 3 press conference that drew heavy media coverage, President Lewis N. Walker unveiled “The Recovery Starts Here: Lawrence Technological University’s Stimulus Package for Displaced Workers,” a comprehensive, three-pronged initiative to aid Michigan citizens impacted by the financial crisis.

“The Recovery Starts Here package is an investment in the future of our state and nation, and the right thing to do. We believe this is the first comprehensive package of recovery initiatives set forth by any university in the nation,” Walker said. “The recovery starts here and it must start with us. We invite other institutions throughout Michigan to join us. Together, we will succeed.”

The response has been dramatic. By the first week in January, more than 500 potential students had inquired about the Recovery grants, and close to 200 applications were being processed by the Admissions Office. Most of the applications came from potential new students or former students.

More than 400 people and 40 companies plan to attend the first networking event scheduled for Jan. 22. More than 100 people have signed up for the first workshop offered under the Recovery program to meet the professional development needs of displaced workers.

The new Lawrence Tech Recovery Grants will fund half the tuition for 400 displaced workers (or the dependent children of displaced workers) who meet the admissions criteria for the programs they wish to enter. Candidates must

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Former Engineering Dean Succumbs

Laird Johnston, 71, who retired as dean of the College of Engineering in 2007, died on Nov. 21, 2008.

Johnston became dean in 2000 following a long career as an executive at General Motors and EDS. He retired in 2005, but then returned the next year to serve as dean until the arrival of Dean Devdas Shetty in January 2008.

“Dr. Johnston’s death is a great loss to all of us who knew him, valued him and respected him as a colleague and as a friend,” Provost Maria Vaz said. “He left a very important legacy at Lawrence Tech, and we are profoundly grateful for his service to the University.”

Johnston oversaw the development of a host of new undergraduate and graduate programs, including the college’s first doctoral degree. During his tenure the Center for Innovative Materials Research and the Lean Entrepreneurial Center were launched.

Johnston’s experience with GM and EDS gave him many connections in the industry, and he was instrumental in securing several grants. He worked well with the other colleges and helped develop new degree programs in biomedical engineering and architectural engineering.

Johnston held four degrees in mechanical engineering, including a doctor of science, all from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was also a General Motors fellow.

He held a variety of management positions at General Motors and EDS, including technical process manager for engineering, manager of the EDS computer-aided engineering and test division, and manager of engineering and technical support for advanced product engineering. He was the executive engineer responsible for computer coordination of GM’s engineering analysis systems.

He authored 11 patents and various technical papers on biomechanics, anti-skid brakes, vehicle design and fuel injection controls.

“He was an engineer first and he loved to work on engineering projects and find solutions to engineering problems,” Vaz said.

Recovery Starts Here:
Opportunities for Displaced Workers

(continued from page 1)

submit with their admissions application a dated buyout letter, separation agreement or unemployment application to show they are displaced.

The number of grants will initially be limited to the first 200 undergraduate and first 200 graduate students who qualify. Grant recipients will be expected to complete their degree programs, taking a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester if undergraduates, and six credit hours if graduate students.

Lawrence Tech plans four career networking receptions for displaced workers with college degrees – not limited to Lawrence Tech students and alumni – beginning on Jan. 22 from 5-9 p.m. at several locations on campus. Other receptions will follow on April 2, June 4 and Oct. 8.

Lawrence Tech’s Office of Career Services will offer free workshops designed to meet the professional development needs of displaced workers: “Resume Critiquing by Professionals,” “Networking for Success” and “Proven Job Search Strategies.”

“We at Lawrence Tech are convinced that all the building blocks required for an economic recovery are already here in Michigan. We aim to do our part to bring enterprising companies and educated workers together,” Walker said. “Combining the creativity of our entrepreneurs and the know-how of our workers will lead to Michigan’s next big economic success story.”

In addition, Lawrence Tech has already aggressively recast its existing academic programs and inaugurated new content. Recent new programs include bachelor’s degrees in biomedical engineering, industrial operations engineering, molecular and cell biology, chemical biology, transportation design, and media communication, and certificates in energy engineering and aeronautical engineering.

