Mission Statement: The PSU Nanofabrication Facility is dedicated to research, development and education across all aspects of micro- and nanotechnology. Its Nanofabrication Manufacturing Technology (NMT) Partnership is a National Science Foundation and Commonwealth funded initiative based on sharing the Penn State Nanofabrication Facility across Pennsylvania. Using the resource-sharing approach, the NMT Partnership addresses the tasks of (1) enhancing workforce development, (2) improving K-12 science and technology education, (3) increasing educators’ awareness of Micro- and Nanofabrication-based technologies, and (4) providing training, research and development assistance to Pennsylvania industry. The NMT Partnership has the goals of increasing job opportunities for Pennsylvanians and of nurturing and growing microfabrication-based, nanofabrication-based, semiconductor, and semiconductor-supplier industries in the Commonwealth.

Program Highlights for the Month of November, 2002

NMT Partnership Capstone Semester Evaluation Study
During the period of September 16th through September 30th, 2002 a NMT Partnership Team conducted nine industry interviews. The purposes of the industry interviews were:
   A) To understand the degree to which the NMT capstone semester is preparing students for employment in the broadening range of Nanotechnology fields.
   B) To understand how well the NMT capstone semester curriculum is aligned with current and future industry needs (1-3 years).

A conclusion from this study is that the Pennsylvania NMT partnership is successfully producing students with a general skill set that is applicable across a range of industries using micro and nano technologies. The full study report will be presented at the NMT Partnership Winter 2003 Partners Meeting, scheduled for February 23-25, 2003.

NMT Partnership Awareness
- The NMT Partnership participated in the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania’s Technology Career Day on November 4th at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg with over 500 high school students in attendance.
- Dr. Doug Fenwick made a presentation on the NMT Partnership at the 2002 Conference of the Technology Education Association of Pennsylvania, held November 7th – 9th in Harrisburg.
- The following were visits to the Penn State Nanofabrication Facility to learn about nanotechnology and the NMT Partnership and to tour the facility:
  - South Western High School Design Engineering class of 16 students from Hanover, PA
  - 20 Shippensburg University freshman physics students
  - Kent State University group of 6 students
  - 50 secondary and post-secondary faculty attending the PA Department of Education Integrated Learning Conference held at the Penn Stater on November 20th and 21st

Up-coming Activities

Spring 2003 Term:
Spring Term begins January 13th and will end May 2nd. There are currently 18 students registered, with 4 from Cambria County Area Community College, 4 from Montgomery County Community College, 2 from Penn College, 2 from Penn State Hazleton, and 1 each from Lehigh-Carbon County Community College, Westmoreland Area Community College, Harrisburg Area Community College, Penn State Fayette, Clarion University, and California University.

February 23-25
NMT Partnership Winter 2003 Partners Meeting
The NMT Partnership Winter 2003 Partners Meeting will be held at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel on Monday, February 24th and Tuesday, February 25th. The meeting will begin with a reception and dinner on Sunday evening, February 23, and end after lunch on Tuesday, February 25th. The meeting will include presentations and discussions with the new National Visiting Committee of the Advanced Technology Education (ATE) Regional Center for Nanofabrication Manufacturing Education. The agenda for this meeting will be forthcoming.

For further information on these Highlights or the NMT Partnership, contact:
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