



FLORIDA ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION
CENTER for EXCELLENCE

NEWS from
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIGH-TECH SUMMER CAMPS

Hands-on exploration in science, technology, engineering and mathematics

FLATE (Florida Advanced Technological Education) Center for Excellence has partnered with state and community colleges throughout Florida to offer several science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)-related high-tech camps for middle and high school students throughout the upcoming summer. The initiative is part of FLATE's outreach efforts targeted to enhance (STEM) education, and to help students cultivate technical, leadership, professional and team-building skills.

In the greater Tampa Bay area, FLATE is partnering with Hillsborough County School District and Hillsborough Community College to host three robotics camps this summer. There are two—introductory and advanced—camps for middle school students which are scheduled for July 13-17, and Aug. 3-7. The third, for high school students, is scheduled for July 20-24. Each of the camps will be held at Hillsborough Community College in Brandon from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(more)

1st add Summer High Tech Camps

Dr. Marilyn Barger, executive director of FLATE said the camps “lay a firm groundwork for students to explore career and educational opportunities in advanced manufacturing, and are a key enabler in honing skills needed to perform in today’s global technological marketplace.” They also offer an excellent mechanism for students to gain hands-on knowledge about science and technology, and its applications in modern manufacturing operations.

As part of a wider statewide effort to spark interest in STEM and modern manufacturing at the middle and high school level, and to facilitate faculty professional development initiatives, FLATE is partnering with several colleges to support summer camp initiatives at various locations across the state. These include: two composites and engineering technology workshops for high school and community college educators at Brevard Community College; three summer camps during July at Central Florida Community College involving students from Citrus, Levy and Marion counties; two industrial, manufacturing and machining camps for middle and high school students at Florida Community College in Jacksonville; a weeklong advanced manufacturing camp for Orange County Public School students; two 5-day composite materials camps for high school students, and a 3-day camp for secondary science and mathematics teachers at Tallahassee Community College. Dr. Eric Roe, director of FLATE said “The camps introduce students to the concepts of robotics technology, and provide insight on how ubiquitous these technologies are in their own lives.”

(more)

2nd add Summer High Tech Camps

Each of these events involve solving modern manufacturing and technology problems, building and programming computer controlled mechanics, explaining the mechanical features of the program, and are geared to sharpen participants' ability to solve real manufacturing-related problems. "Students will learn the basic principles of mathematics and science, and gain insight on how these principles are the foundations of all manufacturing and technology processes," Barger said.

FLATE is a National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence, committed to ensuring Florida has a well prepared workforce for advanced and emerging technologies related to manufacturing. Created in 2004, FLATE is one of 36 Advanced Technological Education Centers in the United States funded by the National Science Foundation focused on improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and training to meet the needs of American advanced technology industries. For more information visit www.fl-ate.org

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