A new leadership training initiative is being integrated throughout the undergraduate curricula.

Women Share Their Knowledge of Business World

Dean Hsiao-Ping Moore of the College of Arts and Sciences addresses the annual High Tea luncheon, which brings together women graduates, students, faculty and staff to talk about opportunities for women in the business world. Participating in the panel discussion are (L-R) Carolyn Dwyer of Contract Wallcoverings Inc.; Kathleen Schroeder of R.L. Polk & Co.; Elizabeth Howell of ITC Holdings Corp.; Gina Van Tine of iFarm Studio; Karen Evans, director of Lawrence Tech’s undergraduate management program; and Laura Clary of iDesign Solutions, who was the moderator.

Faculty & Staff Campaign Ends Jan. 31

The 2008-2009 Faculty & Staff Campaign is off to a great start, and given the strong support in past years the organizers are confident they will reach their goal of $160,000 by the Jan. 31 deadline.

This year’s co-chairs are Ammar Abdulahad of IT Service Delivery for the staff, Professor Badih Jawad of the Department of Mechanical Engineering for the faculty, and Kristi Webster of Admissions for the administration.

A special initiative this year is the Lawrence Tech Faculty and Staff Employee Scholarship, which will help deserving students obtain the premier education the University is known for providing.

Last year 305 members of the faculty, staff and administration made gifts and pledges to support capital projects, academic programs, student scholarships, faculty initiatives and general unrestricted support.

“We believe we all gain satisfaction in supporting the programs and students we work with on a daily basis,” the three campaign co-chairs said. “By contributing to Lawrence Tech, we not only help our students, we strengthen our university, its reputation, and standing in the community. This benefits us all.”

Donations will be accepted through Jan. 31. Faculty and staff can contact either their team leader, Mary Randazzo at ext. 2309, or Janice Ferman at ext. 2303.
SPAM Sponsors Scholarship Pageant

By Keisha Watkins
Media Communication '10

Lawrence Tech does it again! In the long-standing tradition of innovation, Lawrence Tech leads the way by hosting the first Miss Lawrence Tech Pageant. Lawrence Tech is the first university in Michigan to sponsor a local Miss America preliminary competition.

Miss Lawrence Tech demonstrates the expansion of student programming by involving several student groups in the planning and execution of the pageant. SPAM is the official sponsor of Miss Lawrence Tech, Student Government provides the scholarship awards, and the Sigma Pi Fraternity will sponsor a categorical award.

Eleven ladies will compete for the crown. They represent all four colleges with majors ranging from biomedical engineering to media communication.

Miss Lawrence Tech is an official preliminary to the Miss America pageant. Each contestant will compete in five categories, Private Interview, Swimsuit, Talent, Evening Wear, and Onstage Question. One of these women will walk away with not only the title of Miss Lawrence Tech 2009, but she will also receive a $1,000 scholarship and the opportunity to represent Lawrence Tech at the 2009 Miss Michigan Pageant.

On Feb. 7, Charles Pugh of Fox 2 News will host the pageant in the Science Building Auditorium, $100 at 5 p.m. Ashlee Baracy, Miss Michigan 2008, and Sheila Klein, Miss Oakland County 2008, will make special appearances.

For more information, visit ltu.edu/studentactivities/pageant_about.asp.

This year’s contestants are:

**Allison Andre**
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Age: 19
Talent: Dance

**Tamara Bazoun**
Major: Molecular and Cellular Biology, Minor in Spanish
Age: 20
Talent: Vocal

**Brittany Cartwright**
Major: Architecture
Age: 23
Talent: Dance

**Andrea Freile**
Major: Media Communication
Age: 20
Talent: Vocal

**Jennifer Guthrie**
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Age: 20
Talent: Vocal

**Jasmine Jones**
Major: Industrial Operations Engineering
Age: 19
Talent: Vocal

**Lindsey Mitchell**
Major: Molecular and Cellular Biology
Age: 23
Talent: Experiment

**Jenelle Sekol**
Major: Architecture & Interior Architecture
Age: 21
Talent: Dance/Acro

**Allie Sowa**
Major: Environmental Chemistry
Age: 19
Talent: Monologue

**Brittany Vickery**
Major: Architecture
Age: 21
Talent: Fitness Routine

**LaTasha Watkins**
Major: Electrical Engineering
Age: 20
Talent: Vocal

SODA Production Was a Team Effort

Only part of the action was on stage when Lawrence Tech's Society of Dramatic Arts (SODA) put on three performances of "Flaming Idiots" in November. There were just as many participants behind the scenes taking care of the many details involved in any theatrical production. Team members are (L-R) in the back row, Kristy Willette, Sean LaFollette, Rachel Yarbrough, Edward Freund, Andy Bow, Jennifer Guthrie and Ashley Croll. In the front are faculty advisor Cynthia Spires, John Camardese, Andrew Fox, Kris Naylor, Eric Lennemann, Neil Ganshorn, Giuseppe Lacaria, Timothy Bond, Joe Long and Ron Jenkins. Ken Vojtech is missing from the photo. (Photo by Cliff Johnson)

Lawrence Tech to Host Regional Competition

Are you ready for a steel bridge that holds 2,600 pounds that can be constructed in less than 10 minutes? Are you ready for a canoe made of concrete that will float through the water at lightning speed? If you are, then the American Society of Civil Engineers - North Central Regional Conference (NCRC), featuring the Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe competitions, is where you want to be April 2-4.

This competition is hosted by Lawrence Tech every five years, and this is our year! We need everyone's help to make sure the Blue Devils reign supreme!

Lawrence Tech has done well every year in this competition, and we need everyone to participate, attend the competition, and cheer on our team! Visit our Steel Bridge website, ltu.edu/engineering/civil/steel_bridge.asp. Our conference organizational committee would appreciate any monetary donation to benefit our cause! If you can donate or are interested in volunteering at the event, contact Lauren Meganck at LM000237428@ltu.edu. The conference's website is ltu.edu/ltu2009ncrc.

— Lauren Meganck

Lawrence Tech Supports Southfield Goodfellows

Attention, Business Owners

If you are a student at Lawrence Tech and own a business, the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization (CEO) is looking for you for its Student Business Owner Identification and Recognition Program.

Please contact Professor Donald Reimer, Faculty Advisor of the Lawrence Tech chapter of CEO, at dreimer@ltu.edu or ext. 2573.

Despite the uncertain economic times, the Staff Senate Community Outreach Committee and its generous supporters were able to fill all the tags under the Giving Tree in the Buell Building atrium in December. An increase in monetary gifts this year also enabled the committee to buy additional gift cards for the Southfield Goodfellows to distribute to 145 needy children at Christmas. Helping to organize all the gifts on the final collection day in December are (L-R) Ali Barnard, Leslie Michalk, Tammy Bocian, Rachel Cronover, Varvara Burden, Martha Thompson and Joann Fitzgerald. Other committee members are LaGina Edwards, Reka Dobbins, Megan Fuhlman, Dorrie Frantora, Donna Kress and Joyce Genat.
Leaders Must Overcome Their Prejudices To Be Effective

By Ron Jenkins
President, Student Government

While I was on break (working, naturally), I had a lot of time to think about what makes being a leader so difficult. I have observed a strange phenomenon in today’s world – we don’t really have any leaders anymore. We have unmotivated politicians, overpaid sports stars, thieving businesspeople, corrupt bureaucrats, and overpopulated mainstream entertainers, but not leaders. Can you, off the top of your head, think of one easily recognizable person from recent times (say, the past 25 years) with true integrity, someone who you looked up to and honestly admired?

If you look closely at the people who are supposed to be our leaders – I’m referring primarily to politicians and other government officials – one sweeping problem afflicts virtually all of them. It’s more apparent in some than in others, it takes on a variety of forms, and it has a plethora of targets, but in the end it’s always the same idea. What I’m referring to is prejudice. Prejudice against races, genders, geographic locations, even things like companies and products – it’s all the same. Prejudice prevents leaders from being truly representative of the people or institutions they are supposed to represent. Prejudice is easy, and prejudice is safe.

Before I moved back into my dorm, I went with my parents to see “Gran Torino.” Clint Eastwood plays the role of Walt Kowalski, a Korean War veteran and retired Ford factory worker who appears in a world he despises, a Detroit neighborhood where all the familiar faces have retired – he stands up for the people around him because he knew it was the right thing to do, even though he didn’t fully understand or accept the customs of the Hmong.

It wasn’t until I saw “Gran Torino” that I found the answer to my question – what makes being a leader so difficult? As I said before, the answer is prejudice. Prejudice exists in all of us because it is easy and because humans tend, like electricity, to follow the path of least resistance. We do what is easy. Granted, most of us (hopefully) don’t walk around spewing the racially charged words that Walt uses on a minute-by-minute basis, but it’s there, even if we sometimes don’t recognize it.

I recall the scene in “Batman Begins” where Bruce Wayne visits Carmine Falcone’s restaurant; Falcone reminds Wayne that “you always fear what you don’t understand.” Rather than face our fear and attempt to understand that which we fear, exposing ourselves in the process, we take the easy way out and label the object of our fears with hateful words so as to make ourselves feel superior to what we fear. Ultimately we fool ourselves into believing that what we fear isn’t worth understanding anyway. In this, prejudice is nothing more than an aggressive form of fear.

Our world needs leaders without prejudice. It’s unlikely that anyone can convince the current political big shots of this, so we have to take matters into our own hands. We have to eradicate our own prejudices and start standing up for ourselves – and more importantly, each other – it humanity is to make any progress towards peace.

Obviously, eliminating prejudice – and the fear that fuels it – is not the flick of a switch. It takes dedication and discipline. If you’re looking for a place to start, go see “Gran Torino.” You’ll probably laugh, you’ll probably cry, but most importantly, you’ll hopefully learn something about yourself. I know I did.

Any comments about this column or anything else can be sent to me at stugov@ltu.edu.

Lawrence Tech Provost Maria Yaz elicits applause from members of the Saudi Student Union during a reception held in November for officials of the Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission. Led by President Mohammed Almualq, members of the student group took the opportunity to thank both Saudi Arabian officials and Lawrence Tech faculty and staff who have helped them make the transition to an American university. The Saudi students put up displays about their country, and a buffet of traditional Saudi cuisine was served.

More Lawrence Tech Students Will Teach in China

Summer vacation can be a time for students to relax, go to the beach, read good books, work a part-time job, or for some, teach English in China.

Teaching in China is an established program for Lawrence Tech students after a successful initial trip in July 2008. Three staff members and five students taught English and American culture at summer camps in Changxing and Huzhou.

This summer, participants will teach for a total of 20 days at Bodhi, a private school in Xian. During the teaching period, students get three days off and will be taken on excursions by the host schools to local historical cities. Participants will stay on school grounds in a guest house.

“This program is a well-organized experience that supports leadership development,” said Melissa Grunow, Lawrence Tech’s leadership curriculum coordinator who organizes the University’s participation in this teaching program. “It includes teamwork, lesson plan preparation and training, cultural tolerance and education, global travel, and voluntarism.”

The program is hosted by the Council on China Exchange, which is based in Claremont, Calif. Participation provides roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles to China, room and board throughout the program, and excursions to historical Chinese sites during the teaching period. There are additional costs for participants, including a modest program fee, passport and visa, tour fees, and related costs.

However, Arts & Sciences students who participate as part of a Quest project can apply for funding to help offset the costs.

“Participating in this program will forever change who you are and how you think about the world around you,” Grunow said. “You get a whole new level of cultural understanding by volunteering in a foreign country, rather than just visiting one. You will see China from the perspective of a Chinese citizen, not a tour guide. It’s full immersion.”

Program participants teach in teams of two and rotate every couple of days among the four classrooms. Teaching topics are provided, but curriculum development and modification are done by the program participants before the trip. Students will prepare classroom skits, songs, dances and games to introduce English vocabulary and develop speaking and comprehension skills.

“The children you teach every day love having you there. We would walk into our classroom every day and the students would applaud and yell, ‘Good morning!’ That level of appreciation is never forgotten,” Grunow said.

Applications to participate are due by Jan. 16. There are eight slots available, so students are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible. Students who are interested in participating in the Teaching in China program should contact Grunow at mgmunow@ltu.edu for an application packet and additional information.
Lawrence Tech’s CEO Club Gets Inspiration at National Conference

By Angelina Card
Marketing and Communications Officer
Lawrence Tech CEO Club

The Nov. 6-8 national conference of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization (CEO) at Chicago’s Hyatt McCormick Place focused on starting a small business, bootstrap financing, accounting and legal issues, and starting and growing a CEO campus chapter. More than 1,600 students from over 150 colleges and universities nationwide attended the conference to network and learn from over 60 successful business owners.

Representing Lawrence Tech’s CEO Club were Ali Barnard, chapter president and a junior in the business management program; Angelina Card, the marketing and communications officer and a dual major in business management and English communication arts; Eric Christie, a senior in construction management; Erik Krisko, a senior in information technology; and faculty advisor Don Reimer, associate director of Lear Entrepreneurial Center.

“After attending the conference, our chapter was revived and ready to implement the things learned and start a business,” Christie said. “We were able to network and interact with peers who truly have the entrepreneurial mindset deeply rooted. The students were professional and serious about their careers as business leaders.”

CEO is a 25-year-old national organization with over 400 chapters. Its mission is to inform, support and inspire college students to be entrepreneurial and seek opportunity through enterprise creation.

The organization works in harmony with Lawrence Tech’s strategic goal to promote entrepreneurial thinking. Lawrence Tech is a hub of innovative and creative students just waiting to revolutionize industry. We want to capitalize on these individuals and work together to make their innovations reality.

The CEO Club is moving forward with plans to start a business on campus. We have solidified our concept, and in the spring we hope to start the planning phases of our venture. The club is open to all students and welcomes the support of all university faculty and staff.

For more information about the CEO Club, please contact Angelina Card at acard@ltu.edu, faculty advisor Don Reimer at dreimer@ltu.edu, or chapter president Ali Barnard abarnard@ltu.edu.

Recent Grad and Senior Win Regional Software Design Competition

A Lawrence Tech senior and recent graduate were part of a three-man team from Royal Oak-based Vectorform Inc. that won the New York regional PhizzPop Design Challenge for designing an integrated suite of software applications to support K-12 education. The team will compete in the national finals to be held this spring in Texas.

The team included Justin Bush, who is majoring in digital arts, Kevin Foreman, BSCS’08, and Vectorform Creative Director Peter Ruthenberg. Together they conceived and developed Study Right, an educational program that features three Microsoft Surface applications integrated with a Silverlight-based website.

With Study Right, students who drop tagged identity cards on the teacher’s Surface unit would be tracked for attendance and performance. Students could follow the day’s lesson plan, participate in study labs, view accompanying digital materials and take tests on their computers, while the teacher could communicate with students and parents in real time.

Study Right Junior provides younger and less experienced students with interactive and creative applications that are academically and socially engaging. Students could also send parents in-class projects in real-time.

The Study Right Silverlight portal would further enable teachers to transfer study plans written at home and enable parents to track their children’s progress in the classroom. The Silverlight portal also would allow at-home communication and tracking of work and progress by teachers, parents and students alike.

According to Bush, with the emergence of Multi-touch, solutions that include Microsoft Surface and platforms such as Windows 7 (scheduled for release in 2009) can be integrated with backend supporting platforms such as Live Services and SharePoint. “The feasibility of academic multi-touch applications will increase in schools and make these types of solutions a reality,” Bush said.

Fall Semester Basketball Champions

The winners in fall intramural basketball were the Value Bison of the White Division and the Liberators of the Blue Division. Members of the Liberators are (L-R) in the photo above, Dave Duckworth, Brandon Varlione, Jeremy Wedlow, Jeremy Hoerstaufl Ralph O’Neal, Alex Rojas and Jon Banks. Value Bison team members are (L-R) in the back row of the photo at right, Andrew Hermiz, Grayson Welch and Adam McArthur, and in the front row, Ian Wagner and Jim Mazur.

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Architecture Students Have Bold Plans for Detroit Neighborhoods

By Associate Professor Joongsuk Kim
Detroit Studio Director
College of Architecture and Design

During the fall 2008 term, students at the Detroit Studio worked on the Balduck-Cannon-Finney Community Center Complex planning project on Detroit’s east side. Sixteen juniors in Integrated Design Studio 3 focused on community center complex design, and they were joined by two graduate students in Urban Studio 1 on master planning for Balduck Park.

The project was sponsored by Ade Abdalla, an everyday citizen in the community who has lived in Detroit his entire life. The Detroit Studio’s commitment to the project enabled him to officially create a registered community development corporation.

Balduck Park has been deteriorating over the years and has been severely underutilized despite its many assets, which include easy access to I-94, diverse residential neighborhoods and rich community activities.

The goal of the student project is to develop a new community center complex and improve Balduck Park in order to promote social, cultural, educational, economic, athletic and sustainable activities. The student proposals included facilities for recreation, swimming, sports, education, and social and cultural events.

The students also included sustainable design features such as roof gardens, urban farming, a greenhouse, solar energy systems, a wind energy system, natural lighting, and other energy conscious design features. Each student selected specific sustainable features depending on his/her design philosophy.

Students participated in meetings, site analysis, a community workshop, and a field trip with the project sponsor team. They held several presentations and reviews with project sponsor team members to receive feedback on proposals.

On Dec. 18 the students held a public reception, exhibition and presentation in a local church for the project sponsors, project supporters, residents, public officials and other stakeholders. Several students gave presentations to the audience after the project team selected several proposals for further discussion.

Following the presentation, certificates of appreciation from the Detroit mayor’s office and Wayne County executive’s office were presented to the 18 students, Dean Glen LeRoy of the College of Architecture and Design, and the two faculty members involved in the project – myself and Assistant Professor Anirban Adhya, the component instructor.

As the next step in the process, project sponsors and their supporters are launching a fund-raising campaign, and an event is scheduled for late January in Ford Field. The goal of the campaign is to raise funds to start implementing some of the students’ design ideas.

IT Doctorate Candidates Honored

Five doctorate candidates in information technology who have passed their comprehensive exams and started their dissertation research were honored during a December ceremony hosted by Professor Lerine Steenkamp. In the photo are (L-R) Ayse Askin, Jehad Alomari, Kanari Abaas, Lawrence Tech Provost Maria Vaz, Ayman Basal and Alex Tai. Also honored were Maher Salam and Damodar Konda, who recently were awarded doctorates in information technology. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the second research seminar where DMIT graduates presented the scientific contributions and research opportunities flowing from their research projects.

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Monday, Jan. 19th 9pm in North Housing 3rd floor Lounge
Tuesday, Jan. 20th 9pm in South Housing 1st floor Lounge
Wednesday, Jan. 21st 12pm in M213
Thursday, Jan. 22nd 12pm in M213
Lawrence Tech Helps Teachers Make Science More Interesting

By LaVetta Appleby,
Assistant Director, Master of Science Education Program

Lawrence Technological University is a good place to start for high school teachers who are looking for new ways to make science instruction more interesting.

In October, Lawrence Tech hosted the 68th annual fall conference of the Metropolitan Detroit Science Teachers Association (MDSTA). Over 1,000 metropolitan Detroit teachers took time out of their busy schedules to participate in this one-day science event.

The theme of this year’s conference was “Synergize Your Science.” This theme was realized in the 135 sessions that made this conference exciting and one of a kind. These sessions covered many different areas such as national education, nuclear power and the environmental movement, inquiry learning and classroom curriculum. The sessions were presented by area teachers and representatives of professional groups including the American Nuclear Society, DTE Energy, the New Detroit Science Center, the Detroit Zoological Society, book and journal publishers and science equipment vendors.

Natural Sciences faculty members and staff and other members of the Lawrence Tech community participate in this annual event by giving logistical support, making presentations, and marketing the graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Master of Science Education (MSE) and Master of Educational Technology (MET) are programs geared towards educators, and this conference provides an avenue for Lawrence Tech to showcase these programs.

Assistant Professor Jeffery Morrissette and Senior Lecturer LaVetta Appleby of Lawrence Tech’s natural sciences faculty engaged teachers with fingerprinting and blood spatter forensic science activities. Other Lawrence Tech faculty who were highly visible at the conference included three session presenters, Adjunct Professor Sandra Yarema and Professor Anthony Sky, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences.

Several teachers expressed great interest in enrolling in our programs as a way to improve the science curriculum in their classrooms. They were impressed with the hands-on activities, the demonstrations and the Lawrence Tech faculty.

With greater emphasis being placed on the improvement of science education and education technology, it is the goal of the MSE/MET programs to provide teachers with a solid and comprehensive understanding of subject matter in the fields of science and technology. Our programs provide K-12 teachers with science education courses that are inquiry-based and have a strong hands-on component.

Aided by kits of materials developed by course instructors, participants engage in a variety of guided and open-ended inquiries as the primary means of developing their understanding of these concepts. In addition, participants assess their own science teaching and use the strategies presented to design learning experiences in their own classrooms.

This summer Lawrence Tech will hold its third annual CSI workshop for teachers July 13-22. This workshop introduces teachers to the world of forensic science and ways to incorporate crime scene investigations into their classroom instruction.

This year’s CSI workshop will include accident reconstruction, blood analysis, glass analysis, white powder ID, fingerprinting and impressions, DNA fingerprinting, forensic entomology and legal issues. The workshop will also show teachers how to set up a crime scene for a forensic course in a school environment. For more information please visit our website, ltu.edu/arts_sciences/fssi.asp.

Lawrence Tech faculty have also held a Forensic Summer Science Institute for high school sophomores and juniors proficient in biology, chemistry and physics. Students are given a crime scenario to solve using state-of-the-art lab equipment to explore DNA fingerprinting, drug testing, hair and fiber analysis, ballistics, etc.

MSE/MET programs will continue to participate in the MDSTA annual conference to expand upon its efforts to provide teachers with the tools and vital information that can positively impact their science and technology education programs.

For questions regarding the MET and MSE programs, contact Assistant Professor Valentina Tobos at v_tobos@ltu.edu or ext. 3617 or go to ltu.edu/arts_sciences/naturalsciences/asp.

Recent Lawrence Tech Grads Score Well in International Game

Four College of Management students finished first in their group and fourth overall in the annual international competition, the Business Strategy Game.

Last May, Thomas Heathfield, Michael Lewis, Mark Slawikowski and Angela Wolynski graduated from the Career Integrated Master’s of Business Administration degree (CI-MBA) program.

Part of the coursework incorporated the Business Strategy Game, an online game where teams of MBA students compete in a specific industry, which last year was athletic footwear in the global market arena.

Because they finished first in the CI-MBA competition in the spring, Heathfield, Lewis, Slawikowski and Wolynski represented Lawrence Tech against 150 teams in the international competition in August.

For each business cycle competing teams must make decisions relating to plant operations, distribution and warehouse operations, workforce compensation, sales and marketing, and finance. The challenge is to craft and execute a competitive strategy that results in a respected brand image, keeps the company in contention for global market leadership, and produces good financial performance as measured by earnings per share, return on investment, stock price appreciation and credit rating.

The Lawrence Tech team won in its division that included teams from much bigger schools like the University of Texas, California State University and Universidad Nova de Lisboa. Only three teams in the overall competition had higher scores.

Heathfield is operations manager of the North American Service Group for Atlas Copco Tools and Assembly Systems LLC in Auburn Hills. He said the Lawrence Tech MBA program prepared his team well for the international competition because of the thorough review that was done after each business cycle.

“It was like preparing for a board of directors’ meeting,” he said.

In addition to gaining a better grasp of financial reports from the CI-MBA program, Heathfield said he improved his business communications skills. By watching other students make numerous business presentations, he got a much better idea of what works and what doesn’t work in business meetings.

“Instead of taking online courses, go to a graduate school where you can interact with people,” he said. “Without people skills, you aren’t going anywhere in the business world.”

Adjunct Professor Glenn Yaeger, who has taught at Lawrence Tech since 2000, was rated 11th out of this year’s 3,000 instructors of the Business Strategy Game.

This fall the College of Management at Lawrence Tech enhanced the Career-Integrated MBA program and transitioned into the new weekend MBA International program that prepares business leaders and future executives for the challenges of the global economy.
Six representatives from the Lawrence Tech hockey team were selected to compete in the Michigan College Hockey Conference (MCHC) All-Star Game Jan. 3 at Northwood University. For the third straight season, the East All Stars, made up of players from Lawrence Tech, Saginaw Valley, Oakland University and Northwood, beat the West, by a score of 11-5.

The game was fast paced and featured several bright spots from the Blue Devils, who won 12 of their first 15 games. Senior Andy Krucynski, a five-time all-star and Lawrence Tech’s all-time leading scorer, had a pair of goals. Junior Richard Parkinson scored the game-winning goal, as well as winning this year’s hardest shot competition.

Top-ranked Lawrence Tech goaltender Matt Beck, who leads the MCHC in most goalling categories, was brilliant, turning aside 24 of 25 shots, and proving his case to be considered for an All-American award.

Also participating in the All-Star Game were defencemen Dan Baker and Ben Sultana, co-captains and the quarter-backs of the Lawrence Tech defense.

Making his first appearance in the MCHC All-Star Game was freshman Joe Allen, whose offensive production has thus far earned him high praise from Coach Kevin Gee. “Joey’s a great kid, he’s got a ton of skill, and he’s learning how to be successful on the ice and in the classroom,” the coach said. “I count on his experience in key situations.”

Leading up to the All-Star Game, Lawrence Tech has gained national attention by landing its highest ranking yet – the third spot in the 24-team North Region, widely recognized as the most competitive in the American College Hockey Association (ACHA). Off to a 12-3 start, the Blue Devils have notched wins against Grand Valley, Davenport, Oakland, and perennial powerhouse Northwood University.

The high ranking is nice, but the Blue Devils won’t be satisfied unless they achieve their goal for the season – Lawrence Tech’s first appearance in the national championship tournament. After a disappointing loss in the regional semifinals last year, the Blue Devils are hungrier than ever to prove themselves.

“We’ve got a tough road in front of us the second half,” Gee said. “With the parity of the MCHC this season and the competitiveness of the regional tournament, we have to be prepared for a dogfight every night. We’ve got the right horses and we’ll be in the race at the end.”

The horses the coach is referring to are some of the most experienced players ever to play at Lawrence Tech, like the all-stars mentioned above, as well as captain Andrew Aulerich, the team’s leader both on and off the ice. Aulerich’s intensity and character earn him rave reviews from his teammates and his coach.

“He’s a warrior,” Gee said. “He’s the best captain I’ve ever had. He truly wants our team and all of its members to succeed. He’s going to be a huge part of our playoff run, that’s for sure.”

The Blue Devils have two remaining home games at the Southfield Sports Arena on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m., against Oakland University, and on Friday, Jan. 23, at 9:30 p.m. against Hope College. The Jan. 23 game will be preceded at 6:30 p.m. by the “Dine with Devils” fundraiser dinner at Cafe Lawrence. Call Scott Trudeau at ext. 3852 for details.

Lawrence Tech’s United Way Goal Is $3,500

Lawrence Tech has set a modestly higher goal of $3,500 for contributions to the United Way this year.

In response to the economic problems in southeast Michigan, the United Way is launching a new approach called the Agenda for Change that will equip more area residents with the tools they need to help themselves through tough times and toward brighter futures.

Through this creative plan, United Way is focusing on educational preparedness (so that more children are ready to succeed in school and beyond), financial stability (so people are financially stable and secure) and basic needs (so people are able to meet their needs and move toward stability).

However, this work cannot happen without support from individuals in the community. At a time when fewer people are able to give, it is critical that everyone who can contribute does his or her part.

Last year, 22 Lawrence Tech employees gave a total contribution of $3,312. This year Lawrence Tech’s United Way Chair Louise Garrett has set a goal of $5,500. Employees can use a payroll deduction for their pledge or write a check payable to the United Way. Employees will receive more information through interoffice mail in the coming weeks. The campaign will end March 16. For further information, contact Garrett at ext. 2010.